



# Janes Village News

Altadena, California  
[www.JanesVillage.org](http://www.JanesVillage.org)

**Winter 2008**

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

HELLO!

I've been walking around the Janes community and noticing how nice and crisp this time of year is. The Janes homes are looking really nice, which means that homeowners are taking care of their property and are taking pride in the outside appearance of their property. It says a lot to outsiders when they ride or walk by our neighborhoods and see the care that's gone into it. In these troubled times, I know it's hard to do improvements when needed, but I'm proud of all our homeowners who are keeping their property in good condition and it only goes to show that we do care about our home environment and community. Times will get better, so hang in there.

Speaking of community I'd like to urge all of our Janes homeowners to start attending the Town Council Meetings, held at the Altadena Community Center, 730 E. Altadena Drive, the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. The meetings are recorded, so just in case you can't make a meeting, you can tune into Channel 56 on Charter cable during the month and see what went on. I've been to a few meetings and they're very interesting. I've learned a lot about the "goings-on" in and around Altadena and am surprised that the community isn't more involved. The Sheriff's Department, among others, is there every month giving the community updates on what they've been covering during the month and are always asking the community for help and support. This is a good thing because if the community has any law enforcement issues the Sheriff's Department is there to help and by attending the meetings you'll get to meet and greet some of the officers, get to ask your questions and get to volunteer for upcoming or future projects.

Please join our Janes Village email group for any suggestions, comments, advice or just plain conversation at [JanesVillage@yahoogroups.com](mailto:JanesVillage@yahoogroups.com). Everyone is welcome.

Elsie Strong, President  
Janes Village Board of Directors

## **IDENTITY THEFT ALERT!!!!**

### **FILE SHARING – ID THEFT:**

Federal prosecutors say it's the first conviction in the U.S. of someone accused of using file-sharing to commit identity theft.

Gregory Kopiloff of Seattle, Wa. got access to personal information in tax returns, credit reports, bank statements and student financial aid applications. He used a more old-fashioned method such as stealing mail or taking records from trash cans and opened credit lines, shopped online and bought and resold \$73,000 in merchandise.

## **JANES HOMEOWNERS QUESTIONNAIRE**

NAME (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

What year was your Janes Cottage built? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you owned your Janes Cottage? \_\_\_\_\_

What feature of your Janes Cottage do you like best? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you currently doing any improvements to your home? \_\_\_\_\_

Improvements: \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the one thing you would like to improve about your neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_

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(Please submit via email to: [JanesVillage@yahogroups.com](mailto:JanesVillage@yahogroups.com))

## Mission Statement

The goal of the residents of Janes Village is to celebrate the unique character and architectural significance of homes built by Elisha P. Janes and to foster a sense of community within this historic area.

### IS THERE A TAX BREAK FOR HISTORIC JANES COTTAGES?

THERE IS MUCH INTEREST AND DISCUSSION SURROUNDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HISTORIC JANES COTTAGES QUALIFYING UNDER THE MILLS ACT PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT.

THE MILLS ACT CONTRACTS ARE BETWEEN THE PROPERTY OWNER AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTING THE TAX ABATEMENT. EACH JURISDICTION INDIVIDUALLY DETERMINES THE CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION.

DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROVED FRUITLESS SINCE THEY ONLY

OVERSEE PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES NOT UNINCORPORATED AREAS SUCH AS ALTADENA.

THE COUNTY CONDUCTED A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE, HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE PROJECT.

AT THE COUNTY LEVEL THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION APPEARS TO BE LIFELESS. HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF HISTORIC JANES VILLAGE PLEDGE TO CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE AND REVIVE THIS ISSUE. IF ANYONE OUT THERE HAS ANY

INFORMATION, OR IS MOTIVATED TO INVESTIGATE THIS TAX ABATEMENT FURTHER, PLEASE SHARE IT WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD AT THE JANES VILLAGE WEBSITE.

