



Councilmember  
**Paul  
Koretz**



Los Angeles Council District 5

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### City flags at half-mast

Mayor Villaraigosa has ordered all City flags to be flown at half-staff until July 25, 2012, as a mark of respect and in honor of the victims of the Aurora, Colorado shooting incident.

The Mayor said, "on behalf of the residents of Los Angeles, I want to extend our thoughts and prayers to the families of the victims and the residents of Aurora."

Councilmember Koretz and his staff join in offering their personal prayers and condolences to the many whose lives have been shattered. This is a time of much sorrow and pain, of turmoil caused by events far away, and so the people of this city mourn with others for the human costs of this horrific violence, and hope for healing for all who have suffered wounds and loss.

### Valley gathering



### Thank you, Lt. Governor!

Our thanks go to Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom for joining Councilmember Koretz and others who are greatly concerned about the threatened sale by UCLA of the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden.

Back in 1964, Edward Carter bequested a wonderful Bel Air property to UCLA. Carter had been a University of California Regent for 36 years, even serving for a time as its Chair. The property that he donated included a lovely hillside garden constructed between 1959 and 1961, modeled on gardens in Kyoto and designed by famed Japanese garden designer Nagao Sakurai. Named after Carter's wife, Hannah, the garden has charmed countless visitors over the decades, as surely was the intent of Edward Carter. Indeed, Mr. Carter made clear that the house could eventually be sold, if necessary, in order to provide an endowment for the garden – an understanding which the university reaffirmed in 1999. But now, UCLA is seeking to sell the entire property, which it says involves annual operating costs of nearly \$140,000, in order to rake in more than \$4 million. Carter's heirs have filed suit to stop such a sale.

On July 3, Lt. Governor Newsom, who is also a Regent of the University of California, wrote UCLA Chancellor Gene Block about his "apprehension" over the possible sale of the property, especially if such a sale is transacted "without a stipulation to preserve the garden": "As the University faces difficult fiscal times, it is important to protect those who support our mission. It is my hope that you will look toward solutions that not only bring more revenue to the University, but also protect the intentions of the donor. I believe that preserving the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden will prove to be a long-term benefit to the University and the State. With this in mind, I hope that you will consider alternative ways to raise funds for the University while preserving public access and use of the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden."

