



Pacific Palisades Community Council

2022 Awards Honorees

Five dedicated Palisadians and one special Palisades organization will be honored at the PPCC Holiday Meeting & Awards Celebration on December 8, 2022, at Temescal Canyon Gateway Park/Cheadle Hall.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Michael K. Lanning:

Mike has provided extraordinary contributions in service to the Youth of Pacific Palisades. For more than 70 years, Mike has been the Scoutmaster of Troop 223 in Pacific Palisades. Mike was selected as Citizen of the Year for implementing an important step forward in Scouting that has resulted in the inclusion of girls into Troop 223. With the incorporation of Troop 223 G, the Troop has grown to over 200 active youth participants. The Girls Troop is now recognized as the second largest Girls Troop in the Nation. He has selflessly devoted his adult life to creating an exciting and thriving Scouting experience for many thousands of Palisades families over the decades. To date, Mike has shepherded over 900 youth to receive the coveted Eagle Scout Award in Scouting, an outstanding achievement in the Scouting World. Mike and his wife Carol have been active members of St. Matthews Parish since 1952. He has served on the Boy Scouts Executive Board of Western Los Angeles County for 42 years. Professionally, Mike is one of the premier Estate Planning and Tax Probate Attorneys in California. Mike is a proud and active member of the Ronald Reagan-Palisades American Legion Post 283 where he serves on the Finance Committee. His devotion to Pacific Palisades has been the keystone of Mike's relentless mission of serving the youth in our community.

GOLDEN SPARKPLUGS

James Cragg:

Jim was selected for a 2022 Golden Sparkplug Award to showcase his outstanding work on highlighting the importance of Community Safety Programs. Jim spearheaded the campaign to send out safety information postcards to every residence in Pacific Palisades. As part of a six-month public safety project, the postcards list the contact information of resources that community members can use when they need services. To complement the safety project, Jim, as Commander of Ronald Reagan-Palisades Post 283, invited speakers to present programs on crime prevention, drug concerns and homeless issues. The programs have been open to the public and were greeted with great community enthusiasm.

Cindy Simon and Tracey Price:

Cindy and Tracey were selected for a 2022 Golden Sparkplug Award for their joint effort in enhancing the popular Simon Meadow Winding Way nature trail with the new "Pali Path," a ¼ mile walking path which reaches behind Winding Way and curves along the hillside. They have added native grasses in the dry rock bed, and grape vines that climb up and over the many arches of the garden trellis. The "Pali Path" was dedicated in the Fall of 2022 and has become a popular destination for the many visitors that are attracted to the natural beauty of Simon Meadow.

Hazel Tate:

Hazel was selected for a 2022 Golden Sparkplug Award for her outstanding efforts in coordinating the Pacific Palisades “Sunday Sackers” program. The program includes Palisadians of all ages who gather at Hazel’s home every Sunday to provide sack lunches. The lunches are delivered to and distributed by the Hollywood Food Coalition to those experiencing food insecurity. Using a simple formula that worked wonders, Hazel reached out to her neighbors in the El Medio Bluffs to participate as “Sunday Sackers” by making 10 or more sandwiches and delivering them to her home. Her simple note soon generated 500 sack lunches being delivered to her home for distribution. To quote Hazel, “Volunteering is Love in Motion.”

PRIDE OF THE PALISADES**The Pacific Palisades Historical Society Centennial Celebration Committee:**

The PP HS Centennial Celebration Committee, led by Chairperson Donna Vaccarino with committee members: Barbara Kohn, Randy Young, Harris Smith and Bill Bruns, has been selected to receive “The Pride of the Palisades Award” for 2022. The Celebration was a year long community love-fest to honor the January 15, 1922, founding of Pacific Palisades. The Committee worked tirelessly to produce an impressive program held on May 7, 2022, at Simon Meadow in Temescal Canyon, the site where the original founders of our town gathered to create the vision of Pacific Palisades.