

Tenants Unlawfully Evicted

By Katharine Russ

Sun Valley- Lack of Oversight, non-enforcement of codes and jurisdictional confusion were all factors that led to the illegal eviction of 41 mobile homes from the Starlite Trailer Park. The property on Branford, is run down, debris littered, unsafe and unsanitary. The uninhabitable remains of abandoned mobile homes add to the decaying environment. Most of the homes have, since, been removed from the property leaving a small handful of tenants living within the rubble.

Just how did the mobile home park, owned by Harouts Broutia, fall into such a deplorable state when CA Civil Code 798.15 mandates that repairs shall be made as soon as possible and "shall not exceed 30 days in any other case except where exigent circumstances justify a delay"?

Chris Anderson, Field Operations for California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), said, "On August 29, 2006, one of our District Representatives made contact with the new park owner's representative and informed the park's representative that the annual permit to operate had expired, that the Department of Housing needed an application for Permit to Operate to be submitted along with two years of fees and penalties, and a fire hydrant test certification form within 30-days. Absent any response from the park owner/operator, a letter was sent on April 19, 2007 notifying the owner if the permit to operate was not renewed by May 19, 2007, the Department may pursue administrative and/or legal action against the park owner at some time in the future."

When asked if the permit had been renewed, Anderson said, "No it has not yet. No action has been taken at this point and at this point, I am not sure if anyone else has had contact to date." The name, Harouts Broutia, does not even appear within HCD database.

California CIVIL CODE §§ 798 (g) (et seq., Government Code §65863.7; §66427.4) details the only lawful means to terminate tenancy and precisely the manner in which one can seek to close or "change the use" of a mobile home park. Gov't Code 65863.7 provides that the owner shall file a report on the impact upon the displaced residents and shall address the availability of adequate replacement housing in mobile home parks and relocation.

Tenants, most of them poor, uneducated and certainly ignorant to legal procedures governing the closure of mobile home parks, were, allegedly, approached by Broutia, owner of the park, and his attorney, with contracts for the sale of their homes. As it appears, tenants were given notice to vacate the park four months prior because the owner wanted to close it.

Gail Goldberg, Director of Planning, said, "This (Starlite Trailer Park) is an accepted case (AA-2007-2828-MPC, ENV-2007-2829-CE) which is currently scheduled to be heard by the Planning Department's Advisory Agency on November 1, 2007. The public testimony for this case may require more than one hearing and the intent is for the Advisory Agency to ultimately make a finding that the Closure Impact Report (either as written or as amended) adequately addresses the impact of the closure. Of course, it is possible that the finding could NOT be made. There appears to be a difference of opinion between the applicant and the City's Housing



Department regarding 'who' is an eligible tenant (for purposes of notification and relocation mitigation) and this will be a part of the public hearing discussion. The Advisory Agency will hear the testimony and will then take some time to issue a decision. If the Agency decides that the Closure Impact Report adequately mitigates the impact, the applicant can then (and ONLY then) go to the Building and Safety Department and obtain a 'change of use' permit."

The Public meeting, tentatively scheduled for November 1, 2007 should have been held prior to any negotiations with tenants, so that tenants would have the opportunity to express their concerns and opinions.

Continued on page 9

PHC Expansion Hits Snag

By Katharine Russ

Mission Hills - Earlier this month, Community Leaders gathered at City Hall to support the Holy Cross expansion but wanted an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to, more thoroughly, mitigate impacts on the community. Councilman Richard Alarcón, along with coalition members, planned to ask the City Council to overturn the decision by the Planning Department that



unanimously, approved the expansion of the South Addition of the hospital with the stipulation that the hospital apply all the mitigation measures included in the expanded Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

In view of the fact that five major hospitals have closed in Los Angeles County in the past five years, CAREFORHOLYCROSS.ORG cites nine hospitals in more affluent areas that required an EIR before permits would be granted.

But Dan Boyle, spokesperson for Providence Holy Cross, says, "The Medical Center believes that conducting an Environmental Impact Report, in addition to the expanded MND study, is unnecessary and could delay the construction of a much-needed new acute patient care facility up to two years and add an estimated \$40 million to the cost annually."

Councilman Alarcón said, "For the life of me I do not understand how the City Planning Commission does not see the need for a full Environmental Impact Report for a project that is 119,570 square feet of construction, 136 additional beds and 4 stories high, equaling 97 feet in height. This is a large project that will definitely impact traffic for many miles around and the community deserves a clearer picture of the impact the expansion will have so we can ensure proper steps are taken to mitigate the impact."

Boyle added that, "Providence Holy Cross went beyond the Los Angeles City Planning Department's recommendation and conducted an expanded MND by revisiting the project's impact to 1) traffic, 2) air

quality (especially during construction), and 3) the cumulative impact of a proposed 116 lot residential development north of the medical center. The MND also addresses the project's impact to noise, parking and other factors. Every potential significant environmental effect of the project has been analyzed in the expanded MND. This expanded MND ensures that all potential negative impacts will have been mitigated to a level of insignificance."

Councilman Alarcón disagreed, "The hospital needs to be a good neighbor and expand responsibly. The only way we'll know the impacts that this expansion will have, and ensure they are properly mitigated, is to have a full EIR. The Northeast Valley deserves the same development protections that other communities in this region receive."

Community Advocates for Responsible Expansion at Providence Holy Cross (CARE) is a coalition of local residents, non-profit community organizations, hospital workers, unions and religious leaders who support the expansion of Providence Holy Cross but cite several concerns that include: Environmental, health care, traffic, and parking concerns. CARE has fought for an EIR since the expansion of Providence Holy Cross was announced two years ago.

An appeal of the Planning Commission's decision will go before the City Council's PLUM committee on Oct. 23rd and before the entire City Council on Nov. 7.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Greuel Motions to Regulate Commissioners

Los Angeles - In a press release on Friday, October 10, Councilmember Wendy Greuel says she is continuing her efforts to ensure honesty and transparency in City elections, Councilmember Greuel introduced a motion asking the City Ethics Commission to expand the City's ethics code to ex parte communication with City Commissioners.

"We must ensure that all City Commissions are operating in an open, ethical, and transparent manner," said Councilwoman Greuel. "Angelenos have the right to know that decisions by their City government are being made on behalf of the people not the powerful."

Ex parte communications are contacts made by an interested party - such as a lobbyist with a decision maker - such as a City Commissioner - outside the presence of other interested parties. The City Ethics Com-

mission does not currently have a citywide ex parte communications program for City Commissioners and parties conducting business with a Commission. Ex parte communications by parties involved with business before a Commission could potentially be seen as a violation of ethical standards.

"Serving as a City Commissioner is an honor and a privilege, and it is imperative that all aspects of our decision making process are in full view of the public," said City Planning Commission President Jane Usher. "I applaud Councilwoman Greuel for her leadership in helping to restore faith in City government with this motion." Joe Vitti, President of Valley Vote, the organization that supported succession of the San Fernando Valley said, "The more transparency there is in government, the more trusting will be the citizens of the city. I strongly en-

dorse Councilmember Greuel's motion to expand the City's ethics code to include ex parte communication with City Commissioners."

City Commissioners have an obligation to ensure due process on all matters before them, particularly in the case of quasi-judicial matters," said Councilwoman Greuel. "The citizens of Los Angeles have a right to impartial decision makers and full disclosure of the evidence used to reach a decision.

Various cities and agencies across the State of California have implemented ex parte communications restrictions, including, the City of San Diego, the City of Santa Monica Planning Commission, and the California Coastal Commission. Substantial research into this matter as it regards commissioners in the State has been conducted.

Benefit for Det. Mike Selleh

The LAPD lost one of its finest officers, Detective Mike Selleh, in a tragic traffic collision, on July 29, 2007. Detective Selleh, who apprehended some of our region's worst drug dealers during his 29 year career, left behind his wife and two children.



A benefit concert will be held for his family on Sunday, November 11, 2007, at The Canyon Club, in Agoura Hills. This is an opportunity for friends of Detective Selleh, as well as supporters of the LAPD, to come together and celebrate his life.

The evening will consist of Masters of Ceremonies, Radio Personality, Rick Dees, and the Tonight Show's Johnny Melendez, Live Bands, Magic, Comedy, a Silent Auction, a raffle and much more.

The donation amount is \$40 each and tickets can be purchased through Detective Glen McConnell at 818-374-7883, or through websites: www.ticketmaster.com, www.canyonclub.net, or www.mikeselleh.com.

Proceeds from the evening will be donated to Mike's wife and children. For more information, email mikesellah@yahoo.com, or call Lt. Tom Smart at 818-374-7705, Capt. Jeri Weinstein at 213-473-3870, or Art Miller at 213-473-4797.

Multi-Family units get Bulky Item Pickup

Los Angeles - Effective October 1, 2007, the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, announced it has expanded its Residential Bulky Item Collection Program to include apartment and multi-family complexes within the City of Los Angeles. This is exciting news for Community Activists and Neighborhood Organizations who have been working diligently to beautify their communities and prevent blight due to dumping because of lack of service to those complexes.

Household bulky items can now be called for pick up include household furniture, mattresses, appliances and E-Waste. For information regarding appropriate disposal of automotive parts, tires, construction debris, commercial appliances/furnishings, cardboard, yard trimmings and household hazardous waste (paint, lawn/garden care, beauty care, medicine, fluorescent lights, etc.) contact 800-773-2489 or 311.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Campaign to Increase Metrolink Service



By Numan Parada

Sylmar - The Transit Coalition, during its September general meeting, announced a campaign to promote vastly improved Metrolink service throughout Southern California.

Known as Metrolink MAX, this campaign aims to increase train frequencies on Metrolink lines. Trains between Chatsworth and Laguna Niguel would operate every 30 minutes, including late night and weekends. Similar increases would come to the Antelope Valley and San Bernardino lines, which radiate from Los Angeles to Lancaster and San Bernardino, respectively.

Metrolink MAX would connect distant airports, provide a speedy alternative to congested freeways, reduce fuel consumption, and improve the existing public transportation network. Expanded hours of service would make Metrolink more enticing for recreational users or those who wish to attend cultural or sporting events in Downtown Los Angeles and elsewhere.

Michael E. McGinley, who worked for 14 years as Metrolink director of construction and engineering before retiring, showed attendees the physical and political steps needed to bring about such an increase with modest public investment. With Metro providing money for Metrolink service in Los Angeles County, McGinley stressed that advocates should be "getting Metro to push Metrolink to perform change."

Four particular capital improvements must be sought in order to bring about the increase: Upgrading Van Nuys and Lancaster stations from single-track to double-track; building a crossover at Chatsworth, so that Metrolink trains do not interfere with other rail traffic; and adding a second track between Chatsworth and Van Nuys. The last one is considered a "first wish" by Metrolink dispatchers, according to McGinley.

The fourth major improvement would be to build run-through tracks that would exit the south end of Union Station onto Metrolink tracks at the Los Angeles River. This would allow trains to run through the station instead of entering and exiting from the same entrance north of the station. These tracks would help make Metrolink service competitive with auto travel by reducing the time trains must wait at Union Station, according to McGinley.

McGinley stated that for a relatively small investment compared to urban rail projects built from scratch, Metrolink could hire more train crews to bring about such service. In fact, hiring the labor to run the service constitutes the single largest expense. Locomotives and passenger cars already exist for the service. Moreover, service can be improved incrementally in proportion to investment.

"If you can get politicians to buy into the concept ... then support will follow," McGinley concluded. McGinley noted, however, that it is important to understand the

history of Metrolink in order to understand current ridership patterns and needs. Metro bought railroad rights-of-way for the commuter rail service in 1990, with service launched in 1992. Metrolink now owns tracks from Los Angeles to Moorpark, Lancaster and San Bernardino, with another segment owned between Fullerton and San Clemente. As envisioned, Union Station in Downtown L.A. would serve as the hub of commuter rail. "Service was set up to solve the worst problem first," McGinley added. After years of experience, however, Metrolink realized that employment opportunities were emerging up and down the system, with Los Angeles no longer the only major job center.

Orange County will feature service with 30-minute headways on the Orange County line from Laguna Niguel to Fullerton, 28 miles of track almost entirely owned by Metrolink, by the end of the decade. One major improvement, the addition of a second track between Santa Ana and Orange, took years of planning before its completion this year.

However, in order to increase Orange County line service north of Fullerton, new infrastructure would have to be built per an agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, which owns the tracks from Fullerton to near Los Angeles, according to McGinley. The agreement does not permit additional passenger rail operations apart from what already exists until a third track and additional grade separations are built.

McGinley also warned that various limitations would prevent service increases on other lines. For example, McGinley, noted the troubles of bringing more service north of Chatsworth and into Ventura County. Although the county owns the track until Moorpark (of which afterwards becomes Union Pacific right-of-way), there is no transportation sales tax in Ventura County to either fund capital improvements such as additional track, or new operations. Worse yet, the single-tracked Tunnel 26 northwest of Chatsworth would pose a logistical problem. Thus McGinley sees Ventura County to be "not a financial player."

McGinley stressed the importance of using local money in order to implement additional service. It would take "forever" for the federal government to finance such a service. In fact, Metrolink was launched in two years precisely because it was built away from the federal process, according to McGinley.

Attendees were asked to fill out postcards to be sent to Metro Board members urging them to ask Metrolink for a study of the needed improvements and costs of operating 30-minute all-day Metrolink service.

Numan Parada is the Communications Director of The Transit Coalition; a Sylmar based non-profit organization dealing with issues of transportation mobility. Visit www.transitcoalition.org or www.metrolinkmax.net.

New Historic Preservation Program on Website

Los Angeles – In a press release on October 9, Los Angeles City's Office of Historic Resources (OHR) announced the launch of their new website to provide comprehensive information to the public on historic preservation. The new website serves as an interactive and informative clearinghouse of information about historic preservation in the City of Los Angeles. It contains detailed information about how to preserve historic resources, and provides educational descriptions of the City's preservation policies and standards. It also includes a separate, linked website for SurveyLA – the Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey: <http://www.surveyla.org/>. The five-year project is aimed at identifying and documenting historically significant properties and resources throughout the City.

With only about 15% of the city previously surveyed and documented to date, the SurveyLA project aims to identify significant historic resources long before they become threatened or demolished. The website will serve as the centerpiece of a far-reaching public outreach program to involve residents in the survey process.

The new SurveyLA website explains why a city-wide survey of historic resources is so important to Los Angeles and how the survey will be conducted in the coming years. Regular project updates will be posted on this site, enabling visitors to follow along with the survey as it happens. Public meeting and event information will also be published, giving citizens the opportunity to participate in this exciting program that will touch every community in the city.

One of the most novel features of the SurveyLA site is an interactive "Historic Resources Identification Form" that will enable community members to identify and describe potentially historic properties and areas within their own neighborhoods. The OHR is encouraging community members to help the SurveyLA project discover the hidden, little-known, or often-overlooked places that may have shaped the social and cultural history of Los Angeles' communities. Web visitors may submit detailed information through the web site that will assist the survey teams greatly in the coming years. The new site is located at <http://www.preservation.lacity.org>. For further information contact Ken Bernstein, (213) 978-0195.

"Spirit of Johnny Carpenter" Awards

Lake View Terrace - The 2007 honoree's have been chosen to receive the "Spirit of Johnny Carpenter" Award.

They are: Phyllis Hines, a life long activist and supporter of local causes, Joe Soto, a friend and long time supporter



Honoree Phyllis Hines

of Johnny Carpenter and the Sunland-Tujunga Lions Club. Each earned the award for their outstanding civic work. The "Spirit" Award is given to the individuals and groups whose works best reflect what the late Johnny Carpenter did at his original Heaven on Earth Ranch in Lake View Terrace for almost 25 years. "Spirit" Awards will be presented on Friday November 16, 2007, during the 5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner/Korean BBQ hosted by All Nations Church, 10000 Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace. Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria, and the awards program and concert will follow in the sanctuary at 7:30 pm. Admission is free available. To RSVP, or for more information, call 818.470.5235 or, email lamikec@yahoo.com



LAFD CERT Program

LAFD CERT Program graduated 20 new members in October. The classes were sponsored by S-T SERVS, the STNC Safety Committee, and the Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge, No. 2098. The Elks Lodge has been hosting the graduation ceremonies, with only a few exceptions, since the program's inception. The Sunland-Tujunga community is proud of the fact that it had the most CERT trained volunteers in the city of Los Angeles and those personnel be available to help others in their time of need.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

By Bob Olander

The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, (GHNNC), participated in another exciting day of engaging stakeholders at the annual Granada Hills Street Faire held Saturday, October 6, 2007. GHNNC Outreach Chair, Sue DeVandr, organized the neighborhood council's participation in the event to give neighbors information on how GHNNC can assist them in improving their community. The event provided thousands of participants a fun filled day complete with entertainment, a live radio broadcast by KCSN 88.5 FM, a Farmers' Market, craft fair, food vendors, children's games, and a raffle.

GHNNC supports the Mayor's Million Tree Campaign. Parks and Beautification Chair, Mary Ellen Crosby, reports that plans are being made for a tree giveaway in Bee Canyon Park in January. In addition to her work on beautifying Granada Hills North, Ms. Crosby is participating in an Ad Hoc Committee in Granada Hills to establish a future site for a dog park. Stay tuned dog owners!

GHNNC board members, Wayde Hunter and Anne Ziliak, will travel to San Diego on October 16, 2007, for the CA Integrated Waste Management Board Workshop on Financial Assurances for Landfill Closure. Highlights of what they learned will be the subject of a report at the next GHNNC monthly board meeting on Monday, October 29, 2007.

On October 11, the second in a series of meetings was held to chart out a Granada Hills Community Plan at Tulsa Elementary School with City Planner Anna Vidal. For more information or to give input contact Anna at: anna.vidal@lacity.org or (818) 374-5043.

The Mayor's Budget Day took place on Saturday, October 13, at City Hall and highlights of that event will be presented at the next GHNNC meeting. The Congress of Neighborhoods is coming up on October 27, from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm, at the L.A. Convention Center. Parking is free, childcare is provided, and refreshments will be served. Anyone who would like to be more informed or involved in their neighborhood council is encouraged to attend.

GHNNC is proud to have Neighborhood Council Review Commissioner Joe Vitti as a board member. Joe gave a brief summary of the final recommendations made by the NCRC, (aka: 912 Commission), after their 15 month long review of L.A.'s neighborhood council system. The NCRC delivered their recommendations to the City Council on September 25. See the Commissioners' recommendations at: www.ncrcla.org. John Bwarie, Deputy District Director to Councilman Greig Smith, gives an overview of action taken by the City Council affecting our community at each meeting. John reported that a community clean-up effort sponsored by CD 12 will take place on Saturday, November 3rd, from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. Please contribute your time and show up at Northridge Park Recreation Center, 18300 Lamarsh Street, Northridge (by Reseda and Devonshire). Remember to bring work gloves, water, sunscreen, a hat, and comfortable shoes. Free coffee and bagels will be provided. For more information, visit: www.lacity.org/council/cd12/index.htm or call Megan at: (818) 756-8501.

On November 11, the Girl Scouts of America will celebrate their 95th anniversary with a special event planned at O'Melveny Park. The scouts and their leaders will be planting 95 trees to commemorate their years of service throughout America.

The GHNNC has three vacant seats. You can be a candidate if you are a stakeholder who lives, works or owns property in Granada Hills North. To see GHNNC area map, visit our website: www.ghnnc.org. For more information, contact Nominating Committee Chair Michael Greenwald at: mgreenwald@ghnnc.org. If you are interested in receiving information on our events, add your email address on our website. For a complete list of agenda items, visit: www.ghnnc.org or view the agenda at one of the local posting places: Albertson's at 16201 San Fernando Mission Blvd., HOWS Market at 11900 Balboa Blvd., O' Melveny Park kiosk, Odyssey Restaurant, Sugar Suite at 11858 Balboa Blvd., and the two Bee Canyon Park kiosks. See you at our next board meeting: Monday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Van Gogh School. Free food and beverages are provided to all who attend. Please come and show your support for your community.

Arleta Community News

By Al Piantanida

Forty One Senior Residents were treated to a day trip to enjoy the beautiful Getty Center on September 21. Councilmember Tony Cardenas, Arleta Community Watchdogs, and the Social Service Director of the Nikkie Village Senior Apartments in Arleta, sponsored the event. They provided first class bus transportation and a nutritious bag lunch, which included dessert and drinks for the six-hour outing.

September and October were the months for car shows in Arleta. On Saturday, September 29, "Thunder in Arleta" was held at Liberty Temple Church of God, on Derrington and Osborne Streets. On Saturday, October 6, Victory Outreach of the San Fernando Valley held their seventh annual Car show and concert on Beachy and Osborne Streets. Both events featured classic cars from several eras. They also had music entertainment, food and activities for the entire family.

Arleta resident and community activist, Al Piantanida, has been appointed to the Regional Valley Neighborhood Oversight Committee (RVNOC), by Councilmember Tony Cardenas. RVNOC members are responsible for providing community assessment and district representation to the city. They provide information and advice on project priorities that utilize Prop K funds for the five-year Park and Recreation Improvement Plan.

The L.A. Conservation Corp., (Green & Clean) held a clean-up project on Friday, October 19. Councilmember Tony Cardenas, along with 150 youth volunteers, staff members, and the L.A. Public Works Dept. kicked the event off at Branford Park. The clean up consisted of areas within Council District Six, which included parts of Arleta, Pacoima, Panorama City, and Sun Valley. The Youth Volunteers helped with street sweeping, weed removal, trash and bulky item pick up. Lunch and refreshments were donated by community businesses. A big "thank you" to all the dedicated youth and volunteers for their wonderful support in keeping our communities clean. Congratulations for a job well done!

SOUND OFF

Parking Nightmares

By Tony Bowling

Parking spaces seem to be a rare commodity in many places right now. Witness the many small, substandard, streets in Sunland -Tujunga where you have to park..and then walk blocks away to or from your destination. Ever notice the huge Dodge RAM Dually Truck in the "compact" parking space at IHOP! Sorry, my bad, there were FOUR of those large SUV's in compact spaces, not just one!

Warning! There is a proposal currently being reviewed by the City Planning Department, and already going to the full city council, while NOT yet having been brought before the Neighborhood Councils. This proposal, unbelievably, would give developers more units and less parking spaces. Yes, I said LESS parking spaces.

We are already pleading with developers to put more parking than they are required to by the city in the proposals they bring us. This enticement to developers (of apartments and condos) to be able to build more units with less required parking spaces is a backwards attempt to get folks to use mass transit and/or subways. For people up here, on the rock, there is NO subway, and we have no shops to shuttle to even if we had a shuttle (no shuttle here). The net result of that proposed nightmare, here, will be worse traffic, worse parking nightmares and less control of what is happening in our own community.

Commendation for LAPD

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

This is to commend Foothill Division LAPD for doing an outstanding job. A print out of the crime map of this area today, for Sunland, shows that there were ZERO crimes reported for the last seven days.

Brilliant police work is proactive and this lack of crime shows that you are taking the right steps towards stamping out crime in our area. Thank you all very, very, much for a job well done!

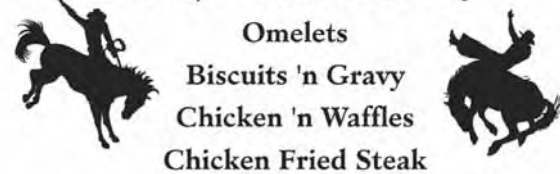
Sincerely, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Sunland Resident & Business Owner

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council



Cindy Cleghorn,
STNC President

STNC's Region 4 (South of Foothill Blvd.) reps Mark Seigel and Dan McManus held a great Pancake Breakfast at Coffee Stop on Oct. 14. Some of the ideas and issues will be presented at the Nov. 14 STNC meeting. Big thanks go out to Mark and Dan for pulling together all the details including cooking and hosting the event. Special thanks to Phil Tabbi, Sunland-Tujunga Chamber president for the use of his grill and to Coffee Stop for the location.

The STNC is exploring the opportunity to hold our next STNC board election with Foothill Trails District and Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Councils. This will be a great opportunity for more participation in our elections for candidates and voters. More details soon. If you would like to help, please contact the STNC office.

At the next Design Advisory Committee meeting we will hear a presentation for a 7 unit apartment building in Tujunga where there are currently six units. This is in an area where we have narrow streets and existing affordable housing. I drove by to see the site and spoke with one of the residents. At this time she doesn't know much about what's going on but fears she will have to move. She's lived there 20 years. It was good to meet her and let her know about the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council and that we will be holding a public meeting where she can find out more and hopefully get some help.



Lydia Grant, Mark Seigel, Cindy Cleghorn, Vince and Dan McManus at STNC's Pancake Breakfast held at Coffee Stop in Sunland

Upcoming STNC Meetings —Join us!

- Design Advisory Committee
November 5 at 7 pm
- STNC Monthly Meeting
November 14 at 7 pm
- Safety Committee
November 15 at 6 pm
- Design Advisory Committee
November 19 at 7 pm

Check the STNC web site often at www.stnc.org

Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

By Tina C. Cameron
Corresponding Secretary

The Sun Valley Recreation Center and Sun Valley Park present: "Halloween Spooktacular", October 31, 2007, from 4:00 pm-8:00 pm. Decorations and prizes are being donated by the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council. There will be games, face painting, a costume contest and much more. The event is free to the public. For more information, call (818) 767-6151.

The SVANC unanimously voted against supporting a LADWP rate increase, which is being proposed at 9% over three years. In what is considered a sly move, the DWP did not give the required 120 day notification to neighborhood councils for their consideration and advisement to the City council, thus forcing the councils to then scramble in their efforts to launch a response. The plan comes amid increased scrutiny of the DWP, as it has come to light that the average DWP worker earns nearly 20% more than the average civilian city employee who works within a similar job description. And while critical upgrades need to be made, there is no guarantee any rate increase would benefit the aging system, since in the past ten years approximately \$2 billion has been transferred from the DWP to the City's General Fund.

The SVANC voted to oppose the massive Las Lomas Development Project. A White Paper, written by Greig Smith, 12th District Councilman, illustrates the damage this development would cause to the surrounding communities. It involves adding 5,800 - 9,670 new residences and more than 2,000,000 sq.ft. of commercial, recreational and community development services; to be twice the size of Ahmanson Ranch on one quarter of the land; to be located at the confluence of the nation's busiest freeways--the I-5, I-210, SR118, I-405 and the CA-14. Gridlock at those freeway intersections is already so severe that a federal study has been commissioned to look for ways to fix existing conditions without considering further impacts from additional development. It would stretch an already depleted range of services, including police, fire, paramedic and other vital Valley programs for current residents.

The Sun Valley Neighborhood Council 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.

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Tuesday, Oct 30

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

Wednesday, Oct 31

HAPPY HALLOWEEN
Celebrate in Safety Mode

Halloween Party
Petit Park
16730 Chatsworth, GH
4-8 pm 363-3556

Halloween Party
LakeView Terrace Rec.
11075 Foothill, LVT
5-9 pm 899-8097

Halloween Carnival
Sunland Park
8651 Foothill, S-T
5-9 pm 352-5304

Foothill Optimist
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

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

Thursday, Nov. 1

Officer Appreciation Day
LAPD Foothill Station
12760 Osborne St. Pac.
756-8866

Kagel Canyon Civic Assoc
Dexter Park
7 pm

Elks Lodge #2098
11037 Commerce, S-T
6:30 pm 352-2098

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

Sunday, Nov. 4

Standard Time Begins
Turn Clocks Back

Elks Hoop Shoot
Verdugo Hills High
11 am - 3 pm for info
Call Jim Newman or
Ann Kuh 353-3558

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

Monday, Nov. 5

STNC-DAC Meet.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-t
7 pm 951-7411

Tuesday, Nov. 6

Election Day

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

Wednesday, Nov. 7

Foothill Optimist
Fairways Restaurant
Hansen Dam Rec Center
10400 Glenoaks, Pac
6:30 pm

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

Thursday, Nov. 8

Granada Hills South N/C
Granada Hills Rec Center
16730 Chatsworth St. GH
7-8:30 pm

Sunday, Nov. 11

VETERANS DAY
Veterans Day Parade
See article on pg 12

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

Tuesday, Nov. 13

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

Mission Hills NC
General Meet.
14928 Clymer St. MH
7 pm

Northridge West N/C
Beckford Elementary
7 pm

Sun Valley Area NC
Villa Scalabrini Center
10631 Vinedale,SV
6:30 pm 767-6766

"Don Giovanni" Opera Talk
Granada Hills Library
91344 Petit
6:30-7:45 pm 368-5689

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Foothill Optimist
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
7 pm 951-7411

Granada Hills South N/C
Granada Hills Rec Center
16730 Chatsworth St.
7- 8:30 pm

Student Smart Seminar
Learn to pass essay test
Granada Hills Library
10640 Petit, GH
4-6 pm 358-5689



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Community Websites:
OGHRG.org, GHSNC.org,
GranadaHillsHistory.com

Mark YOUR Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 15

Community Police
Advisory Board (CPAB)
Villa Scallabrini, SV
6 pm 756-8866

Sun Valley Chamber Mixer
Bob Hope Airport
2627 N. Hollywood Way, Bur.
Call 768-2014

STNC Safety Meeting

Friday, Nov. 16

S-T Chamber Installation
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
6 pm 352-4433

Saturday, Nov. 17

Foreclosure Prevention
Credit Repair. Reverse Mort.
S-T Library
7771 Foothill, S-T
RSVP reqd. 352-4481

STNC Outreach Comm.
Joselitos Restaurant
7308 Foothill, S-T
1 pm 951-7411

Sunday, Nov. 18

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

Monday, Nov. 19

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

STNC-DAC Meet.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-t
7 pm 951-7411

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

Arleta NC
Beachy Elementary School
9757 Beachy, Arl
6:30 [pm 897-9122

Tuesday, Nov. 20

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

Mission Hills NC
Beautification &
Cultural Affairs Comm.
10161 Sepulveda, MH
6:30

Arleta N/C Gen Meeting.
Beachy Ave. Elementary
9757 Beach Ave.
6:30 pm

STNC-By-Laws Comm.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
3 pm 951-7411

Wednesday, Nov. 21

Foothill Optimist
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

Wednesday, Nov. 22

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Saturday, Nov. 24

Mission Hills NC
Outreach/Youth Outreach
10161 Sepulveda, MH
2 pm

SNC Land Use
Sylmar NC Office
13515 _ Hubbard, Syl
3:30 pm

Sunday, Nov. 25

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

Monday, Nov. 26

Mission Hills NC
BBQ & Pot luck
10161 Sepulveda, MH
6:30 pm

Granada Hills North N/C
Van Gough Elementary
17160 Van Gogh, GH
7 pm 360-4346

SFV Garden Club
Sepulveda Garden Ctr
16633 Magnolia, Encino
10 am-1 pm

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

Tuesday, Nov. 27

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

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

Wednesday, Nov. 28

Foothill Optimist
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

Panarama City NC
Knob Hill Bank. Center
8229 Van Nuys, VN
5:30 pm 785-9355

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

STNC-Exec. Comm
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

Tuesday, Dec. 11

FABA
LAPD Officer's Awards
Odyssey Restaurant

Tuesday, Dec. 13

Astronomy Night
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk, Syl
after sunset Sunset

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Keeping Kids Safe



*Councilmember
Wendy Greuel*

We are seeing exciting new opportunities for community involvement in Council District 2 and, as always, our residents are engaged and committed. Last week a record-breaking 2,000 community members

attended my fourth annual Child Health and Safety Fair. Families from Sunland-Tujunga to Studio City joined us in Valley Plaza Park for a day of music, celebration and safety information. While local school bands played on stage, health professionals provided immunizations, spinal checks and useful safety tips.

Children gathered around the booth of First Choice Dental and were taught about the staggering quantities of sugar contained in ordinary products like orange soda. The LAPD inspected car seats to ensure all were age-appropriate and installed properly and then gave 23 new car seats away. We gave away 500 bike helmets and raffled off seven brand new bikes. The Safety Fair was a wonderful family-friendly event and I thank all who came and helped to make the day such a success.

As part of my campaign to improve safety and the quality of life in our neighborhoods, I also recently kicked-off an initiative to help community groups purchase security cameras that will prevent vandalism on our streets. These new cameras can be placed in locations where graffiti or illegal dumping is rampant. The cameras are activated by motion, then flash a bright light and play the recorded message "Stop! It is illegal to vandalize this area. Your photo has just been

taken and we will use this photograph to prosecute you. Leave now!"

With the dramatic rise in gang violence in the San Fernando Valley, we need to take proactive steps to keep our neighborhoods safe. These cameras will serve as a deterrent to criminals and help the LAPD catch criminals. This is an important step in cleaning up our streets by standing together to declare a war against graffiti in Council District 2.

The high-quality cameras cost \$7,000 a piece. I will pledge \$35,000 in matching funds (\$3,500 per camera) to help install ten cameras through out the district. Further, I will work with Neighborhood Watches, Neighborhood Councils and other organizations to identify additional funding and placement for these cameras. If your group is interested in applying for these matching funds please contact my office. Together, working as a community, I know we can keep our streets safe and clean.

David Eigenberg to be Grand Marshal

David Eigenberg, a former Marine, co-star of the Television Show "Sex and the City," and a San Fernando Valley resident, will lead the Fourth Annual San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade as the overall Grand Marshal, on Sunday, November 11, 2007. A Grand Marshal for each wartime era will be honored as well.

The parade will include more than 60 veterans' groups (including one equestrian team), approximately five marching high school bands, and the likely participation by the Navy Band Southwest, the 1st Marine Division Band, and the Air National Guard Band of the Southwest (562nd Air Force Band). All wartime eras will be specifically represented (from WWII to Iraqi Freedom), and all branches of military service will be represented by active duty or reserve personnel. The WWII era flying Condor squadron from Van Nuys will decorate the sky. Thousands of people are expected to line the street to cheer veterans past and present. High ranking military officers, elected officials, and other dignitaries will watch from a special reviewing stand. Highway off-ramps and local streets will be shut down to traffic. The event will be televised on Channel 35.

The parade will begin precisely at the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of November, at 11: 11am, (Sunday, November 11, 11:11 am). The official kick-off of Veterans Day starts at the corner of Laurel Canyon Blvd. and San Fernando Mission Blvd. It will proceed down Laurel Canyon Blvd. for 1.1 miles and culminate at the Ritchie Valens Recreation Center and Park, 10736 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Pacoima, CA 91331 (corner of Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Paxton St.). There will be a Carnival and refreshments available at the park's Recreation Center. Also, the Department of Veterans Affairs and other Veteran service organizations will staff booths offering services to all Veterans.

The Annual San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade tradition began in 2004 when Congressman Howard L. Berman, former L.A. Councilmember, now State Senator, Alex Padilla, along with Commissioner Fred A. Flores, from the County of Los Angeles Veterans Advisory Commission, worked with members of the community to establish the parade. Councilmember Richard Alarcón will also be



David Eigenberg

participating this year. Thousands of residents are expected to come out to pay tribute to America's heroes—the veterans of our Armed Forces.

North Valley Reporter

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We're Almost There



*Captain Joe Curreri
Commanding Officer,
Foothill Area
Los Angeles Police Department*

The Los Angeles Police Department has a goal to reduce crime throughout the City in 2007 by five percent over last year. Unfortunately, Foothill Area was inundated at the beginning of this year, starting

out with a 40.5 percent increase in crime. With a lot of hard work by the police professionals assigned to Foothill Station, and with your assistance, Foothill Area has reduced the crime increase to nine tenths of one percent (+.9%), a decrease in crime of more than 39% from the beginning of the year! There is now less crime in the 46.2 square miles of Los Angeles, which constitutes Foothill Area, than any other geographic Area of the Los Angeles Police Department, except for Central Area, who's Area consists of only 4.9 square miles.

Foothill Area's crime reduction throughout this year has been a tremendous accomplishment. We're almost

there, but not quite. We really need the partnership of the community to enable us to reach our goal of a five-percent reduction in crime at the year's end. In this partnership, I'm asking you to help us keep you and your belongings safe. Take a few simple steps, which you've heard me talk about many times before, to avoid becoming a victim.

Whenever possible, take a friend or relative with you when going places. There actually is safety in numbers. An opportunistic criminal is less likely to attack a group, rather than an individual. Ladies, consider carrying a small purse, or better yet, a wallet you can carry in your pocket, rather than giving that opportunist an inviting large purse to grab on to.

Don't leave any items of value in the passenger compartment of your vehicle. It takes seconds to break a window and steal those items. Many of us will be doing quite a bit of shopping for gifts as the holiday season approaches. These shopping ventures often involve making several trips to our vehicle with purchased items. After you place items in the trunk of your vehicle, move your vehicle to a different portion of the shopping area's parking lot in case that opportunist is watching and wait-

ing for you to return to the stores so he can attempt to pry those items out of your trunk.

When you are not at home, close and lock your home's windows and doors. Invest in some inexpensive electric timers which you can program so that lights and a radio will periodically go on and off when you're gone, giving that opportunist the idea that someone is home. Be a good neighbor. If you know your neighbor is not at home and you observe suspicious activity at your neighbor's home, give us a call. Join a Neighborhood Watch so you can become more familiar with who your neighbors are, and learn about crime issues facing your community.

I hope that nothing I've said above is new to you. What I've talked about involves a little common sense and very little personal effort, but those tips will go a long way toward keeping you and your property safe. With your commitment and partnership, and with the hard work and dedication of your policing professional, I am confident that we can reach a goal of reducing crime by five percent by the end of this year.

We're almost there. Let's work together to successfully cross the finish line.

Continued from cover—Unlawful

Since no one is certain where the tenants have gone, notification of this meeting may be impossible to give.

An Advisory Agency memo, dated April 11, 2001, dictates that "The Advisory Agency shall render a decision after a public hearing has been completed. No person shall cause or permit the closure of a mobile home park until the Impact Report has been approved by the Advisory Agency."

The memo, also, outlined procedure for rent supplements to temporarily offset rent increases as well as mandates, under Section 47.08 and 151.00, that require relocation fees of \$5000.00 to qualified tenants and \$2000.00 to all others. Tenants, whose mobile homes were not capable of being relocated, would have five years or more in which to relocate.

Since 2001, Glenn Bell, President of Neighborhood Friends, a non-profit Mobile Home Advocacy Organization, says, "Those numbers have changed to a minimum of \$8500.00 for single wide and \$17,000.00 for double wide. And that is the minimum starting point."

Some of these homeowners went to Councilman Tony Cardenas' office over a month ago to inquire about events relative to their evictions and subsequent treatment they

had been subjected to. None of them had money to hire an attorney to help them.

Samii Taylor, Legislative advocate for the Windsor Group, said, "Glenn Bell and I met with Olga Ayala at Councilman Cardenas' office on Oct. 1, and they felt that, based on their limited knowledge of the law, the park was closed properly because the impact report had been filed and accepted before the change of use permit was applied for. Because the property owner had compensated the homeowners, they felt the owner had acted within the scope of the law."

One tenant alleges that Broutia, allegedly, had collected rent in cash and would not give receipts. She said it was her father who paid the rent, but attempts to locate him were unsuccessful as he left the park just weeks ago. CA Civil Code prohibits cash rent payments unless a written notice was given by the landlord stating that a check was not honored by the bank. The period a landlord can accept cash payments cannot exceed three months. Typical evictions for non-payment of rent usually take 90 days.

Broutia, owner of the mobile home park, refused to comment or answer any questions asked of him regarding tenants at the park.

Bell, of Neighborhood Friends, said, "Laws that pertain to mobile home park closures are the Mobile Home Residency Laws, Federal Relocation Act, Low Income Housing Act, Health and Safety Code, and the Subdivision Tract Map."

He further remarked, "Because the park owner obtained signed agreements without explaining tenants rights to tenants and prior to filing for a change of use permit the homeowners lost access to any due process and constitutional rights that would have been afforded to them."

He continued, "The average cost to dismantle a mobile home is \$12,000.00 per unit and includes removal of awnings, carports, skirting, steps, separation of the individual components, removal of the supports and disengagement of earthquake straps. The axles must be reinstalled since a mobile home is placed on a semi or permanent foundation. Mileage and repeat of the above to place it somewhere else spiral the cost to near \$20,000."

In addition, CA Health and Safety Code 18500 warns: (d) "It is unlawful for any person to do any of the following unless he or she has a valid permit issued by the enforcement agency; (d) Operate a park or any portion thereof."

Many questions remain unanswered. Will the City track down homeowners and renters and verify that they were treated fairly, or will it just go through the motions as minimally prescribed by law and, eventually, give the owner the change of use permit he applied for? What reprimands will the owner face for, allegedly, violating the law? Should the owner be denied a change of use permit? The answers, perhaps, will come on November 1.

Email: katharine.russ@charter.net

Short Sales & Foreclosures

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

What is a short sale? It is a real estate term used to define a sale that occurs where a lender must agree to sell the house for less than the note or balance owed. For example, assume you own a house with a \$500,000 mortgage, but the house has dropped in value to \$475,000. You are competing with a lot of other houses for sale in a very soft market so you offer to sell it, subject to the lender approval of a short sale, for \$460,000. An offer comes in at \$450,000. The agent then goes to work with the lender to get them to approve of the sale for \$50,000 less than is owed.

That is not all! The lender must also agree to cover all of the expenses to complete the sale-- title, escrow, commissions and any other fees. Usually this type of sale is strictly on an "as-is" basis and there will be no repairs or improvements of any kind. Not one. Termite clearance is another item that many lenders will not agree to. Some will do it, many will not.

An essential part of the negotiation with the lender is to protect your credit. How this transaction is reported by the lender is very important. It can be very damaging if not done correctly. There may also be tax consequences here. It is always advised that you contact your tax professionals so they can tell you how the state and federal tax bureaus view this difference. Ironically it may be considered taxable income! The same holds true for a deed in lieu of foreclosure where you simply deed the house back to the bank.

A foreclosure is beyond the possibility of a short sale. A foreclosure means the lender now has the title. They took it back when the borrower failed to pay on the mortgage. The entire process does require notices and some months to complete. It does not happen immediately if one payment is missed. It is always prudent to call the mortgage holder and talk to them about your financial situation. Some mortgage holders offer their own solutions to help out in times of need.

(Ms. Bowling is a Sunland-Tujunga Real Estate Broker)

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THIS & THAT

Tujunga Wash Gets...a Wash!

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

Sunland-Tujunga - Approximately eighty people turned out for the Community Clean up in the Tujunga Wash, Saturday, October 27. Council District representative, Angela Motta, Angeles National Golf Club representative, Matt Bennett, and Sunland Tujunga Alliance member, Abby Diamond, were there in support of their community.

The air was clean, and the sun was out just enough to make it pleasant. Plenty of refreshments from local vendors, including Angeles National Golf Club,

were available throughout the day. Susan Bartlett and the Graffiti Busters, lent a huge helping hand by providing their vehicles, tools, and crew of 15. Boy Scout Troop 8 and many neighbors also worked hard.

An astonishing amount of debris was removed. Items included shopping carts, old tires, huge pieces of rusty metal, half of a truck bed, broken plastic furniture, a car seat, broken glass, and much more. Thank you to all of those hard working volunteers especially Pat Kramer, Barbara Tarnowski, and Beth Verish, for their extraordinary contribution to the clean up.



Big "thank you" to Tony Bowling for his hard work at the Tujunga Wash Clean Up. Truck loads and bins like this one were filled with trash and debris dumped in the wash area.

Watch Your Wallet

Five-Step Budget Plan

By Tina Cameron

The point of budgeting is to make the most of what you have. It's rewarding and freeing to gain control over your money. You can do it without a software package or a financial planner. Most of what you need can be found in your checkbook and your last bank statement. You also need two pieces of paper and a pencil. It's easiest to look at one month at a time from start to finish, so you'll use the 1st through the 30th or 31st.

First Step: Write down your household's sources of "income": your net pay from your paycheck, your spouse's paycheck, recycling money, lemonade stand, wherever/however you make money each month on paper, then total. There are two types of expenses: fixed and variable, also called "disposable."

Second Step: On the same paper, write down your fixed expenses: rent, electric, water and gas, health insurance if paid separately. These are basics you must to pay each month. For expenses that can vary, such as utilities, take a three month average, then total.

Third Step: This could get scary but hang in there. This will be your longest list, known as disposable spending. Write down everything you spent--other than fixed during the past month. Example: Groceries \$91.63, Toys R Us \$150, dining out \$55, cell phone \$75. Add any car payment, bus or train fares, and what you spend on gas each month. Again you can take a three-month estimate. Add in all the ATM withdraws--your statement will show you-- then total.

Fourth Step: Take your total income and subtract your total fixed and disposable expenses. Did you have money left over or did you spend more than you made that month? Think about your answer. Did you

add to your credit card balance or were you able to put some money in a savings account? It can be hard to face up to how much money was blown, but it's a new day and you have the power to gain control over it now.

Fifth Step: With a separate piece of paper create a template to use each month going forward. The standard categories or "bucket's" are: Income, Housing, Utilities, Food (including dining out, snack food), Transportation, Medical, Appearance (clothing, hair, dry cleaning), Entertainment (movies, cable T.V., concerts), Travel, Credit Card payments, Savings, Hobbies, Charities. Customize it to fit your particular spending habits. This time, you are going to assess, ahead of time, how much to spend on each category for the coming month. Look at what you've been spending and see where you can make improvements. Your disposable spending is where you have the most power to make better choices.

Also, track down payments that only come up once a year or every quarter such as property taxes or life insurance premiums. If you can anticipate these infrequent payments, it will make life easier. Budgeting can become a tool for goal setting, such as saving for a much needed vacation or paying for night school. The more you use it the more you will get back from it.

(Ms. Cameron holds a B.S. in Finance, and is a Certified Treasury Professional, and Corporate Risk Manager, as well as a Board member of the So. Calif. Assoc. for Financial Professionals. She is also a Sun Valley Small Business Owner)

Carrick's Journey -Part Two

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

As Maddie dove for the trees the sound of bullets passing by her head were so close she could feel the heat of their path on the top of her head. The deception had worked--but only for a brief second. Just long enough for Maddie to get to the woods. Suddenly, the loud sound of aircraft hovering above her distracted the shooter, and the bullets stopped. The aircraft lowered itself and a sharp beam of light came from the hull. The aircraft was now firing as well. Those beams were not fired at Maddie, but at the shooter.

A tug on her arm came from behind and a slender young girl, of about sixteen years of age, prompted Maddie to follow her quickly. Maddie was so confused with all of these shots that she was not sure if she should trust her. She took some comfort in the fact that the girl looked like an older version of one of her own children. Then the young girl said "your children are safe. They're with us. It won't take long for that aircraft to realize we're here and then they'll be shooting at us too, so let's go."

Maddie ran along behind and followed the girl deep into the woods. The trees were so thick with foliage that light was negligible and made mid day seem like evening. There was not much chance of aircraft spotting them here. Maddie began to feel much safer. As they approached the campsite the children ran up to their mother in complete joy that all were reunited...to be continued





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SIDE BAR

Attention Poets in Sunland-Tujunga Area

The community is seeking next year's Poet Laureate to inspire and represent the community for a two-year term. Applications are available at McGroarty Art Center, S-T Library, Bolton Hall, and North Valley City Hall. Application deadline is December 20, 2007. Applicant must live in the greater Sunland-Tujunga Area. For more information call Marlene at: 818-951-1041

Sylmar Chamber Sponsoring Honorary Sheriff Campaign

Candidates will be declaring their candidacy at a Kick-off Bar-B-Q at the home of Nick and Anne Krall on Sunday, November 4, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The candidate who sells the most tickets signifying community support will be declared Sheriff at a Chamber Installation Dinner in early 2008. Proceeds from ticket sales will be split between the candidate's sponsoring group and the Sylmar Chamber of Commerce.



Granada Hills Holds Street Fair

There was a large community turnout at the Granada Hills Street Fair held on October 4. The event was sponsored by the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, with help from the Granada Hills South and Granada Hills North Neighborhood Councils. It took place on several blocks of Chatsworth St., at Zelzah Ave. There was live entertainment, many food booths, crafts, and children's "bouncies", and other inflatable equipment, and pony rides. People were having such a good time, the fair actually closed at 6:00 pm instead of the scheduled 5:00 pm.



Couple Celebrates "175 Memorable Moments"

Family members, along with what appeared to be their entire Sunland-Tujunga community, joined Chet and Betty Michalski to help celebrate their "175 Memorable Moments" during a dinner dance gala, hosted at the Elks Lodge on September 29. The special occasion was Betty's 70th and Chet's 80th birthday, as well as their 25th wedding anniversary, for a "grand total" of 175 years.

Joselito's West Completes Aids Walk L.A.

Four employees, along with owner Jose Grijalva, raised over \$1,000 competing in the "Aids Walk L.A.", Sunday, October 21. Over 30,000 individuals participated and made up 1,450 teams, which raised approximately \$3,905,723. Grijalva said he is looking forward to his restaurant customers, in both Sunland-Tujunga and Montrose, to be walking with him and his employees next year.

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Eleven-Eleven-Eleven

By Marlene Hitt

On that day, eleven-eleven, 1918, at eleven o'clock in the morning,
 The Great War, the war to end all wars, ended.
 In 1919 they called it Armistice Day.
 This year, the day falls on eleven-eleven-seven, lucky numbers
 for those at home untouched by war.
 On this day we remember all wars,
 all men and women brave enough to fight, and those waiting at home
 for their lives to resume.

Bless the men and the women.
 Bless the hands that button the khaki uniforms.
 Bless the feet in heavy boots.
 Bless the boy releasing a grenade, the man holding the gun,
 the infantry, the generals and the chaplains.
 Bless the planes and tanks, ships and their captains, bunks and mess.
 Bless the friendships and blown-away endings.
 Bless the photographers who record moments or who televise
 to give us war in our bedrooms and our kitchens.
 Bless the young women.
 Bless babies never to be born to fathers dead before their lives begin.
 Bless the shattered dreams.
 Bless the warriors.
 Bless the heroes, their legs and arms.
 Bless the dead who have no names.
 Bless the unmarked graves and tombs of dirt.
 Bless the mourners.
 Bless the blood on the fields and the sands, bless the grasses
 which grow in after the rain.
 Bless the bombed trees and rivers.
 Bless the mothers and fathers whose sons are gone. Forever.
 Bless the wives.
 Bless the little children waiting for their dads or moms.
 Bless those who yearn for peace.

Bless, oh bless the old men who still remember.
 Bless us all.

Armistice Day, November 11, was commemorated by the event at which the Allies
 and the Germans signed a truce. The signing took place in a railroad dining car in a
 forest in France, November 11, 1918, 11:00 o'clock in the morning.



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