



HOUSING NEWS

WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION

SPECIAL ISSUE
SUMMER 2017

ANNOUNCING

GALA SIX

A CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2017



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

CONGRESSMAN ADAM SCHIFF

GAME CHANGER AWARD RECIPIENT



HANY HADDAD

U.S. BANK VP & DISTRICT MANAGER
COMMUNITY VISION AWARD RECIPIENT

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

THE METROPOLITAN MASTER CHORALE

ON THE ROOFTOP
THE LONDON HOTEL WEST HOLLYWOOD
1020 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069



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SUMMER 2017: IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 THE ART OF BEING ADAM SCHIFF
- 5 GALA SIX HONOREE HANY HADDAD
- 6 AIDS LIFECYCLE RIDE 2017
- 8 WEST HOLLYWOOD MAYOR JOHN HEILMAN
- 10 JENNA HORNSTOCK NETWORKING BREAKFAST
- 11 WHCHC HOUSING NEWS



THE ART OF BEING ADAM SCHIFF

*...in the right place
at the right time...*

GALA SIX KEYNOTE SPEAKER & GAME CHANGER AWARD HONOREE

Stretching from West Hollywood to West Pasadena, and from Echo Park into the Angeles National Forest, the 28th Congressional district features one of the most diverse constituencies and areas in the country, something that could only be found in Southern California.

Schiff's 16 years in Congress have prepared him well for his current role as ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. For many years, Schiff has been a sought out national security voice on cable and Sunday news programs, a trend that accelerated after his committee opened an investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 elections. And in an almost too perfect coincidence, during his days as a federal prosecutor, Schiff prosecuted and convicted an FBI agent who passed secrets to Russia.

Always physically active, Schiff first participated in a

D.C. Triathlon a few years ago, and has enjoyed repeating the challenge in races across the country, including last fall in Malibu. "Triathlons are just a great experience – a real adventure. There's nothing better to really reduce stress, clear your head. I'm a big believer in sound body, sound mind. I always feel better when I'm working out. And I think it helps me do my job better in many ways."



In 2014, Schiff joined thousands of cyclists and volunteer "roadies" on a 545-mile journey from San Francisco to Los Angeles – the AIDS/LifeCycle – to raise awareness and funding for the fight to end HIV/AIDS (photo at right.) This annual journey raises millions of dollars to support the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the HIV/AIDS-related services of the L.A. LGBT Center.

Schiff was the first Congressman to ever participate in the race. "I'm fortunate to represent a district with a large and vibrant LGBT community, and many of my constituents have received the highest quality

Adam Bennett Schiff (born June 22, 1960) is the U.S. Representative for California's 28th Congressional District. A member of the Democratic Party, he has served in Congress since 2001. A triathlete, he and his wife Eve have two children, Alexa and Elijah.

care and services from the LA LGBT Center, one of the main beneficiaries of the ride,” said Rep. Schiff. “We’ve all seen the amazing work they do every day, and I know they have been a lifeline to people living with HIV.”

He also made sure that funding would be increased for the HOPWA Program

(Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS), which WHCHC relies on to help provide essential services for residents living with HIV/AIDS. “HOPWA is one of HUD’s most effective programs and housing has been identified as one of the most important tools to ensure the continuity of treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS,” said Schiff. “Stable and affordable housing not only reduces the risk of homelessness for individuals living with HIV/AIDS but also improves access to health care and other supportive services.”

Schiff has championed affordable housing that is of great concern to West Hollywood’s large senior community, including Russian immigrants who fled the Soviet

Union in the 1980s. Also a long-time supporter of mass transit and the environment, during his time in the State Senate, Schiff wrote the legislation establishing the now-Gold Line, and has worked to help secure the funding for its rapid expansion through the San Gabriel Valley.

Abbe Land, retired West Hollywood Councilmember and former executive director of The Trevor Project, had this to say about Adam Schiff:



WHCHC Board Chair Karl Lott and GALASIX Co-Host Abbe Land with Congressman Adam Schiff.

“WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE ADAM SCHIFF AS OUR REPRESENTATIVE. HE SHARES OUR VALUES. HE IS NOT AFRAID TO STAND UP AND LEAD THE BATTLE FOR WHAT IS RIGHT. HE HAS EMBRACED OUR COMMUNITY, COMES TO MANY OF OUR EVENTS AND IS ALWAYS WILLING TO LISTEN AND LEARN. CONGRESS MEMBER SCHIFF HAS OUR BACK EVERY DAY IN CONGRESS.”

Abbe Land

Opposite page: Adam Schiff at the start of the AIDS/LifeCycle Race;
Below: Riding in the West Hollywood Gay Pride Parade;
Right: Walking in the LA Resist March.



All photographs this page by Richard E. Settle



THE ART OF BEING HANY HADDAD

*...opening doors to
opportunities for all...*

GALA SIX COMMUNITY VISION AWARD HONOREE

Hany Haddad, a native of Southern California, is the Vice President and District Manager of the Los Angeles Metro District of U.S. Bank. He presides over the Los Angeles Metro Market which covers the cities of Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Culver City and Santa Monica. His responsibilities include overseeing the Consumer and Business Bank as well as the Private Client Group. Hany has sixteen years of experience in banking and over twenty two years in business management.

Hany graduated from the Pacific Coast Banking School at the University of Washington. Seen as a leader in LGBT initiatives for the company, he wrote his banking thesis on "The importance of LGBT initiatives at U.S. Bank."

Hany also has a passion to help children and funds various student programs as he serves on the following nonprofit boards: the LA Opera, Center Dance Arts at the Music Center, and the L.A.C.E.R. After-School Programs.

A resident of West Hollywood, Hany sits on the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce Board and was the previous Chairman from 2012-2014.

Hany assisted U.S. Bank in launching LGBT initiatives for their multicultural marketing department in 2006-2007, leading monthly focus LGBT employee calls nationally, and helped start employee resource groups.

He also initiated local LGBT chamber support throughout U.S. Bank's footprint and helped start the company's relationship with the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.



Left: Hany Haddad with Ann Dyste, U.S. Bank Assistant V.P., LGBT Strategy Manager; Above: Los Angeles LGBT Center Luncheon.

In addition, he is involved with both the Beverly Hills and the Hollywood Chambers of Commerce, and sits on the Board of the Beverly Hills Bar Foundation.

Hany is proud to have served on the Board of Directors of the Children of War Foundation (COWF), a non-profit, non-politically affiliated organization that provides medical care to children that are in need regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality and religion. In the summer of 2012 he spent two weeks volunteering as the Communications & Outreach Director on a COWF mission in Jordan, bringing highly specialized surgeons from the United States to operate on 45 chil-

dren. One of his fond memories was meeting with Queen Rania while in Jordan.

Hany chose his career in banking to fully support his personal endeavors of outreach and community involvement in sustaining and benefiting economic growth. Hany has always dedicated his work to find trusted solutions for client's current and future financial needs. His love for people and desire to open doors to opportunities has always been his aim, and works diligently to further this advance.



Hany Haddad with *The L.A.C.E.R. Dance Group* [Literacy, Arts, Culture, Education, and Recreation.]

U.S. BANK HOSTS GAY PRIDE KICKOFF RECEPTION



Above: *The Gay Men's Chorus*; Right: *Hany addressing the crowd*;
Below right: *Hany presents WHCHC Executive Director Robin Conerly with plaque.*

Hany Haddad and U.S. Bank hosted a fantastic Gay Pride Kickoff Reception in June at the West Hollywood Branch of U.S. Bank. The bank honored five local non-profit organizations for their work in the community, including WHCHC.

Honored were the Los Angeles LGBT Center, Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, the West Hollywood

Community Housing Corporation, the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

The event was both exciting and meaningful, highlighted by a wonderful performance by the Gay Men's Chorus.



AIDS/LifeCycle - Ride To End AIDS

AIDS/LifeCycle is a 7-day, 545 mile bike ride--not a race--from San Francisco to Los Angeles, that raises money and awareness for the HIV and AIDS services of the Los Angeles LGBT Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

2017 marks the fifteenth year for AIDS/LifeCycle and the twenty-third for the event overall. During the week of June 4 - June 10, 2017 thousands of Cyclists and vol-



unteer Roadies, including some staff from WHCHC, came together to do something incredible. Something that will change lives. One of the many things that makes AIDS/LifeCycle such a unique and special event is the scenic route that takes us through the heart of California.

Stunning views, historic destinations, and even the chance to spot dolphins frolicking off the coast are followed by a hero's welcome in the City of Angels.

Meet The Roadies!



Truck H
"Red Dress Day."

Roadies are selfless, dedicated, and unbelievably committed as the all-volunteer work force of AIDS/LifeCycle.

They get up very early, go to sleep very late, and are particularly great to have around when riders need a smile, a hug, or a reason to keep going. No matter what, bikers can count on the constant presence of the Roadies on the route, who help keep everyone safe and sound.

Roadies set up camp in a new town each night, complete with all the amenities you need. By the time most arrive in camp, it will be up and running. Riders will be able to set up their tent, grab a shower

and some food, and enjoy the many other services offered. They are served a hot breakfast and dinner daily in camp, plus a bagged lunch and plenty of snacks.

AIDS/LifeCycle would not happen without the unbelievable dedication of volunteers throughout the whole year!



"Aqua Dolls 2017."

"We're making great strides in fighting HIV and caring for those living with the disease, but our work is far from done," said Lorri L. Jean, CEO of the L.A. LGBT Center. "Alarming, the HIV infection rate among gay and bisexual men and transgender people is on the rise, and we're caring for record numbers of people in our Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic.

It's thanks to the dedication and commitment of each AIDS/LifeCycle participant that we're able to care for so many people, continue our work to fight new infections, advocate for sound HIV/AIDS policy, and conduct research to help end the epidemic."

Especially alarming is the fact that one out of every five people living with HIV

nationwide is not aware of their status. In California alone there are 151,000 people living with HIV.

Nationally, 70 percent of all new infections occur in communities of color and people under the age of 25 are increasingly affected. The costs associated with medical care and treatment for a person with HIV are about \$20,000 per year. Access to life-saving drugs, clinical trials and state-of-the-art treatment helps those with the disease live a longer and better quality of life.

AIDS/LifeCycle will help those living with HIV/AIDS gain greater in-

dependence and get the treatment and care they need.

Prevention services geared towards high-risk populations will ensure that future generations will not experience the same level of loss that we have faced in the last two decades.

As the number of people living with HIV increases, so does the need for



Truck H Crew: Jose Gomez, Christopher Nugent, Rolando Lira

the services provided by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles LGBT Center, the two agencies producing this event.

vital services such as medical care, mental health services, pharmacy assistance for those financially challenged, AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), HIV Testing, HIV Prevention, and much more.

For more information please visit: LALGBTCENTER.ORG

IN THE SEVEN DAYS IT TAKES THE RIDERS TO REACH LOS ANGELES, MORE THAN 1,000 PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES WILL BECOME INFECTED WITH HIV.

The Los Angeles LGBT Center has been a leader in battling AIDS and caring for those who are HIV-infected since the earliest days of the pandemic.

Today, the millions of dollars raised annually by AIDS/LifeCycle participants support



A CONVERSATION WITH WEST HOLLYWOOD MAYOR JOHN HEILMAN



WHCHC: Welcome to WHCHC Housing News, John. Congratulations on your eighth term as Mayor of West Hollywood.

JH: Thank you very much. It is an honor to once again have the opportunity to serve the people of West Hollywood as Mayor.

WHCHC: I think our readers would like to hear your initial comments the evening of your Mayoral inauguration about the current political climate in Washington.

JH: First of all, we must do everything we can to resist and oppose the reactionary policies that are coming out of Washington D.C. These are policies that would eliminate health care and protections for the most vulnerable people in society; poli-

cies which would undermine protections for the LGBT community, rights for immigrants, women and girls, for reproductive health, funding for social security and affordable housing. We must continue to be a leader in advocating for all of these human rights. We will resist any attempts to undermine our freedoms.

WHCHC: Thank you for your strong stand against these policies

which are creating a climate of fear and uncertainty for many, many people. Now let's turn to this wonderful City of ours. Please tell us

about your plans for 2017-18 as Mayor of West Hollywood.

JH: I am happy to say that we do have several ongoing projects that are moving forward. Our West Hollywood Park Master Plan is

going to be bringing us a beautiful new park when completed. We appreciate everyone's patience as we move forward with construction.

Another long-range goal we will be keeping an eye on will be bringing the Metro Rail to West Hollywood. This will be a vital link for both residents and businesses in West Hollywood.

We must also continue to do everything we can to reduce HIV transmission to zero. And, we must address homelessness and the related public safety issues associated with homelessness in our City.

WHCHC: Tell us about some of the new initiatives you would like to bring forward this year.

JH: Something that we as a city have been struggling with for many years is parking. We have done a pretty good job of providing various parking options throughout the city for the public, but now I would like to work with our Transportation Department to find solutions that will alleviate



West Hollywood City Clerk Yvonne Quarker swears in newly elected Mayor John Heilman for his 8th term as Mayor of West Hollywood.

the problem our residents face with lack of parking in residential neighborhoods.

WHCHC: You also spoke about addressing poverty in West Hollywood.

JH: West Hollywood is an affluent community, and we don't often realize that there are a great many people who are living below the poverty level here--15%, or about 5400 people, many of them seniors and immigrants. I would like to start a pilot project that addresses this important issue, and find solutions to ease their situation by bringing them out of poverty permanently, and what it will take to do this.

WHCHC: You also mentioned an exciting new initiative.

JH: Yes, In 1999 we developed a "West Hollywood 2020" program, and now we are almost there. I'd like to launch a "West Hollywood 2050" Initiative to look at the next 30 years in West Hollywood, and begin a discussion with the community, the businesses and staff about what we'd like to see happen here during the next 30 years.

We need to ask questions regarding how home-based businesses might expand; how will the LGBT community be doing; how will the immigrant community be doing--will their children be living in West Hollywood, or will there be a new

immigrant population arriving; how will our supply of affordable housing be holding up--will we find ways to produce more, and will we be losing more rent controlled units? I'd like to discuss how we prepare our younger people today for adulthood; and what will our main street, Santa Monica Boulevard, be like?

These are all exciting and challenging ideas that we as a community can come together and think about long term.

WHCHC: Thank you John, you have a busy and exciting year planned. We will look forward to "West Hollywood 2050" discussions.

ABOUT JOHN HEILMAN

Mayor Heilman is currently a law school professor teaching at both Southwestern Law School and the University of Southern California Law School.

Active in the incorporation of the City of West Hollywood, he was elected to the City's first City Council in November 1984, and chosen as the City's second Mayor in 1985. He has served as Mayor in 1990, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2006, and 2010. He was most recently reelected to the City Council in March 2017 and chosen as Mayor in May 2017.

Since his earliest days on the City Council, one of Mayor Heilman's strongest concerns has been affordable housing. Heilman was instrumental in the establishment of the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, which develops affordable housing in West Hollywood. He also helped develop the City's landmark Rent Stabilization Ordinance and inclusionary housing policy.

Mayor Heilman has been an active member of the National League of Cities. He previously served on the board of both the National League of Cities and the California League of Cities. He is a past board member of the ACLU of Southern California and the Local Government Commission. He is also the past president of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Local Officials Group and a founding member and past co-chair of the International Network of Lesbian and Gay Officials.

Mayor Heilman helped create the City's recycling program and Senior Advisory Board. He founded the City's Russian Advisory Board to help integrate the City's Russian-speaking

residents into the City's decision making process. As a result of his leadership on the issue of AIDS, he received the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Award in 1990. He also works closely with the City's business community, serving as the City Council's liaison to the West Hollywood Marketing and Visitors Bureau.

In addition to his work on the City Council, Mayor Heilman is the immediate past president and a board member of the Jacaranda School in Africa. The school provides education for over 400 children who have been orphaned by AIDS. Heilman also serves on the board of OutRight International, an organization which advances LGBT rights around the world.

Education:

John Heilman received a Journalism degree from Northwestern University; Graduated 1982 from USC School of Law; received an MA in Public Administration and MA in Real Estate Development from USC.



A packed City Council Chambers attended the swearing in of newly elected Mayor John Heilman and Mayor Protem John Duran.



NETWORKING BREAKFAST WITH JENNA HORNSTOCK

WHCHC's August 2017 Networking Breakfast featured Jenna Hornstock, Executive Officer, Transit Oriented Communities for LA Metro. Ms. Hornstock oversees the newly formed Transit Oriented Communities team within the Countywide Planning and Development Department, which includes Joint Development, First/Last Mile Planning and System-wide Design.

Ms. Hornstock discussed Metro's vision for creating communities surrounding transit, along with the many challenges and opportunities ahead to realize the Metro vision, and how developers, political jurisdictions and neighborhoods can participate in the process.

WHCHC's Board of Directors periodically hosts Networking Breakfasts related to regional affordable housing/transportation & planning issues of interest. If you would like to receive notices about WHCHC's activities, please contact us at: info@whchc.org.



Above: WHCHC Board Directors Karl Lott and Ryan Leaderman talk with Jenna Hornstock and West Hollywood Councilmember Lindsey Horvath.



Above: Robin Conerly WHCHC Executive Director; Karl Lott; Board Director Noel Hyun; Jenna Hornstock; Lindsey Horvath; Board Director Ryan Leaderman; Joshua Kurpes, District Director for Assemblymember Richard Bloom.



Above: Robin Conerly with Mike Alvidrez, CEO of Skid Row Housing Trust.



WHCHC NEWS



WHCHC CELEBRATES NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AT THE WEST HOLLYWOOD GATEWAY

Neighborhood Watch groups across the country celebrate "National Night Out" annually on the first Tuesday in August to increase community awareness about police and fire public safety programs. WHCHC participated with the West Hollywood Gateway NNO festivities at La Brea & Santa Monica Boulevard.

Left to right: West Hollywood City Manager Paul Arevalo; WHCHC Communications Manager Barbara Hamaker, WH Mayor John Heilman, WH Councilmember Lindsey Horvath; WHCHC Executive Director Robin Conerly.



WHCHC RECEIVES APA AWARD



WHCHC receives 2017 APA Award for participation in City of West Hol-

lywood's Aging in Place, Aging in Community Strategic Plan under the category of Social Change and Diversity. WHCHC was one of the three leading collaborators to the City's Plan along with JFS and Partners in Care.

Left to right: Presenting the award to WHCHC is Elizabeth Savage, City of WH Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization Director; WHCHC Executive Director Robin Conerly; Danny Pepper, WHCHC Director of Resident Services.

RESIDENTS FROM WHCHC ATTEND HOLLYWOOD BOWL

WHCHC residents have been enjoying concerts at the Hollywood Bowl courtesy of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Community Concert Connections that provides free tickets to non-profit organizations. This year they received tickets to 5 concerts. The most recent concert was "Ella and Dizzy: 100 Years, 1,000 Memories."



HOLLAND AND KNIGHT, LLP. PRESENTS WHCHC WITH \$5,000 GRANT

Holland and Knight LLP. recently held their annual auction and raised \$15,000, enough money to donate three grants. The firm held a contest, asking everyone to submit their charity of choice, and between 15 to 20 charities were submitted. Karl Lott,

WHCHC's Board Chair, submitted WHCHC. When the votes were counted, WHCHC was selected as one of the three! Accepting the check from Karl (center) are WHCHC's Executive Director Robin Conerly and Danny Pepper, Director of Resident Services.



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WHCHC's Mission & Vision

WHCHC's mission is to develop safe, decent and affordable housing for people with limited income, including those with special needs, which enhances the community and supports economic diversity. We envision sustainable communities of healthy, diverse neighborhoods within the greater Los Angeles area.

Our Values

1. Everyone has a right to a safe and decent place to live.
2. Secure, service-enriched environments are essential for residents with special needs.
3. Housing developments should enhance the local community.
4. Responsible development is environmentally sensitive.

WHCHC Housing News

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