



Historic Resources Inventory *by Nina Fresco*



Library, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard, constructed in 1956

Santa Monica's Historic Resources Inventory update is now complete, after a five-year process that involved the review of all 11,072 properties built before 1968. The survey consultants looked for properties that might be eligible for landmark designation or that might become part of an historic district pending further research. Cities create and maintain these surveys because it is one of several requirements of a "Certified Local Government" through the National Parks Service intended to legitimize a city's local program and allow it to take advantage of such preservation resources as grants from the state and other incentives. The survey becomes a critical planning tool on the local level by creating an awareness of which structures should be studied before demolition is approved and where concentrations of historic resources create irreplaceable neighborhood character.

Santa Monica's updated survey identifies 259 properties that are potentially eligible as individual landmarks; they represent 1.5% of all the properties in the city. Because this number is so small, and because after further research we may find that only a small percentage of those properties actually meet the designation criteria, it is very important that the inventory status is checked when redevelopment is being considered.

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Landmarks Commission Report

Brecht Home Designated

by Margaret Bach

The letters of support came in from far and near, from Berlin to New York to Los Angeles. Their essence: declare the Santa Monica home of Bertolt Brecht a landmark. On March 14, the Landmarks Commission did just that.

The house at 1063 26th Street where Bertolt Brecht resided for the five years between 1942 and 1947 is the first designation in Santa Monica to recognize the home of a major cultural figure. Brecht resided here at a time when our city and adjacent communities became the place of refuge for German writers, artists and intellectuals, many of them Jewish, who fled tyranny and persecution in Hitler-controlled Europe in the years leading up to and during World War II.

The residence was Brecht's home and workplace for five eventful and productive years. Considered by many to be one of the most influential playwrights of the 20th century, Brecht wrote five plays and a large body of poetry during these years. The plays included *The Life of Galileo*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and others. During this time, he

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Civic Auditorium Revitalization Wins Crucial Vote



The Civic Auditorium, photo by Dick Orton

Thanks to an outpouring of support from the community as well as from the Los Angeles Conservancy, the California Preservation Foundation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, funds have been made available to seismically strengthen and renovate the iconic

mid-century Santa Monica Civic Auditorium for future use as a performance center. On May 26, the Santa Monica City Council voted 4-3 to use redevelopment funding for this purpose. Many of those present spoke movingly of the Civic's important place in the community's past as well as its potential to serve future generations.

Santa Monica Conservancy advocacy on the issue clearly impressed even those Council members who could not support the use of redevelopment funds for this purpose. Each member acknowledged the need to preserve the building but differed on how that should be implemented.

Thank you again to all who supported this successful advocacy effort!

See Special Section in Center



The Conservancy Board of Directors

Our board comes from neighborhoods throughout the city and includes:

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How to Contact The Santa Monica Conservancy

Phone: (310) 496-3146, leave a message.

Website: www.smconservancy.org

E-mail: info@smconservancy.org

Mail: Santa Monica Conservancy
P.O.Box 653
Santa Monica, CA 90406

Membership Dues

Individual Membership	\$35
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To support the Conservancy at higher levels, or with a business membership, visit our website www.smconservancy.org or call (310) 496-3146.

The News Staff

Alice Allen	Margaret Bach
Sherrill Kushner	Ruthann Lehrer
Nancy O'Neill	Dick Orton
Kay Pattison	Barbara Whitney

Message from the President *Carol Lemlein*

May was **National Preservation Month**, and what a month it was!

It began with the **Landscapes of Santa Monica** tour, which is quickly becoming one of the Conservancy's signature events.

Next, the Preservation Resource Center at the Shotgun House received California Coastal Commission approval – this was the last of the discretionary approvals necessary to allow the Conservancy to apply for the building permit.

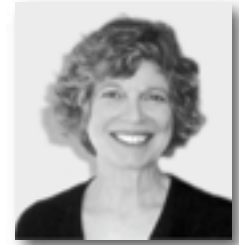
And then **"Preservation on the Edge"** arrived, with a record 650 participants. From Sunday's tours to Wednesday's workshop at the Annenberg Community Beach House (ACBH), the Conference brought together preservationists and professionals from across the state to discuss the issues they face as they work to protect our shared architectural and cultural heritage. I hope you were able to attend at least the Opening Plenary Session to hear National Trust President Stephanie Meeks discuss the challenges facing the preservation community as our country becomes more diverse and State Historic Preservation Officer Wayne Donaldson reminisce about his explorations of Pacific Ocean Park as a boy.

The highlight of the Conference for me, however, was the workshop at the ACBH **"The Power of Partnerships, Place, and Preservation"**, which could have been called "A Short Course in all Aspects of Preservation." The workshop brought together a diverse group of speakers who used the Beach House and other current Annenberg projects as case studies exploring a broad range of themes including how to create consensus among stakeholders, integrate preservation with new construction, capture the cultural context of a site, and material conservation strategies. It was fascinating to hear Len Aube of the Annenberg Foundation and former Santa Monica Conservancy President Joel Brand recount the challenges presented by the opposition of a group of neighbors and how the Conservancy-sponsored Friends of 415 PCH rallied public support.

Then -- just when we thought we could take a break after the Conference -- the City Council hesitated to put the Civic Auditorium renovation on its list of approved Redevelopment Projects. Your Conservancy board, recognizing the urgency and importance of revitalizing this iconic building, asked our members, as well as regional and national preservation organizations, for support. In final voting all supported the protection and renovation of the Civic, whether or not they agreed with the successful proposal to pay for it with RDA funds.

A closing note - I'd like to thank **Ken Breisch** for his many years of service to the Board. Ken was recently recognized by his fellow board members by being granted "Emeritus" status in April. Happily, he will continue to be very much involved with the Conservancy – don't miss his lecture "Preserving Old Havana: Conservation and Tourism in Today's Cuba" on Sunday, July 24th.

Carol



Marquez Cemetery Dedication



Rancho descendants and community members celebrated the dedication of the north parcel of Lot 30 as an addition to the Los Angeles City Historic-Cultural Monument 685, the Pascual Marquez Family Cemetery, on May 14. (For more on the expansion of the Marquez Cemetery, see the March, 2011 Newsletter.)

*Descendants Sharon Kilbride and Ernest Marquez with Councilman Bill Rosendahl standing in front of the statue of San Lorenzo at the dedication.
Photo courtesy of Ruben Lucero*

Harvey Kern, Ubiquitous Docent *by Kay Pattison*



Let me introduce Harvey Kern, a top notch docent at the Beach House, who has given considerable time and attention to the tours.

Harvey has been a docent since 2009 and is a recent recipient of the Most Valuable Docent Award.

Harvey is something of an expert in the gardening area. He is currently a docent at the Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks and at the Adamson House, where he is Chairman of their

Docent Council and conducts tours of the house and grounds.

Harvey retired in 1996 after 32 years with the L.A. County Health Department where he held a variety of positions, eventually serving as

the Director of Public Affairs and Assistant to the Executive Director of the L.A. County+USC Medical Center. There he oversaw all volunteer programs, media, legislation, and was a liaison to the USC School of Medicine. Not having much to do in the evenings, Harvey taught Graduate Health Courses at CSUN for 24 years.

Harvey had a second career as a voice talent. For over twenty years he was an on-air Newscaster and Disc Jockey for KNJO-FM in Thousand Oaks. After retirement he became the morning drive time on-air personality for the station. He also made use of his mellifluous vocal chords by becoming the recorded voice for the telephone systems of many national companies including Costco, Domino's Pizza and the Fairmont hotels.

Harvey is the proud father of two married daughters and enjoys spending time with them and his two grandchildren. He currently lives in West Los Angeles with his partner, Ann Hayman.

Annenberg Beach House News *by Ruthann Lehrer*



Photo, from the left: Maureen Murphy, Fran Lyness, Patty Godon-Tann, Jeff Burt, Ruthann Lehrer, Anita Roglich, Dee Cappelli at the Beach House. Photo by Ruthann Lehrer

The Conservancy's docent program at the Annenberg Community Beach House has recently added sixteen enthusiastic volunteers. These docent-trainees completed training that included both a lecture series and on-site instruction. We extend our thanks to the experts who presented lectures to the docents and to the public: Marc Wanamker, Cari Beauchamp, Elaine Archer, Kay Pattison, Christy McAvoy and John Berley.

The new docents will be joining the "veterans" at the Marion Davies Guest House this summer to introduce visitors to the fascinating history and personalities that shaped this award-winning site. We welcome our new docents: Phyllis Bernard, Cameron Brown, Jeff Burt, Dee Cappelli, Elaine Fisher, Patty Godon-Tann, Jean Hasselquist, Valerie Hiss, Fran Lyness, Maureen Murphy, Claire Nelson, Kathy Ortega, Anita Roglich, Gigi Smith, Lucy F. Stone and Kathi Tomkins.

From June 25 through Labor Day Monday, September 5, the Guest House is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 2 pm and Tuesdays from 5:15 pm to 6:30 pm. Check the schedule at www.annenbergbeachhouse.com since the Guest House is occasionally closed for a special event.

The pool is open to the public on weekends in June and daily in July and August. Beach=Culture events featuring various performances are ongoing and free; check the website for program information. Docents staff the Guest House prior to all Beach=Culture events.

Docent Council News

by Ruthann Lehrer

Early this year, a group of docents for the Annenberg Community Beach House and Downtown Walking Tours initiated a new Docent Council, intended to provide ongoing support, education and enrichment activities for our volunteer docents. Members of this leadership group are: Linda Black, Elaine Cohen, Phillis Dudick, Audree Fowler, Dorothy Jewell, Ruthann Lehrer, Libby Pachares, Kay Pattison, Marlene St. Peter and Robin Venturelli. The first event was held at the new Santa Monica History Museum on March 22, with tours given by staff and our own docent Robert Baxter. Refreshments were provided by Elaine Cohen, Madi Heller and Marlene St. Peter, with generous donations from Albertson's and Nothing Bundt Cakes, 927 Montana Avenue.

The Docent Council served as hosts for the Annual Docent Party held at the Annenberg Community Beach House on April 25 in order to thank our volunteers for their service. More than 60 guests attended, many dressed in black-and-white in tribute to Marion Davies'



Docent party special guests Bob Board, Elaine Archer and Hugh Neely. Photo by Harvey Kern

films. For the event, the Docent Council inaugurated special awards for outstanding service which were presented to docents Eileen Kawas, Harvey Kern, Kay Pattison and Nick Steers. Special guests Elaine Archer and Hugh Neely discussed their film documentary on Marion Davies, a project aided by Davies collector Bob Board, who also attended. Guests enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres provided by Fred Deni of Back on the Beach Café. The evening concluded with the screening of "Blondie of the Follies" (1932), showcasing Marion's beauty and acting talents.

Landscapes of Santa Monica

On a sparkling sunny May day, Conservancy members and friends toured 11 gardens from neighborhoods across Santa Monica. The homeowners and designers were on hand to enlighten visitors, and docents helped to provide guidance. Thanks to the generosity and hospitality of the homeowners, “Santa Monica Landscapes” demonstrated how landscape and architecture work together to create memorable places in our city.



Above right, homeowners and committee members: Javier Valdivia, Karen Mahmoudi, Mary Effron, Ann Hastings, Ruth Shari (partially hidden), Bea Nemlaha, Massood Mahmoudi, Sarah Barnard, Ursula Kress (partially hidden), Pam Bottaro, Phyllis Conkle, Sylvia Anderle, Don Anderle, Nina Ramos.

Our thanks to...

Homeowners and landscape designers:

Sylvia and Donald Anderle
 Mary Effron and Javier Valdivia,
 (Mary Effron Landscape Design)
 Massood and Karen Mahmoudi
 Pam Bottaro, Red Lemon Landscape Design,
 and her husband Charles Noble
 Ann Hastings, (Red Lemon Landscape Design)
 Amy Gelfand and David Misch, (Marilee
 Kuhlmann Comfort Zones Garden Design)
 Doris Sosin
 Paula Savett
 Dr. W. Eugene Stern, (Marco Barrantes and
 Michelle Matthews, La Loma Development Co.)
 Whitney Green, (Stephen Gabor
 of Gabor and Allen, Inc.)
 Bea Nemlaha (Laurel Stutzman Design)

Program Committee:

Sarah Barnard (chair), Ann and Phyllis Conkle,
 Julia Denholm, Dwight Flowers, Ursula Kress,
 Sherrill Kushner, Ruthann Lehrer,
 Carol Lemlein, Diane Locklear and Ruth Shari.
 Also Dick Orton for graphics and photography,
 and Kate Bransfield for advertising

Docents:

Elena Allen, Monika Bialas, Liz Bell, Sarah
 Benhagi, Jeff Burt, Elaine and Alan Cohen,
 Margi Falk, Susan Freeman, Audree Fowler,
 Joy Gibson, Patty Godon-Tann,
 Jean Hasselquist, Cristyne Lawson,
 Carol Lemlein, Diana Lubas, Evelyn Maggiore,
 Mary Moran, Claire Nelson, Kathy Ortego,
 Nancy O'Neill, Shirley Ouchi, Kay Pattison,
 Gigi Smith, Achee Stevenson, Susan Sullivan,
 Summer Wedertz, Cindy Winthrop.



Top: Sarah Barnard, Ruthann Lehrer and Carol Lemlein at check-in; Middle: Docent Susan Sullivan introduces visitors to colorful blooming plants; Right: Matt Lager took the tour on his bicycle.



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Above: Docents Julia Denholm and Gigi Smith welcome visitors to Doris Sosin's garden; Above right: Paula Savett relaxing in her Adelaide Drive garden; Below: Dr. W. Eugene Stern delights tour go-ers with his beautiful roses. Photos by Dick Orton.





Brecht House, *continued from page 1*
also wrote the screenplay to Fritz Lang's anti-Nazi noir classic, *Hangmen Also Die*.

The home itself is a prominent visual landmark along 26th Street, where it stands out as one of the oldest homes built in its immediate area. Architecturally, it is a unique variant of the American Foursquare style, typical for the period 1910-1920. Its distinctive architecture and its setting on a larger than usual parcel make it a prominent feature of the neighborhood. With the recognition and protection af-

forded by its new landmark status, the house stands now as a vivid reminder of an important time in the political and cultural history of our city.

Editor's note: As we go to press, the house is on the market, a great opportunity to own a house of historic importance on a large, oversized lot that could accommodate another building. As a landmark, the home is eligible for a Mills Act contract.

Historic Resources, *continued from page 1*
A total of 1,014 properties are listed as part of groupings that may someday be designated as historic districts. In addition to meeting the criteria for historic district designation, the consent of the owners in the area must also be obtained.

85 properties in the inventory are already designated as landmarks, and 259 are potentially eligible as Structures of Merit, which is a lesser designation than landmark for properties of

some importance that don't rise to as high a level. 1,520 properties are listed as worthy of a second look.

The new inventory report also includes a new concise history of Santa Monica that emphasizes the events with which various landmark-able structures or places may be associated. Also included is an illustrated list of the building styles that are represented among our designated and potential landmarks and historic districts.

Upcoming Preservation Events

June-August 2011

Downtown Tours at Sunset

Wednesdays, July 20 - August 24,
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Los Angeles Conservancy
(213) 623-2489
www.laconservancy.org

Exhibit: "In the Good 'Ol Summertime"

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, July 29 to September 25, 12 - 4 PM
Heritage Square Museum and Fort MacArthur Museum
(323) 225-2700
www.heritagesquare.org

Old Pasadena Walking Tour

Saturday, August 6 9:00 - 11:15 AM
Pasadena Heritage
(626) 441-6333
www.pasadenaheritage.org

Living History Day

Sunday, August 21 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Los Encinos State Historic Park
(818) 784-4849
los-encinos.org

When Walls Talk, People Listen

More than 70 Conservancy members and friends attended "If Walls Could Talk," a lecture by three professional architectural historians discussing a wide range of resources for researching the history of a building. Thanks to Richard Starzak and Pete Moruzzi of ICF International and Margarita Wuellner, Ph.D., Director of Historic Resources, PCR Services Corp., for generously sharing their knowledge and experience with our members.



Farquhar House

Community Outreach



Tom Cleys and Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom at the Santa Monica Unity Resource Festival.

One way we get the word out about the Santa Monica Conservancy is by participating in community events such as the Santa Monica Unity Resource Festival at Virginia Park in March and the Santa Monica Festival at Clover Park in May. Board Members Tom Cleys and Carol Lemlein staffed the booth at the Unity Resource Festival. Volunteers at the SM Festival were: Tom Cleys, Cristyne Lawson, Carol Lemlein, Barbara Whitney and John Zinner.

June 2011 New Members

- Donald and Sylvia Anderle
- Linda and Bob Attiyeh
- Sara and Britt Bacon
- Behnisch Architekten
- Pam Bottaro
- Bourget Bros. Building Materials
- Michele Byer
- Dee Cappelli
- Susan Desmond
- Mary Effron
- Patricia Godon-Tann
- Jeff and Judy Gottesman
- Rod & Rosaline Gould
- Ann Hastings
- Ronald Heinmiller
- Ed and Barbara Kenegsberg
- Donald and Suzanne Kleinbub
- Sarah Letts
- Karen and Massood Mahmoudi
- Cindy Mediavilla

- Merrihew's Sunset Gardens
- Elizabeth Militello
- David Misch
- Maureen Murphy
- Claire Nelson
- Paula Savett
- Gigi Smith
- Kendra Sosothikul and Jonathan Ang
- Dr. Eugene Stern
- Kathleen Tomkins
- Dana White and Michele Vercoutere
- Carol Wirtschafter
- Trina Wyatt and Sasha Vishdehi

June 2011 Business Members

- Adamm's Stained Glass *
- Bayside District*
- Behnisch Architekten
- Bourget Bros. Building Materials
- Kate Bransfield, Coldwell Banker
- Pamela Burton & Company
- Chattel Architecture, Planning & Preservation, Inc.
- deasy/penner & partners*
- David Forbes Hibbert, AIA
- Merrihew's Sunset Gardens
- Morley Builders *
- Eric Natwig, New West Partners
- Spectra Company
- Margarita Wuellner, Ph. D., PCR Services

* Sponsor Member or higher

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Summer Lecture Scheduled

“Preserving Old Havana: Conservation and Tourism in Today’s Cuba”



Dr. Ken Breisch, Director of USC’s Historic Preservation Program and Santa Monica Conservancy Emeritus Board Member will present an illustrated lecture: **Preserving Old Havana: Conservation and Tourism in Today’s Cuba** on Sunday, July 24th at 3 PM.

The free program will take place in the multi-purpose room of the Santa Monica Public Library at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Underground parking is available at \$1 per hour. Reservations are encouraged online at www.smconservancy.org, by email to rsvp@smconservancy.org, or by calling 310-496-3146.

The lecture is presented in conjunction with the current photography exhibition at the Getty Center “A Revolutionary Project: Cuba from Walker Evans to Now.” The exhibition examines three critical periods in Cuba’s history as witnessed by photographers. It continues at the Getty Center through October 2.

Join the 4th of July Parade

The next event on the calendar is the annual 4th of July parade. We are looking for members who want to parade their support for the Conservancy. If you’d like to volunteer to represent the Conservancy at the parade or another event, send your name and contact information to info@smconservancy.org or call...

310-496-3146.





2011 California Preservation Conference: "Preservation on the Edge"

Many, many thanks to all the Santa Monica Conservancy members and friends who helped make the conference possible!

Steering Committee:

Carol Lemlein, chair, Ray Adamyck, Sarah Barnard, Ken Breisch, Martha Groves, David Kaplan, Charles Kibby, Ruthann Lehrer, Alan Merson, Eric Natwig, Tom Neary, Tish Nettleship, Anne Troutman, Becky Upchurch, Nelson White, Sian Winship

Program Committee: Ken Breisch, Chris Gray, Ruthann Lehrer

Study Tours Leaders and Speakers: Margaret Bach, Michael Boyd, Winston Chappell, Michael Folonis, FAIA; Jim Harris, Kay Pattison, Deborah Levin, Harry Medved, Thomasine Rogas, Anne Troutman, Nelson White, Barbara Whitney, Sian Winship, Ernest Marquez, Tish Nettleship

Conference Speakers and Mobile Workshop Presenters:

Ray Adamyck, Sarah Barnard, John Berley, Joel Brand, Ken Breisch, Ph.D; Robert Chattel, AIA; Jennifer Cusick, Karen Ginsberg, Peyton Hall, Allison Rose Jefferson, Ken Kutcher, Ruthann Lehrer, Christy McAvoy, Ralph Mechur, AIA; Dan Rice, Roxanne Tanemori, Shepard Vineburg, Cristi Walden, Margarita Wuellner, PhD; John Zinner

Volunteers:

Sarah BenHagai, Linda Black, Winston Chappell, Chris Cohoon, Audree Fowler, Maralee Grantham, Jim Harris, Madeline Heller, Christina Hildebrand, Dorothy Jewell, Amanda Kainer, Harvey Kern, Diane Locklear, Barbara Lonsdale, Jan Ostashay, Kay Pattison, Jill Prestup, Barbara Remedios, Summer Wedertz

Three Minute Success Stories:

"You Saved That Shack?" Mario Fonda-Bonardi, Nina Fresco, Sherrill Kushner, Carol Lemlein, Ruthann Lehrer, Dick Orton

Resources Commission Reception:

The Conservancy also hosted a reception at the Embassy Hotel Apartments for the State Historical Resources Commission. Thanks to Phyllis Conkle, Mary Ann Hays, Thomasine Rogas, Nelson White, and Michele Nasatir, Joshua Bond, and Thea Majure of the Embassy Hotel Apartments.



Above left: Business Patron Member Adam Gritlefeld of Adam's Stained Glass; Above right: Green Living for Historic Homes speakers Brenden McEneaney (left) and John Berley with moderator Sarah Barnard. Photo provided by Sarah Barnard



Above left: SM Conservancy volunteer Diane Locklear assisting with the silent auction. Above right: Tom Cleys, Ruth Shari and Ken Breisch at closing party. Both photos by Carol Lemlein.



Above left, Cradle of Modernism tour, Ted Wells, architect and author introduces the Horatio West Court, with Sian Winship, tour leader in the background. Photo by Carol Lemlein; Barbara Whitney talking to Stephanie Kingsnorth, AIA, Vice President for Advocacy of the Los Angeles Conservancy Board of Directors. Photo by Mary Ann Hays.



Above left: slide from the Santa Monica Trivia Quiz created by Tim Brandt for the Three Minute Success Stories; Above right: State Historic Preservation Officer Wayne Donaldson (left), and State Historical Resources Commission Chair Bryan Brandes with SM Conservancy President Carol Lemlein. Photo by Twila Willis-Hunter

City of Santa Monica



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, historic preservation is an effective tool for sustainable development, revitalizing and conserving neighborhoods, fostering local pride and maintaining community character while enhancing livability and managing growth; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Santa Monica has incorporated historic preservation into the governance of the city, evidenced by, among other regulations, the recent passage of the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE); and
- WHEREAS, historic preservation is relevant for Santa Monica's diverse population, all ages, all walks of life and all racial and ethnic backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS, it is important to celebrate our heritage and the contributions made by dedicated individuals locally, regionally and nationally in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of our past that have shaped us as a people; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Santa Monica and other organizations have been instrumental in planning the annual statewide California Preservation Conference; and
- WHEREAS, "*Celebrating America's Treasure*" is the theme for National Preservation Month 2011, supported locally by the Santa Monica Conservancy, in our state by the California Preservation Foundation and nationally by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD BLOOM, Mayor of the City of Santa Monica, on behalf of the Members of the City Council, proclaim the month of May, 2011 as

National Preservation Month

and call upon our community to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

Dated this 1st day of May, 2011

RICHARD BLOOM
MAYOR

