

No to Home Depot Campaign Appeal Heard



Council Member Wendy Greuel supports the No to Home Depot Campaign



Cindy Cleghorn, STNC Chairperson. The STNC support the No to Home Depot Campaign



Patricia Taggart, Attorney representing Home Depot

Group Appeals Building and Safety Permits; New Decision Expected in Two Weeks

by Elaine Brown

Capping a two-year effort, Sunland-Tujunga's No to Home Depot Campaign (NHDC) received a Public Hearing on its appeal Friday, January 19, before Gary Booher, Zoning Administrator. The hearing is the second step in what could be a three-or four-step process. (The City of Los Angeles appeal process is unclear when the appellant is the community.) A decision is expected in two to four weeks.

Approximately 200 community members adamantly opposed to Home Depot's construction attended the hearing, held at the Marvin Braude Center in Van Nuys. The community participants also demonstrated in the rotunda of the Braude Center for several minutes.

The Foothill Boulevard property was purchased originally along with numerous other local K-Mart stores, as potential sites for new Home Depot Warehouses. The community began to fight the improvement giant upon hearing the news because the property sits in the middle of a residential neighborhood and light retail commercial zone.

The NHDC appeal contends that Daniel Scott, the Principal City Planner, ignored numerous environmental impacts at the time the plans were approved. Instead of requiring a Project Permit Compliance Review, the City has allowed Home

Continue to page 2



Mark Sellers is No to Home Depot Campaign's legal counsel.



Richard Pozzo says "The cost of remodeling has gone beyond the limit of "tenent improvment."



Victor M. Castro IV, Chairman of the STNC DAC spoke against Home Depot



One of 66 structures made of stone still exist in the Stonehurst tract built around 1926.

Redevelopment Looming Over Sun Valley Community

Local Residents Fear the Specter of Eminent Domain

by Tina Cameron

Sun Valley has joined a growing fraternity of communities across the country experiencing the phenomena of redevelopment, along with the use of eminent domain. Eminent domain is the government process of seizing private land for public use. The original premise allowed government to seize private property when there was a warranted need for something the entire community would benefit from, such as a freeway or a school. In recent years, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that eminent domain should also include developer's interests to remake over the landscape of Ameri-

Continue to page 3

INSIDE

Denial of Condominium Conversions.
page 2

Development of Sunland Wetland/Catch Basin Halted
page 8

A Moment in Time With a Horse!
page 10

Valentine's Day, Tails From Our History
page 9

Mark Your Calendar: What's Happening?
page 6

NEWS

No to Home Depot Hearing - from page 1

Depot to proceed with the issuance of a simple tenant improvements building permit.

According to the L.A. Department of Building and Safety, the current construction and renovation of the existing 30-year-old structure are not "structural alterations," and do not prolong the life of the building. Tenant improvements are typically a designation for minor interior remodeling such as new paint, stucco or bathroom remodeling. The permits were approved in July 2006 and construction began in November.

The No Home Depot Campaign (NHDC) argued at the hearing that the work consists of structural alterations, which constitutes a Project, as defined in the Foothill Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan, the Municipal Ordinance, which governs the development of the commercial area in Sunland-Tujunga. When remodeling reaches the level of a Project, the owner is required to submit to environmental review.

(Since the remodeling began, steel braces known as "deadmen" have been placed around the building to hold up the block walls while the 3 1/2 inch, older, non-reinforced slab is demolished and the interior dirt is graded to a depth of 14" to allow for 8" of rock base (gravel) and a new reinforced 6 inch slab. A haul route for the

dirt and gravel was not required, even though the construction job is in a hillside grading area, since the remodeling was not designated as a Project.)

Bookbinder said that the building is not being remodeled in a sufficiently and may cause a collapse of the warehouse in a future earthquake.

Leading the list of those speaking in opposition to the new Home Depot store was Second District Councilmember Wendy Greuel, who has opposed the new store from the outset.

Abby Diamond then spoke on behalf of the NHDC, accompanied by the group's legal counsel, Mark Sellers. Also testifying at the Public Hearing were two expert consultants, Mr. Richard Pozzo, a local civil engineer and building contractor, and structural engineer Mr. Arnold Bookbinder. Mr. Pozzo argued that Home Depot's cost of remodeling has gone beyond the dollar limit, which automatically makes it a "Significant Project." Bookbinder said that

the building is not being remodeled in a sufficiently strong and safe manner, and said this may cause a collapse of the warehouse in a future earthquake. (Home Depot when shown aerial photos of three huge holes cut into the roof, admitted to a recent accident in which a worker fell through one of these holes on the roof. No report was given as to the worker's condition.)

Cindy Cleghorn, President of the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC), also spoke against Home Depot, as did Victor M. Castro IV, chairman of the Design Advisory Committee of the STNC. Several representatives from other Neighborhood Councils and community groups also spoke out against Home Depot Warehouse, including Jim Alger of Northridge West Neighborhood Council, Frank Buchanan of the La Tuna Canyon Residents Association, Pacoima N/C and Kagel Canyon Civic Association. Mary Benson, of the Sun Valley Neighborhood Council, later commented to the North Valley Reporter, "When did the LADBS become the Department of Bad Development?"

Lisa Mollinaro-Palmer, a Van Nuys NC member, City traffic engineer and a candidate for city council, also spoke out against the project. She said that a traffic study should have been required as the traffic generated by

Home Depot is totally different than that of a K-Mart. Many people complained about the severe increase in traffic, which is already very heavy on Foothill Boulevard, the only major street through Sunland-Tujunga. Neighbors are anxious at the increase in traffic the diesel trucks and contractor vehicles will bring through the residential neighborhoods. Home Depot admitted that they would be expecting as many as eighteen semi truck deliveries to the warehouse per day, not

Home Depot admitted that they would be expecting as many as eighteen semi truck deliveries to the warehouse per day

counting the Home Depot deliveries to customers.

Among the other community members who spoke against the Home Depot Warehouse was a city planner who was also a former city manager. There were several people who testified about the noise and air pollution, which the construction, and eventually the Home Depot Warehouse, is bringing to the residential community that surrounds the property.

STNC District Representative Lydia Grant aired concerns about the toxic and flammable substances sold by the warehouse store, which would be located less than 400 feet from Apperson Elementary School. (The LAUSD has strict policies about this kind of pollution so near to a school, but can not become involved unless the remodeling is designated as a "Project." According to Grant, Julie Kornstein of LAUSD will be submitting a protest letter in support of the NHDC.)

Home Depot's attorney Patricia Taggart, and representative Richard Greene denied any wrongdoing or obfuscation of the facts. Both contended that Home Depot has met all the requirements of the city, are remodeling without structural alterations, and are being "Good Neighbors" to the community.

The community has been demonstrating in front of the site for four hours a day during the peak traffic periods each Thursday since the beginning of December. The NHDC has decided to continue the demonstrations during the two-week lull that will take place while the decision is under advisement.

If the City does not decide in favor of the community, the NHDC intends to file a lawsuit to stop the opening of the warehouse store.

Greater Denial of Condominium Conversions?

by Elektra Kruger

Although there is a great deal of apartment construction going on in the City of Los Angeles, population growth still appears to far exceed housing needs at all income levels - especially for the middle class. The rental unit occupancy rate runs around 97%. That means ever-increasing rental costs and an ever-decreasing source of adequate, affordable housing.

According to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (Section 12.95.2 F 6), the Planning Department has the authority to deny a condominium conversion if the rental unit vacancy rate is lower than 5% within the Planning Area - but what do we see over and over again as the applications come before Planning. A big rubber stamp! So now Councilmem-

bers Herb Wesson and Ed Reyes submitted a Motion to Council that "based on existing vacancy-rate data, the Planning Department enforce LAMC Sec 12.95.2(F)(6)." The City has to create laws to make itself enforce existing laws.

According to Motion CFI 06-1772-S1, enforcement would require the information already called for by the Code to be part of the Advisory Agency staff report during the tentative map or preliminary parcel map application period. The Motion additionally asks that the Planning Department and Building and Safety look into the feasibility of prohibiting multi-family residential demolitions based on vacancy rates. A law to assure enforcement of an existing law. Oh well whatever it takes!

MOORE BROS. & SONS & DAUGHTERS

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

One CALL does it ALL • Get MOORE for your MONEY

REMODELING

- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Custom Tile
- Flooring
- Cabinets
- Counter Tops
- Windows
- Doors

CONSTRUCTION

- Experts in all types of roofing
- Additions
- Decks
- Fencing
- Patios
- Electrical
- Gutters

STEEL BUILDINGS



Authorized
Independent Dealer

- Houses/Barns
- Riding Arenas
- Storage/Garage
- Churches/Offices

PAINTING/PLUMBING

- Interior
- Repairs / Leaks
- Dry Wall
- Copper RePipe
- Exterior
- Main Lines
- Stucco
- Sprinklers

**Family Owned and Operated
Over 37 Years of Experience
Quality Workmanship**

United Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award

California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition for Community Service
Senate Certificat of Recognition for Community Service - Adam Shiff



(818) 352-3271  (888) 874-8557



Sun Valley Redevelopment - from page 1

can communities.

Many people agree with the idea in principal. Some areas of Sun Valley appear to be afflicted with urban blight and could use some clean up. The Sun Valley Neighborhood Council believes that Sun Valley might actually benefit from a certain degree of redevelopment. As long as there is community input via Neighborhood Council and Chamber of Commerce directives, it could work.

But that's not what's happening.

The redevelopment being planned by the Valley Economic Development Center includes tearing down the historically preserved Stonehurst Park and the surrounding neighborhood to put in something they call an "Eco-Village." This group, which includes architectural students from local colleges, local politicians, real estate agents and economists, has looked at the community from a satellite photo of 30,000 feet and deemed this particular neighborhood is to be replaced.

The area under consideration extends from Hansen Dam to the north, the 5 freeway to the south, Sunland Blvd. to the east and Branford/Montague Streets on the west. The "Eco Village" includes new commercial businesses along Sheldon, San

Fernando Road, Glenoaks Blvd, Tuxford Street and Sunland Blvd. Other plans include replacing Stonehurst Elementary School with a Technical Trade High School.

A year ago, Mary Benson, Vice-Chair of the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, sent The Valley Economic Alliance a packet of information discussing the importance of the Stonehurst Park neighborhood and the fact that a large part of that area is heavily zoned for equestrian. Sun Valley has a lifestyle that is unique and attractive to those who live there, and whose families go back generations. Currently, the Valley Economic Alliance has ignored all recommendations made by the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council and the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Studies and design plans created by development groups say it serves the need of providing affordable housing—though it has yet to be seen anywhere nationwide that redevelopment actually produces what it professes. What it does provide is jobs to the redevelopment industry. But more importantly, it provides local government with increased property taxes. They build new homes assessed at a higher tax value, which

generates more revenue. All across America, developers have never been able to prove with actual numbers that these new communities have created jobs and "affordable-housing." It does however create high-tech jobs and high-end housing that forces lower-income families and businesses out of their neighborhood.

Studies and design plans created by development groups say it serves the need of providing affordable housing—though it has yet to be seen anywhere nationwide that redevelopment actually produces what it professes.

Though the Takings Clause of eminent domain provides that homeowners receive "just compensation" otherwise called the current market value of their homes,

the fact remains, that homeowners and small business are being forcibly removed from their homes and neighborhoods. In Hollywood, 30 small businesses are currently being seized to make way for a \$400 million residential-commercial project. In Cypress, a major redevelopment included replacing a local church with a Costco. Any small business is at risk - the local dog groomer, auto repair shop, beauty parlor or a family run grocery store can be replaced by a large impersonal shopping center.

The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council and the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce are stepping up their efforts to be heard by the Valley Economic Alliance. Local residents and business owners can call or write to City Councilmembers Tony Cardenas and Wendy Greuel to express their community concerns regarding this issue.

Tina Cameron is a recently elected Board Member of the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, a Sun Valley Business Owner and a contributing writer for the North Valley Reporter.

Sources:

- * Reason Public Policy Institute, Los Angeles
- * Justices Affirm Property Seizures, Washington Post 6/24/05
- * Kelo V. City of New London, 06/23/05, Cato Institute website, Justice Thomas and O'Connor dissents
- * Eminent domain: A big-box bonanza? 06/24/05 CNN Money.com
- * Cities Race to Acquire Land Before U.S. Court Ruling is Undone, 08/15/06, Bloomberg.com
- * Institute for Justice, Arlington Virginia
- * National Property Rights.com
- * California's stealth initiative on land use: San Francisco Chronicle 08/20/06 (see Prop 90)
- * Protect Our Homes Act, California
- * Eminent domain ballot measure could do more harm than good, experts claim, 08/31/06, The San Diego Daily Transcript
- * The California Redevelopment Association
- * Help Curb Local Government Abuse of Eminent Domain, 09/05/06, Gilroy Dispatch

The North Valley Reporter
www.northvalleyreporter.com.

North Valley Reporter
 Telephone: 818-293-0060
 Email: email@northvalleyreporter.com
 P.O. Box 674, Tujunga, CA 91043

Publishers
 Jeannine Crowley and Nina Royal

News, Community, and Calendar Editor
 Nina Royal

Section Editor
 Jeannine Crowley

Editor at Large
 Edward Rivera

Graphics and Design
 Jeannine Crowley

Contributing Writers
 Mary Benson, Cindy Cleghorn, Marlene Hitt,
 Elektra Kruger Nina Royal, Cathryn MacEllerhan

North Valley Sales Representative
 Cathryn MacEllerhan

We accept all letters on all subjects of public concern. All letters are subject to editing and condensation. They will only be published with the name reflecting the writers true identity. Only writer's home community rather than full address will be published. Letters must include the writer's complete home address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. Letters and columns that are submitted and for which no compensation was paid may be republished in digital and other formats and retained in archives without compensation to the author. The North Valley Reporter reserves the right not to publish letters for any reason.
 E-mail: email@northvalleyreporter.com
 Personal Opinions expressed in "Sound Off" are those of the writers only.

REAL ESTATE & PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
a SOUND Investment

"WE CARE ABOUT YOUR INVESTMENT"
 Let our experienced and dedicated professional staff eliminate your day to day management problems.

• Increase Low Rents	• Eliminate Vacancies
• Marketing & Advertising	• Monthly Statements
• Leasing	• Bill Payments
• Tenant Evictions	• Rental Market Survey
• On-site Inspections	• Rent Collection
• Screening New Tenants	• Maintenance & Repairs

Award Winning Team
Over 30 Years in the Foothills
 Recipient of Business of the Year by the California State Assembly
 1999-2000 Business of the year awarded by the United Chambers of Commerce of San Fernando Valley

SLATER & REALTY INC
 Property Management

www.Realestate-Reports-Free.com



Joan Slater, Broker
 Residential Listings & Sales
 1031 Property Exchanges
 Real Estate Counseling
 Loans, 1st and 2nd
 Trust Deeds & Refinance
 Notary Services
 Free Market Evaluation for Sellers
 Free Rental List Always Available Find it on the Web
 Site: www.SlaterRealty.com
818-352-8731
 Property Management Division
818-951-7053
 Real Estate Division
 www.SlaterRealty.com

COMMUNITY



Cindy Cleghorn,
STNC Chairwoman

At the January STNC meeting we saw 157 neighbors in attendance. Lydia Grant, STNC District 4, gave a presentation to outstanding teachers in the Sunland-Tujunga schools. The students from Sunland Runners Club showed up in force to honor and applaud their teachers which included: Bobbie Peterson and Kelly Garnett of the Victory Club (Volunteers in Community to Represent Youth), which raises money from recycling aluminum cans for several charities. Charities include the Ronald

Sunland Tujunga NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

McDonald Club, L.A. Mission, UNICEF, the Troops in Iraq, senior citizen groups, and Special Olympics. The community can help support the students' upcoming trainings for the L.A. Marathon in March with by purchasing water and Gatorade for the kids. The other awards were: parent Tony Radice, Teacher Assistant Michael Ritchie, parent Andy Aranda, and teachers Jennifer Mazanet, Jeremy Hules and Craig Moss. Moss spoke about SRLA, which is helping get the kids involved in fitness. They will be participating in a running event at the Rose Bowl in January and hope to win the top prize, as they have in previous years.

Welcome to the STNC

Board: Ricky Grubb has been appointed as Environmental Representative. Ricky said his main interest at Environmental rep is in preserving native plant species. His affiliation is with the Sierra Club.

The STNC Elections are in full swing. All 21 board seats are up for election. Here's a list of the upcoming STNC Election events. If you are interested in running for the STNC Board, please attend one of the events below and file your application by Feb. 17, 2007.

Candidate Information Sessions

Attend one of these sessions to find out how to run for a seat on the board:

Monday, January 22, 2007
6:30-7:30 p.m.



Photo by: John Blue

STNC honors Sunland-Tujunga Teachers at Jan. 10, 2007 meeting

North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga

Monday, February 12, 2007, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga

Stnc Candidate Filing Deadline

Monday, February 17, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Stnc Election Day Monday, March 19, 2007

North Valley Neighborhood City Hall 7747 Foothill Blvd. - Tujunga

Polls Open from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Council Review Commission - 912 Commission

Currently reviewing the neighborhood council system. Attend an upcoming meeting to give comments regarding the future of neighborhood councils.

What is the purpose of neighborhood councils?

Neighborhood councils are intended to do two things: 1) promote more public participation in government; and 2) make government more responsive to local needs.

Why do I need a neighborhood council?

In a city as large as Los Angeles, many people felt their voices weren't being heard at City Hall. Neighborhood Councils were created as a way to improve

that. They are intended to provide a forum for raising local issues, as well as providing a way to comment on city-wide matters.

Next Public Hearing

Public Hearing 5 - East
January 25, 2007

6:30PM - 9:30PM

Puente Learning Center
501 S. Boyle Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90033

Powers And Roles Of NES 3

February 1, 2007

6:30PM

Metropolitan Water District
Headquarters Building

Public Hearing 6 South Valley

February 6, 2007

6:30PM - 9:30PM

Erwin Street School
13400 Erwin Street
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Public Hearing 7 Central

February 15, 2007

6:30PM - 9:30PM

Le Conte Middle School
1316 N. Bronson Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90028

Governance System 1

February 20, 2007

6:30PM

Metropolitan Water District
Headquarters Building

For more info visit the
ncrcla.org web site

January 18 Safety Committee meeting - NVCH - 6 p.m.
January 19 Bylaws/Rules Committee meeting - NVCH - 3 p.m.
January 22 DAC Meeting - NVCH - 7 p.m.

Meeting times are subject to change. Check the STNC web site for updates and other committee meetings. Call the STNC office to verify meeting time and location. Thank you to The North Valley Reporter for providing space for this article.

NVCH = North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga

STNC Office: Contact Ed Rock, Office & Logistics Manager, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Room 101, Tujunga, CA 91042. (818) 951-7411 FAX (818) 951-7412 Please visit the STNC web site often for new updates and information at: www.stnc.org

Hold the Date NAACP 50th Year Gala Celebration

Celebrating More Than 50 Years of Serving the San Fernando Valley

It's celebration time. We're stepping into our season, and you're invited.
Come join us for a special evening and support the NAACP.

**Thursday, February 15, 2007
6:00 pm**

Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills
Elegant and Dressy Attire

**Donation Tickets
\$50 per person**

Call the NAACP Fax and Message Center for more information
(877) 245-9381

Sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Branch, NAACP - #1064

STNC February General Meeting
will be held on Wed. Feb. 7, 2007 at 7 p.m.
a week early!
at Mt. Gleason Middle School
Happy Valentine's Day!



Foothill Trails District NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Mary Benson

We have just recently completed our elections and will be selecting our Executive Committee and completing our Installation at our next meeting on January 18. We will then be updating and sharing our accomplishments as well as scheduling outreach activities.

We would like to share with you a reminder from the District Attorney's office regarding protocols for requesting legal assistance to allow a direct and official line of communications between their office and Neighborhood Council Boards.

According a a memo issued on October 4, their office is requesting that Neighborhood Council Board members present legal questions in writing directly to their office. The questions should come from Board Presidents or legal liaison after action of their board.. Questions regarding common concern among Neighborhood Councils will be prioritized.

Their response will be sent to the entire board and communication will be considered as a public record unless response merits treatment as a privileged communication as determined by their office.

They are requesting that Neighborhood Council Board members first present their question to their DONE Advocate in order to assist in gathering facts for analysis in order to make the best use of their time. The Division Attorney for the North Valley is Darren Martinez. He can be reached at 213-978-8132 or email at darren.Martinez@lacity.org

Sun Valley Area NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Mary Benson

There is bad and good news for our Community. The bad news is the installation of new Board Members had been put on hold and the prior Board must stay in place until the Election Arbitrator has made a determination. Two contests to the election have been filed regarding handing out cheat sheets to voters. The election committee is not aware of any impropriety-taking place inside the 100 perimeter of the polling area. The arbitrator will not release information to the public as to identity of the persons filing the grievance. We believe there is not bases for the contest because the elections were held as required. Our next meeting will be held as scheduled on February 9, at 6:30 pm at 10631 Vindale Ave. in Sun Valley.

The good news is Sun Valley is finally getting an upscale car was. It will be hand wash facility with a detailing bay at the corner of Tuxford and Sunland Blvd. The owner stated that he might even put in a Latte Bar after the business gets off the ground. They have also agreed to take out the massive billboard sign and put up an appropriate sign along with beautiful landscaping for what is now a distressed area. Presently, everyone must wash their own car or travel to other communities to have their cars washed and detailed professionally. The owners are looking forward to opening after the first of next year.

Sun Valley Postmaster Bids Farewell to USPS But Not to the Community

On Thursday, January 11, at Dimion's Family Restaurant, the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors gathered to celebrate the retirement of Sun Valley Postmaster Jon Eshbach. Executive Director Jesse Dizon said "This highly emotionally charged event rendered one of Sun Valley's most prominent and outspoken citizens, speechless."

He was surrounded by his family, friends, fellow Boardmembers, including Past President Lily Lee and Graffiti Busters' Program Manager Susan Bartlett and listen to various speakers. Speakers were Alvin Kelly of Councilmember Tony Cardenas' office, LAPD's

Captain Ron Marbrey and Assemblyman Richard Alarcon who also presented Jon Eshbach with a Certificate of Appreciation. They all gave professional as well as personal insight into

Mr. Eshbach and his value to the community.

Jon acknowledged all present especially Mike and Eleni Koutsoukos, owners of Dimion's Family Restaurant, for hosting the evening. He concluded by informing the community of Sun Valley



John Eshbach, LAPD Captain Maurbry, Valley Traffic, Denny Asfar, Mixer Chairman

know, as a resident since childhood, that he will always find time for it in between his family and fishing.

A Look at the Life of John Steven McGroarty

We invite our members and friends to Join us Saturday, February 10th at 1:00 PM for a look at the life of John Steven McGroarty and his record breaking "Mission Play" which is described as the greatest Historical Pageant of all times. Over 3000 performances were performed at the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse and was considered a California phenomena. Well known, John Steven McGroarty, California Poet Laureate, Congressman, playwright and staff writer for the L.A. Times lived only a few blocks from Bolton Hall. The McGroarty home is L.A. Historic Monument #63.

Our speaker, Dave Gillies, is a graduate of UC Berkeley, and a member of the San Gabriel Historical Association, the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners, and the Historical Society of Southern California. Join us for a 45 minute illustrated lecture.

Bolton Hall Museum
10110 Commerce Ave, Tujunga
818-352-3420

Bolton Hall Museum is located on the corner of Valmont and Commerce in Olde Towne Tujunga

Happy Valentine's Day

Commerce Market Place

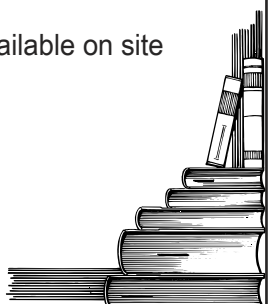
Produce & Deli

10047 Commerce Ave.
Tujunga

Our Lady of Lourdes School

- WASC/WCEA Accredited
- Expansive Kindergarten-Eighth campus where Faith and Academics go hand in hand!
- Experienced teachers (many with their Masters Degree in Education)
- Experienced aides in grades Kindergarten-Fourth
- Challenging Curriculum (First in the Deanery in the Academic Decathlon!)
- All grades participated in an approved Character Education Program
- Two Updated technology labs
- Two LeapFrog Literacy Centers with emphasis on grades K-Second
- Two Writing to Read/Next Generation Technology Labs for grades K-First
- Extracurricular activities including Sports and Performing Arts
- 85% of graduates go on to a Catholic High School (many with Honors at Entrance!)
- Before and After School Day Care available on site
- Daily Hot Lunch program available

7324 Apperson St.
Tujunga, California 91042
(818) 353-1106



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

THURSDAY, JAN. 25

STNC BUDGET COMMIT.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

STATE OF THE HORSE CONFERENCE
LA Equestrian Center
9 am 470-5235

KIDS FITNESS CHALLENGE
Pasadena Rose Bowl
Registration 7 am
www.kidsfitnesschallenge.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 28

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

MONDAY, JAN. 29

ANDRES PICO ADOBE
10940 Sepulveda, M.H.
Tours 1 pm-4 pm

MOON & VENUS IN TELESCOPES
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
5:30-8 pm 367-6102

TUESDAY, JAN. 30

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420 Free for Teens

ANIME MANGA OTAKU CLUB & GAMES
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
3:30 pm 367-6102

WEDNESDAY, JAN 31

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

STNC EXEC/AGENDA
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

FUNDRAISER/DINNER FOR SUN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Acapulco Restaurant
8431 Sunland, SV
4:30-8:30 pm

THURSDAY, FEB 1

ACT, SAT & PSAT STRATEGY
Pacoima Library
13605 Van Nuys, Pac
6 pm 764-1338

SYLMAR WOMEN'S CLUB
Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odyssey Dr. M.H.
11:30 am 833-8033

S-T ELKS LODGE
10137 Commerce ST
8 pm 352-2098

"WOMEN AT THE TOP"

Laura Chick
City Council Chambers
3rd floor, City Hall
6 - 7:30 pm RSVP
miriam.jaffe@lacity.org

SATURDAY, FEB 3

ACT Praticce Test
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
10 am-2:30 pm 367-6102

MONDAY, FEB. 5

SYLMAR N/C LAND USE
13325 ½ Hubbard , Syl
6:30 pm 833-8737

TUESDAY, FEB 6

SAT & ACT ESSAY STRATEGY
Sun Valley Library
7935 Vineland, SV
6 pm 764-1338

PUBLIC HEARING
N/C 912 Commission
Erwin St. Elem. School
13400 Erwin, Valley Glen
6:30 pm 346-5250

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

FREE FOR TEENS ANIME MANGA OTAKU CLUB & GAMES
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
3:30 pm 367-6102

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

SYLMAR CIVIC ASSOC.
13867 Foothill #104, Syl
7:30 pm 367-1177

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA N/C
Mt. Gleason Middle School
10965 Mt Gleason, ST
7 pm 951-7411S

THURSDAY, FEB 8

Networking Breakfast
Sylmar Chamber

DENNY'S RESTAURANT
13201 Gladstone, Syl
\$20 7:30 am 367-1177

SYLMAR N/C GEN. MEET.
Hubbard Elem. School
13325 Hubbard, Syl
6:30 833-8737

COMMUNITY POLICE ADVISORY BOARD (CPAB)
Villa Scalabrini
10631 Vinedale SV
6: pm 756-7766

SATURDAY, FEB 10

NEW SAT PRACTICE TEST
Lake View Terr Library
12002 Osborne, LTV
10 am-2:30 pm 890-7404

"LIFE OF JOHN S. MCGOARTY"
Speaker Dave Gillies
Bolton Hall Museum
10110 Commerce, S-T
1 pm 352-3420

STNC OUTREACH
Joselitos Restaurant
7308 Foothill, S-T
1 pm 951-7411

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

MONDAY, FEB. 12

ANDRES PICO ADOBE
1 0940 Sepulveda, M.H.
Tours 1 pm-4 pm
365-7810

STNC DAC (LAND USE)
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

MISSION HILLS N/C GEN MEET.
San Jose St. School
14928 Clymer, MH
6 pm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Share your events with your neighbors through:
calendar@northvalleyreporter.com FREE!

Arl - Arleta, G.H - Granada Hills, K.C - Kagel Canyon, LA - Los Angeles, LVT - Lake View Terrace, LTC - La Tuna Canyon, M.H - Mission Hills, NVCH - North Valley City Hall, Pac - Pacoima, S-T - Sunland-Tujunga, S.V - Sun Valley, Syl - Sylmar, V.N - Van Nuys

NORTHRIDGE WEST N/C
Beckford Elementary
7 pm
www.NorthridgeWest.com

SUN VALLEY N/C
Villa Scalabrini
10631 Vinedale, SV
6:30 767-2024

FREE FOR TEENS ANIME MANGA OTAKU CLUB & GAMES
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
3:30 pm 367-6102

SYLMAR CHAMBER MIXER
Las Hadas Family Denistry
12737 Gleanoaks, #6 Syl
5:30 pm 367-1177

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

ST. VALENTINS DAY

SWEETHEART DINNER/DANCE
American Legion #377
10039 Pinewood, S-T
\$9 6:30 pm 353-9856

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

FOOTHILL TRAILS N/C
Village Christian School
8930 Village, S V

BLOCK CAPTAINS MEETING
Sylmar Chamber Office
13867 Foothill, Syl
7:30 pm 367-1177

STNC SAFETY COMMIT.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
6 pm 951-7411

S-T ELKS LODGE
10137 Commerce ST
8 pm 352-2098

50 YEAR GALA CELEBRATION NAACP
Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odsey , GH
Resv \$50 6 pm 877-245-9381

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420V

MONDAY, FEB. 19

PRESIDENTS DAY

4H MEETING
Shadow Hills Pres. Church
Sunland, SH
7 pm 352-0864



Classy Jewelers

(818) 352-2380
Mon.-Sat. 9 am-6 pm

- Fine Jewelry
- Diamonds
- Silver
- Watches
- Clocks
- Restringing
- Engraving
- Jewelry Appraisals

35% OFF
All Watches
Expires 2/28/07

25% OFF
Any Jewelry
Purchase or Repair
Loose Diamonds Excluded
Expires 2/28/07

8325-D Foothill Blvd.
Sunland
Sunland Oaks Plaza
near Starbucks & Kragen

- Polanti
- Citizen
- Bulova
- Accutron
- Watch Repair on Premises
- Jewelry Repair

FREE Jewelry Cleaner
Come in and visit our store and receive a Jewelry Cleaner FREE
Expires 2/28/07

ANDRES PICO ADOBE
10940 Sepulveda, M.H.
Tours 1 pm-4 pm
365-7810

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

BOLTON HALL MUSEUM
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

ARLETA N/C
Beachy Elementary
9757 Beachy, Arl
6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

PACOIMA N/C
Pacoima Youth &
Family Center
11243 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm 590-4792

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

**FREE FOR TEENS ANIME
MANGA OTAKU CLUB &
GAMES**
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
3:30 pm 367-6102

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

**SYLMAR CHAMBER
LUNCHEON**
Speaker Roberto Barrigan
China Town Buffet
13760 Foothill, Syl
11:30 am 36791633

FRIDAY, FEB. 23

INSTALLATION DINNER
Sun Valley Chamber
Castaway Restaurant
For information
Call 252-1323

SATURDAY, FEB 24

NEW SAT PRACTICE TEST
Sun Valley Library
7935 Vineland, SV

SUNDAY, FEB. 25

Bolton Hall Museum
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

OMELETE BAR
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
\$6 9 am 352-2098

MONDAY, FEB. 26

ANDRES PICO ADOBE
10940 Sepulveda, M.H.
Tours 1 pm-4 pm
365-7810
10 am-2:30 pm 764-1338

OUTREACH BAR-B-Q
Mission Hills N/C
10161 Sepulveda, M.H.
6:30 pm

GRANADA HILLS N/C
Van Gough Elementary
17160 Van Gogh, GH
7 pm 360-4346

STNC DAC (LAND USE)
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

TUESDAY, FEB 27

**"COMMUNITY & BUSINESS
WOMAN OF THE YEAR" BPW
AWARD DINNER**
Bolton Hall Museum
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 352-3420

ELKS LODGE
10137 Commerce, S-T
\$25 3:30 pm 32-3738

**FREE FOR TEENS ANIME
MANGA OTAKU CLUB &
GAMES**
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
3:30 pm 367-6102

ETI CORRAL 12
Sylmar Chamber
13867 Foothill
7:30 367-1177

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

FOOTHILL OPTOMIST
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

ROTARY CLUB
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
Stonhurst Park
9901 Dronefield, S.V.
7 pm 768-0988

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Study Skills
Sunland-Tujunga Library
7747 Foothill, S-T
6 pm 352-4481

**NORTH VALLEY
Reporter**

ATTENTION ALL SCHOOLS!

SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR
STUDENTS · EVENTS · SPORTS

Email: email@northvalleyreporter.com
or Phone: 818-293-0060



**Penny L. Blackwell, CPM[®]
REALTOR[®]**

Crest
4005 Foothill Boulevard
La Crescenta, California 91214
Business (818) 248-9100 Ext. 243
Cellular (818) 371-3231
Office (818) 541-7543
Fax (818) 248-9295
Penny.Blackwell@Century21.com
Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated



Sharon Yoho
Broker Associate
Notary Public

Office: (818) 951-1851
Pager: (818) 542-7748
Cell: (818) 395-0368
Fax: (818) 951-1859
8307 Foothill Blvd. Sunland, CA 91040
20 YEARS SERVING THE FOOTHILLS
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated




LUCY METCALF, REALTOR
realtylucy@sbcglobal.net
www.LucyMetcalf.com

**30 YEARS SERVING THE FOOTHILLS
PEOPLE FIRST, KNOWLEDGEABLE**

**Bilingual:
Hablo Espanol Para Servirle**

818-541-7527 direct
818-645-4559 cell

Each office is independently owned and operated



**Fran and Ray
Realtors/Notaries**

Office 818 446-0399
Fran's Cell 818 395-5351 **Ray's Cell 818 395-5363**

It's a great season for buying or selling!
If you or anyone you know has a real estate need,
Please think of us.

Century 21 Crest
8307 Foothill Blvd.
Sunland, CA 91040
818 951-1851 ext 241

Call or Stop in for a Historic Sunland-Tujunga 2007 Calendar.



CM & PRINTING COPYING MAILING

YOUR LOCAL COPY & PRINT CENTER
10034 Commerce Ave, Tujunga
(818) 353-7135
www.cmprintmail.com

Limit one per person. Limited time offer.

sunshine spa & salon



- Thai Therapy
- Swedish Therapy
- Combination Therapy (Thai & Swedish)
- Deep Tissue
- Shiatsu
- Foot Reflexology

818-768-8622
8708 Sunland Blvd.
Sun Valley

Open 7 days
Mon.-Sat. 10:00-8:00
Sun. 10:00-5:00

*"Cheers to a new year
and another chance for us
to get it right."
Oprah Winfrey "O Magazine"*

SOUND Off

We Need Your Help

GSMOL and CMRAA have long established histories of providing services to California owners of manufactured homes. Neighborhood Friends also performs the same services. Our groups have now agreed to work together to help protect manufactured home owners who are being forced out of their homes by unscrupulous Park Owners who want higher revenue or want to force homeowners without fair restitution in order develop the property. Our members listing and outreach capabilities are essential to inform homeowners of ongoing efforts to affect legislative change while providing them the opportunity to be involved in their quality of life.

It is important to note that this venture is not a merger of the three separate entities. Existing memberships are not affected in any way.

Neighborhood Friends, while newcomers to the scene contribute to this effort via a fresh approach to the age-old problem

of equality under the law and policy maker influence as necessary to affect real change. Neighborhood Friends resources include an immense database of information. This database represents the "big picture." It is a collection of research data by many volunteers. Neighborhood Friends took the time to look beyond the local and isolated "trailer park in trouble story." This data proves just how vast and all encompassing the issue really is, what issues are involved, who the players are, and where it had occurred previously. As it turns out, this information was necessary to formulate a plan and get the ball rolling towards real and significant change.

Park owners' lobbyist groups are spending millions of dollars to defeat our efforts. You can support GSMOL and CMRAA and Neighborhood Friends through contributions. Participate in letter writing and telephone campaigns to help protect manufactured homeowners maintain their affordable housing. Contributions can be made to Neighborhood Friends by mailing a check to PO Box 920054,

Sylmar, Ca. 91342. You may also visit our website: www.neighborhoodfriends.us

Glen Bell
Neighborhood Friends

Condos to Replace a Landmark Restaurant?

Sunland-Tujunga community members are opposing the proposed demolition of Mario Sterling's Restaurant which they believe will require a variance to the existing land use code. They would like to see the over 60-year-old landmark restaurant, which includes a banquet and meeting room, reopened under new management. It was the only public restaurant of it's nature in the area.

Community members believe the proposed 49 Condos will be a detriment to public safety. They are concerned for their children and seniors regarding the increase of the already massive traffic on the street, which is along Sunland Park where numerous events are held for them. The park is directly across the street from the proposed project. The street is also a shortcut to the freeway with very heavy traffic during peak hours.

Currently there is very little public parking available on the narrow street. Parking will be decreased even further because of the increase in residents with more cars per families, not to mention their visitors, than available spaces required to be supplied by the developer, should the Condos become a fact.

Elaine Brown
Sunland

Elaine Brown, a staunch community activist, member of the No 2 Home Depot Campaign, the STNC and past Director of the S-T Chamber has effectively

addressed other community land use issues. She informed the North Valley Reporter that she is collecting opposition letters and will personally spearhead the opposition to the demolition of Mario's Sterling's restaurant for the development of the 49 condos. For more information, or to send a letter addressing your concerns, or volunteer to help, she requests to be emailed at lannyb1@aol.com

Concerning Prop R

I am pleased to announce there is now another source for information concerning Prop R as well as many other local issues.

Our investigative staff is conducting research daily in order to bring you the most complete and accurate information on today's issues.

The website, davidhernandez.wordpress.com will maintain a non partisan position with regards to political parties. Which means our hands are not tied and we hold allegiance only to the people, not special interests or politicians. We are currently involved in three in depth investigations and you won't want to miss the telling results.

So please pass the word along and visit us on a regular basis. Be sure to give us your views and requests for areas and issues which you feel need investigation.

David Hernandez

January 5 Black Out Brings to Mind

It takes a power outage to remind us of how very much we take for granted the electric power so close to hand at the touch of a switch. As we scramble around digging out the candles and matches, making do with a much subdued visibility and bemoan

the fact that we'll be missing our favorite television shows that night, we have to contemplate how it used to be in the "old days" when oil lamps had to be filled with fuel, and their glass globes cleaned of soot. The heavy radio battery had to be hand-carried somewhere distant to be "re-charged" on a regular basis before we could listen to the favorite radio programs. Coins were put in the water heater mechanism to have enough hot water for a bath. No wonder people rose at dawn and went to bed at dusk. All activity was curtailed after the day was spent. What else could they do after the sun went down?

Which brings to mind other things we take for granted, and how generally wasteful we have become. At school in WWII England we children were encouraged to save something as small as the tiny lids off of glass milk bottles for recycling in the War effort. Also, I remember that the teachers from other classes would save the writing paper that had been only used on one side, and give it back out and we were told to write our lessons on the other side before it was finally discarded.

Think of how very much we take for granted now, as I end with the quote: "There, there little luxury don't you cry, you'll be a "necessity bye and bye!"

Olina F. R. Lowe
Sunland

Just Like Home
FAMILY CHILD CARE

Licensed & CPR trained staff.
Lots of toys & chums to play with,
Infants - Kindergarten
Mon-Fri 8am - 6pm



Mary (818) 352-5066



The Business & Professional Women of Sunland-Tujunga Invite You to...

Join Them In Honoring Their 2007 BPW Community & Business Woman of The Year
Cindy Cleghorn
Tuesday, February 27, 2007
6:30 Social 7:00 - Dinner \$25.00
The Elk's Lodge
10137 Commerce Avenue, Tujunga, CA
rsvp: Penny 818-352-3738 or Shirley 818-782-4236
by Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2006

Development of Sunland Wetland/Catch Basin Halted

In the eleventh hour, the 4 3/4-acre housing development at the southeast corner of Oro Vista Avenue and Big Tujunga Canyon Road in Sunland has been thwarted by an unrelenting battle to stop it causing a reconsideration of the Mitigated Negative Declaration which allowed for no environmental review of this wetland and catch basin located between civilization and the wilderness on the edge of the Big Tujunga Wash

The city ordered a professional bio assessment which indicated numerous wildlife flora and fauna concerns, and Katie Peterson, City Planner for the San Gabriel/Verdugo Mountains Scenic Corridor Specific Plan, declared the development a Project which requires the developer to submit to a Project Permit Compliance Review. It is expected that this review will permanently prevent the development of this property, because it is located in a Scenic Corridor.



SERVING THE PUBLIC

FYI - Safety Bits - L.A.

During this unusually cold spell in Los Angeles, unintentional carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning will needlessly claim lives and send people to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

The Los Angeles City Fire Department joins the U. S. Fire Administration, Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Association of Home Builders in reminding you of the deadliness of carbon monoxide fumes.

The following information is provided by LAFD Public Relations Officer, Fire Fighter Specialist Brian Humphrey:

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Because it is impossible to see, taste or smell the toxic fumes, CO can kill you before you know it's in your home.

At lower levels of exposure, CO causes mild effects often mistaken for the flu. These symptoms include headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea and fatigue. The effects of CO exposure can vary greatly from person to person depending on age, overall health and the concentration and length of exposure. CO gas can come from several sources:

- Gas-fired appliances, charcoal grills,
- Wood-burning furnaces or fireplaces

- Portable generators
- Motor vehicles.

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning. Medical experts believe that unborn babies, infants, children, senior citizens and people with heart or lung problems are at even greater risk for CO poisoning.

Protect yourself and your family from CO poisoning. Install at least one UL (Underwriters Laboratories) listed carbon monoxide alarm with an audible warning near the sleeping areas and outside individual bedrooms. Carbon monoxide alarms measure levels of CO over time and are designed to sound an alarm before an average, healthy adult would experience symptoms. Just because you are not experiencing symptoms does not mean that CO is not present.

Have a qualified professional check all fuel burning appliances, furnaces, venting and chimney systems at least once a year. Never use your range or oven to help heat your home and never use a charcoal grill or hibachi in your home or garage. Never keep a car running in a garage. Even if the garage doors are open, normal circulation will not provide enough fresh air to reliably prevent a dangerous buildup of CO. Do not operate a portable generator indoors or

where exhaust fumes may gather indoors. When purchasing an existing home, have a qualified technician evaluate the integrity of the heating and cooking systems, as well as the sealed spaces between the garage and house. The presence of a carbon monoxide alarm in your home can save your life in the event of CO buildup.

If your carbon monoxide alarm activates, you first need to determine if anyone is feeling ill. If no one is feeling ill, silence the alarm, turn off all appliances and sources of combustion (i.e. furnace and fireplace). Ventilate the house with fresh air by opening doors and windows. Call a qualified professional to investigate the source of the possible CO buildup. If illness is a factor, evacuate all occupants immediately. Determine how many occupants are ill and determine their symptoms and call 9-1-1.

Do not re-enter the home without the approval of a fire department representative.

To learn more about safety information, visit: www.lafd.org

Bratton and Chick Appear at Citywide Alliance

by Nina Royal

Los Angeles Police Chief William Bratton and City Controller Laura Chick were guest speakers at the Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils held at Los Angeles City College on Saturday, January 20. The Alliance meets once every two months to network and discuss their neighborhood council successes and needs together with city issues.

Chief Bratton spoke about the Consent Decree and believes the LAPD will be in full compliance this year. The department is focusing on gangs and is partnering with the FBI, the County, the DEA, the ATF and the Probation Department to curb gang violence.

He announced that there is going to be a Probation Officer assigned to each station to help keep probationers in line. He said, "Tongue in cheek. The PD's motto should be changed from To Protect and Serve to Too few, too much, too little. We have too few officers, too many gangs and not enough money." L.A. has the smallest department for its size in the country. He wants to increase the size of the department and asks everyone to do as much as they can to get recruit referrals. He also asks that we not let the funds that were earmarked for the department's new hires to get way from him. He does believe

in gang prevention programs, but, not at the expense of having funds for new hires and overtime. He is very optimistic and upbeat about the programs he is putting in place. He intimated that he is interested in extending his time on the job because there is much more he wants to accomplish before retiring from his position.

Laura Chick spoke briefly regarding her audits on the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Department of Building and Safety. She stated that she would not let up on her findings and recommendations for improvement to the departments and will follow



Continue to page 11

Community COMPSTAT Comes to the San Fernando Valley

Crime Stats Help Local Officers Fight Crime

by Joe Curreri,
Area Commanding Officer
Foothill Community
Police Station



Each month, the Commanding Officers throughout Operations Valley Bureau meet with the Department's top management to discuss crime and what strategies each of the commands are employing

to reduce that crime. That is a very short explanation of the Los Angeles Police Department's COMPSTAT (Computerized Statistics) inspection process.

On January 10th, Operations-Valley Bureau was involved in its first Community COMPSTAT. Commanding Officers from each of the six police stations within the Valley were accompanied by community stakeholders, including a member of their Community/Police Advisory Board (C-PAB), representatives from Neighborhood Councils, Community Impact Team representatives and Neighborhood Prosecutors from the City Attorney's office. Each of the above mentioned stakeholders had an opportunity to receive an introduction to the COMPSTAT process. Each person was also given an opportunity to tell the Department's management how they are working with their local police officers to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in their respective areas. The stakeholders also had the opportunity to relay information of concern and to hear what the Los Angeles Police Department is doing to help keep their neighborhoods safe.

There was quite a bit of positive interaction throughout the meeting. The overall reaction from community members present was very positive. They were appreciative for their inclusion and for the opportunity to voice their concerns, opinions and accomplishments.

The Los Angeles Police Department plans to hold Community COMPSTAT meetings on a quarterly basis.

Continue to page 11

Rise-N-Shine Cafe



**Home Cooked Food
Made Fresh From Scratch
Breakfast Served All Day**



Omelets

Biscuits 'n Gravy

Chicken 'n Waffles

Chicken Fried Steak



Order Everything ☺ It's all Great!

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Sharon, Keith
& Family

818-352-5755

9685 Sunland Blvd.
Shadow Hills

A Moment in Time

by Cathryn MacEllerhan

Imagine a fresh cool breeze that blows a dream on its way to you as the wind plays a tune through the trees on your morning hike in your own nature sanctuary. Suddenly the sound of thundering hooves takes you back in time to your childhood as a group of friends on horseback go galloping by. As the trail dust settles, you gaze down to see the wonder in your child's face that bears a grin from ear to ear at this moment in time.

This year's 2nd Annual "State of the Horse" Convention at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center in Burbank, on January 27th, is just around the corner. Not only of interest to horseman, this event will provide information regarding current changes in our environment that will affect all of us in the years to come. Many horse related groups will be here to discuss the changes in our trails, as well as our elected officials who will be present as well. The Los Angeles Trails Project, New Heaven on Earth Foundation, Valley Horse Owners Association, Rim of the Valley, Vaquero Heritage Foundation and the War Horse and Militaria Heritage Foundation and so many more incredible horseman of Southern California have made this day a reality.

Learn the economic value of the horse in your community and how it affects you.

Plans to enhance our local trails for the well being of all are will be discussed.

Perhaps your child will be inspired to join a team on horseback one day and ride in such a show. In the marketplace here provided by many fine horseman, you may find such treasures as you've never seen, and a gift for your horse

is just waiting to be found or perhaps for your grandma who rode her painted pony as a young girl or your child who grabs you every time a horse goes by and says with wild-eyed enthusiasm, "Look at that beautiful horse!"

This event is for all who enjoy the world of the horse. This world of beauty with surroundings that nature provides for our wildlife, our plants, and our spiritual retreat from the mundane world we have created is ours to enjoy and protect. Our heritage holds such an amazing legacy with the horse; our ancestors who made their way here with help of the horse, the Spanish horse who gave of themselves while in the midst of great wars, cowboys and Indians, the pony express, Gene Autry and Trigger, Mr. Ed and Shadowfax, the current stars of the show, Cavalia, in a stunning horse ballet, are only a tiny few of the millions of our equine friends who have guided us in history.

Ask a child what a cowboy loves most and you may be surprised that it is a horse! This, the day of the "State of the Horse," is your day to have a voice in history and to create a memory worth savoring for all of us.

Don't you remember your first rocking horse?



Roses Are Red, Violets Are Blue

Valentine's Day Tales From our History

by Marline Hitt

The Saints of Valentines would be surprised to celebrate Valentine's Day 2007! There

were three of them: one, a Roman priest and doctor who was martyred by beheading about 269, whose feast day falls on February 14. The second, a bishop beheaded in Rome about 273, and third, a little known martyr in Africa.

The current customs of Valentine's Day have no connection with lives of these saints, according to World Book. Our celebration is probably derived from a February 15th Roman festival on which lots were drawn to see which young men and women would be each other's valentine for the coming year. The couples would exchange gifts and may even become engaged during the festival. That early Roman custom, falling on the dates of the death of a saint, began a very long line of sentiment celebrating love. When we think of recent customs, we may remember highly decorated heart boxes full of chocolates, bunches of roses, and valentine cards. Remember "Roses are red, violets are blue, You are my Valentine, I love you" (girl) or "I kissed a bulldog and thought it was you"(boy)?

A delightful children's book is on the shelves now, called *Roses are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink* by Diane deGroat. Some of the rhymes are such fun: "Violets are blue, roses are pink. I'm sorry I said that your feet really stink", and "Roses are red. Jelly is sweet. You smell as good as the sandwich you eat."

I remember the lacy doily masterpieces that said a heartfelt "I love you," pink and red corsages and the sweethearts dances. To go back almost one hundred years in our own little settlement we can remember the dances where sweethearts had a chance to hug a bit at the Clubhouse (Bolton Hall) dances.

One would think that the Little Landers settlers wouldn't consider going to a dance after a day of hard physical activity from piling and hauling rocks, clearing brush, caring for animals, cooking and cleaning, running businesses. But the pioneers thought nothing of trudging up the hill from Sunland, or down from the hills of Tujunga, carrying their lanterns, to go to the dances held at Bolton Hall on a Saturday night.

But not all evenings at the dance were sweet. One incident happened when a fellow named Spence came to the dance, and inside his shirt, wrapped around his waist was a gopher snake. He frightened the girls out of their wits when he would let the snake stick its head through his buttoned shirt.

In the first few years the hardwood floors at the clubhouse were smooth and shiny, the interior of the clubhouse had no plaster on the walls, just the big boulders showing on the inside and the huge fireplace. The dances were probably waltzes and reels, the polka, the gallop, mazurka and quadrille.

One "old-timer" remembered an especially lovely time at the Saturday night socials when the



Save up to
\$2,000
at closing

Plus, get an Exclusive Guarantee
of our mortgage value



Exclusive Guarantee

We're so confident in our mortgage value, if you're approved with us but close anywhere else, we'll give you \$200.² Your new home is waiting, so get started today.

Ask an associate today
how we can help you save.



- No application fee
- No commitment fee/lender closing fee
- No appraisal fee
- And more savings

Bank of America  Higher Standards

Continue to page 11

Citywide Alliance - from page 9

through. She also confirmed that Grants for special projects have never been audited. The audience was ambivalent to Councilmember Janice Hahn's request for a \$50 million ballot measure for gang prevention and intervention. Attendees stated they don't believe previous grants for gang programs were spent wisely and it's been proven that they don't work. Members of the council asked Ms. Chick to implement accountability and responsibility and find out how previous funds have been spent.

Terry Cooper, Director of the USC Public Participation Project also made a presentation.

He said he wanted to clear up comments by the media that insinuated that the USC Project believes Neighborhood Councils are not working. He stated their study was to evaluate how Neighborhood Councils function, how they can improve and what resources they would need. He says

their study indicates that they are working, but, there are areas that need improvement and the city needs to supply them with more resources and training.

The next Alliance meeting will take place in March.

COMPSTAT - from page 9

This is yet another clear example of the Police Department's commitment to work in partnership with the community to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

I thoroughly enjoy the partnerships I've established with many community members throughout the community. I look forward to continuing that partnership through a variety of venues, including Community COMPSTAT.

Valentine's Day - from page 9

lamps would be put out and the moonlight would come into the room bright enough to illuminate the dancers in its soft light. The orchestra would be playing and the dancers swaying to the melody of "Good Night Sweetheart" inside Bolton Hall. The mythical arrow-shooting cupid of the traditional Victorian valentine card might wish that the romance of the sweet and lacy day would return. He probably has piles of beautiful cards in the box in his garage. Love still lives and valentines still make us happy!



HERE'S MY CARD

CLEAN PALACE HOUSEKEEPING



\$99 To Clean Your Whole House
No Matter How Dirty it is We Clean It
We specialize in house cleaning.
Don't do the dirty work yourself.
Call us and we'll do it for you!

818-802-5928 or 818-686-0220
please leave a message
or e-mail us at:
cleanpalacehousekeeping.net

Saurer Insurance Agency, THE INSURANCE STORE
Complete Insurance Service Lic. 0585028
Serving Sunland - Tujunga for over 45 Years

AUTO HOME LIFE HEALTH COMMERCIAL

8325-A Foothill Blvd. Sunland, CA 91040
Located in the Kragen Auto Parts Mall

(818) 352-6044

Call us!!!! You will be pleasantly surprised.
The worst thing that could happen is that we SAVE you \$\$\$\$\$\$



PET GROOMING
by Jackie Savage
REASONABLE RATES
TENDER LOVING CARE

7758 WYNGATE STREET
Tujunga CA 91042

Call For Appointment
818-352-0536

www.thefishlady.com



1.800.4FISHLADY
THE FISH LADY
Fish Pond Maintenance Specialist

Barbara D. Johnson Office: 818.997.6091
8101 Orian Ave. • Suite #15 Fax: 818.997.3979 • Cell: 818.968.4486
Van Nuys • CA 91406-1438 E-mail: barbara@thefishlady.com



Retirement Planning Associates

Stocks Municipal Bonds
Close-End Funds Mutual Funds
Retirement and Employer Plans

7145 Woodley Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91406-3932
Tel (818) 781-7721 Ext. 25
Fax (818) 797-2232
Efax (847) 628-0426
rpa@retirement-planning.com

James A. Ellis
Sunland-Tujunga
Lions Club

Registered Representative of and securities offered through J.K.R. & Co. Inc.
Member NASD, SIPC

I Buy Houses

SELL your house AS IS for a fair price
on the DATE OF YOUR CHOICE

Refinancing SOLUTIONS available
we can STOP FORECLOSURE
PERSONAL LOANS

Call Dr. Levant
818.459.3738
www.DrLevantbuyshouses.com

Jan Gruen

- Block Walls
- Brick, Stone
- Pool Decks
- Waterfalls
- Custom Driveways
- Concrete or Pavers
- Stamp Concrete
- Retaining Walls

Home Improvement Construction
Specializing in Concrete & Masonry

Jan
Office (818) 896-5087
Cell (818) 378-6121
Contractor License # 501466



TUJUNGA AUTO SALES INC.
Buy - Sell - Trade - Finance - Visa - M/C

7529 Foothill Blvd.
Tujunga, CA 91042

(818) 951-5111
(800) 905-2277
Fax: (818) 951-5115



ALICE
COMPUTERWORKS CORP.

Varoujan (V.J.) Avanesians CEO
BS, LCP, MCSE, MCT, Linux+, A+, Network+

www.alicecomputer.com
varouj@alicecomputer.com

TEL: (818) 249-0500
FAX: (818) 549-1491
3702 Foothill Blvd.
La Crescenta, CA 91214

CLASSIFIEDS

I Buy Houses
Any Location, Any situation
Behind on Payment OK
As is, No inspection
no Commissions, Fast Closing
(818) 459-3738

Duplex for Rent
1 bedroom, 1 bath, laundry room,
single garage, stove, window A/C
818-352-5504

Sales Rep. Job Offered
Flexible hours, 20% commission
818-293-0060

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE **FOR RENT** **HELP WANTED** **JOB WANTED** **SERVICES** **LOST PET** **FOUND PET**

\$15 dollars up to 4 lines
\$2.00 each additional line.
28 character & spaces in a
text line, 25 in bold

name _____
address _____
city, state zip _____

To place an ad
fill out this form
and mail it to NVR
with a check, cash or
money order

North Valley Reporter, P.O. Box 674, Tujunga, CA 91042 • 818-293-0060

Councilmember Wendy Greuel Hosts Horse Chip-a-thon

LAKE VIEW TERRACE - Councilmember Wendy Greuel hosted a horse chip-a-thon, Saturday, to promote horse safety and offer low cost micro-chips to equine owners eager to track their animals. The Lake View Terrace Recreation Center was filled with horses, as veterinarians safely equipped equine with the micro-chips.



"Horses are an important part of the history and culture of our community. I'm always glad to use a new tool to help our community protect its animals and preserve its character," said Councilmember Greuel, who sponsored the event in conjunction with City Animal Services and Recreation and Parks.

Arriving equestrians led their animals to the arena, where Western University veterinarians quickly and safely implanted the micro-chips into the horses.

Councilmember Greuel, along with Animal Services and Recreation and Parks Departments, sponsored the event to ensure that horses could be reunited with their owners in case of natural disasters such as earthquakes and wildfires. Animal Services can scan the micro-chips implanted in misplaced horses, and immediately access the name and contact information of the horse owner.

"During the Simi fire about a year and half ago it was so difficult to place the horses we picked up with their owners," said Karen Knipscheer, from Los Angeles Animal Services. "This scanning system will reduce the emotional pain and logistical hassle for every one involved."

Louisiana has a mandatory identification program for all equine and after Hurricane Katrina 363 of the 364 rescued horses were returned safely to their owners. The chips available at the chip-a-thon cost \$15.00 and the accompanying registration cost \$14.00. Local horse owners were thrilled to take advantage of the service.



They say that self praise is
no recommendation

SOLD! For maybe the highest per square foot in the zip code at a not too easy time to sell in the market - one week after listing! That's when the offers came in and they did not stop with Tomi. **THE MOST HASSLE FREE REAL ESTATE AGENT I HAVE DEALT WITH IN 20 YEARS!** - MY

Tomi has been not only very professional every step of the way but her meticulous attention to the details we would have never thought of has made the entire experience unforgettable. I would highly recommend Tomi Lyn to anyone. - SK

I know a lot of real estate people, hundreds in fact. I would only **EVER** call the **DREAM TEAM**, Tomi and Tony, for my real estate services. - NT



818-353-9143

Tomi@TomiRealty.com

Helping sellers and buyers for 15 years



STATE OF THE HORSE CONVENTION

Trails Congress - Morning

- Rim of the Valley Corridor Update •
- Ripple Effect of the Horse on Local Economy •
- California's Recreational Trails Master Plan •
- Equestrian Chamber Plans •

Convention & Symposium Afternoon

- Learn about equestrian groups & programs •
- Hear about upcoming projects & events •
- Meet representatives from local public offices •
- Visit vendors promoting their products & services •
- Equitation and equestrian demonstrations •

Los Angeles
Equestrian Center
January 27, 2007

Trails Congress
9am - Noon

Lunch 12:00 Noon

Speakers,
Booths & Equitation
1 pm - 5 pm

Los Angeles
Equestrian Center
480 Riverside Drive
Burbank, CA 91508

Organized by

Los Angeles Trails Project,
Valley Horse Owners Association,
"New Haven on Earth Ranch"
Foundation, and War Horse & Malitaria
Heritage Foundation on behalf of
Southern California Equestrians

**Tickets: \$25 in advance
\$30 at the door**

Tickets includes admission & lunch

Buy 8 at once for \$100
that's 8 tickets for 100 instead of 200.
No-food guest pass for \$10

Event Updates & On-line ticket sales at
www.stateofthehorse.org

