

Area Veterans Team Up at Summit Meeting



Photograph by Fran Potaski

By Katharine Russ

North Hills – The North Hills West Neighborhood Council (NHWNC) hosted the “first of its kind” Veteran’s Summit at New Horizon’s Center on May 20, even though the variance for the proposed renovation of Buildings four and five at the Sepulveda VA facility was denied by the Zoning Administration in early May. The Summit gave Veterans the opportunity to express their concerns over the pending project at the Sepulveda VA and potential consequences for the more than 20,000 soldiers who would be returning from both Iraq and Afghanistan.

More than 160 veterans and stakeholders from the San Fernando Valley, Lancaster-Palmdale, Los Angeles and Orange County including Commanders from Veteran’s of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Jewish War Veterans, and the American Legion were in attendance.

Keynote speakers included Lawrence Van Kuran, Adjutant/American Legion 20th District, Michael Gombar, Past American Legion Cmdr., Ernie Hilger, disabled Veteran/Member DAV, Jerry Schwartz, 100% disabled Vietnam Veteran/lifetime member DAV, Tesa Becica, 100% disabled Vietnam veteran/board member San Fernando Valley Historical Society, Robert Rosebrock, Director The Veterans Revolution, co-Director We The Veterans, Staff Writer Veterans Today, member American Legion Press Association, Steve Palmer, Disabled World War II Veteran and Bob Handy, Chairman Veterans United For Truth, Inc, Chairman Veterans Caucus of the CA Democratic Party.

Special guests Millie Jones, Deputy/County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, Hannah Lee, Deputy/City Councilman Greig Smith, and Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky whose district includes both the Sepulveda and West Los Angeles VA facilities, were also in

attendance. Congressmen Brad Sherman, whose district covers the Sepulveda VA and Henry Waxman whose district covers the West Los Angeles Va, were invited to attend but were “no shows”. All but a few persons stood united in their opposition to New Directions (ND) and A Community of Friends (ACOF) plan to convert the buildings into 147 apartments for homeless veterans.

Ben Rosen, Project manager for ACOF, favored the project and was the first speaker of the evening. “We are here to hear the issues the veterans have with the project at the Sepulveda VA and to listen and to bring these issues back to our Board so that we can create the best project for everybody. We can now guarantee that this project will now be for Veterans only. We know there are other issues as well and we want to hear those as well.”

Rosen presented a letter from HUD stating that the apartments can be for Veterans only. In past years, no one had given the Veterans any opportunity to express their concerns regarding this project and it was not until the NHWNC hosted this Summit did anyone come to hear their opinions.

Mark Reed, a 2010 Congressional Candidate 27th District, National Rep. for American Indians in Film & TV and Chairman for KCET American Indian Committee, who spoke at the forum, later commented, “The main point is the VA property is sovereign, sacred land to be used for Veterans only. The proposed land lease contract for the Sepulveda VA lacks transparency and has too many loopholes that would allow for the loss of this land, forever. The Hospital care and health care in this country is second to none yet a veteran needs a full time advocate to get services he or she has put their life on the line for.”

Prior to the Veteran’s Summit, Councilmember Greig Smith’s May 11, 2009 letter to ND and ACOF voiced his opposition to ND’s project. “Based on the ZA’s opinion, I feel that it is incumbent upon me to make my opinion in opposition public. There are numerous concerns from the local community; however, there is one constant argument – the ‘Veterans preference’ language. I have always had the concern that this does not go far enough to protect the men and women of our United States military, and their families, who have suffered and gave their lives to protect our Country and our freedom.” Smith urged ND to rethink the filing of an appeal without local support.

An article written about ND and ACOF by Staff writer and associate of ND, Matt Davison, for the VeteransToday.com website on May 21, 2009, and subsequent comments made by him and Editor/ Staff writer Gordon Duff relative to the meeting and some of the attendees, sparked a hailstorm of controversy from angry veterans who had attended the meeting. Davison claimed, “I went to community council meeting last night, in which the phony flag wavers (mostly Legion) attacked New Directions and vowed to stop us from providing our services to the homeless and disabled vets of San Fernando Valley. One Legion jerk even had the gall to say there really is no homeless vet problem in L.A. We were not allowed to speak against the party of ‘no’, and the atmosphere was both tense and hateful, directed against us. I did sign in to speak, as did the Assistant Executive Director of New Directions. His speaker form was snatched off the table as soon as he laid it down, and God only knows where mine went.”

Continued on page 8

Memorial Day Observance – Sylmar



photograph courtesy of Voila Photography

Stefani Valencia was joined by area Veterans singing God Bless America during the ceremony at historical Pioneer Cemetery in Sylmar. The event sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Historical Society and was attended by approximately 125 people, including

Guest Speakers Assemblymember Cameron Smythe and Field Deputy Dan Rosales, who spoke on behalf of Councilmember Richard Alarcon. Participants included Joyce Gaynor and Jacky Walker, Co-Chairs of the Pioneer Cemetery Committee; Pastor Alfred Flores, Calvary Chapel; Craig Mathias and Wally Kendig, Pioneer Committee; Jim Sullivan, LA Lutheran Middle and High School; and Robert “Bobby” Arias, MSW, MPA, Communities in Schools.

Memorial Day Service – Sunland-Tujunga



Photograph by Lloyd Hitt

The American Legion Post No. 377 sponsored their annual service at the site of the Sunland Park Veterans Memorial. There were approximately 70 community members in attendance, as Kelly O’Brien sang the Star Spangled Banner and her father, Commander Pat O’Brien, led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Memorial Address. Evie Calvin presented a Memorial Day Poem. An MIA Remembrance was given by Art Otten who and also did the reading of the names of all veterans being memorialized in the Sunland-Tujunga Area. After Closing Prayer, all participants were invited to their Post for lunch following the ceremony.

What’s Inside:

Community News
pg. 3-5

Calendar
pg. 6-7

School Police Honored
pg. 8

Commentary
pg. 9

Sound Off
pg. 10

COMMUNITY NEWS

You Should Know...

A **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** workshop, sponsored by Sunland-Tujunga's Neighborhood Council, Alliance and VOICE, in conjunction with the Planning and Conservation League Foundation, will be held in on Sunday, June 7, from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, at the North Valley City Hall, in Tujunga. The workshop will review the fundamentals of CEQA, and use the Verdugo Hills Golf Course project's Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), which is now available on www.stnc.org, as an example of the Environmental Impact Review process. Info & Sign-up by June 3rd, call (818) 951-7411.

California State University (CSUN), is taking reservations for their third summer session which runs July 8 through August 18. Even those students not formally enrolled at CSUN, can take classes through the Open University Program and earn full academic credit for classes. Registration and program information is at the university's Matador Bookstore, Complex Room 100, and available on line at <http://tsencollege.csun.edu/summer.html>. Or call 818-677-2504 for information.

The L.A. River is the subject of a play by Cornerstone Theatre, in collaboration with local river area residents, engineers, biologists, environmentalists, activists, advocates and patrons who walk, fish, ride horses and bike on the river. The river was once mighty and unpredictable. But it has now been tamed and transformed into an industrial concrete flood control channel. Show times will begin at 8:00 pm and

will run Wednesdays through Sundays, from May 28 through June 21. Cornerstone will host community dialogues and talk backs after all Thursday performances during the shows run, which will be performed along the river bank, at Rio De Los Angeles State Park, Bowie Parcel adjacent to 2800 Casita Ave., L.A. Donations are accepted. Visit: www.cornerstonetheater.com or call 213-613-1700X37 for reservations.

A **Lopez Canyon Restoration Project** community meeting will be held by the L.A. Dept. of Public Work's Bureau of Sanitation on Wednesday, June 15. They will be giving an update on the Lopez Canyon Environment Center, "B" Canyon Landscaping and the Truck Driving Academy's Mitigated Negative Declaration. A tour will begin a 7:00 pm to 7:40 pm. The meeting will held at the Lopez Trailers beginning at 7:45 pm.

A **"Volunteer Appreciation Picnic and Pledge to Service"** fair for persons in organizations who were among the 120,000 people that volunteered to participate in beautification projects during the Mayor's "Day of Service" since July, 2005, will be held in City Hall. The date is Saturday, June 27. The event is to recognize and reward participants with lunch and other festivities, which include Volunteer Resource Fair, entertainment and children's activities. It is free of charge and sponsored by corporate and private donations. A reservation sheet should be submitted by organizations by close of, Monday, June 1, in

order for the Mayor's office to plan for participants. Questions can be directed to Antonio Sanchez, Area Director for Mayor Villaraigosa, at 818-778-4990. Fax 818-778-4995.

Crown Disposal - According to Mary Benson, Vice President of Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, who attended their meeting on Thursday, May 21, Crown **proposes** a minimum enclosure on the dumping area for garbage and municipal solid waste to be enclosed only on three sides. Crown assured the audience that it would be enough to contain odors and prevent any trash from blowing off the site. Both previous expansions for Waste Management and Athens Waste have proposed a four-sided negative pressure building. Interested parties are invited to attend their future public meetings being held on Tuesday, June 23, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, in the Poly High School auditorium, 12431 Roscoe Blvd., Sun Valley, and Wednesday, July 8, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, in the new Byrd Middle School, 8501 Arleta Ave., Sun Valley.

Fourth of July Parade - "Coming Together for the Future" is being planned by the Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills Rotary Club. The last date for parade entry applicant forms is June 29. Applications are accepted for floats, bands, vehicles, equestrian, etc. Applications are available at Bank of America and O.K. Trophy in Sunland. For information, call Ellis at 818-352-3671.

We've Got Talent

The first ever We've Got Talent . . . "An Evening of Entertainment" was held at Bolton Hall Museum in Tujunga, on May 23, as a fundraiser. Lloyd Hitt kicked off the show, produced by Bozz and Juanita Nichols, President of Little Landers Historical Society, and MC'd by member Richard Stewart. Mike Perry and Suzanne Paine on Guitar and Vocals, Robin and Darrin Smith on Sax, Ray Brunke on Organ, and Dave Hall who sang a cappella performed the donated entertainment. Richard Stewart provided the Comedy, George Allen was on Bag Pipes, and Franny Mcartney entertained with her vocals accompanied by pre-recorded sound tracks. They all played to a packed house.

Photos by Lloyd Hitt



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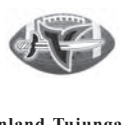
Attend our monthly meetings:

*First Wednesdays at 7pm Committee Forums
(Holy Martyrs Elementary, 16617 Parthenia St, NH)
Third Wednesdays at 7 pm Board Meeting
(New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St, NH)*



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Granada Hills

The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council is looking for representatives to fill the following vacant positions on their Board of Directors. They need volunteers for the following seats: District 2 Representative, District 3 Representative, Youth-Group Representative and Educational Representative. A detailed definition of each of these positions and their required qualifications are on the website: www.ghnnc.org.

Applications can be downloaded on line, filled out and submitted to Leon F. Marzillier, Chairperson of the GHNNC Board of Directors, or emailed to lmorzillier@ghnnc.org, or mailed to: Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 11862 Balboa Blvd., #137, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Granada Hills Charter High School Administrator, **Richard Hulse**, was honored with a Special Award for Administration during the CIF (California Interscholastic Federation) Sportsmanship Recognition Dinner at the Castaway Restaurant in Burbank, Monday, May 11. Hulse, who is retiring this year, was noted for living by the six pillars of Pursuing Victory with Honor. He is always available to assist Athletic Directors, to welcome visitors, as well as to volunteer where needed. No task was too small for him, and his daily attention to all details pertaining to both his school and his colleagues is greatly appreciated.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pacoima

By Morris Pichon

The Pacoima Neighborhood Council (PNC) is seeking socially conscience, active community members to join their neighborhood council. The Neighborhoods Councils were established by the City of Los Angeles Charter amendment to enable all communities in the city to form their own organization that would work as an advisory group to the city and is under the guidance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. (DONE). The Neighborhood Councils purpose is to advocate on behalf of their neighborhoods, to give their neighborhoods a voice in the City regarding concerns in their community. Also, bring government closer to the people which will help to improve their quality of life. PNC President, Reuben Garcia, is asking those who care about Pacoima, and have extensive experiences, although not necessary, to contribute to the Council. Stakeholders, residents, can contribute by volunteering to be member of the Board of Directors, serve on various committees, or attend the once-a-month meetings and voice their opinions. Those who have complaints about the community, city or state would be pleased to know that representatives of the State Senate, State Assembly, the Mayor and City Councilman's offices are frequently present at the PNC meetings and ill address your concerns.

Officials from various City Departments such as LAPD, DWP, DOT, Sanitation as well as many others, are frequent attendees who field questions from stakeholders, and disseminate the latest information regarding the city. The PNC invites these officials to their meeting in an effort to keep their community informed and hopefully create a greater understanding between city authorities and community members.

The PNC meets every 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm, at the Pacoima Family and

Community center, 11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima. Individuals For information should contact Reuben Garcia at 818-384-6100.

Sylmar

Youth Volunteers Honored

Emilio "Randy" Garcia, 15, was nominated for the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation.

Randy has been a mainstay at El Cariso County Park. He grew up in youth activities and has volunteered at least 100 hours a year for 5 years at the park, assisting with special events, fundraising for the Teen Club, and wherever else as needed. He is a counselor for music and drama productions, assists with fitness games and works with young campers on arts, crafts and gift projects.

As sophomore at Cleveland Magnet High School, Randy hasn't missed a day of school in 10 years. He is also out scored everyone in the County in the annual LAUSD Test for ROTC Students and the Sons of the American Revolution awarded him a medal for outstanding leadership qualities. His dream is to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and eventually become a pilot.

Cub Scout Pack 94 was selected by Los Angeles County Third District Supervisor Zev Yaroslavy as the nominee for this prestigious annual award. Comprising boys from 5 to 11 years old, the 40-member Pack has volunteered for everything from placing 84,000 flags at Los Angeles National Cemetery, distributing more than 2000 flags at the Sylmar Veterans Day Parade to arranging and passing out food baskets at Thanksgiving. When a former Cub Scout was murdered in Sun Valley, the Pack raised \$16,000 to help the family with expenses.

Even though many of the scouts were among those evacuated in the devastating Marek and Sylmar fires last year, one scout and his family lost their home, the Pack raised thousands of dollars and collected holiday gifts for fire victims. After they exceeded their goal, they volunteered to help at an event at the Pacoima Boys and Girls Club where they distributed the rest of the gifts.



Photos courtesy of office of Z. Yaroslavy

Arleta



By Al Piantanida

The CIF (California Interscholastic Federation) Sportsmanship Recognition Dinner was held in Burbank on Monday, May 11, in honor of special achievers. Among those from the North Valley were:

Arleta High School Coach Fred Grimes received the CIF Distinguished Service Award. He was part of the coaching staff that won the City Championship for the Invitational Division. He is now in the process of developing Arleta's first Golf Team. He has dedicated many years to his athletes while exhibiting an abundance of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness and much caring.

A special award was given to recognize a group of volunteer men in Arleta who have dedicated the past six years to the establishment of Arleta High School. Jesse Gonzales, Terry Hendricks, Jim Kallas, Al Piantanida, Lamar Shelby and Harry Williams are known in their community as the "Arleta Neighborhood Gentlemen" who volunteer their time to advocate for their school. They not only attend all the schools games to cheer them on, but they can also be found making improvements and helping out wherever needed.

Illegal Vendors - Over Mothers' Day weekend, the business area on Vans Nuys Blvd., from Laurel Canyon to Woodman Ave., was overrun by illegal vendors selling gift items. They also sold illegally in front of schools. The buyers blocked sidewalks, parked in No Parking zones, and double-parked on the street, which caused fights and traffic congestion.

This caused legal businesses to lose customers. The city and state also lost much needed income from business tax and sales tax. Illegal vending has been an ongoing problem in Arleta for many years forcing residents to shop in an area with a better environment. The only way to end the problem is for people to cease patronizing illegal businesses.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Sunland - Tujunga



By Cindy Cleghorn

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council has a vacancy for a Region One Representative, which covers Sunland from the 210 freeway to Mt. Gleason, north of Foothill. Any stakeholder in that area who is interested in serving on their Board of Directors, please attend their June 10, General Meeting which will be held at North Valley City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, at 7:00 pm, or call 1-818-951-7411 for more information.

The Verdugo Hills Golf Course (VHGC) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has been released for community review. The full document is available from the City

Planning Department's website. Visit: <http://city-planning.lacity.org/> - click Environmental - click Draft EIR, then scroll to Verdugo Hills Golf Course Project. Click on the name, which will take you to: <http://tiny.cc/VHGCDEIR>. Scroll down to the DEIR sections and DEIR Technical Appendices. A Town Hall meeting with the developer for this project will be scheduled soon. Printed copies and CDs are available upon request at cost. A physical copy will also be available at the STNC office. Call 951-7411.

CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) workshop will be held on Sunday, June 7, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. All day workshop about CEQA and more about the VHGC project. It is best to register before June 3. Seating is available on a first come first serve basis. There is a \$35 materials fee.

4th of July Parade & Fireworks - Sunland-Tujunga's community organizations have joined together to prepare for their annual Rotary Club Parade down Foothill Blvd. and the annual Fireworks Show at Verdugo Hills High School. This event represents the combined efforts of the following organizations: Sunland-Tujunga's American Legion, Chamber, Alliance, Coordinating Council, Elks Lodge, Kiwanis, Lions, Neighborhood Council, Rotary and more, with the help of Wendy Greuel's staff in Council District 2. The event is possible because of the many dedicated sponsors. Any business or organization, which would like to sponsor this community event, can contact Sonia Tatulian, at B of A in Sunland, at 1-818-353-1175. All proceeds go back into the community. See the ad on page 2 for more details.

The Council District 2 Special Election will be held on September 22, 2009. Names of possibly interested candidates have been circulating throughout the district. Organizations are contemplating plans in the near future for upcoming forums and events so that voters can become better acquainted with the candidates.

Editor's Note: Ms. Cleghorn is the former president and current secretary of the STNC and owner of C&M Printing.

Draft Environmental Impact Report for the
Verdugo Hills Golf Course Project

LEAD AGENCY: City of Los Angeles
CASE Nos: CPC-2007-3082 and ENV-2007-3038-EIR
SCH No. 2007121012

SITE LOCATION:
6433 La Tuna Canyon Road
Tujunga, California

Prepared by:
CHRISTOPHER A. JOSEPH & ASSOCIATES
Environmental Planning and Research

Project Description
The Proposed Project would have 229 single family detached units on a project site of approximately 58 acres. The homes would be two-stories in height, with four bedrooms and would have an average floor area of approximately 2,200 square feet. Each unit would have a two-car garage; in addition the project would provide 1/2 guest parking space per unit for a total of approximately 57 guest spaces. Approximately 25 acres of the 58-acre project site are currently developed with a golf course and supporting uses, all of which would be demolished. The proposed homes would be constructed on the portion of the site currently occupied by the golf course. The remaining portions of the project site would be retained as open space.

Availability
Hardcopies of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) are available for review at the following locations:

Department of City Planning
200 North Spring Street, Room 750
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Central Library
610 West 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Sunland Tujunga Branch Library
7771 Foothill Boulevard
Tujunga, CA 91042

Comments
If you wish to submit comments following review of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) please submit them in writing by July 20, 2009.

Send comments to:
David J. Somers, Project Coordinator
Room 750, City Hall
Department of City Planning
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

<http://cityplanning.lacity.org/eir/VerdugoHillsGolfCourse/DEIR/DEIR%20Verdugo%20Hills%20Golf%20Course.html> Page 1

Cindy Cleghorn Awarded "Small Business of the Year"

By Nina Royal



Cindy Cleghorn was chosen by Assemblymember Cameron Smyth to receive the prestigious "Small Business of the Year" award for the 38th Assembly District. The annual event held in Sacramento celebrate the contribution small business provides through creation of jobs and growth for the California economy.

Ms Cleghorn, a Sunland-Tujunga resident and business owner, has been in business since 1982 and serves businesses, nonprofits and organizations with their printing, copying and mailing needs. C&M Printer, Copy & Mailing specializes in newsletters, litigation copying and general business printing serving the Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale and surrounding areas. Her business stands out from the competition with her pick up and delivery and personalized service.

Cindy is also a community activist and continues to serve on the Board of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council since 2003. She was appointed a L.A. City Commissioner and served on the Neighborhood Council Review Commission. She is presently working with the upcoming San Fernando Valley Regional Congress Events Committee regarding the program booklet. Cindy assisted in coordination of an information event to help victims of the fires last year so the state, county and city could provide resources for our neighbors. Her volunteer work in her community and the City of Los Angeles, is too numerous to mention because Cindy is seen everywhere help is needed.

Historic Verdugo Hills Cemetery Gets a Face Lift



Photo by Moury Lou Pozzo

Sunland-Tujunga - Community members participated in Beautification Cleanup days on May 2, May 3 and 24th at the Historic Verdugo Hills Cemetery on Parsons Trail in Tujunga. The Cemetery was name Historical Cultural Monument No.946 by the City of Los Angeles, on March 4, 2009, through the efforts of Kathleen Travers and Mary Lour Pozzo, with the assistance of the Little Landers Historical Society. A Bronze plaque at the foot of the flag pole completes the dream of Marshall Hartranft who donated the four acres.

Husband and Wife team Mary Lou and Richard Pozzo have been the dedicated caretakers of the sacred landmark, which was originally called the Verdugo Hills of Peace Cemetery, when came into being in 1922 in order that resident Parson James Wornum could be buried there.

Mary Lou and Richard Pozzo formed the Friends of Peace Cemetery group in 1992, in order to take proper care of the Cemetery and reverse the devastation that began after the disastrous rain and hillside collapse that took place following the severe storms, for what seemed like 40 days and 40 nights, on February 9, 1978. As a result, the area became blighted and it also became a hangout for various types illegal activities, which contributed to the increasing deterioration of the site.

They sought the help of Councilmember Greuel in 2005 and a new fence was installed surrounding the cemetery. Mary Lou engaged the Boy Scouts to do their Eagle Projects in unison with community members so they could work together as a team for the restoration and maintenance of the final resting-place of the early pioneers. Her volunteers desperately needed more help. Continued community involvement is necessary to properly maintain and preserve the historic landmark. Persons interested in volunteering can call 818-352-3420.or just show up at 9 am the first Saturday of every month and properly dressed for a little hard work under the sun. Tours are available by request by calling the above referenced telephone number.

Editor's note: Mary Lou serves as librarian for Bolton Hall Museum since 1992 and is the author of Founding Sisters, Life Stories of Early Women Pioneers 1886-1920

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Thursday, May 28

Panorama City NC
Mission Community Hospital
14860 Roscoe Blvd., PC
6:30 pm 818-785-9355

Sylmar NC Gen. Meet
Sylmar Elementary
13291 Phillippi, Syl
6:30 pm

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland, SV
12-1:30 pm 818-768-9888

Saturday, May 30

Safety Fair & Car Show
LAPD Valley Traffic
Petit Park
16730 Chatsworth, GH
9 am - 3 pm

S.F. Valley Regional Congress,
of Neighborhood Councils
Panorama High School,
8015 Van Nuy, PC
8 am to 2:30 pm

Sunday, May 31

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

Yard Sale-for Veterans
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
9 am-12 pm 818-352-2098

Monday, June 1

SNC Public Serv. Commit.
Sylmar Park
13109 Borden, Syl
6:30 pm

STNC LUC Commit
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill S-T
7 pm 818-951-7411

NAACP Exec. Comm.
11243 Glenoaks, Pac.
7 pm

Tuesday, June 2

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

MHNC Safety Comm
16161 Sepulveda, MH
7 pm 818-892-2414

Wednesday, June 3

Rotary Club
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 818-951-5299

NHWC Gen Meet.
Holy Martyrs Aremen. Sch.
1667 Parthenia, NH
7 pm

Bingo
S-T Elks Lodge
11037 Commerce S-T
6:30 pm 818-352-5504

Thursday, June 4

PCNC Land Use
Mission Community Hospital
14860 Roscoe Blvd., PC
6:30 pm 818-894-7841

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland, SV
12-1:30 pm
818-768-9888

Saturday June 6

Luau - Carnival
Fun in the Sun Day
Mountin View Elementary
6410 Olcott, Tuj.
11 am-4pm

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Horsin' Around"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-352-3420

Friends of GH Library
10640 Petit, GH
10:30 am 368-5689

MHNC Youth Outreach
10161 Sepulveda Blvd.
4 pm 818-892-2412

Celebrate Puppetry Festival
By Foothill Optomists
McGroarty Arts Center
7570 McGroarty, S-T
4-10 pm 818-352-5285

Casino Night
American Legion
10039 Pinewood, S-T
6 pm 818-353-9856

Sunday, June 7

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

CEQA workshop
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
9 am-4 pm Fee
Reserv. 818-951-7411

Monday, June 8

PCNC Outreach
PCNC Office (4th Floor)
14500 Roscoe Blvd., PC
6:30 pm 818-714-2133

SNC Land Use Com
Sylmar Park
13109 Borden, Syl
6:30 pm

STNC LUC Commit
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill S-T
7 pm 818-951-7411

MHNC Zoning & Land Use
10161 Sepulveda, MH.
6:30 pm

Tuesday, June 9

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

PCNC Commerce
Wells Fargo Bank
8548 Van Nuys Blvd., PC
2:30 pm 818-714-2133

SVANC Gen Meet
10631 Vinedale, SV
6:30

SNC Outreach Com.
Sylmar Park
13109 Borden, Syl
6:30 pm

MHNC Board/Land Use
LAPD Mission Station
1121 Sepulveda, MH
6 pm

Wednesday, June 10

Rotary Club
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 818-951-5299

Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 818-951-5299

STNC Gen. Meeting.
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 818-951-7411

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Mark YOUR Calendar

PCNC-Commerce Com
Wells Fargo Bank
8548 Van Nuys, PC
2: pm

Sylmar Woman's Club
Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odyssey, GH
11:30 am

Bingo Night
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
5 pm 818-352-2098

Thursday, June 11

FTDNC Exec/Gen Meet.
9747 Wheatland, SH
7:30 pm

N. Hills West NC Gen. Meet.
Sepulveda VA
16111 Plummer Bg22 N.H.ills
7 pm 818-893-8613

Foothill Comm. Police
Advisory Board (CPAB)
Villa Scalabrini Retire. Home
10631 Vinedale, SV
6 pm 756-8866

Granada Hills North NC
1st Baptist Church of GH
11011 Hayvenhurst, GH

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland, SV
12-1:30 pm 818-768-9888

Saturday, June 13

Annual Flag Ceremony
Bud Fales Ranch
10653 Mary Bell, SH
818-353-9856

Volunteer Orientation & Tour
Wildlife Waystation
Verify & Pre-Register
\$25 9 am - 4 pm
admin@waystationvolunteers.org.

**Sunday, June 14
FLAG DAY**

Tuesday, June 16

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

Wednesday, June 17

Community Police Advisory
Board (CPAB)
11121 Sepulveda, MH
8:30 pm

Rotary Club
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 818-951-5299

Pacoima NC Gen. Meet.
Pacoima Comm. Center
11243 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

North Hills West NC
New Horizons
15725 Parthenia, NH.
7 pm 818 893-8613

Bingo Night
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
6:30 pm 352-2098

Meeting/Lopez Cyn
Restoration Project
Lopez Trailers
7 pm 818-834-5112

Thursday, June 18

PCNC Safety Com,
Plaza del Valle
8614 Van Nuys #BPC
5:30 pm

STNC Safety Comm.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill S-T
6 pm 818951-7411

S-T SERVS
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill S-T
6:45 pm 563-1962

STNC Outreach Comm.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7:30 pm 818-951-7411

S. V. Rotary
J. Wells Golf Center
11501 Strathern, SV
5:30-7:30 pm 818-767-1954

Block Captains Meeting
Sylmar Library
6:30 818-838-9848

Open House & Tour
Beautification Workday
Pioneer Cemetery
Foothill & Bledsoe, Syl
12 pm

**Sunday, June 21
FATHERS DAY**

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

Elks Famous Omelete Bar
S-T Elks Lodge #2098
10137 Commerce, S-T
7S 9 am-12 pm 818-352-2098

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

Monday, June 22

GHNNC Board Meet.
Van Gogh Elem. School;
17160 Van Gogh St. GH
6:30 pm

PCNC Public Safety
PCNC Office (4th Floor)
14500 Roscoe Blvd., PC
6:30 pm 818-984-2133

SNC Gen. Meet.
Hubbard St. Elementary
13325 Hubbard, Syl
6:30 - 9:30pm
GHNNC Board Meet.

STNC LUC Commit
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill S-T
7 pm 818-951-7411

Tuesday, June 23

Crown Disposal Expansion
Proposal Meeting
Poly High School
12431 Roscoe, SV
6 pm

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-352-3420

PCNC Rules & Finance
PCNC Office (4th Floor)
14500 Roscoe Blvd., PC
5:30 & 6:45 pm 818-714-2133

Neighborhood Watch
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-t
7 pm 818-756-7766

MHNC Beauti. & Cult. Com
10161 Sepulveda.. MH.
6:30

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-52-3420

Wednesday, June 24

Rotary Club
Coco's Restaurant
10521 Sunland, S-T
7 pm 951-5299

Bingo Night
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
6:30 pm 818-352-2098

Thursday, June 25

Panorama City NC
Mission Community Hospital
14860 Roscoe Blvd., PC
6:30 pm 818-785-9355

Sylmar NC Gen. Meet
Sylmar Elementary
13291 Phillippi, Syl
6:30 pm

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland, SV
12-1:30 pm 818-768-9888

Friday, June 26

Vaudeville Comedy Show.
The Mayflower Club
11110 Victory, N.H.
Fee 818-769-9805

Saturday, June 27

Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation
Picnic & Pledge to Service
L.A. City Hall
200 N. Spring, L.A.
11 am- 3 pm

Sunday, June 28

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-352-3420

Tuesday, June 30

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents "Work of the Hands"
10110 Commerce, S-T
Docent Tours
1-4 pm 818-352-3420

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PUBLIC SAFETY

School Police Officers Honored



Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council's Education Representative, presented Certificates of Appreciation on behalf of the STNC to L.A. School Police Officers Robles and Kegeyan during their general meeting on May 13. The certificates were in honor of their efforts for subduing a man with a shotgun outside Mt. Gleason Middle School on March 1. Several of their fellow officers stood by their side in support while they received the award during a standing ovation from the community.

Forest Fire Danger Level Raised

Arcadia - The Fire Danger Level in the Angeles National Forest has been raised from "Moderate" to "High", effective May 17. Warm temperatures continue to dry out vegetation and the Forest Service anticipates an increase in visitors. Open wood and charcoal fires will still be permitted in developed campgrounds and picnic areas only. Gas and propane powered stoves and grills are permitted in non-developed areas, and users must have a valid California Campfire Permit. Spark arrestors are required year round on all off-road vehicles, chain saws and other equipment with internal combustion engines. They should be checked to insure they are in good working order. Travelers driving through the Forest should remain on designated roads and never park on dry brush or grass.

"Know Before You Go" to the Angeles National Forest by finding out about conditions and other restrictions prior to leaving for your destination. For more information, contact your local Forest Supervisor's Office - Arcadia, M-F 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, call 626-574-1613

Eye on Public Safety

By Nina Royal

In the April issue of the North Valley Reporter's article "How Safe are our Children?", Jose Palacios was quoted as saying two neighbors called LAPD's Foothill Division and no one responded to their calls. However, upon investigation, it was discovered that the problem was not with the Foothill Division. He and his neighbors called the Foothill Station's front desk regarding what he thought appeared to be a life-threatening situation. The front desk immediately transferred the call to 9-1-1, which is under different supervision. He and his neighbors hung up before 9-1-1 answered their calls. As a result, there is no record of their calls being received in order for a car to be dispatched.

Upon further questioning, Palacios was asked why he didn't call 911. His response was, "because we are only a few doors down from the station and I thought they (police) would get here faster if we called the station." That is an incorrect assumption. All radio car calls for service are dispatched through a centralized call center. In the event of a life-threatening situation the call must go to 9-1-1. The caller must remain on the line or he or she will not receive service nor will there be a record of the call. All calls will be answered in the order they are received. For more information visit the LAPD website: www.lapdonline.org.

Here is a list of numbers regarding safety that you can keep for future reference →

Useful Information

The following are other important phone numbers with instructions for their use:

For Immediate Response for all LIFE THREATENING situations

Call Emergency 9-1-1

For "non-emergency" only, such as loud parties and nuisance abatement

Call Dispatch 3-1-1

For "Information only" or to make a report

Call Mission Area Station - Front Desk, 1-818-838-9800

Foothill Area Station - Front Desk

1-818-756-8861-62-63

For all Gang related problems, Call the Gang Unit

Foothill Area Station

1-818-897-6970

Mission Area Station

1-818-838-9905

For all traffic issues, call Valley Traffic Motor Officer

1-818-644-8142

For problems regarding underage drinking, prostitution, call VICE

Foothill Area Station

1-818-834-3170

Mission Area Station

1-818-883-9905

Graffiti Removal, call

3-1-1 or 1-800-222-6366

For problems that don't fall under the above

1-818-ASK-LAPD

The City of Los Angeles's 3-1-1 system can be used for much more than for just graffiti removal. It is easy to use and you can access most city services through it. However, 3-1-1 can only be dialed from your home telephone in the city of Los Angeles. When you complete your request, the operator will give you a confirmation number. If you do not receive one, be sure to ask for one.

The Los Angeles City Fire Department began their brush clearance inspection cycle on May 1. Low rainfall, low humidity, and high temperatures create very dry brush conditions. Chief Barry is requesting that everyone surveys potentially hazardous conditions around their home regarding vegetation and creates a defensible space by thinning overgrown shrubbery, weeds, etc. Also, making use of proper maintenance and plant selection will help in reducing threat of fire.

Contact the Brush Clearing Unit at 818-374-1111, or visit their website, at www.lafd.org/brush for additional information.

Continued from cover — Veterans

Duff remarked, "Some accusations were made by the American Legion, a group with damned little credibility- as a group. I just know the Legion ends up screwing more vets over than helping them." Duff compared the American Legion to the likes of the 'KKK, Benito Mussolini or Hitler'. VanKuran reminded both that The Servicemen's Readjustment ACT of 1944 (G.I. Bill) was crafted almost in its entirety and pushed through both houses of Congress by the American Legion.

Peggy Burgess, a Member North Hills West NC Land Use Committee said, "This was a Summit for Veterans and ND/ACOF were invited as a courtesy. Davison's speaker card was held because he checked the box that indicated he did not wish to speak. Veterans want buildings 4 and 5 refurbished and staffed as medical buildings, their hospital rebuilt and Sepulveda VA restored as a full service medical center." According to documents found, the land on which the Sepulveda VA stands was donated to the U.S. Government by Lester M and Mary E. Gentry, March 19, 1952, specifically for a Veterans hospital and Medical Center.

Burgess concluded, "Thousands of brave men and women from the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys are fighting and dying in Iraq and Afghanistan while their Veteran parents and grandparents are being denied the medical care and treatment they are entitled to receive right here in North Hills. If ACOF and ND really wanted to provide housing for homeless Veterans, they could build that same complex anywhere else for \$100,000 per unit so why would they want to exploit the taxpayers to the tune of \$40 million, or more, to convert those two buildings?" For information regarding a video copy of the Summit video, email: sburrell@att.net

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COMMENTARY

Bringing Government to Heel



By Ron Kaye

I chatted recently with a longtime union leader about my belief in grassroots democracy and how people all over Los Angeles could come together in a movement for change despite their differences in values and demographics. He scoffed at the notion.

"Grassroots movements will work when there's a single hot-button issue," he said. "People get mad. They come together but once the issue is over, they go back to their lives or start fighting with each other. It's not like a union where we've got their jobs to keep them involved."

He was right, of course, when times are more or less normal. But these are no ordinary times.

War, global economic chaos, high taxes, government overspending, reduced public services, unmet needs.

There are growing signs the people's patience has finally worn out with the failure of our politicians, from Washington to Sacramento to our local communities.

The list of small victories by community activists, from the Home Depot fight in Sunland-Tujunga, to the

solid front of Neighborhood Council members for adequate funding, has grown long in the last year or two.

The same energy that fueled those efforts also drove voters to the polls to reject Measure B, the solar energy boondoggle, on the March primary ballot. And to show their contempt for the handiwork of the politicians in the May 19 election, they defeated state ballot propositions 1-A through 1-E. The LA political machine even lost its bid to install the lackluster Jack Weiss in the City Attorney's office as a true outsider, Tina Park, knocked off the incumbent in the LA Community College board race.

In the grand scheme of things, those are small victories. The big challenges remain; the state is facing a \$21 billion deficit this year. LA faces billions of dollars in expenses it can't pay for in the next few years.

In both cases, our elected officials have shown no ability to get their arms around the problems. They only know how to tax and spend. It seems like they lose touch with the people almost from the day they are sworn in and start selling out their integrity to special interests.

The only answer I have is people power.

Structural reforms, tougher ethics laws, and clean money might be useful but it ought to be clear by now

that the politicians can corrupt just about every effort at reform. Democracy is a full-time job. Seventeen percent of registered voters going to the polls on Election Day only shows the politicians that 83 percent of the people don't give a hoot about what happens.

In the last year, we've seen the impact that a few hundreds community activists can have when they keep the pressure on City Hall day after day.

For real change to occur, it will take a citizens' army of thousands coming together from all over the city.

I don't know if people make history, or if the circumstances create the people who make a difference. But I'm certain that the time is ripe for real change in our city, state and nation. It depends on each and every one of us waking up and getting involved. There are so many ways to make a difference, from political action groups like Neighborhood Councils and homeowner groups, to service clubs like Kiwanis, to charities of one sort or another.

So turn off the TV and get off the sidelines and join the movement to restore democracy to America.

Editor's note: Ron Kaye is the former editor of the Daily News and Chairman of Saving L.A. Project. You can visit his web-site-site at: www.ronkayela.com

Independent, Responsible, Self-Reliant?



By Robert J. Barbera

The highest hope to which most people aspire is to be free. However, do we take the steps necessary to be free? Over the years Americans have become less self-reliant and, hence, less free. This

has been caused by many things.

We have become more and more accustomed to government entitlements. If you don't earn enough the government provides tax refunds. As the ultimate oxymoron, you can get a "tax refund" even if you haven't paid taxes. The list of entitlements continues on to food with food stamps, rent through Section 8, free legal and medical service etc. etc. The programs, which started with seemingly worthy ideas, are now rife with abuse.

Americans have always expected our military wars to end in decisive victory. The "War on Poverty" has lasted 45 years at a cost of tens of trillions of dollars. Statistics show us further from "victory" in that

war today than when we started it in 1965, yet to complain is to be considered mean-spirited.

Restrictions and regulations have mounted over the years. Environmental controls on land use and building development preempt owners' decisions and development plans. Health and safety regulations stymie production.

The complicated mix of sales taxes, property taxes, income taxes, state taxes and employment taxes are confusing and confiscator--a mix that routinely takes over 50% of middle class incomes. The current tax system penalizes success and rewards failure.

We have become a nation of litigants. Honest citizens and business face legal harassment and enormous fees simply for trying to perform their services in good faith.

Special business interest groups from farming to manufacturing receive subsidies. Our largest businesses now operate with the expectation of being bailed out of their own mismanagement by taxpayers.

In the past Americans were expected to be independent, responsible, and self-reliant. Now problems

are solved at someone else's expense with big government as the enabler. The traditional American "helping hand" in times of trouble has become an endless taxpayer handout --now viewed as a right. Our lawmakers take resources and productivity from one group and give entitlements to another. For their interventions they expect to be reelected. And politicians love feeling benevolent. The great example of this was encouraging home ownership among folks who clearly couldn't afford it. The whole housing system went "Hellter Skelter" to provide loans. Our economy broke down as a result.

Our representatives are supposed to be the servants of the people. The people are now the servants of the representatives. The price we have paid is the loss of freedom. Let us recapture our freedoms of the past. The surest way is to once again become independent and self-reliant.

Editor's note: Mr. Barbera is chairman of the Americanism Educational League

Visit: <http://www.americanism.org/pages/other/purpose.htm>

Looking for a "Deal" in the Foreclosure/Short Sale Market?



By Craig Price

The media is the best advertiser of "reality" to us even if we do not know it. Just like a traditional ad we hear over and over again, after awhile we start to believe what we hear in the media about "reality".

The current Real Estate market is no different. Every day we hear the words bank-owned, foreclosure, REO, short sale, and other descriptors indicative of "distressed sales" in the news. Some of these words are self explanatory but others are just plain confusing, so it is no wonder that many buyers and investors are on the lookout for a "distressed sale" because of the perceived notion that they are all a deal!

"Looking for a deal" is a common blanket statement I hear every day from people looking to purchase distressed property. However, the definition of "deal" for each individual is different, and that is where it is important to clarify. The first step is to decide whether this purchase is going to be a home or an investment. You might not want to live in a certain property, but it may still be a great investment and vice versa. Then ask yourself these questions: "What is my motivation. What are my goals for buying? Am I looking to buy for long-term appreciation and growth such as a 401K or IRA or for cash flow and depreciation like a business? What are my strengths and weaknesses in owning and managing properties? Can I make necessary repairs? Can I manage the day to day operations of managing, advertising, preparing and leasing units?"

If not, does the deal afford me the ability to outsource these and still make a profit?"

Expectations need to be managed. Finding a cash cow in perfect condition for a low price in the perfect area is not a hard sell in any market – even this one! You must remember that an investment property is nothing more than a business of renting out units for profit and managing and developing that property to maximize the rate of return on your money.

So in summary, just remember that a deal is what you are looking for – not necessarily a distressed property per se. And this is where the work comes in! Understand yourself and your strengths and limitations, and make logical offers that make sense to you and abide by your criteria. Then, whether it is a bank-owned property or free and clear it does not matter – you found a deal!

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SOUND OFF

What Quality of Life?

Can someone please tell me why people are allowed to use blowers to blow all the trash that they mow into the street. I have told my gardener not to use his blower at my house, but, everywhere I go I see these guys blowing trash into the street and picking up only a little bit of all the trash they spew back into the street. Am I the only one that can see this problem as well as all the illegal vendors on our streets?

*Joe Pinoy Lozano
Semper Fidelis
USMC 1954-1957
aka American Joe*

Welcome to Mission Hills

As Chairman of the Mission Hills Neighborhood Council, I hope you will bring your recommendations, hopes, ideas and concerns to my attention during our meetings, or please call me, at 1-818-455-7631. We try our best to please everyone. I believe we can accomplish our goals by working with a spirit of understanding and collaboration and a shared vision for our community. Please participate and support our active volunteers who are working diligently to improve the community in which we live.

*David Guzman
Mission Hills*

Yes to V.H. Golf Course—and Economy

A lot of commentary regarding the fate of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course has flown across these pages in recent months. Some of the arguments, pro and con, have been compelling, some off-point, some tangential, and some central. But none of the commentary has focused on the one factor that is central to all debates about the viability of municipal golf properties.

Simply put, municipal golf courses charge real fees to real customers, and in the process generate sufficient revenues to provide for their day-to-day maintenance as well as future capital reinvestment needs. Those expense considerations aside, there is still a little something left over – a gift to the taxpayers, who would otherwise have to make up for the forgone revenues the old fashioned way: By paying additional taxes.

The Los Angeles County golf system generates \$17 million annually in net profits, monies that it uses to fund parks and programs that disproportionately benefit children. In an era of plummeting tax receipts and declining public largesse those revenues will go a long way toward maintaining our quality of life. Put more bluntly, those local parks systems, such as the County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles that acquired, built and maintained viable municipal golf programs, will have a whole lot more to fall back upon the next couple of lean years than their less prescient counterparts.

Add to this mix the concession opportunities provided by municipal golf operations, the jobs provided, and the generic multiplier benefits of all business operations. Then recognize that the full “mix” holds forth on a patch of green space that provides public recreation instead of traffic jams and concrete. And, finally, realize that what you would have were a public agency to purchase and thereby preserve the Verdugo Hills Golf Course, would represent not just a great boon to the quality of life for local residents, but a great boon to the region’s taxpayers as well.

*Craig Kessler
Executive Director
Public Links Golf Assoc. of So. Ca.*



Life Bike Ride for Aids

Community member Dave Marez, who grew up in Pacoima, is riding in the AIDS Life Cycle Bike Ride fundraiser. He is a former professional roller derby skater with the San Francisco Bay Area Bombers and the Los Angeles Thunderbirds. This is his third year riding for close friends, especially in memory of his brother, Robert, who was a Field Representative for US Senator Barbara Boxer. Robert, who was also raised in Pacoima, died from HIV/AIDS on April 20, 2004. The 545-mile bike ride begins in San Francisco on May 31, and will end in Los Angeles on June 6. For more information and to make a donation, visit: www.tofighthiv.org/goto/davemarez

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HERE'S MY CARD



Carrick's Journey —Part Eighteen

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

Fanella seemed a bit frantic as she asked Maddie to stay with the two guards. She explained that the guards would escort her back to her cabin. Maddie was more than a little irritated at being treated like a helpless woman. She protested and insisted that Fanella permit her to use her skills as an accomplished warrior. "Who do you think has been teaching Drake the past two years? He did not learn to shoot like that in an academy somewhere," Maddie asserted. Fanella acquiesced.

Fanella, Drake, Maddie and the two guards all ran for the village.

A few minutes later they finally caught up with Sebastian, the Stewards and the elders. Sebastian was a calm man who never seemed rattled, so he looked very reserved as he turned to Fanella and asked why she was bringing Drake's mother. Fanella looked at Sebastian, glanced over to Maddie, gave a little giggle, and said "I'll let Maddie explain that to you," and then she ran ahead. Maddie then looked at Sebastian, inquired to her directly and she did explain. Sebastian seemed to appreciate her thorough explanation of her abilities and accomplishments and gave an approving smile to Maddie.

As the group arrived at the outskirts of the village there was a flurry of activity. The eldest women members and a few older men that were not so spry were herding most of the children, into a two story building that looked like a schoolhouse. Some women and men, who appeared to be dressed for battle and bearing weapons, were running toward the woods. "Where are they going?" Drake queried as he tried to catch his breath. Before he finished that question he thought for a second and then, again, re-inquired immediately thereafter, "Where are we going?". Fanella pointed to a dark thick opening in the trees, and simply responded, "Follow me Drake. We're going to the station to meet up with the others." Drake turned around to make sure Maddie was still in sight and following in the care of Sebastian.

It was dark now and making their way through the thick forest would have been impossible if not for the lights that led the way through the trees. Drake stopped at the first light trying to understand how that light was there on the tree and where the energy source came from. He was quickly grabbed and dragged along by Fanella. There seemed to be a long line of people running along the path now. Having not seen the entire population of this village before Maddie was surprised at how many people she was seeing and commented about it to Sebastian. Sebastian knew what Maddie was about to see and how this would strike her even more. Knowing this he simply smiled at her and nodded as they continued their trot into the woods
.... to be continued.

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THIS & THAT



Local Teen, Charles Kluge Participates in "Foothills's Relay for Life"

Local Youth Participated in "Foothill's Relay for Life"

Fourteen year old Maxx Warner, a resident of Sunland-Tujunga, raised \$350 by walking in the "Foothill's Relay for Life" held on Saturday May 16 through Sunday May 17, at Clark Magnent High School in La Crescenta, while his mother Paula Warner who also volunteered her time, worked in the food booths. This area Relay for Life event was started three years ago by Cyndy and Dan Hatcher, also Sunland-Tujunga residents, who wanted to do their part to help combat cancer.

The public needs to realize that one in three people will be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life unites communities across the country each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight

back against a disease that takes too much.

Their walks have raised almost \$101,000 and their books are still open, so donations can still be accepted through August. A local restaurant, Gourmet A Go Go, at 2263 Honolulu Avenue in Montrose has agreed to be a year-round sponsor. 10% of all sales will be donated to "Relay for Life Foothills." on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month,

Dallas Raines, ABC7's Meteorologist, Laura Friedman, Glendale Councilwoman and David Schmidt, who served as Master of Ceremonies for this year's opening event have all committed to participate in next year's event. If you wish to donate, participate in the walk or volunteer, visit: www.relayforlife.org/foothillsca for further information

CCC and the Common Man

By Marlene Hitt

Remember the CCC Camp and the government work program that rescued the common man during the Great Depression?

Hunger and homelessness covered the nation when in 1933; President Roosevelt began the relief program called the Civilian Conservation Corps. From 1933-1942 over 600,000 men served in the corps in California in 40 camps provided for them. Those camps are mostly gone with no trace, as are those on Tujunga Canyon Blvd. where the golf course is now, and in the Big Tujunga Canyon.

Men hired by the government worked to save forests, to build bridges, roads, walls, to create and maintain trails, and to work at any other job which contributed to the care and keeping of natural resources. This included, too, the building of truck trails (fire roads), fire breaks and erosion control as well as putting up telephone lines, buildings, fire lookout stations and campgrounds. The crews fought fires and restored state property after natural disasters. Recreational areas were created, such as Chilao and Charlton. Most of the trails we see on the mountainsides are kept cleared and were from the originals built by the Corps crews.

In return the men were given Army surplus clothing, meals and housing, as well as the opportunity to learn skills and to continue their education. The men called themselves by such names as "brush marines" and "the hard rock gang."

Camps for 100-200 enrollees were created consisting of tents (later wooden barracks), a mess hall, chapel, administration building and recreational facilities. The camp in Big Tujunga was long ago swept away by a flood but was placed just below the current Big Tujunga Dam.

One man's experience at the Big Tujunga camp shows us the life they led. After traveling west from the cold winds of Chicago, and able to dress in shirtsleeves only, he fell in love with California. He arrived with other young men at the camp in the canyon. The men got up at 6:00 am, had breakfast in the mess hall, washed their mess kits in sand and water, and then were given assignments.

They would go up 4-5 miles on a forestry trail to its end, then would work with only shovels, not heavy equipment, to keep that road going farther. The next job was with hand-churn drills. "We started drilling a hole in a rock with one guy holding the three foot drill while the other took the sledge hammer and hit it. Then we would lift the drill and turn it about an eighth or a quarter of an inch and the guy with the hammer would hit it again. This was a very rhythmic action. We were swinging that sledge clear around, you know, and when it came down you had to have the bit ready and in the right place. You'd be lucky if you got your hands out of the way in time! We got pretty good at it. We hardly ever missed. It was a matter of pride for us to put more feet of hole down every day than everybody else. We would work like dogs all day to see that they didn't eat us!"

The men in that camp put out the fire of 1933-34 on Sister Elsie Mountain and helped rescue some of the citizenry and clean up after the big flood on New Year's Day of 1934. Memories abound with tales of tarantulas and rattlers found on the job.

Angeles National Forest was allocated 12 camps, at first, in 1933, mostly in local canyons. The group in Angeles Crest used vacated highway construction buildings as headquarters six miles above La Canada. Others were located in Big Tujunga Canyon and various areas

of the San Gabriel Mountains. One camp was placed in Pacoima Canyon on Grassy Flats. Hanson's Lodge, about half a mile below the Big Tujunga Dam, which had been used for the men working on the that damn, was converted to a CCC Camp to work on campsites and on the construction of concrete stoves and tables. One hundred seventeen men were lodged at Hansen's. Their jobs were mainly to plant trees, control erosion, fight fires and repair flood damage. After one flood, a very large one, these men were marooned in the canyon for several days. Private pilots volunteered planes and service to drop supplies according to the messages spelled out below.

The men in the La Tuna Canyon Camp, #902, built tanks holding from 2,000 to 5,000 gallons of water. Men from the Haines Canyon camp were moved to Pacoima to build fire roads. Others were cutting trails between La Tuna Canyon and Burbank.

Ironically, the Great Depression paved the way for the greatest construction and fire control program in the history of the national forests, as Roosevelt called for legislation "to relieve distress, build men and build up the nation's resources."

By 1942 the war had broken out and the enrollment for the CCC programs had died down.

Information for this article was taken from the California Historian, The San Gabriels, by John Robinson, Founding Sisters, by Mary Lou Pozzo; Rancho Tujunga, by Sarah Lombard; and A Story for Grandchildren, by G.K. Patterson.

Editor's Note: Ms. Hitt is Director of Bolton Hall Museum, a former Sunland-Tujunga Poet Laureate and writes for the NVR

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