

## Kohl's?... Yes. Over Building? No

*Granada Hills South NC Opposes the Proposed "Commercial McMansion" Project*



Granada Hills - On May 10, 2007, the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) voted to oppose the new construction of a 95,300 square foot Kohls department store as proposed to them.. The department store is seeking to replace a 43,000 sq. ft. vacated grocery store and 11,000 square feet of smaller retail stores located in the Granada Village Shopping Center, on the north-west corner of Chatsworth Street and Zelzah Avenue. The proposed

store would be the only Kohl's in the North San Fernando Valley, and the only Big Box structure located within a shopping center in Granada Hills.

The new owner/applicant of the proposed project is Regency Centers, the nation's largest developer of retail shopping centers. They must be granted a total of eight entitlements, exemptions from current zoning laws, in order to proceed with the project. These include: 30,000 square feet of overbuilding -

greater than 10% beyond the current code; a 10% reduction of the maximum parking allowed; expanded hours of operation beyond the current 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. limits; reduced setbacks; height restrictions; architectural variances allowing less window space; and, exemptions regarding the Granada Hills Specific Plan which were designed to keep the commercial area's small hometown feel and atmosphere.

In addition, GHSNC stakeholders questioned the validity of (1) the initial environmental study which identified twenty potentially significant negative impacts directly due to the proposed construction, and (2) the results of the traffic study, which showed the impact under threshold levels.

At the initial Public Hearing, designed to give the Planning Department's Hearing

Officer community input to render a recommendation, approximately 70 constituents attended, 46 filled out speaker cards to testify against the proposed project. The opponents additionally had about 450 petition signatures against the project, collected mostly in the three days before the hearing. The applicant stated that there were 33 residents in favor of the project, although nobody but the applicant testified at the hearing in favor of the proposed project.

*Continued on page 3*

## Home Depot Invades Sunland-Tujunga

By Joe Barrett and Nina Royal

Sunland-Tujunga - In preparation for their hearing that was held on Thursday, June 7, Home Depot hired a marketing firm to invade the Sunland-Tujunga community for three days of Memorial weekend. Their employees reportedly posed as doing a survey for the North Valley Area Planning Commission to determine if the people in Sunland-Tujunga really wanted a Target. Surveyors were posted at all the heavy foot traffic business in the area, as well as went door to door canvassing residential neighborhoods. According to resident, Jackie Savage and her neighbors, when approached by members of the No 2 Home Depot Campaign, they claimed to work for a firm hired by Home Depot. When approaching residents some of them said they were hired by the Housing Committee or the North Valley Planning Commission to do a survey to see if the community wanted a Target, however, what they were actually signing was Yes to Home Depot. They would then give the person a glimpse of a postcard addressed to the Commission as assurance of their mission. They also claimed that those in the community who opposed Home Depot were racist and didn't want Mexicans in their community and told them not to read the flyers the opposition was also distributing as they were a pack of lies. In one instance, the Manager of Von's called the police and asked everyone to leave because of complaints from their customers. The surveyors refused to leave, calling attention to their rights.

However, today's contentious hearing was continued until July 19, because the Fire Marshal deemed the room, which was packed beyond capacity, was unsafe. Close to 400 persons were in the hearing room with more out in the hall. Most of the Home Depot supporters were bused in from outside the Sunland-Tujunga Community. The first issue on the agenda was to determine if the hearing should be held at the all city level instead of regional. Councilmember Wendy Greuel, who gave an eloquent speech on behalf of the community, was questioned on who should hear the case. She opted against Homes Depot's request for the change and said the region because communities have different specific plans and their requirements are not a city wide issue as Home Depot claimed.

The North Valley Area Planning Commission hearing was for Home Depot's Appeal against the Zoning Administrator's decision that effectively revoked their permits on March 9th. If the Planning Commission finds the Zoning Administrator acted properly in reaching his decision, Home Depot will have few options available. The first might be to file a lawsuit against the City. Second, to undergo the Project Permit Compliance Review. Third, drop the project entirely and the community could continue to seek their General Store. A Project Permit Compliance Review is a lengthy process that involves public hearings and environmental assessment, which includes noise and traffic studies. Home Depot has fought hard to avoid that option.

Sunland-Tujunga and The Home Depot, USA has been engaged in a volatile battle over a proposed Home Depot store at 8040 Foothill Blvd. in Sunland for nearly three years, Numerous Town Hall Meetings have been held, with large turnouts. Councilmember Wendy Greuel is working closely with the community to defeat the proposed store. She says it doesn't fit the community's specific plan. Also citing the general community-wide opposition to the project.

Their community has advocated for a general retail store for the commercial site, such as Target, since currently residents must drive out of their area for general household goods. They have also expressed concern over increased industrial traffic in close proximity of an elementary school that is within 450 feet of the site. They say Home Depot Home Improvement Warehouse conflicts with the intent and provisions of the Foothill Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan, which calls for the Project site to be a pedestrian friendly Community Center.

The community vs. Home Depot's intense battle culminated in an appeal filed by the No 2 Home Depot Campaign challenging the issuance of tenant improvements building permits to Home Depot. A Public Hearing for an appeal filed by Sunland-Tujunga Alliance (STA) on behalf of the community was held in Van Nuys on January 19, 2007 before the Zoning Administrator. On March 9th, the Zoning Administrator made his ruling stating that the permits had been issued in error and that the proposed Home Depot was a "Project" and subject to more rigorous

*Continued on page 3*

### INSIDE

*New Regional Park  
for North Valley*  
page 2

*Home for Homeless  
gets County OK*  
page 2

*Check for local  
Events Calendar*  
page 6

*What's happening with  
your Local N/C's*  
page 4

*New Flood Control  
Project Dedicated.*  
Page 8

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## L.A. County OK's Hope Gardens in Lopez Canyon

By Nina Royal

Los Angeles – May 30, 2007, The Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

passed a hotly contested motion approving Union Rescue Mission's (URM) Conditional Use Permit No R2006-2292-(5) for the Hope Gardens facility in Lopez Canyon along with Oak Tree Permit No. 2006000056-(5).

The hearing was held on May 23, in the hearing room of the E.R. Roybal County Building in downtown Los Angeles, which was extremely undersized for the that hearing. The room was filled to capacity and many community members and leaders were left outside listening to a loud speaker which could be heard to the street curb. According to Board Member Marlene Rader, representing the opposing Kagel Canyon Civic Association, (KCCA) when their supporters who opposed Hope Gardens, used the restroom during the lengthy over four hour hearing, they discovered their seats were given away, by a URM supporter who manned the door, upon their

return. They were not allowed back into the hearing room. Most URM supporters wore notable orange Tee Shirts designating their support. This increased the already high tension during the hearing procedure.

The speakers included 17 persons in favor of the project and 22 persons opposed to the project. Opposing STNC Board Member David Cain said, "I had the opportunity to review the 200 letters that URM submitted to the County in support of URM, and I discovered that only 29 persons who are considered to be in the sphere of influence communities of Lopez Canyon (Kagel Canyon, Sylmar, San Fernando, Pacoima, Lake View Terrace, Sunland-Tujunga) were in favor of the URM project. The balance of the letters came from outside communities such as downtown Los Angeles, Arcadia, Pasadena, Temple City, Glendale and all over the map, including out of state such as addresses in Colorado, Louisiana, etc. Of course they would because Hope Gardens is not in their backyard.

Marlene Rader says she and her association members question the approval of the URM motion

by the Commission. She said, "The Commission's decision was made immediately after the hearing was completed. It appears it was a "done deal" from the beginning and a waste of our community's time and expense. Our Attorney, Maria Mahia, was given



The Public Hearing had people standing in line outside to get a seat.

Continued on page 8

## Regional Park Planned for North Valley

By Kristin Sabo

Lopez Canyon - Councilmember Richard Alarcón, joined by members of the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Bureau of Sanitation, announced preliminary plans to develop a new City Regional Park on the site of the Lopez Canyon Landfill during a press conference on Thursday, May 24. Green space reclamation is one of the recognized uses for closed, sealed landfill sites. Lopez Canyon Landfill has been closed since October of 1996. The new park utilizes all of the old landfill, and will cover approximately 400 acres in and around Lake View Terrace and Kagel Canyon overlooking the Hansen Dam Recreational Area. Closed landfills take approximately three decades to settle, making the earliest date any significant permanent structure could be constructed on the site around the year 2026. However, Alarcon said that they plan to have the lower level of the park ready to enjoy in about two years.

He also made his announcement at the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council Board meeting on Thursday, May 17th. At that time, a community member suggested that the new park should become the permanent home of the San Fernando Valley Fair. Alarcón welcomed the suggestion. However, a few years ago residents of Lake View Terrace, Kagel Canyon, and Pacoima successfully fought to keep the San Fernando Valley Fair from going forward with plans to build a Fairplex-like facility as a permanent home in Hansen Dam. The area is environmentally sensitive and surrounded by quiet, rural neighborhoods. The proposed new Lopez Canyon Regional Park has a spectacular view is only a few miles uphill from the Hansen Dam watershed area. Any construction or significant change of use on the site of the new park would have similar impacts to the same area as the widely rejected Hansen Dam 'fairplex'.

During his press conference Alarcon also announced his re-creation of the Lake View Terrace and Pacoima Community Advisory Committee which will be comprised of approximately 20 members from the communities and advise him on communities related issues. The will be advising him regarding the use of funds the communities will be receiving from the Cambrian Energy Fund which is tied to the sale of Methane Gas sales from the landfill and will be available for future community projects.



**MISSION VALLEY BANK**  
Member FDIC

*Your Success is Our Mission!*

We are **YOUR** neighbor & would love to meet you!

Whether **you** are looking for **business banking** or **personal banking**, **Mission Valley Bank** has unique financial solutions tailored to fit **your** needs. We understand that **you** have **countless choices** of where and how to do your banking. That's why at Mission Valley Bank we take our **Customer Service very seriously** – but maybe in a slightly **different** way than you are used to...We do **everything possible** to make your banking experience the **best** that it can be!

It's little things, like **we don't believe in Voicemail**...it's real people that answer the phone and **answer your questions!** And it's bigger things, like **friendly** faces that greet you as you come through the door & **genuinely** want to assist you in any way they can. It's **real people** that truly care about **you, your business** and **your banking**.

So **please**, if you are considering making a change – drop by. We would love an opportunity to show you that **banking can be more** than just business...we make it **FUN!** *Come in and **Feel the Difference!***



**MISSION VALLEY BANK**

9116 Sunland Boulevard • Sun Valley • CA • 91352

818 394-2300

[www.missionvalleybank.com](http://www.missionvalleybank.com)



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Verdugo Hills Golf Course offering Kids Program

### "Summer Junior Golf Camps for Juniors"

By Sharon Hale

As summer approaches and we face the many choices of programs, camps and classes for the kids, there is an option in our own backyard that you may not have heard about. A modest flyer sitting by the pro shop register is the only advertisement for the Verdugo Hills Golf Course Summer Golf Camps for Juniors.

Golf Camp is a great way for kids to learn a life-long sport from a PGA golf pro, and during the kids' class parents can head over to the driving range or play their own round of golf. Classes are geared for children ages 5-13, and run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9-11 a.m. on a weekly basis so you can choose the weeks that fit the family schedule.

Golf is fun for both boys and girls, and you don't

have to be strong, big or fast to be successful and have fun playing the game. The goals of the Junior Summer Golf Camp are to introduce kids to the equipment, etiquette and rules of golf. Skills covered in class include putting, chipping, short game fundamentals, golf drills, range practice, golf safety and actual play on the par-3 course.

Enrolling in this successful golf program is not just great for the kids, but it will benefit the future of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course as well. Government officials of the City of Los Angeles, Glendale and Los Angeles County are aware of the potential development of the golf course. The owner/developer has unveiled plans for 269 housing units to be developed right on the golf course, and we need to let our representatives know how important this golf course is to our commu-

nity. Increased use will demonstrate its value to our quality of life, and government officials will be encouraged to go to bat for us in preserving the Verdugo Hills Golf Course. The summer golf camp program for juniors is a great way to expose kids to a great sport, and is one of the many benefits offered by the Verdugo Hills Golf Course to our community.

Verdugo Hills Summer Golf Camps for Juniors run Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9-11 a.m. every week from June 26th thru August 30th. The cost is \$60 per student per week. Call the pro shop to enroll: (818) 352-3161.

Ms. Hale resides in La Crescenta and is a member of the Save the Verdugo Hills Golf Course Committee. For more information visit: [savethegolfcourse@golf-course@dcemail.com](mailto:savethegolfcourse@golf-course@dcemail.com)

### Kohl's? *Continued from page 1*

Councilmember Smith, who represents the community, has not taken a stand on the project to date. The decisive Area Planning Commission's public hearing is tentatively scheduled to be heard at the Marvin Braude Constituent's Center, in Van Nuys, on June 21, 2007 at 4:30 p.m.

Jim Summers, President of the GHSNC said the applicant was invited to explain their proposed project during three GHSNC sponsored committee and board meeting, as well as two community meetings. He said only approximately 250 people total received information regarding the proposal at those meetings because the notification to the council was too short to do community outreach effectively. Summers said, "It's not really about building a Big Box Kohl's, they can do that "by right" if they stay within the footprint of the current building vacated by Ralphs Grocers and the zoning code. Once peo-

ple hear the entire story, they realize it is about what I call "Commercial McMansionization." It is the inappropriate overbuilding of commercial zoned land, mainly for the financial benefit of a corporate out-of-area owner, leaving the neighborhood to deal with the consequences," Summers is also a Realtor and 44-year resident of Granada Hills. He said "Our community is appealing to the wisdom of the Planning Department and our elected officials to do what is right and oppose the project as proposed. I personally don't think that possibly saving 50 cents on the purchase of underwear is worth our unique small town, neighborly atmosphere that we cherish and are known for here in Granada Hills."

Additional information is available at [www.ghsnc.org](http://www.ghsnc.org) or call (818) 389-9406 and [www.kohls.com](http://www.kohls.com)

### Home Depot *Continued from page 1*

scrutiny, including environmental assessment. The Zoning Administrator ruled in favor of STA, the appellant, and revoked Home Depot's building permits. Home Depot was forced to stop work immediately and vacate the property.

The Home Depot Corporation immediately filed an Appeal against STA's appeal with the City. In preparation for this Appeal Hearing, Home Depot's attorneys, Latham & Watkins, submitted a massive 700+ page document as "evidence" of why the Zoning Administrator's decision should be overturned."

The continued Public Hearing for the Home Depot appeal will now be heard before the North Valley Area Planning Commission, July 19, 2007. Time in place to be determined.

## 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**

**9685 Sunland Blvd.  
Shadow Hills**

**818-352-5755**

### North Valley Reporter

[www.northvalleyreporter.com](http://www.northvalleyreporter.com)

Telephone 818-563-1962  
Email: [email@northvalleyreporter.com](mailto:email@northvalleyreporter.com)  
P.O. Box 674, Tujunga Ca 91043

**Publisher/Editor**  
Nina Royal

**Graphics and Design**  
Paccio Ad & Design

**Contributing Writers**  
Joe Barrett, Tomi Lyn Bowling,  
Tina Cameron, Cindy Cleghorn,  
Capt. J. Curreri, Capt./Paramedic S. Gerlich,  
Royan Herman, Kristin Sabo, James Summers

**Photographer**  
John Blue

**North Valley Sales Representative**  
Cathryn McElryn

**Special Recognition to Elaine Brown**  
Tina Cameron, Cindy Cleghorn,  
Peter DiNova, Bobby & Erna Royal

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 writer's 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: [nroyal9259@aol.com](mailto:nroyal9259@aol.com)

Personal Opinions expressed in "Sound Off" are those of the writers only.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

By Royan Herman  
Second Vice-President

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council aka FTDNC covers the three predominantly equestrian communities of La Tuna Canyon, Lake View Terrace and Shadow Hills, as well as the westerly tip of Lake View Terrace; not equestrian in nature, but delightfully suburban leaning to rural.

Like most of Los Angeles, FTDNC communities continue the struggle against development that threatens to erase footprints giving each community a personality of its own. In this, we share a ship of fate with our neighbor, STNC, where Home Depot would invade the residential commerce area and substitute an industrialized nightmare. We salute and support our STNC neighbors.

To improve our Foothill Trails team, we still need committed stakeholders to work on standing committees. The most pressing need is for volunteers to work with our Board and run a strong Land Use Committee.

There are other equally important committee positions still available. If you are within the FTDNC area, you may want to attend a meeting and learn if there is a committee slot just for you and your particular skills.

FTDNC general meetings are held on the third Thursday of each Month, beginning at 7:00pm. Meetings rotate among the communities. June will be held at Lake View Terrace Rec. Center, July in Shadow Hills at Stonehurst Park and August in La Tuna Canyon at the Village Christian School Chapel.

Our website is under construction. It should be fully operational by the end of June. The address is [www.ftdnc.org](http://www.ftdnc.org). It will be an informative and unifying help. In the meantime, you can reach our President, Cile Borman, by email at [tpunch1@aol.com](mailto:tpunch1@aol.com) or Royan Herman, Communications Veep at [peacockhill@ca.rr.com](mailto:peacockhill@ca.rr.com).

### 2007 Board:

President	Cile Borman	Lake View Terrace
1st V.P.	Kevin Davis	Lake View Terrace
2nd V.P.	Royan Herman	Shadow Hills
Treasurer	Mary Benson	Shadow Hills
Rec. Sec'y.	Ken Keeble	La Tuna Canyon
Corr. Sec'y.	Terry Kaiser	Shadow Hills
Past Prez.	Maryann Geyer	La Tuna Canyon
Dist 1 Rep.	Christena Hughes	Lake View Terrace

## Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

### SVANC Contributes to Youth Arts

By Tina Cameron  
Corresponding Secretary

Sun Valley's LA Theatre Group, in collaboration with the Sun Valley Youth Arts Center, which is in receipt of funds from the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, now offers a Drama Program for at-risk-youth starting this month.

Because of the educational value of this program, the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council approved a motion to donate \$5,000 to the Youth Arts Center, to fully fund the first class of 40 students. The fact that many children are at risk for some type of violence to touch their lives, the Sun Valley N/C is taking every opportunity to educate children about tolerance and diffusing potentially violent situations.

Students will be introduced to the world of acting and stage production under the direction of Nick Dalton-Pawle. There are many roles in creating a play in which everyone will actively participate. Whether it is acting, supporting back stage in set design and construction, costume design, or doing promotion and ticket sales, it will be a completely collaborative effort. Within eight-weeks, students will study Romeo and Juliet and Cyrano DeBourgerac; plus be given the opportunity to discuss and use their similar personal experiences in creating their own modern day version through the context of conflict resolution. Students will also learn new skills for diffusing difficult situations. They will learn that even though actions of hate and violence exist, they can make a choice not to participate in those actions.

Upon graduation, students will own the play they created and will be encouraged to continue performing their play in order to teach conflict resolution to other children. Another unique aspect to this program is that it encourages students to continue their drama education and possibly develop into drama teachers. It is an incredible opportunity for youngster's ages 12-18 that are interested in pursuing drama.

The Sun Valley community believes when children have involved parents who encourage their children to participate in structured activities, such as drama club, music lessons, sports, doing volunteer work, or other purposeful activity, the risk of their children getting into trouble substantially decreases. The drama program is designed for direct parental involvement and to support to the community in a rewarding manner.

Space is limited. If your child would like to participate in this one-of-a-kind Summer program, call 818-252-4619 or fax to 818-252-4704, or drop by the center at 8642 Sunland Blvd, Sun Valley CA 91352. Graduating students will be given a T-shirt and DVD of their performance.

Other programs offered at the center include Music LA – music instruction in band, string and music theory (scholarships available to musically committed applicants); Digital Photography, Graphic Design, Painting, Sculpting, Ceramics and more. Tuition is reasonably priced. We encourage you to take advantage of your Youth Arts Center

The Foothill Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST) is in need of some additional surveillance equipment to better patrol our neighborhoods. SVANC has passed a motion to pay for 1/5 the cost. SVANC and VST will be contacting the other four neighborhood councils covered by the Foothill Division to ask if they would like to participate. We came together previously to purchase the License Plate Readers now being used on patrol cars. The LPR's have paid dividends in the number of stolen cars recovered in Sun Valley. Bravo everyone for the teamwork that is making our neighborhoods safer!

We invite you to attend our Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council General Meeting, which meets the second Tuesday of every month at Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center, 10631 Vinedale Street, Sun Valley CA 91352, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Many great events are happening in Sun Valley, stay tuned!

## YOUR LOCAL PRINT & COPY CENTER

ALL the 'big guy' services...right here in town!



# FRIENDLY FAST SERVICE

PROVIDING  
QUALITY SERVICES  
SINCE 1982

**COPIES** DIGITAL • COLOR • BLACK & WHITE  
NEWSLETTERS • POSTCARDS • REPORTS • FLYERS • DIRECTORIES

**PRINTING** BROCHURES • INVITATIONS • FORMS  
BOOKLETS • BUSINESS CARDS • LABELS • CATALOGS • PROGRAMS

**MAILING** POSTAGE DISCOUNTS • INSERTS • TABBING

**We can take your files on disk or via e-mail**  
Copying, Printing, Marketing & Mailing Services

10034 Commerce Avenue **IN HISTORIC OLDE TOWNE TUJUNGA**  
[www.cmprintmail.com](http://www.cmprintmail.com) **(818) 353-7135**  
Fax: (818) 353-8135

# Commerce Market Place

## Produce & Deli

10047 Commerce Ave.  
Tujunga

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council



Cindy Cleghorn,  
STC Chairwoman

Have you seen them? 40 STNC Lightpole banners along Foothill Blvd. between Sunland Blvd. at the 210 Freeway and Lowell. The 1-1/2 year long project is finally completed! The design started with an STNC logo contest where local students submitted their designs. In 2006 the STNC board voted to approve the banner design and although there was a big wind just

after installation, we only had one banner blow down. Not to worry, it was back up within a few days. Big thanks to the many students who came out to create the design concept and participate in the contest, Jeannine Crowley for her work on the final banner design and Dan McManus for seeing the project through to completion.

The Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST) for the LAPD Foothill Division is a group of local residents who volunteer their time to assist the LAPD in reducing crime in our neighborhood. When out on patrol, the VST are the eyes and ears of the police department. Examples are truancy, burglary from autos and vandalism. The STNC's Safety Committee is reviewing a list of items that VST needs in their work which includes night vision equipment, cameras and funding to equip a van. The STNC will consider the Safety Committee's recommendation at our next meeting on June 13.

The Sunland-Tujunga community will soon start the Community Plan update process with the Department of City Planning. We were one of only two communities to be included in the Mayor's Budget for the 2007-08 year. This means that we will soon begin a series of meetings with the STNC as well as other community groups that are within the Sunland-Tujunga-Lake View Terrace-Shadow Hills-East La Tuna Canyon Community Plan area. The process is expected to take up to three years. This will be an opportunity for everyone to weigh in on the future development of our communities. Contact the STNC office to view a copy of the current Community Plan or visit the STNC web site.

**Mansionization Update - More Public Awareness** - Recently, I attended the City Planning commission workshop regarding the Neighborhood Character Ordinance being proposed. It will now be known as the Baseline Ordinance. A new workshop will be scheduled in a few weeks and I understand that there will be solutions for each neighborhood's specific needs including communication and enforcement with more public awareness.

By the time you read this message, the appeal filed by Home Depot appealing the Zoning Administrator's decision to halt the building permits issued and declaring it a "project" will be over. The community has worked hard in their effort to work through the city's procedures and emphasize that our Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan and Community Plan must be followed. Thank you to Councilmember Wendy Greuel, the No2Home Depot Campaign and the many neighbors and friends who have supported the Sunland-Tujunga community. Join us next Wednesday, June 13 at 7 p.m. for the next STNC meeting at Mt. Gleason Middle School to hear the latest on this important issue in our community.

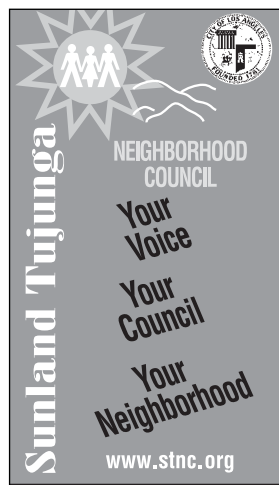
4th of July Fireworks at Verdugo Hills High School. Food - Fireworks - Fun with Live Music, Petting Zoo and Pony Rides are planned. Don't miss it!

### Upcoming Meetings

- June 13 - Monthly STNC Meeting - 7 p.m. - Mt. Gleason Middle School
- June 16 - Outreach Committee Meeting - 1 p.m. - Joselito's
- June 18 - DAC Meeting - 7 p.m. - NVCH
- June 21 - Safety Committee, 7 p.m. - NVCH
- June 28 - Budget Committee, 7 p.m. NVCH

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

\*Dates and times for committee meetings are subject to change. Check the STNC web site for meeting updates as well as special meetings. Call the STNC office to verify meeting times and location. Meeting agendas are posted for public view at the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce 8250 Foothill Blvd. Unit B, Sunland; North Valley City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga and Sunland Senior Center and 8640 Fenwick Street, Sunland. Thank you to *The North Valley Reporter* for providing space for this article.



## Save the Date for the NCRC's

### North Valley Public Hearing

By Cindy Cleghorn, Member  
Neighborhood Council Review Commission

The next North Valley Public Hearing will take place on Tuesday, July 17, 2007. This will be the opportunity to hear the NCRC's recommendations for the future of neighborhood councils and weigh in on those recommendations. A big turnout is expected -- bring the family! Final recommendations will be presented to the City Council in late September. For more info visit the NCRC web site at [www.ncrccla.org](http://www.ncrccla.org)

Upcoming NCRC meetings

#### CITY SUPPORT TO NC'S 2

June 7 at 6:30 PM

#### CITY SUPPORT TO NC'S 3

June 19 at 6:30 PM

both meetings will be held at:  
Metropolitan Water District Headquarters Building  
700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## Popular City Planner Honored

By Nina Royal



Dick Platkin

Community members came together at two separate luncheons in the city to honor and say farewell to Dick Platkin, retiring Senior Planner for the City of Los Angeles. He received awards and accolades from both community members and his fellow co-workers at both lunches. His wife and their two daughters also accompanied him and shared their joy of their daughter's graduations from college together.

Dick was praised by many community leaders for his honesty, integrity and transparent approach to planning, along with his willingness to go above and beyond his duty in order to help community members try to resolve their planning issues. His many co-workers also honored him for his teamwork and dedication to their department.

Mrs. Platkin also retired at the same time and they plan to start retirement life together with a trip overseas this summer. Dick says he plans to continue being involved in his community activities when he returns. He is has been a big supporter of the homeless and world peace organizations for many years.

## Cut-A-Thon

a benefit for  
Officer Costi & Family

HAIRCUTS - MANICURES  
MINI PEDICURES  
CHAIR MASSAGE - RAFFLE

All proceeds from services plus  
10% of all retail purchases will go to the  
Costi Family, so come on out and help  
support this family in their time of need.

Sunday  
June 24, 2007  
10am to 4pm

Image West Salon  
8263 Foothill Blvd., in Sunland  
818-352-7575

All services will be on a first come, first serve basis  
-Ad courtesy of North Valley Reporter-

## Good News for Mission Hills

By Pamela Goldfinger  
Mission Hills Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

After two years of trying to mitigate the frequency and severity of accidents on Brand Blvd., The Department of Transportation (DOT) has finally agreed that the installation of a traffic signal at Brand Blvd. and Arleta is warranted.

We are working with Council District 7 in an effort to bring DOT to the community to provide further information about this process. Possibly at our next MACNW meeting in June. Stay tuned.

Thanks to Councilmember Alarcon's Chief of Staff, Ackley Padilla and the Council District 7 staff for their assistance.

# Mark YOUR Calendar

## Thursday, June 7

**Sylmar Women's Club**  
Odyssey Restaurant  
15600 Odyssey Dr. M.H.  
11:30 am 833-8033

**Public Hearing**  
North Valley Area Plng  
Commission  
Re: Home Depot in S-T  
Braude Center  
6262 Van Nuys, 1st Flr, VN  
4:30 pm

**S-T Elks Lodge**  
10137 Commerce ST  
8 pm 352-2098  
Kagel Cyn Civic Assoc  
Dexter Park

**NC Review Comm**  
Re: City Support to NCs 2  
Metropolitan Water Dist Bldg  
700 N Alameda St LA 90012  
6:30 pm  
info: 213-978-1074  
ncrcla.org

**IRP Stakeholder Meet.**  
Bureau of Sanitation  
2714 Media Center Dr., LA  
11 am - 1 pm 323-342-6251

## Saturday, June 9

**Open House**  
Guide Dogs of America  
13445 Glenoaks, Syl  
10:45-4 pm 362-5834

**Community Clean Up**  
With Tony Cardenas  
Meet @ Arleta schools  
8 am - 1:30 pm, plus  
Fair at Branford Park

**Gary Cowles presents**  
Film-Adolphus Busch  
Bolton Hall Museum  
10110 Commerce, S-T  
1 pm 951-1041

**Scholarship Presentations**  
LVT Improvement Assoc  
11075 Foothill, LVT  
12 pm 897-7644

**Sylmar Chamber**  
Networking Breakfast  
13201 Gladstone, Syl  
7:30 am 367-6177

**Sylmar Chamber Mixer**  
Sylmar Hang Gliding Assoc  
12600 Gridley, Syl  
\$5 BBQ donations  
RSVP 367-1144

## Sunday, June 10

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

## Monday, June 11

**Preschool Storytime**  
Sylmar Library  
14561 Polk, Syl  
10:30 am 367-6102

**Andres Pico Adobe**  
Tours 10 am - 3 pm  
10940 Sepulveda MH  
365-7810

**NAACP Gen Meet.**  
Pacoima Youth Center  
11243 Glenoaks, Pac  
6 pm

## Tuesday, June 12

**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

**Northridge West N/C**  
Beckford Elementary  
7 pm

**Sun Valley N/C**  
Villa Scalabrini  
10631 Vinedale, SV  
6:30 767-2024

## Wednesday, June 13

**Foothill Optimists**  
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 Gen Meeting**  
Mt. Gleason Middle School  
10965 Mt Gleason, S-T  
6 pm 951-7411

## Thursday, June 14

### FLAG DAY

**FTDNC Exec Meet.**  
LVT Rec. Center  
11075 Foothill, LVT  
7:30 - 9 PM

**Foothill Div. CPAB**  
10631 Vinedale, SV  
6 pm 756-8866

## Saturday, June 16

**San Fernando Pioneer**  
Memorial Cemetery  
Foothill & Bledsoe, Syl  
9 am - 12 pm 365-5860

**Scrapbook Workshop**  
Sun Valley Library  
7935 Vineland, SV  
12 pm

**STNC Outreach Comm.**  
Joselito's West Restaurant  
7308 Foothills, S-T  
1 pm 951-7411

**Honorary Mayor**  
Spaghetti Dinner  
American Legion  
1009 Pinewood, S-T  
6 pm 353-9856

## Sunday, June 17

### HAPPY FATHERS DAY

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

**Omelette Bar**  
S-T Elks Lodge  
10137 Commerce, S-T  
\$6 9 am 352-2098

**Andres Pico Adobe**  
10940 Sepulveda, M.H.  
Tours 1 pm - 4 pm  
365-7810

**Andres Pico Adobe**  
Tours 10 am - 3 pm  
10940 Sepulveda MH  
365-7810

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

**STNC-Land Use/DAC**  
NV City Hall  
7747 Foothill, S-T  
7 pm 951-7411

**Preschool Storytime**  
Sylmar Library  
14561 Polk, Syl  
10:30 am 367-6102

## Tuesday, June 19

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

**NC Review Comm**  
Re: City Support to NCs 3  
Metropolitan Water Dist Bldg  
700 N Alameda St LA 90012  
6:30 pm  
info: 213-978-1074  
ncrcla.org

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

## Wednesday, June 20

**Honorary Mayor Mixer**  
Century 21 Crest  
8307 Foothill, S-T  
6 pm

**Foothill Optimists**  
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

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

**Community Police**  
Advisory Board (CPAB)  
LAPD Mission Station  
11121 Sepulveda, MH  
6:30 pm 838-9856

**Neighborhood Watch**  
All Nations Church  
1000 Foothill, LVT  
6:30 pm 756-8866

## Thursday, June 21

**Public Hearing**  
North Valley Area Planning Com  
Re: Kohl's in Granada Hills  
Marvin Braude Center  
6262 Van Nuys, VN  
4:30 pm

**S-T Elks Lodge**  
10137 Commerce ST  
8 pm 352-2098

**STNC Safety Meet**  
NV City Hall  
7747 Foothill, S-T  
6 pm 951-7411

**S-T SERVS/CERT**  
7747 Foothill S-T  
6:30 pm 352-5504

**FTDNC Gen. Meet.**  
LVT Rec Center  
11075 Foothill, LVT  
7 - 9 pm

## Friday, June 22

**Honorary Mayor**  
Dinner Dance  
American Legion  
10039 Pinewood, S-T  
6 pm 353-9856

## Saturday, June 23

**LAPD Benefit**  
F.A.B.A. Car Show  
Hansen Dam  
11750 Osborne, Pac  
8 am - 2 pm  
756-8866 756-8866



**LUCY METCALF, REALTOR**  
[realtylucy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:realtylucy@sbcglobal.net)

[www.LucyMetcalf.com](http://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



**Best**  
**Bet Realty, Inc**

**Virginia Guerrero**  
Broker

Professionally serving your community  
for over 16 years.



Office (818) 361-4300  
Fax (818) 361-4311  
Cell (818) 207-5365

**MARK YOIUR CALENDAR**  
Share your events with your neighbors through:  
[calendar@northvalleyreporter.com](mailto: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, NR - Northridge, NVCH - North Valley City Hall, Pac - Pacoima, S-T - Sunland-Tujunga, S.V. - Sun Valley, Syl - Sylmar, V.N. - Van Nuys

**JIM SUMMERS**

Realtor, CIPS

Serving Granada Hills and beyond

**(818) 321-6259**



COLDWELL BANKER



### Real Estate Websites:

GranadaHillsEstates.com

JimSummers.com

EscapeToBigBear.com

HorsePropertyUSA.com

### Community Websites:

OGHRG.org, GHSNC.org,

GranadaHillsHistory.com

Thai Yoga

**Sunshine Spa & Salon**

- Thai Tradition
- Thai Swedish
- Swedish
- Deep Tissue
- Shiatsu
- Foot Reflexology

**818-768-8622**

8708 Sunland Blvd.  
Sun Valley 91352

Open 7 days  
10:00 am - 9:00 pm

[www.palmthaimassage.com](http://www.palmthaimassage.com)

**American Heroes**  
Air Show  
Hansen Dam  
11480 Foothill, LVY  
9 am - 4 pm 631-8132

**Honorary Mayor**  
Dinner Dance  
S-T Elks Lodge  
10137 Commerce, S-T  
6 pm 352-2098

**Sunday, June 24**

**Officer Costi Benefit**  
Cut-A-Thon  
Image West Salon  
8263 Foothill, S-T  
10 am - 4 pm 352-7575  
10% Service & purchases

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

**Andres Pico Adobe**  
1 0940 Sepulveda, M.H.  
Tours 1 pm - 4 pm  
365-7810

**Monday, June 25**

**Preschool Storytime**  
Sylmar Library  
14561 Polk, Syl  
10:30 am 367-6102  
Andres Pico Adobe  
Tours 10 am - 3 pm  
10940 Sepulveda MH  
365-7810

**Golf Tournament**  
Sun Valley Chamber  
Hansen Dam G.C.  
523-1294 &  
974-1506

**Mission Hills NC**  
Land Use & BBQ  
10161 Sepulveda MH  
6:30 pm

**Monday, June 25**

**Granada Hills N/C**  
Van Gough Elementary  
17160 Van Gogh, GH  
7 pm 360-4

**Tuesday, June 26**

**Capacity Builds L.A.**  
Marketing &  
Communications  
6262 Van Nuys, VN  
9-3 pm 213-744-9329

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

**Wednesday, June 27**

**Foothill Optimists**  
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

**Sunday, July 1**

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

**Monday, July 2**

**Andres Pico Adobe**  
Tours 10 am - 3 pm  
10940 Sepulveda MH

**Tuesday, July 3**

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

**Wednesday, July 4**

**Rotary Club Sponsored**  
4th of July Parade  
Foothill Blvd., S-T  
10 am

**STNC & Verdugo Hills**  
High Boosters  
Festival & Fireworks  
\$5 4 pm - Info: 951-7411

**Hansen Dam Festival**  
No Fireworks due to  
Extreme fire hazard

**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

**MARIA'S WILD WEST WESTERN WEAR**

- Botas (Tejanas)
- Cinturones
- Sombreros (Tejanas)
- Ropa (Tejana)
- Exotic Boots
- Belts
- Cowboy Hats
- Hand Bags

**MARIA'S UNIFORMS**

**MEDICAL UNIFORMS & NURSE MATE SHOES**

- Dickies
- Cherokee
- Medgear
- Dagacci
- Dress - Med
- Nurse Mate Shoes
- Dickies Shoes

8300 Foothill Blvd. Sunland, CA 91040  
Tel: 818.353.4087 • Tel: 818.577.0639



**Fran and Ray**  
**Realtors/Notaries**  
Office 818 446-0399

Call us for any of your real estate needs.

*Co-chairs of the Annual S-T Historic Home Tour*

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



E-mail FranandRayC21@aol.com  
Website: [www.FranandRay.com](http://www.FranandRay.com)  
Fax #: 818 446-0585



**Georgio's Pizza And Sports Bar**

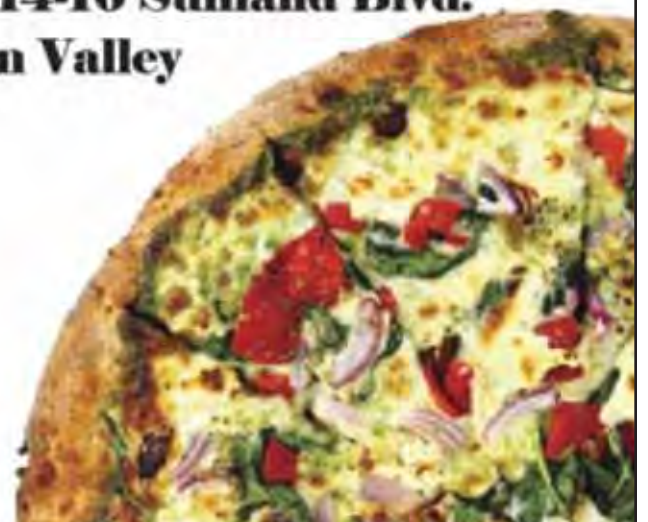
*Dine In or Take Out  
Best Tasting Pizza Around!*

*Hand Grated Cheeses  
Home Made Dough  
Fresh Ingredients*

*Darts, Pool, Jukebox  
BIG SCREEN TV  
Beer, Wine, & Cocktails*

**Georgio's Pizza**  
**\$2.00 Off**  
**Your Next Purchase**  
with this coupon • expires 7/15/07

**Open 7 Days**  
**818.767.6294**  
**8414-16 Sunland Blvd.**  
**Sun Valley**



**Classy Jewelers**  
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm

- Polanti
- Citizen
- Bulova
- Accutron
- Watch Repair on Premises
- Jewelry Repair
- Fine Jewelry
- Diamonds
- Silver
- Watches
- Clocks
- Restringing
- Engraving
- Jewelry Appraisals

**FREE Jewelry Cleaner**  
Come in and visit our store and receive a Jewelry Cleaner FREE Expires 6/30/07

**35% OFF Any Watches**  
Expires 6/30/07

**25% OFF Any Jewelry Purchase or Repair**  
Loose Diamonds Excluded Expires 6/30/07

**(818) 352-2380**  
Located in the Starbucks Plaza  
**8325-D Foothill Blvd.**  
**Sunland**

# L.A. ECO

## Lopez Canyon *Continued from page 2*

only minimal time to speak on our behalf, whereas the URM were allowed approximately five speakers on their behalf from their organization. They also would not address our attorney's concern regarding our supporters not being allowed to return back to their seats in the hearing room upon returning from use of the restroom." Rader also noted that Commissioner Modugno, who is Board Member of a national charity organization, did not excuse himself, due to conflict of interest, until after the first recess. She asks "where is the equal due process of the law for everyone?"

The Conditional Use Permits grant URM authorization to utilize the former Forresters Retirement facility, now called Hope Gardens, to house 225 homeless women and children within the existing 132 residential units.. When the URM project was previously presented to the Neighborhood Councils in the "sphere of influence" communities, they stated their intentions were to house the homeless from Skid Row in Downtown Los Angeles. That quickly became the source of those communities' opposition because they felt they already had their fair share of recovery homes. They expressed their deep concern about the probable increase in crime, drug use and fires at the proposed "unlocked down" facility would bring to their communities. Also, no concrete rehabilitation programs were presented at that time.

Andy Bales, Director of Hope Gardens now says they have a new program in place that will house only women and children. Their children will be going to Fenton Avenue Elementary school and the women will be educated on the premises and hopefully become self sufficient within two to three years and then out on their own.

The permit that retroactively approves the removal of an oak tree on the property especially concerns community leaders. The KCCA does not believe sufficient consideration was given to total environmental concerns that include possible fires caused by smoking in the facility. An Appeal to the motion would have to be filed by June 15, should the KCCA decide to do so.

## Sun Valley Community Celebrates New Flood Control Project

Sun Valley –Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and Councilmember Tony Cardenas, county and city public service representatives including community members, came together for a ribbon cutting at the Tuxford Green Pocket Park on the corner of Tuxford and San Fernando Rd. in Sun Valley on Thursday morning, May 31.

They celebrated the completion of the \$3.6 million Tuxford Green Multiuse Project which will control chronic flooding in the Sun Valley Area. Community member Vicki Burch says, " I will no longer have to take the long way around to get home when it rains"

According to the Public Works Press Release, The Tuxford Green Multiuse Project uses a system of catch basins and hydraulic pressure to "push" stormwater through an underground storm drain, effectively forcing thousands of gallons of stormwater under the intersection during a storm. A portion of the storm water and most of the urban runoff collected by the system will be redirected through a stormwater treatment device, to remove trash, oil, and sediment. Treated stormwater will then be stored in 45,000 gallon cistern and used to irrigate newly integrated landscaping features.

The Tuxford Green Multiuse Project is part of a comprehensive Watershed Management Plan developed by the County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works in collaboration with the Sun Valley Watershed Stakeholders Group. The Sun Valley Park Multiuse Project no only provides flood protection for the park and its surrounding community, it also recharges the San Fernando Groundwater Basin with enough water to supply 60 families of four for an entire year. For more information on the project visit: [www.sunvalleywatershed.org](http://www.sunvalleywatershed.org).



L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky with committee member Jerry Piro and Vicki Burch.



45,000 gallon Cistern.

MOORE BROS. & SONS & DAUGHTERS

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

One CALL does it ALL • Get MOORE for your MONEY

<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">REMODELING</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchens</li> <li>• Custom Tile</li> <li>• Cabinets</li> <li>• Windows</li> <li>• Bathrooms</li> <li>• Flooring</li> <li>• Counter Tops</li> <li>• Doors</li> </ul>	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">CONSTRUCTION</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts in all types of roofing</li> <li>• Additions</li> <li>• Fencing</li> <li>• Electrical</li> <li>• Decks</li> <li>• Patios</li> <li>• Gutters</li> </ul>
<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">STEEL BUILDINGS</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Houses/Barns</li> <li>• Riding Arenas</li> <li>• Storage/Garage</li> <li>• Churches/Offices</li> </ul> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;">Authorized Independent Dealer</p>	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">PAINTING/PLUMBING</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interior</li> <li>• Dry Wall</li> <li>• Exterior</li> <li>• Stucco</li> <li>• Repairs / Leaks</li> <li>• Copper RePipe</li> <li>• Main Lines</li> <li>• Sprinklers</li> </ul>

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

If you are interested in a competitive sales environment, we are looking for you. We are currently hiring outside sales people with base salary commissions, bonuses and benefits.

Please email or fax Resume.  
Fax #: 818-768-8843  
Email: [aicomm@la.twcbc.com](mailto:aicomm@la.twcbc.com)

Deja View Photography

3 1/2 x 5 or 4 x 6

Digital Prints only 19¢

From all media. no minimum. with this coupon

135mm Film Developing

Get 2nd set of prints FREE

at time of developing with this coupon

- One-hour photo
- Prints from your digital camera
- Passport photos only \$7<sup>95</sup>
- Economy Picture Framing only \$39<sup>95</sup> up to 24 x 36

818-951-5299

7904 Foothill Blvd. • Sunland

# SERVING THE PUBLIC

## A Pearl Among Us



By Captain Joe Curreri  
Commanding Officer  
LAPD Foothill Area

On May 24th, I had the privilege to attend the City Attorney sponsored Pearls Awards. This most prestigious award is presented to senior citizens throughout the city of Los Angeles who unselfishly volunteer their personal time to assist others. I was overwhelmed by the spirit of outstanding civic responsibility of the many seniors who were honored by City

Attorney Rocky Delgadillo. The highest Pearl Award for 2007 was presented to one of Foothill Area's own, Ms. Vickie Burch. Vickie is a very active member of the Foothill Area. Her volunteerism includes, but is not limited to her involvement as the Co-Chair of Foothill Area's Community/Police Advisory Board. She is a member of the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce. She is on the Board of Directors of Pacifica Hospital. She is a member of the Foothill Area Booster Association Board of Directors. She volunteers countless hours in Foothill Area's Community Relations Office. Vickie is also royalty, as she is the self-proclaimed Queen of Sun Valley. Our most sincere congratulations to Vickie Burch on being chosen as the recipient of the Pearl Award for 2007.

Crime in Foothill continues to decline, with a lot of hard work by the fine LAPD personnel assigned to the Foothill Area Community Police Station and with the help of the community. As the summer months approach, more people tend to be "out and about" and tempers seem to be shorter as the temperature rises. I therefore ask everyone to take extra precautions to safeguard your valuables and please have patience with others. Let's work together to have a crime free and happy summer.



L-R: Vicki's son Matthew Burch, Vicki Burch and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo.



L-R: Senior Lead Officer for Sun Valley Michelle Rodriguez, Vicki Burch and Community Relations Officer Sgt. Herrold Egger



photo credit:  
Michelle Rodriguez

L-R: A.P. Diaz, Neighborhood Prosecutor for Foothill, Commanding Officer Captain Currier, Vicki Burch and Captain Zipperman

## We Love You Officer Costi!

Sunland-Tujunga's Darren Costi, an LAPD Officer who was raised in the community, was seriously hurt in an accident while riding his motorcycle to work at the Wilshire Division last month. The accident was caused by an unlicensed driver, who made an illegal left turn in front of him at Sheldon and Telfair Avenues in Sun Valley. He was in critical condition with severe injuries at Holy Cross Trauma Center for many weeks and has since been moved to Kaiser Hospital on Sunset in Hollywood. He is now out of the coma which was induced due to the severity of his many injuries. However, he is not able to move nor talk because of the tracheotomy



The Blues Label Band

Darren served at the Foothill Station and patrolled Sunland-Tujunga for many years. He then transferred to the Mission Station when it opened about two years ago. He was promoted recently to Sergeant where he supervised the Wilshire Division's Bicycle Unit during his last two months of duty. He devoted his spare time to teaching and coaching youth sports in Sunland-Tujunga where he has been a great role model. It is unknown when or if he will be able to return to duty due to the number of injuries he has sustained.

He and his wife have three children in private schools. His wife Gina has not been able to return to work, which is a hardship on the family. Local communities have come together to help out financially. Blues Label band leader, Jon Walker, who is also a Sr. Lead Officer for the LAPD Foothill Division, along with other present and former LAPD officers held a benefit in conjunction with Rocky's Restaurant at Whitman Airport. Harvest Moon in Universal City Walk held an Officer Costi night and all the proceeds from the door went to the family. Sunland-Tujunga SERVS will be doing a raffle at the 4th of July Fireworks Festival at Verdugo Hills High School and Tujunga Little League is also collecting funds. Many businesses are also participating. Image West Salon at 8263 Foothill Blvd in Tujunga will host a Cut-A Thon on June 24, 10 am to 4 pm. 10% of all fees will go to Darren. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church as has also set up a trust fund for him. Donations can be sent to OLOL, 7324 Apperson, Tujunga 91042.

## Memorial Day Remembered

Foothill Community members were treated to a fly-over by the Condor Squadron during their ceremony commemorating Veteran's Day. American Legion Post 377 conducted the annual ceremony and Kelly O'Brien sang "America the Beautiful". Guest speakers from Senator Sherman, Mayor Villaraigosa and Councilmember Greuel's offices were scheduled on the Agenda to speak, however they were not present. They then commenced with the reading of the names and the placement of the wreath on the monument followed by the playing of Taps. A luncheon open to the public followed the ceremony.



Sunland-Tujunga Veterans Memorial with American Legion Post 377 Commander Patrick O'Brien

# SERVING THE PUBLIC

## You Thought it Shouldn't Happen!



By Stacy Gerlich  
L.A. City Fire  
Captain/  
Paramedic and  
Commander,  
CERT Unit  
Disaster  
Preparedness  
Section

As most of you in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) world are aware, the Los

Angeles Fire Department's CERT program had a little scare. As history has shown, when it comes down to the city's budget, CERT is usually put on the chopping block.

With the help of all our CERT teams and those who understand the real value of such a program, we were able to bombard the city officials with letters, emails and faxes. This proved to be quite overwhelming to our politicians. They say there is power is numbers! Well, I believe that our CERT members and supporters proved that beyond a shadow of a doubt. As of May 31, 2007, the CERT program has once again been funded! The strength and support that our communities showed during this budget crisis is a true testament to the belief in this training.

In May, CERT was at the Griffith Park and Catalina Island Brush Fires

Griffith Park was initially assigned to Rehab (they were released upon arrival of Support Services) CERT assisted at the Command Post; established an Evacuation Center at Marshall High School and remained on "stand by" pending status of fire.

On Catalina Island L.A. City CERT responded with L.A. County on their first-ever Mutual Aid response. We relieved Catalina Island CERT teams. L.A. City CERT worked supply and logistics, manned control points, patrolled secured areas, provided fire apparatus security; established a tempo-

rary shelter; worked at the Command Post; conducted Fire Patrol and communicated via Ham, FRS, and Sheriff radios.

The above events should remind us that our city is experiencing an unusually dry season. Our "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone" comprises most of the hilly and mountainous regions of the City of Los Angeles. Persons in those zones need to exercise extreme caution to prevent fires. The zones include portions of the following communities:

o Baldwin Hills, Bel Air Estates, Beverly Glen, Brentwood, Castellammare, Chatsworth, Eagle Rock, East Los Angeles, Echo Park, El Sereno, Encino, Glassel Park, Granada Hills, Hollywood, Lake View Terrace, Los Angeles, Los Feliz, Montecito Heights, Monterey Hills, Mt. Olympus, Mount Washington, Pacific Palisades, Pacoima, Palisades Highlands, Porter Ranch, San Pedro, Shadow Hills, Sherman Oaks, Silver Lake, Studio City, Sunland-Tujunga, Sun Valley, Sylmar, Tarzana, West Hills, Westwood, Woodland Hills

For those of us who pay attention and who truly are prepared for the next major disaster, we are going to have the opportunity to put our training and knowledge to the test. When will this happen? Well that's the million dollar question. I'm sure by now most of us have heard the phrase, "It's not a matter of if but when we are hit by the next disaster!). With this in mind, all of us must do our part in taking preparation very seriously. It is assumed that during a disaster, you can pick up the telephone and dial 911. Well, if you didn't know, six minutes after the Northridge Earthquake in 1994, every Los Angeles Fire Department resource was allocated on a 911 call. This means our communities are going to be on their own. We estimate 3-5 days without communication and resources. Are you prepared to handle yourselves and family for that amount of time? If you answered no, you need to start doing something today. Nothing is too small. Buy some water, extra canned food, flashlights, batteries, secure heavy pieces of furniture or anything that can help minimize the potential of harm to you and your loved ones.

## Valley Traffic Fair & Classic Car Show a Huge Success



By Nina Royal

Approximately 3,000 people turned out for a day of family fun and education at the annual Valley Traffic Safety Fair and Classic Car Show on Saturday, June 2, at Granada Hills Recreation Center in Petit Park. Officers from Valley Traffic grilled free hamburgers and hot dogs and they also provided free drinks. Jay Leno made a surprise appearance when he dropped off his car for the Car Show and then did a little "Jay Walkin" amongst the cars. Former heartthrob Bobby Sherman was on hand to display his hot LAPD Emergency Disaster Response Vehicle. There were various police cars, Special Unit information booths, motorcycles and fire vehicles, etc. There were also presentations offering school safety information and child safety seat inspections. They also had a live band and many raffle prizes. There were trophies awarded to owners of classic vehicles in various categories. According to Captain Ron Marbrey, Commander of Valley Traffic and responsible for the coordination of the fair, the fair is held yearly at a different location in order to accommodate the many neighborhoods in the valley. It is a worthwhile "must attend" for a family get together.

*Please support your N.V. advertisers,  
tell them you saw their ad in the  
North Valley Reporter.*

## Fires in Hansen Dam

Lake View Terrace- May 12, 2007, The Big Tujunga Volunteer Fire Department rolled out responding to a brush fire in the flood control channel in Oracas Park. The trained volunteers supported local fire agencies by delivering water to the fire equipment that was at the site. They responded to a 2nd brush fire On May 13, 2007, Mothers Day, they rolled out again to a fire in the Hansen Dam area where they again delivered water to the fire fighters at that site.



Volunteer water truck  
Photo credit: Ray Cook



Hansen Dam fire

Photo credit: John Blue

## Update to Begin for County Hospital

Sylmar – Olive View-UCLA Medical Center has been approved to receive a new emergency room and a tuberculosis unit, announced L.A. County Supervisor, Michael D. Antonovich on Tuesday, May 29. The hospital will remain fully operational during construction. The L.A. County Department of Public Works and their consultants have worked with Health Services to develop a construction-staging plan that minimizes impacts to operations at the hospital during construction. McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. has been hired to complete the work with the least possible disturbance to the hospital.

The Board of Supervisors authorized the \$49 million project in November 2006 Antonovich said, "This vital project will ensure that the County residents continue to receive state-of-the-art healthcare services at Olive View.

# Sunland-Tujunga Historic Home & Landmark Tour 2007

Sunland-Tujunga - On May 26, the foothill community was treated to a Historical Home & Landmark Tour sponsored by the Little Landers Historical Society and the Sunland-Tujunga Coordinating Council under the leadership of Fran & Ray Loiselle. The tour was said to be their best ever. Participants were treated to two L.A. Historic Monuments, a beautiful restored Arts and Crafts Home, and an example of mid-century Post and Beam Home as well as The Old Vienna Inn, a historic restaurant of the 30's, which became Villa Cinzano will be opening the summer as Villa Terraza Restaurant. We are looking forward to their grand opening. They have restored the splendor of the surrounding area as well as the frescos in both buildings. Proceeds from the Historic Home Tour were used for scholarships for students of Verdugo Hills High School.

Photo credits: Nina Royal



Shadow Hills Alpaca Ranch



New Villa Terraza Restaurant

## HERE'S MY CARD



**PET GROOMING**  
by **JACKIE SAVAGE**  
REASONABLE RATES  
TENDER LOVING CARE

7758 WYNGATE STREET  
TUJUNGA CA 91042

Call For Appointment  
818-352-0536



**Retirement Planning Associates**  
Stocks Municipal Bonds  
Closed-End Funds Mutual Funds  
Retirement and Employer Plans

7145 Woodley Avenue  
Van Nuys, CA 91406-3932  
Tel (818) 781-7721 Ext. 25  
Fax (818) 787-2232  
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*




**Home Loans**  
**CHRIS WETHERBY**

CALL ME: (818) 352-8849  
chris@bluestarloans.net

Mention this ad  
For a **FREE Appraisal**  
(\$500 value)  
Buying or Refinancing



**Anne's Hair Designs**  
**Shadow Hills Hair Salon**  
9749 Wheatland Avenue  
Shadow Hills, CA 91040  
Tuesday-Saturday

Anne Dutton 818-415-4158

www.thefishlady.com



1.800.4FISHLADY  
**THE FISH LADY**  
Fish Pond Maintenance Specialist

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



**Wendy Ansel**  
**Gemstone Consulting**  
Wed-Sun 11 A.M.-5 P.M.  
Or by Appointment




info@rocksandrunes.com  
www.rocksandrunes.com

Retail Store, Special Events  
and Work Shops

9741 Wheatland Ave., Suite #3, Shadow Hills, CA 91040  
Shop (818) 951-7565 • Cell (818) 618-4931

**SALLY HALL**  
The Foothill's Top Producing  
CENTURY 21® Agent  
Eighteen Years CENTURION® Award Winner  
— Top 2% in Sales Worldwide —  
Member of CENTURY 21® Exclusive  
"Masters Hall of Fame"  
Sold more than 900 homes  
worth over \$200 million

Serving Sunland / Tujunga,  
La Crescenta / La Cañada, Shadow Hills  
& the Foothills Area Since 1986.

8307 Foothill Boulevard  
Sunland, California 91040  
Business (818) 352-8935  
Fax (818) 951-1681

Toll Free (800) 964-0021, ext.215  
Cell Phone (818) 370-8809  
E-Mail SallyC21@aol.com  
http://Sallyhall.realtor.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

**CHEYANNA'S USED BOOKS**

Hardbacks \$1.00  
Discount on Paperbacks

8421 Foothill Blvd. • Sunland 91040  
818-353-5416

*Please support your N.V. advertisers,  
tell them you saw their ad in the  
North Valley Reporter.*

**TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED**

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

\$15 dollars up to 4 lines name \_\_\_\_\_  
\$2.00 each additional line. address \_\_\_\_\_  
28 character & spaces in a city, state zip \_\_\_\_\_  
text line, 25 in bold \_\_\_\_\_

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 • **818-563-1962**

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Tujunga - 1br \$850. - Available Now**  
1 bedroom in quiet building. Stove,  
carpets, blinds, A/C included, gated entry  
and parking, pool, laundry facilities on  
premises, and water paid. Near schools, bus  
and shopping. No pets. 6mo lease. \$850.00  
+ Security. Call Monday thru Friday  
8:00am to 4:00pm 818-352-3517 after 4:30  
and weekends call 818-352-4170

**Verdugo Pet Hospital**  
Veterinary Kennel Assistant, P/T afternoons  
and Saturday am. Duties: animal care,  
clean up and Re-stocking the hospital Pet  
medical center (818) 383-8508

**JOSELITO'S**  
**MEXICAN FOOD**  
 EST. 1977  
 Dine In • Takeout • Catering • Cocktails

**818-951-2275**  
 www.Joselitos.com

7308 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga, CA 91042

## Tree Care Preparation for Summer

By Cathryn McElryn

Winter is over and the time has come to prepare your trees for summer. Rain and wind have taken their toll on your trees, not to mention the excess weight of foliage growth since the trimming last year.

This scenario could lead to root damage as well as the possibility of your trees falling over. Many homes are damaged from these falling trees and limbs, causing financial stress. To avoid these problems proper trimming will allow for lesser weight, reducing breakage and losing shade. Properly trimmed trees produce filtered sunlight. This dappled shade effect allows enough sunlight to pass through, yet produces enough shade to provide protection for roofing and paint. This also provides enough sunlight for healthy grass, ground cover, and flowers with adequate moisture levels in the soil.

With correct care and maintenance your trees will continue to enhance and protect your property for many years to come. Enjoy sitting in the shade on a hot summer day under your healthy trees!

Cathryn McElryn resides in Sun Valley and is a local writer and environmentalist.

## Tomi Realty Inc.

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@TomiRealty.com  
 818-353-9143



## Large Turn out at Springfest '07

Sylmar- Mission College held their outstanding Food & Wine Festival on Saturday, May 12. The event was coordinated by the Los Angeles Mission College Foundation. The funds raised are used to award scholarships to students in need of assistance. It is also an opportunity to show off their renowned Culinary School.

The sensational entrées and desserts prepared by their student chef's represented the countries of: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Ireland/Scotland, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey. Many different selections of wine were served to compliment the delicious food.

Several students who are within a few months of graduating, already have positions waiting for them in upscale area restaurants.

Ernest Moreno, President of Mission College was on hand to greet the guests in the capacity filled room. This is a must attend event on next year's calendar.



**TREEMENDOUS TREE TRIMMING**

Trimming  
 Removals  
 Planting  
 Firewood  
 Disease Analysis & Treatment  
 Fertilization

**Carlo Mancini**  
 Owner  
 (Lic. #669249)

**(818) 764-4424**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 4TH, 2007**  
**GATES OPEN AT 4 P.M.**  
**VERDUGO HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**

**SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
 IN COORDINATION WITH  
**VERDUGO HILLS HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS**  
 PRESENT  
**2007 4TH OF JULY**  
**FAMILY FIREWORKS FESTIVAL**  
 FOOD • FIREWORKS • FUN

**LIVE MUSIC** **PONY RIDES**  
**PETTING ZOO**

This year's **4th of July Fireworks Celebration** at Verdugo Hills High School is proudly being hosted by the **Verdugo Hills High School Boosters Organization** with the "1776 Title Sponsor" being the **Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council**.

The goal is simple! Take all of this years Fireworks Spectaculars **net proceeds** and give it all back **to the community!** How, you ask? By **donating it all** to the Clubs, Organizations and Sports Programs at **Verdugo Hills High School** as well as seed money towards a **Community Pocket Park** in the name of the **Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council!**

So this **4th of July** be a part of contributing directly to improving your community and be a **Family Fireworks Festival Sponsor!**

Admission \$5  
 Kids under 36" FREE

For Information and Sponsorship Info Contact:  
 David Cain at (818) 581-6926  
 Dan McManus (818) 951-7506  
 Victor Castro, IV (818) 822-2074