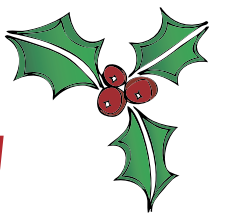


NORTH VALLEY

Reporter

KEEPING YOU INFORMED



Free Community
Newspaper

DECEMBER. 13-26, 2006
Volume 1 Number 7

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IS DISCOVERED

by Marlene Hitt

This month many stress the concepts of peace, love, and good will to all mankind, as well to appreciate the births and values of children. We are used to the combinations of traditions which is so American – the Santa Claus of the Dutch, the tree of the Germans, Las Posadas of Mexico and many others. Most celebrate the season as the Christian holy day commemorating the birth of the Christ Child. At this time we all incorporate the spirit of giving.

One story having to do with gifting conveys this principle of the season, and that is the story of the Margil Vine. It seems that a poor and devout Indian boy was to attend a Christmas pageant in the mission church at Velero in Texas. All the people were taking gifts to the Christ child but the boy, Shavano, who had nothing at all to give. He wandered around, then sat for a while in his favorite poplar tree.

Padre Margil, after finding the boy with tears in his eyes, assured Shavano that a gift is only a token that we give to show our love. Shavano wasn't convinced, and wanted to give gifts of gold and objects of wealth as the other villagers had done.

He once again retreated to his poplar tree. After a while, he looked down to see an unusual bright wisp of green on the ground below. He climbed down to inspect the place and found a small plant, one so tiny that it could have been trampled without notice. The boy dug up the small plant, placed in it one of his mother's earthenware jugs and shyly hid it beneath the expensive and colorful gifts near the manger in the mission chapel.

Early the next morning the Christmas pageant was begun. Shavano worried that the Christ child would be displeased with his insignificant gift. As the pageant procession began, and the shepherds in the play approached the doorway, they gasped in surprise, then cried, "Milagro, Milagro!" Miracle!

Shavano wormed his way to the front of the group wondering what blessing the Christ child may have bestowed on the people. Before the door he stopped, his whole being quivered with ecstasy and his eyes filled with tears of joy. His little vine had grown mysteriously, had twined itself about and over the manger where the Jesus babe lay and had poured over the scene an abundance of bright green leaves and brilliant scarlet berries. The vine had become the most beautiful gift of all, even more beautiful than the gold and gifts of wealth. The Margil vine still grows in that Texas area and is enjoyed as Christmas decoration by Mexicans today.

Whether our memories are of Posadas, fiestas, prayers, decorations, lavish gifting, a military outpost, a prison cell, or a lonely room, Christmas season means much to all faiths and those of all beliefs. Let us once more petition for the gift of love, pray once again, and again, for the gifts of peace and good will toward one another in honor of The True Spirit of Christmas.

"BUON ANNO"

"JOYEUX NOEL"

"VESELE VANOCE"

"MELE KALIKIMAKA"

"NODLAG SONA DHUIT"

"BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA"

"GOD JUL"

"FELIZ NATAL"

"BOAS FESTAS"

"FELIZ NAVIDAD"

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

"KALA CHRISTOUGENA"

"VROLIJK KERSTFEEST"

"FROHLICHE WEIHNACHTEN"

"BUON NATALE-GODT NYTAR"

"HUAN YING SHENG TAN CHIEH"

"WESOLYCH SWIAT-SRETAN BOZIC"

"MOADIM LESIMHA-LINKSMU KALEDU"

"HAUSKAA JOULUA-AID SAID MOUBARK"

"N PRETTIG KERSTMIS"

"ONNZLLISTA UUTTA VUOTTA"

"Z ROZHDESTYOM KHRYSTOVYM"

"NADOLIG LLAWEN-GOTT NYTTSAR"

"FELIC NADAL-GOJAN KRISTNASKON"

"S NOVYM GODOM-FELIZ ANO NUEVO"

"GLEDILEG JOL-NOELINIZ KUTLU OLSUM"

"EEN GELUKKIG NIEUWJAAR-SRETAN BOSIC"

"KRIHSTLINDJA GEZUAR-KALA CHRISTOUGENA"

"SELAMAT HARI NATAL - LAHINGU NAJU METU"

"SARBATORI FERICITE-BUON ANNO"

"ZORIONEKO GABON-HRISTOS SE RODI"

"MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR"

"BOLDOG KARACSONNY-VESELE VIANOCE"

"FELICES PASUAS-EIN GLUCKICHES NEWJAHR"

"SHENORAAVOR NOR DARI YEV PARI GAGHAND"

"ROOMSAID JOULU PUHI - KUNG HO SHENG TEN"

"PRIECIGUS ZIEMAN SVETKUS SARBATORI VESLLE"

"BONNE ANNEBLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDADR FELIZ NATAL"



NEWS

Housing Committee Recommends New Condo Conversion ordinances

Plans Would Cap And Regulate Apartments

by Edward Rivera

Following a marked increase in the number of condominium conversions throughout the city over the past few years, the Housing, Community and Economic Development (HCED) and Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) committees have developed a set of five new ordinances for use in regulating the issue.

In a report issued last week, and to be considered by the full council this week, the committees recommended a new program to provide "improved, more reliable, and more equitable tenant relocation assistance for eligible tenants displaced as a result of condominium conversion or demolition."

The program would also increase the amount of relocation assistance eligible tenants receive when an apartment is converted to a condominium or a building is demolished, and then consolidate all tenant relocation provisions into two sections of the Housing Code, "to reduce confusion and internal conflicts."

The staff report also recommends a proposed ordinance that establishes an annual cap on condominium conversions along with a new ordinance which would require building owners to provide relocation assistance payments to tenants who voluntarily move out of a unit which is proposed for condominium conversion.

An addition, a proposed ordinance would increase the Rental Housing Production Fee from \$500 to \$1492.

The report also recommends an ordinance to establish a new program to monitor compliance with tenant relocation assistance requirements when buildings are demolished, and a fee for the program's administration

In addition, the report urged the creation of an Advisory Agency implementation policy to "incorporate vacancy rate data and a finding regarding the cumulative impact on the rental housing stock when considering condominium conversion applications."

According to the report,

produced over the last few months, current regulations which are found in various sections of the Municipal Code require that an owner compensate tenants who are displaced by a condominium conversion or demolition, and provide certain specified services to assist them in relocating to a new home. The current code requires the payment of \$8,450 to 'qualified tenants' (defined in the code as those over the age of 62, disabled, or having dependent children) and \$3,550 to all other tenants.

In addition, the landlord must provide each tenant with a list of alternative available rental units, transportation assistance, and when required, specialized transportation services (such as an ambulance) to inspect potential replacement units.

According to the report, the Housing Department researched the needs of displaced tenants, improved means of meeting those needs and the costs of providing services that best



meet those needs. Their staff analyzed average monthly rental rates, security deposits, moving expenses, and other needs and costs, and recommend increasing relocation payment amounts to \$12,615 for qualified tenants and \$4,575 for all other tenants. The report further recommended that the amounts be adjusted annually based on the consumer price index, CPI - All Urban Consumers, averaged for the 12 month period ending September 30 of each year as determined by LAHD.

The proposed ordinance also reflects LAHD's recommendation to establish a new and improved program

tion services to all eligible tenants. This would assure that benefits are provided at a high standard and that they are provided equitably across the City. By requiring a single payment for all relocation assistance prior to the issuance of a demolition permit, the City would also be able to monitor compliance and assure that all tenants receive the assistance to which they are entitled.

The proposed amendment requires subdividers to pay a fee to the City that will go directly to the contracted service provider and an administrative fee for LAHD to administer this contract. The service provider will conduct an initial interview with each tenant to identify his/her specific needs, develop a plan for replacement housing and for supportive services during the tenant's active search, such as bi-weekly referrals to vacant units (for up to 3 months), and will conduct a closing interview to determine the outcome of the housing replacement arch.

Qualified tenants will receive additional assistance to identify alternative housing options, assistance with paperwork and coordination with government or private agencies, and transportation assistance with their housing search. The fees for these services, based on LAHD's research, would be \$671 for each unit occupied by a qualified tenant and \$431 for each unit occupied by other tenants including a \$31 per unit administrative fee. These fees are reflected in the proposed ordinance.

According to the staff report, condominium conversion activity indicates that from 2001 to July 2006, a total of 4,099 apartment units have been approved for conversion to condominium units, yielding an annual average of 734 units. The staff report proposes that the City use this average as an annual cap for conversions

According to the staff report, condominium conversion activity indicates that from 2001 to July 2006, a total of 4,099 apartment units have been approved for conversion to condominium units, yielding an annual average of 734 units.

to implement tenant relocation services, modeled after one that has been successfully implemented in West Hollywood. Currently, under the City's procedures, each subdivider is individually responsible for providing; the required services to each tenant.

The new program would create a "Tenant Relocation Contractor" that would be the City's contractor, responsible for providing all required tenant reloca-

MOORE BROS. & SONS & DAUGHTERS

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

One CALL does it ALL • Get MOORE for your MONEY

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">REMODELING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitchens • Custom Tile • Cabinets • Windows • Bathrooms • Flooring • Counter Tops • Doors </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">STEEL BUILDINGS</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p style="margin: 0;">Authorized Independent Dealer</p> </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houses/Barns • Riding Arenas • Storage/Garage • Churches/Offices </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">CONSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experts in all types of roofing • Additions • Fencing • Electrical • Decks • Patios • Gutters </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">PAINTING/PLUMBING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interior • Dry Wall • Exterior • Stucco • Repairs / Leaks • Copper RePipe • Main Lines • Sprinklers </div>
---	---

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

United Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award
California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition for Community Service
Senate Certificat of Recognition for Community Service - Adam Shiff

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

Continue to page 11

Padilla Pledges to Help Manufactured Home Owners

Promises To Bring Changes At The State Level

by Jean Bell and Samii Taylor

Sylmar—State Senator-elect Alex Padilla (D-SF Valley) and his chief of staff Felipe Fuentes met with homeowners of Sylmar's Blue Star Mobile Home Park Tuesday, November 22, to discuss the park's future and the possible loss of their homes.

Senator-elect Padilla said that his efforts to help his constituents fell on deaf ears November 15 during a meeting with Sierra Corporate Management President Abe Arrigotti. Sierra, a division of Kort & Scott Financial Group, manages numerous manufactured home parks throughout the US. One of the nation's most aggressive buyers of manufactured home parks, K&S is known for recouping their investment by rapidly escalating space rent.

Padilla expressed his concern to Arrigotti about certain business practices occurring at Blue Star and other K&S properties. When Padilla asked for a listing of parks currently owned by K&S, Arrigotti declined to provide one. Arrigotti de-

clared Sierra is well within its rights to increase resident space rent, and do whatever they want with their property in order to provide clients an expected return

The 156 homes located in the County are not protected by rent control. They received a rental increase of \$129, reflecting a monthly increase of 18-40%.

on investment. Concerned about Blue Star residents being economically evicted from their homes, Padilla asked Arrigotti how damaging Sierra's customer base (residents) could possibly benefit the corporation. Arrigotti provided no suitable response. Ultimately, Padilla then proposed that the re-

mainder of the Blue Star property be annexed into the City of Los Angeles, thereby providing Rent Control for all of the park's 186 homes. The suggestion was met with wide applause by the assembled residents

Padilla and "Neighborhood Friends LA," a non profit advocacy group representing manufactured homeowners, have been working with the residents of Blue Star since March. At that time, it was discovered that only 30 of its 186 homes are within City of Los Angeles boundaries. The 156 homes located in the County are not protected by rent control. They received a rental increase of \$129, reflecting a monthly increase of 18-40%. K&S also increased "turn-over rent" to new buyers by \$400, effectively eliminating their current residents' ability to sell their homes.

Glenn Bell, President of Neighborhood Friends LA, voiced concern regarding the Annexation with Board member Richard Close, the Attorney currently represent-

ing the owner of Palisades Bowl Mobile Home Park and their attempted conversion to circumvent Los Angeles' rent control. Padilla replied that Close would have a conflict of interest and would most likely re-use himself from the Blue Star annexation.

Bell also commented that if Blue Star residents were condo owners in Encino, instead of homeowners in a trailer park in Sylmar, help would have arrived almost immediately. Bell declared that what is happening to manufactured home parks

cy makers.

Padilla said that he is firmly committed to manufactured homeowners in the State of California, and will work diligently to bring about much needed change at the state level. Issues currently effecting manufactured home parks are "hot button" concerns because of the impact on thousands of lower income families and seniors. Padilla believes that manufactured homes and manufactured home parks represent a diminishing affordable housing resource that should be officially protected by



in California is not just a landlord/tenant rental dispute or another "trailer park in trouble" event. Owners of manufactured homes are experiencing systematic destruction of an entire class of people—a destruction seemingly supported by financial institutions and poli-

legislation to prevent further loss.

Senator Padilla referenced State monies available to assist homeowners in purchasing the land beneath their homes. His commitment extends to ensuring that Housing Authorities consider

Continue to page 7

The North Valley Reporter
www.northvalleyreporter.com.

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

Publishers
 Jeannine Crowley and Nina Royal

News, Community, and Calendar Editor
 Nina Royal

Section Editor
 Jeannine Crowley

Editor at Large
 Edward Rivera

Graphics and Design
 Jeannine Crowley

Contributing Writers
 Adam Barnett, Mary Benson, Cindy Cleghorn,
 Marlene Hitt, Edward Rivera, Nina Royal

North Valley Sales Representative
 Opening

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

REAL ESTATE & PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
a SOUND Investment

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

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

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

SLATER & REALTY INC
 Property Management

www.Realestate-Reports-Free.com



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

Proposal for Storage Units in Sylmar Withdrawn

By Nina Royal

Thursday, November 28, Representatives from Foothill Trails and Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Councils were in attendance at the City of Los Angeles Planning and Land Use Committee to support an appeal by their Sylmar Community neighbor. So. California Edison had intended to build 1,500 storage units under the Edison transmission lines near their equestrian trails. The Sylmar community was opposed to the project because it would cause more traffic, noise and vandalism in their neighborhoods.

According to the Sylmar Chamber of Commerce, they were lead to believe that the "deal" had been worked out by the city approximately 3 years ago. Edison would be allowed to put their storage units in Sylmar in order to keep equestrian trails open in the Shadow Hills, Lake View Terrace, Sunland-Tujunga areas. Community leaders in both areas denied knowledge of the project and confirmed that they had not been consulted.

Upon arrival, representatives were delighted to hear the news from Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Wendy Greuel, that RHC Communities/Pacific Storage Partners and Edison had just withdrawn their proposal for the project within minutes of their arrival. Rumor is that Alex Padilla, former Councilmember for District 7 was not in favor of the project, which may be the reason for their withdrawal.



FLOWERS 4-U
13521 1/2 Hubbard Street
Sylmar, CA 91342
(818) 898-3161
www.flowers4you.com

No To Home Depot Plans Lawsuit Against City

Wants 'Improvement' Designation Reconsidered

by Nina Royal

The No 2 Home Depot Campaign in Sunland-Tujunga has begun to raise funds for a lawsuit against the construction of the new store on Foothill Boulevard, and the project has been stalled by the City.

Joe Barrett, chairman of the Alliance, said a lawsuit is the only way to get the City to protect and support the Sunland-Tujunga community fairly.

City officials told the community at a recent Town Hall Meeting that Home Depot would not start work on the site until a final determination is issued on their appeal. However, Home Depot has started working under their permits before the outcome of the appeal has been determined.

Community members are concerned that the city will now take into consideration the amount of money Home Depot has invested in improvements in determining whether their plans are deemed a "Project" instead

of "Tenant Improvements"

The difference in the two definitions would determine whether or not the City could demand a more

Joe Barrett, chairman of the Alliance, said a lawsuit is the only way to get the City to protect and support the Sunland-Tujunga community fairly.

complete Environmental Impact Report, which would delay or perhaps stop the store's construction

Home Depot has fenced off the former K-Mart site and has shored the exterior walls they claim are supposed to be independent of the present, with steel "dead man" braces. They are replacing the 3-4 inch slab with a rock-based reinforced 6-inch slab to support their

products. The No 2 Home Depot Campaign in Sunland-Tujunga believe that the walls are not presently independent of the slab. Also, they believe as indicated by the Foothill Corridor Specific Plan, that the Home Depot plans should be considered a "Project" when they applied for the permits and they should have been required to submit to an Environmental Review

The No 2 Home Depot Campaign is a group under Sunland-Tujunga Alliance (STA), a 501c3-non profit organization originally formed to support the "No 2 Home Depot in Sunland-Tujunga" campaign and to encourage a general store on the former Kmart site.

360 persons attended a recent Town Hall Meeting regarding Home Depot, where, in an informal poll, only seven people were in favor of Home Depot.

For further information regarding the Home Depot Corp. visit www.homedepot.com.

Campaign to Save 75 Year Old Trees Fails

Sun Valley - It was discovered in October that the city was requiring the developer of the former Sheridan Gardens Nursery on Glenoaks Boulevard in Sun Valley to take out 36 trees including protected Sycamores in order to widen a portion of the Boulevard as a condition for their Condo project. The developer did not want to take out the trees.

Apparently the pleas from the Sun Valley Neighborhood Council and community members were not enough to convince Gail Goldberg, the Director of Public Works and/or Council District 2 to intercede with the Street Services Dept. to save 36, 75 year old trees from destruction. According to conservationists, it will take years to realize the same benefits from the shade, oxygen and beauty the mature trees provided, even though each will eventually be replaced by two young trees. No one saved the trees.



Before 36 mature trees lined the street.



No one saved the trees.

NORTH VALLEY
Reporter

is looking for a few good subscribers.

Delivered to your mail box the second and fourth Wednesday

six months—\$25

one year—\$48

Just include your name, address and phone number with your payment to:

North Valley Reporter

P.O. Box 674

Tujunga, 91042

818-293-0060

www.northvalleyreporter.com

Activist Declares Write-In Candidacy for Council District 2

Sunland-Tujunga resident and community activist, David G.Cain, has announced his decision to become a Write-In Candidate to represent Los Angeles City Council District 2. Councilmember Wendy Greuel is currently running unopposed in the June, 2007 election. Council District 2 covers Sunland-Tujunga, Shadow Hills, La Tuna Canyon and parts of Lake View Terrace, Sun Valley, North Hollywood, Van Nuys, Valley Glen, Studio City, and Valley Village.

Cain attended Mt Gleason Jr. High and Verdugo Hills High Schools and has been a resident in Sunland-Tujunga most of his adult life. He is a profession business owner and Bee Keeper in the area. He is also an Engineering Design mentor to local high school students.

As an elected member of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, he represents Neighborhood Council Area Three, serves on the Budget Committee, Outreach Committee and is the Sunland-Tujunga representative to the Department of Water and Power's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Committee and has been active in the civic affairs

Cain stated, "if elected, my desire and goal is to take power away from "Special Interest Groups" and give it back to our communities. I will also be an advocate for "open and transparent" government that listens and responds to the needs of our people."

Cain must have sufficient votes in the March 6 primary election in order



to participate against incumbent Councilmember Greuel in the June election.

Point of information. The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council is the only Neighborhood Council which Councilmember Greuel is sole representative. She shares the other 9 Neighborhood Councils in her District with other Los Angeles City Councilmembers.

Horse Keeping Endangered in California

by Mary Bensen

Finalizing an eight-year effort to establish jurisdiction over Malibu Valley Farms (MVF), a race horse farm in the Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles County, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) has handed down three decisions.

In 1978, MVF began converting 31 acres of strictly oat/hay farming and cattle and sheep grazing land into 25 acres of grazing and six acres of equestrian facility. The Commission found no vested agricultural use re-



brought evidence that they were in compliance with agencies regulating water quality. MVF is responsible because horse manure and urine contains *E. coli*, phosphorous and nitrites. MVF is subject to discretionary actions like removal because there is a potential for pollution. Birds, sea lions, cattle, sheep, deer and ground squirrels poop and distribute *e.coli*, but the Coastal Commission does not regulate those animals, only horses, dogs, cats and people.

The California Coastal

Commission and its Los Angeles County representative Heal the Bay, began acting in 2003 on the expansion of the California Coastal Commission's authority and jurisdiction. Every storm drain and catch basin in the City of Los Angeles has been emblazoned with Heal the Bay's logo and "Drains to the ocean" prominently stenciled at thousands of locations.

The CCC/ Heal the Bay argument is that cleaning up the water that flows into the

Continue to page 15

Three words must be added to the list of agricultural uses in California's Public Resources Code— "And Equine Keeping."

mains. The is case not one of pollution, hwever. MVF



Kathy's Trees

CHRISTMAS TREES & WREATHS

Large Trees Available
3 to 10 ft.

Order Today!
While Supplies Last!

Top Quality

NOBLE • DOUGLAS • GRAND FIR

Priced just right.

Great for Businesses, Churches & Homes

DELIVERY, FIREPROOFING & FLOCKING AVAILABLE



KATHY'S KREATIONS

8421 Foothill Blvd., Sunland

Mon.- Sun.
9am - 9pm

(818) 353-5416

www.kathystrees.com



Cheyanna's Bookstore

- Regular & Custom Pictures
- Moving Waterfalls
- Stocking Stuffers and Much More Holiday!

"A house without books is like a room without windows"

(818) 353-5416

8417 Foothill Blvd., Sunland



NORTH VALLEY Reporter

We are looking for a few good Sales Reps.

- Leads provided
- Some established accounts
- Flexible work schedule
- No experience necessary
- Training provided

North Valley Reporter
818-293-0060

email@northvalleyreporter.com

COMMUNITY



Cindy Cleghorn,
STNC Chairwoman

Sunland Tujunga NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

and recognized for sharing in the spirit of the season. Each nominee receives a "Holiday Spirit" certificate by mail or at the January 10, 2007 STNC meeting.

For more information on the Winter Holiday Outdoor Decorating Program, or to nominate a property by phone, contact Ed Rock, STNC Office Manager at (818) 951-7411.

DWP Budget Workshop Update

David Cain, STNC District 3 board member recently attended the DWP/MOU Budget Workshop where neighborhood councils saw a power point presentation regarding DWP's projected financial needs. Many questions were addressed but more time was needed to get into the nitty gritty of the details. A 12% transfer fee is proposed that really didn't meet well with those who attended. Another opportunity will take place in either February or March for more discussion.

The MOU came about because the rate payers were not in the loop when it came to DWP's proposed rate increases in 2003-2004; Neighborhood Councils from all areas of Los Angeles banded together to oppose the 18% increase and the

transfer of DWP monies to the City's General Fund.

As the future budget workshops are presented, we should be preparing responses and comments to the proposals. We'll keep you posted.

Design Advisory Committee (DAC) News --

Tortas Mexican Restaurant located at 6231 Foothill is requesting a beer and wine license approval. The determination will be a conditional permit for a set period of time and will include limits that beer and wine can only be served for patrons who also purchase food. Across the street at the site of the former Blockbuster Video, Wells Fargo has remodeled and opened its doors. This site is within the City of Glendale's approval process. It is nice to see their improvements have been made quickly. PetSmart will move into the former Ralphs market next to Do-It Center. Look for the start of their tenant improvements where they will occupy 2/3 of the building and sub-lease the remaining 1/3. They recently appeared before the DAC to seek community support for their signage changes. The old Ford property permits have held up the start of development. At this point it appears nothing will start til early 2007. You've probably noticed that construction work has begun at the site of the proposed Home Depot in Sunland. Everyone I talk to is outraged. Home Depot has started digging up the foundation to pour a new one. The site should be declared a "Project" so the community can be certain all environmental and public safety concerns are addressed, especially for our neighbors immediately adjacent to the site and Apper-

son Elementary School. The change of use for the former Penske Auto Center is a further impact in that Home Depot says they'll just not use that area so they can avoid the "Project" review process that is required by our Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan. The piecemealing of these permits has DAC Chairman Victor Castro, the committee and community at-large urging our Councilmember's help as well as the entire City Council.

Safety News

Earlier this year the STNC voted to participate with our neighboring neighborhood councils (Foothill Trails, Sun Valley Area and Pacoima) supporting the purchase of a License Plate Reader Camera for the Foothill Division. I'm happy to report that it was installed on November 16th and is already patrolling our streets.

Neighborhood Council Review Commission

What do you think neighborhood councils should look like in 5 years? As the commission travels throughout the City to hear stakeholders address this and many other questions about the neighborhood council system, I hope you will participate by either attending a meeting or sending in your comments via the web site, by mail or fax. Visit the newly designed web site at ncrcla.org for more information. Some of the points from our last meeting included: The strength of neighborhood council advice will be based on the level of consensus reached on an issue; people faithfully represent their community; power doesn't mean you have to have decision making power (or does it?); hold elected officials accountable; ease of participation. This is a small

sample of points discussed. The next public hearings will take place on January 9 in the Harbor area and January 11 in West L.A. A survey to past and present board members will be distributed soon. Don't miss the opportunity to participate.

How to Contact the STNC

The STNC meets every second Wednesday of the month at Mt. Gleason Middle School at 10965 Mt. Gleason Avenue, Sunland at 7 p.m. Next meeting will be on January 10th, 2007. All stakeholders are welcome and meetings operate under California's open meeting rules (the Brown Act). Agendas are posted on the STNC web site and also at the S-T Chamber, 8250 Foothill Blvd., Unit B; the Sunland Senior Center, 8640 Fenwick, Sunland and North Valley City Hall, 7747 Foothill, Tujunga. Agendas are also posted at local businesses in Sunland-Tujunga. You can also sign up to receive STNC News via e-mail through the STNC web site at www.stnc.org. Check the STNC web site for updates and other committee meetings. Call the STNC office to verify meeting time and location. Thank you to The North Valley Reporter for providing space for this article.

*Happy
Holidays
&
Happy
New Year!*

Our Lady of Lourdes School

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

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



December	13	Monthly STNC meeting - 7 p.m. - NVCH
December	16	Outreach Committee - 1 p.m. at Joselito's
January	8	DAC - 7 p.m. at NVCH
January	10	STNC at Mt. Gleason - STNC Board Elections "Kick-Off" meeting
January	22	DAC at North Valley City Hall

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

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

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



Sun Valley NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



Saturday, December 10. Sun Valley Neighborhood Council held Board Elections at Polytechnic High School. Results to be announced.

Pacoima NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

A Message From the Pacoima Neighborhood Council

by Edwin Ramirez, President

Having successfully completed our elections on December 2, I would like to thank Board members Reuben Garcia, Morris Pichon and Christopher Castro, DONE's coordinator Leyla Campos and Independent Elections Administrator Josué L. Barbosa for their time and efforts. I also want to thank the Pacoima residents for taking the time to vote, making this process worthwhile.

Based on the preliminary election's results; Fannie Long was elected to a senior's position; Rebecca Long to an At-large position, Raphaela Rawls to a Homeowner's position, Jeff Calzada to a Renter's position, Ramiro Cifuentes to an Industrial position and Braxton G. Berkley to a Community Based Organization's position. These new members will take their seats at our general meeting of December 20, 2006. New leadership of the council will also be elected at this meeting.

On behalf of the PNC and the Community of Pacoima, I welcome the new Board members and wish them well in their new task and also express my gratitude to the departing members for the time served and for their contributions to the PNC.

As one of the departing members, I also wish to express my personal thanks to each one of the Board members for all the help, collaboration and support provided to me as President and as a Board member.

I would also like to invite everyone to attend our meeting on December 20 and meet the new members as well as to witness the election of the new leadership for PNC. We meet the third Wednesday of every Month at 6:30 pm in the Community Room of the Pacoima Youth and Family Center, 11243 Glenoaks Blvd (cross Street Van Nuys Blvd)

For more information on the council, you may call (818) 590-4792 or E-mail us at pacoimaneighborhoodcouncil@yahoo.com

Padilla Pledges to Help - from page 3

manufactured homeowner-ship when these programs are funded. Padilla feels California legislators need to support and empower local governments to secure this type of housing.

Before leaving Blue Star, Senator-elect Padilla applauded the advocacy efforts of Neighborhood Friends on behalf of California's manufactured homeowners. Even though he is headed for his new office in Sacramento, Padilla publicly renewed his commitment to working closely with Neighborhood Friends on these vital issues. Proactive grass roots advocacy can successfully

change Federal, State, and local laws to equal the playing field for manufactured homeowners.

Sadly, help has come too late for two female Senior Citizen residents of the Blue Star Mobil Home Park. Neighborhood Friends discovered that these two women in their late eighties have not been eating because they have no money left for their food or medicine after paying the excessive rent increase for their Mobil Home spaces. It appears that the City/County line runs in the middle of their property and they have not been able to receive any help from either

government, each claiming it is the responsibility of the other. Neighborhood Friends has vowed to seek help for them and has gathered emergency supplies for them.

Anyone wishing to help these seniors and others like them can contact Glenn Bell, President, Neighborhood Friends at 818-860-1113 or visit their website: www.neighborhoodfriends.us

Retiring U.S. Postmaster Honored

by Nina Royal

Postmaster General of the Sun Valley Post Office, Jon Eshbach, was treated to a Surprise Retirement Party by his Post Office co-workers as well as community members of the organizations in which he is a participant.

The Sun Valley Chamber and the Neighborhood Council were also included in the conspiracy to honor him at the Fairways Restaurant in Pacoima on Sunday, December 3. They were able to pull it off and he was totally surprised and shocked, to the delight of the attendees!

Esbach, a lifetime Sun Valley community member, attended Fernageles Elementary School, Sun Valley Middle School and Francis Polytechnic High School. He joined the Post Office at 19 years of age and only left to serve in the Air Force

from 1965 through 1969. They held his position for him and Eshbach returned to the Post Office after finishing his tour of duty.

He completed a total of 41 years of service, serving 22 of those years as Post Master General in Sun Valley.

He is the current President of the Sun Valley Neighborhood Council, former President the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Rotary Club.

Councilmember Wendy Greuel and the Sun Valley community commended him for his achievements and invaluable commitment to the community. Eshbach said that he may be retired from his job, but he remains committed to serving his neighborhood.

**Commerce
Market Place
Produce & Deli**

10047 Commerce Ave.
Tujunga

Sunland-Tujunga's Winter Holiday Spirit Award

STNC's Winter Holiday Decorating Program to recognize residents and business owners who go out of their way to make their neighborhood look extra special during the winter holiday season.

Nominate your neighbors' home or business or even nominate your own winter wonderland. Each nominee will receive a "Holiday Spirit" certificate by mail or at the January 10, 2007 STNC meeting. For more information on the Winter Holiday Decorating program, or to nominate a property by phone, contact the STNC office at (818) 951-7411.

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
"improving the quality of life in Sunland-Tujunga"
www.stnc.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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

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



Deja View Photography

818-951-5299

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

- Photo Mugs
- Photo Clocks
- Photo T-shirts
- 1-Photo Calendars (12 months)
- 12-Photo Calendars (12 months)

Restore OLD photos to look like NEW!

- One-hour photo
- Prints from your digital camera
- Passport photos only \$7.95
- Economy Picture Framing only \$39.95 up to 24 x 36
- And much more!

3 1/2 x 5 or 4 x 6
Digital Prints only 19¢
From all media.
no minimum.
with this coupon

=====

135mm 24 exposure
Film Developing
24 Hr Service
only \$4.99
at time of developing
with this coupon

7904 Foothill Blvd. Sunland



WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13

STNC-GEN MEETING
7747 Foothill, S-T
7 pm 951-7411

MHNC OUTREACH COM.
10161 Sepulveda, MH
6:30 pm

HOLIDAY MIXER
S-T Chamber &
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
6 pm 352-4433

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

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

SYLMAR WOMEN'S CLUB
Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odssey, G. H.
\$20 833-8033

THURSDAY, DEC 14

CHAMBER LUNCHEON
CAPT. JORGE VILLAGAS
China Town Buffet
3760Foothill, Syl
11:30 am
367-1177

STNC BYLAWS
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, Tuj
3 pm 951-7411

HOLIDAY MIXER BY
SMALL BUSINESS PARTNERS
SUN VALLEY CHAMBER
Fairways Restaurant
10400 Glenoaks, Pac.
5:30-7:30 pm 767-7212

SYLMAR N/C MEET.
Hubbard St. Elementary
13325 Hubbrad St.
6:30 pm 833-8737

S-T LIONS CLUB
Joselitos Restaurant
7308 Foothill, S-t
6:30 pm 353-5420

S-T COORDINATING
COUNCIL
Joselitos Restaurant
7308 Foothill. S-T
11:30 am 353-7056

SHADOW HILLS PROPERTY
OWNERS ASSOC. (SHOPA)
Tierra del Sol
9919 Sunland, S.H.
7 pm

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

Chanukah Begins

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 16

CERT LEVEL 2 CLASS
Granada Hills Charter
Hi School
8am - 5 pm
www.cert.la.com

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

SAN FERNANDO PIONEER
MEMORIAL CEMETARY
Foothill & Bledsoe, Syl
9 - noon 365-5860

ARTS, CRAFTS & BOOK SALE
Lake View Terr Library
12002 Osborne , LVT
11 am - 2 pm 890-7404

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

CERT LEVEL 2 CLASS
Granada Hills Charter Hi
School
8am - 5 pm
www.cert.la.com

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

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

MONDAY, DEC. 18

FAMILY HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Sylmar Library
14561 Polk , Syl
3:30-4:30 pm 367-6102

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

ARLETA N/C
Beachy Elementary School
9757 Beachy, Arl
6:30 pm 897-9122

GRANADA HILLS NORTH N/C
Van Gogh Elementary
17160 Van Gogh, G.H.
7 pm 360-4346

SYLMAR N/C LAND USE
13515 1/2 Hubbard, Syl
6:30 pm 833-8737

TUESDAY, DEC. 19

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

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

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

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

S-T LIONS CLUB
Joselitos Restaurant
7308 Foothill, S-T
6:30 pm 353-5420

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION
"THE MARCH"
Granada Hills Library
10640 Petit, G.H.
1:30-3 pm 368-5687

SYLMAR CHAMBER TOY
DRIVE MIXER
Keep it Self Storage
16045 Foothill, Syl
5:30 pm 367-1177

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

ELECTIONS
S-T Elks Lodge
10137 Commerce, S-T
8 pm 352-2098

FOOTHILLS TRAILS N/C
Lake View Terr Rec.Center,
11075 Foothill, LVT
7 pm 601-4407

LAPD BLOCK CAPTAINS
13867 Foothill, Syl
7:30 p, 367-1177

FRIDAY, DEC. 22

WINTER BEGINS

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

BLOOD DRIVE
Waste Management
9081 Tujunga, SV
1-7 pm 252-3146

SUNDAY, DEC. 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY
CELEBRATION
Music Center
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
135 N. Grand, L.A.
Free + Free Parking
3-9 pm 213-972-3099

MONDAY, DEC. 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS

MONDAY, DEC. 26

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

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS, DEC. 28

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





FRIDAY, DEC. 29

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

SUNDAY, DEC. 31

NEW YEARS EVE

MONDAY, JAN. 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

TUESDAY, JAN. 2

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

SUNDAY, JAN 7

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

MONDAY, JAN. 8

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 9

ETI CORRAL
Chamber Office
13867 Foothill, Syl
7:30 pm 367-1177

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

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN 10

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

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

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

THURSDAY, JAN. 11

NETWORKING BREAKFAST SYLMAR CHAMBER
Denny's Restaurant
Hubbard & Gladstone
7:30 am 367-1177

SUNDAY, JAN. 14

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

MONDAY, JAN. 15

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 16

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

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

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

THURSDAY, JAN. 18

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

SUNDAY, JAN. 21

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

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

MONDAY, JAN. 22

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 23

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24

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

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

LUNCHEON SYLMAR CHAMBER
China Town Buffet
13760 Foothill, Syl
11:30 am 367-1177

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

SUNDAY, JAN. 28

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

MONDAY, JAN. 29

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 30

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN 31

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

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



Henritette's Gift Center Christmas Sale

Dec. 4 - Jan 15

**Great Prices!
10%-20% off**

Crystal • China • Dinnerware
Houseware • Kitchen Appliances
Figurines • Statues • Fountains • Gifts

(818) 951-3480

Mon-Sat 10am-7pm • Sun 11am-5pm
8319 Foothill Blvd., Sunland
(Foothill & Scoville next to Century 21 Crest)



Century 21 Penny L. Blackwell, CPM[®] REALTOR[®]

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

Century 21 Sharon Yoho
Broker Associate
Notary Public

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

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

30 YEARS SERVING THE FOOTHILLS
PEOPLE FIRST, KNOWLEDGEABLE

Bilingual:
Hablo Espanol Para Servirle

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

Each office is independently owned and operated

Fran and Ray
Realtors/Notaries
Office 818 446-0399
Fran's Cell 818 395-5351 **Ray's Cell 818 395-5363**

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

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

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

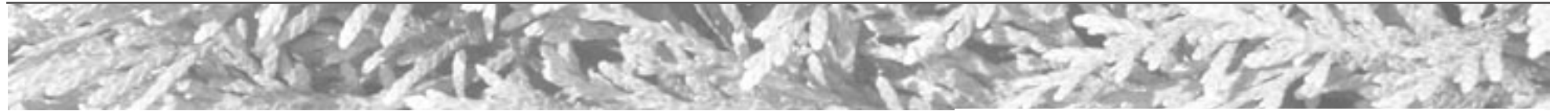
CM & PRINTING COPYING MAILING

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

Historic SUNLAND-TUJUNGA 2007
WELCOME

Limit one per person. Limited time offer.

"One kind word can warm three winter months"
Japanese proverb



Free Family Fun Holiday Happenings

Wednesday, December 13 through
Friday December 29

ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHT FESTIVAL

Largest Holiday themed event in So. California
Enjoy from within vehicles
Griffith Park along Crystal Spring Drive
Free - pm to 10 pm 1-888-527-2757

Saturday, December 16 and
Sunday, December 17

"CHRISTMAS IN THE THEATER"

An original family play which promises to be a lot of fun for everyone with some original songs, as well as some of the most favorite Christmas songs of all time
Sunland Neighborhood Church
10632 Oro Vista Ave., Sunland
Free - Sat. 7 pm. - Sun. 10:30 am - 818-352-3186.

Sunday, December 24

L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Multicultural Choirs, Instrumental Groups
Dance Companies
Around 1,500 performers
for 35 groups chosen competitively
Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
135 No. Grand Ave. Downtown Los Angeles
Doors open 2:30 pm 3 pm - 9 pm
Free Entrance - Free Parking

Hanukkah

by Adam Barnett

Hanukkah (also spelt Chanukah) is a huge annual Jewish religious event that celebrates the reclamation and rededication of the Holy Jewish Temple in Jerusalem after it was forcefully taken back from the Greco-Syrian monarch, Antiochus Epiphanes, by a small group of Jewish freedom fighters called the Maccabees. The miracle of the oil that happened at that time.

The Jewish freedom fighters arose because Antiochus Epiphanes had forced the Jewish people to practice Greek culture and forbade them from reading the Torah. The insurrection was first led by Mattathias the Hasmonean, and later by his son Judah the Maccabee. This is why the freedom fighters came to be known as the Maccabees. Even though the Maccabees were outnumbered, after three years of fighting they were able to recapture the Temple mount and begin to repair the damage that had been done to it. However, when they went to rededicate the Temple and light the menorah, they found only enough oil to burn for one day, but they knew that it would take eight days to make and consecrate more oil.

In faith the Maccabees decided not to wait the eight days, but rather they lit the menorah right away with the remaining oil and a miracle happened as the oil continued to burn for eight days while new oil was being made and consecrated! For this reason, Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days each year, beginning with the 25th day of Kislev, and it is also often known as the Festival of Lights.



Each evening the Hanukkah menorah is lit, with one more candle being lit every day until all the candles are alight. Once the candles are lit, let them burn out on their own, and do not use their light to light your room and do work or read by, but rather just to be looked at to be appreciated and enjoyed. The purpose of the candles is just to serve as a reminder of the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days in the Temple.

The Hanukkah menorah has 9 branches. Eight of the branches represent each of the 8 days the menorah burned in the Temple after the Maccabees defeated the Syrians. The 9th branch is set apart from the others, often slightly higher, and it holds the Shamash, which literally means "servant." The Shamash is lit first and is used to light each of the other candles. The first night of Hanukkah, you light the Shamash plus one. On the second night, you light the Shamash plus two, and so on until the end of Hanukkah.

There are traditional blessings that should be recited before the lighting of the menorah, two each night and one extra the first night only. After the lighting it is customary to sing Maoz Tzur (Rock of Ages), a traditional song, as well as other Hanukkah songs. Many times the children or adults will

play the dreidel game while the candles are burning, do hanukkah crafts, eat chocolate gelt, cook up a platter of latkes & sour cream, or read the story of hanukkah aloud. Often there are latkes and sofganiot (jelly donuts), as well as chocolate gelt and other goodies. Any food cooked in oil is traditional during Hanukkah, but the most popular is probably potato latkes, traditionally served with sour cream and apple sauce.

Hanukkah menorahs themselves come in all shapes and sizes. They can be made out of silver, gold, pewter, brass, ceramic, stone, wood, glass, or just about any other material. Contemporary menorahs will have the branches on all different levels, as in the Tree of Life menorah. Whether you are a biker, car racer, sailor, shoe collector, musician, chef, sports fan, hippy or whatever, there is a menorah out there for you! Just don't forget to order a box of hanukkah candles at the same time!

Adam Barnett works for Studio Shofar Judaica & Gifts, and hopes to help educate the judaica market to better understand judaica products in general. Visit us to learn more about hanukkah, menorahs & other festival items at www.studio-shofar.com/hanukkah.html. www.therealarticles.com



Sweet Cherrie's Diner

Delicious, Homemade Food At Reasonable Prices
OPEN 7 DAYS

Breakfast Served All Day • Lunch & Dinner Specials
Omelets • Belgium Waffles • Subs • Burgers • Deli Sandwiches
Grilled Orange Roughy or Halibut • Sautéed or Fried Shrimp

ORDERS TO GO • CATERING FOR ANY OCCASION
Mon-Fri 7am-9pm • Sat 7am-6pm • Sun 7am-3pm

818-353-0465
8236 Foothill Blvd. Sunland

MONSTER GUITAR

7010 Foothill Tujunga



7010 Foothill Blvd
2 Blocks West of
Tujunga Cyn

Noon To Night
Tues-Sunday
Closed Mon
& fer gigs!

- ✕ New & Used Cool Gear
- ✕ Private Lessons
- ✕ Expert Repair



Free MG Pick!

818 951 8900

Friendly Local Service



Friends of the Sylmar Library held their Children Boutique on Saturday December 10. Children stood in line to purchase Christmas gifts made by the "Friends". The funds are raised for Library programs.

Sun Valley Businessman a Candidate for Burbank City Council

by Nina Royal

Gary Bric, a successful owner of Gary Bric's Ramp, a popular restaurant on Hollywood Way in Sun Valley, has announced his candidacy for the Burbank City Council in their upcoming elections on February 27, 2007.

Bric, a life long resident and homeowner of neighboring Burbank is involved in many community affairs and concerns. He serves on the Burbank Traffic & Transportation Committee, Veterans Commemorative Committee, as well as being a member of the Burbank Civitan Club, Men's Golf Club and the Burbank Elks Lodge. He was also Co-Chair and organizer of an annual Golf Tournament held at Verdugo Hills Golf

Course in Sunland-Tujunga, that raised much needed funds for Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and other worthy charities for 19 years. He is also an active supporter of his church.

Said, Bric, his goal and mission is to help assure that the City of Burbank remains a Premier City and that its Public Safety and Service Departments continue to rank among the best. He believes in sensible growth while protecting the quality of life and environment for all Burbank citizens. Bric plans to continue to help mitigate present and future traffic problems while maintaining the character of



the community, as he now does on a daily basis.

Members serving on the Burbank City Council are of interest to the Sun Valley community because they share the Bob Hope Airport and its sphere of influence issues, as well as open space and natural resource conservation issues regarding their Verdugo Hills border.

Condo Conversions - from page 2

from apartments to condominiums.

In addition, the ordinance proposes that the cap be implemented through a quarterly lottery and that every quarter, one fourth of the 734 units be approved from two pools of applications: one pool of projects in which the applicants have agreed to set aside 20 percent of the units for families of low- or very-low incomes, and a second pool of projects which are 100 percent market rate. The lottery would draw first from the pool of projects with the affordable set-aside units and second, from the pool of market rate projects.

The report added that Los Angeles as a whole has a much lower home-ownership rate than the State, 39 percent versus 57 percent, and both rates are far below the national home-ownership rate of 69 percent.

For this reason the City Council, the City Planning Commission, and numerous housing task forces over the years have directed DCP and LAHD to create mechanisms to increase home ownership opportunities in the City. Because condominium conversions are the least expensive means for families and individuals to transition into home ownership, the directives to reduce condominium conversions (despite the competing objectives) inherently conflict with the directives to increase home ownership opportunities. In fact, the very-low home ownership rate explains why Councilman Parks intro-

duced a motion on February 11, 2005, directing staff to find ways to increase condominium conversions in his district, which has one of the lowest home ownership rates in the City and no condominium conversions at all. Because the home ownership rate varies widely between communities (from approximately 30% to 70%) it is important to consider the potential impacts of a condominium conversion cap on ownership rates, and the City's ability to create a housing market that has a healthy balance of rental and ownership opportunities across the City.

LAHD staff also proposes to develop and implement a program to assure that all tenants receive the benefits to which they are entitled. The new program would require owners to provide proof of payment and an affidavit from tenants indicating that they received the required payments.

If no affidavit is presented, the owner will be required to submit a declaration verifying that he/she has placed the requisite funds in an escrow account. The Department of Building & Safety will then collect a fee of \$33.00 per unit on behalf of LAHD to pay for the administrative costs of this program.

Prior to issuance of a demolition permit, Building & Safety would require clearance by LAHD, indicating compliance with this requirement.

The report will be heard by the full council this week.

A Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Santa and Mrs. Claus are represented by John and Susan Van Ness, owners of **Crumpets**, during the Commerce Avenue Christmas Celebration for children in Sunland-Tujunga on Saturday evening, December 10.



December 10, Lloyd Hitt, President of **Little Landers Historical Society** hosts their annual Holiday Day celebration that featured entertainment and refreshments.

McGorarty Art Center hosted their annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Festival which included entertainment on Saturday, December 10



YOUR LOCAL PRINT & COPY CENTER
 ALL the 'big guy' services...right here in town!

FRIENDLY FAST SERVICE

PROVIDING QUALITY SERVICES SINCE 1982

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

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

MAILING POSTAGE DISCOUNTS • INSERTS • TABBING

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

10034 Commerce Avenue IN HISTORIC OLDE TOWNE TUJUNGA
 www.cmprintmail.com (818) 353-7135

SOUND Off

Fighting Prop. R in Court

My attorneys have spent many hours and have gone through several revisions in the preparation of the document to be filed. Not being an attorney and not knowing all that is required for a successful challenge, I am attempting to maintain both my patience and my excitement. I have full confidence in their knowledge and expertise. The procedural technicalities (Respondents, Real Parties In Interest, Complaint or Petition) have been resolved and I will be meeting with them Sunday morning to sign the final document.

On Monday, December 11, 2006 the official challenge to Proposition R will be filed. It is just a beginning and we are surely in for a battle of massive scale. (Mother of all Battles). There is a lot on the line and those who stand to gain by Prop R will not go quietly. Make no mistake, we will be under severe attack and as we saw in the deceptive campaign funded by a million dollars in special interest money, nothing will be off limits.

You have my pledge that we will not go without a fight. No matter the sacrifice, as long as we can fight, I will stay on the front line.

Thank you to those who have contributed to the effort so far. On Monday I will be writing a three thousand dollar retainer check to my attorney. But much more is needed and it is needed immediately.

I will do my part, our attorneys will do their part. Rush your contribution to David Hernandez, PO Box 3245, North Hollywood, CA

91609 or go to www.termedout.com and make the non tax deductible contribution on line.

Go to www.zumadogg.blogspot.com for the "No on Prop. R" argument and many other Prop. R articles.

David Hernandez

Confessions of a Grandmother

I confess that as a pre-teen in a small English town, returning home from tap dancing class and buying a fish and chip snack on the way, would, without compunction throw my chip's wrapping newspaper on the ground wherever I was located. Be it the street, or someone's yard, it didn't occur to me that this was wrong.

Today, litter is the bane of my existence. I can't stand it! I believe it brings down the neighborhood terribly. Where litter accumulates it is quickly followed by graffiti, and then vandalism runs rampant.

This grandmother is making amends for my youthful transgressions by picking up litter once or twice weekly on Sherman Grove Avenue and the 8600 block of Hillrose in Sunland. On a daily basis, passersby drop their beer cans, cigarette packs, and assorted fast-food trash either from cars, or while walking in the area. Litter from the Hillrose Street filled up three grocery bags with trash this very morning. The Apartment dwellers in that area have no conscience when it comes to emptying their parked car's litter onto the street. Children walking to and from school carelessly drop their candy wrappers and empty snack packets on the ground. I have even picked up used disposable diapers that were left at the

curb. There is also the occasional condom wrapper and hypodermic needle.

It's true; the City of Los Angeles does NOT provide trash containers anywhere in sight. Also, Pat Davenport and subsequently, Angela Motta of Wendy Greuel's Council Office assure me that there is NO street cleaning on the 8600 block of Hillrose, and presumably because of shortages in either personnel or trucks, there never will be. So this Community-conscious Grandmother has to take it upon herself with her environmental and anti-crime concerns, to personally go about the streets picking up the trash that others have ignorantly cast down.

This is an appeal to all who live nearby, and in fact to any persons anywhere in the Sunland-Tujunga area: Please take home your litter and put it into your own trash receptacles. Please DO NOT turn our towns into garbage dumps. Be proud of where you live, and keep it clean. Teach your children by being a good example too. Thank you.

Olina F. R. Lowe,
Sunland-Tujunga

Proposed Billboard Settlement A Bad Deal for LA Residents?

Four years ago in 2002 a group of billboard companies, owners of about 10,000 billboards in the City, brought lawsuits against the City when the City passed an ordinance to deal with the many illegal billboards erected in the City without required permits and in violation of certain sign codes.

After the City won several rounds in the court, the billboard companies began to use appeals and other legal manipulations to drag out the cases and to stop any City action. Recently they offered the City a "deal" to settle the case. It was no less than blackmail. In exchange for their stopping the costly delaying tactics, the settlement will require the City to grant permits to all the billboards illegally erected, will allow single faced billboards to become double faced, and will allow static billboards to be converted to display digital animation currently not allowed (thus increasing visual pollution and traffic hazard). On November 29) the City Council agreed unanimously to the settlement, which was being orchestrated and recommended by City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, who by coincidence, received \$435,000 worth of billboards from the billboard companies in his first election.

It's time to take action and to demand that the City Council members not make this settlement permanent. And at the same time we need to send letters/e-mails to Mayor Villaraigosa demanding that if the Council votes on a permanent settlement, he vetoed their actions.

Time is of the essence! This is one issue that we can all agree upon. We need to ban billboard blight in Los Angeles as we strive to make our city greener and more livable.

Ted Wu
Coalition To Ban
Billboard Blight (CBBB)
Los Angeles, CA 90064
Email: cbbbla@verizon.net

Everyday Angels

On Sunday, November 26th, while unloading my shopping cart at Sam's Club in San Fernando, my purse was stolen. A person driving a light blue older model car, possibly a Chevy Impala, dropped off the passenger, a black female approximately 12-14 years of age with short black curly hair in pigtails in the parking lot. The driver drove to the corner of Arroyo and Foothill and waited for the child to do her devilish deed.

The girl crouched between the cars next to mine and waited for me to finish unloading my cart. I put my purse in my vehicle, closed the driver's door,

and walked the empty shopping cart around the back of my car. At that moment, the thief opened the passenger door of my SUV, grabbed my purse and took off running. I ran after her but youth was on her side and she was quickly gained the lead. A man, his wife and daughter who were in the Office Depot parking lot came to my assistance. They jumped into their vehicle and pursued the crook around the corner of Arroyo and Foothill. The pair had already escaped in the blue car. The good Samaritans returned to my location and offered me their cell phone to notify the police. They gave me a ride back to Sam's Club and disappeared into the Christmas crowd. This was the first sighting of angels to my rescue.

The management at Sam's Club eagerly assisted me in copying the pertinent parts of their surveillance tapes and gave them to Officer Patino of the San Fernando Police Department. Sam's Club employees and management embraced the opportunity to help me—the second angelic phenomenon.

On Tuesday evening, a young couple who lives a few blocks from Sam's Club knocked at my door at my home. They had found some of the contents of my purse discarded into the back of their pick-up truck. I hugged them and said you are my angels. At that time, the gentleman turned to me and said, "That's my name, Angel."

I hope that women heed this warning and hang on to their purses. Although the thieves didn't get any money from me (I immediately cancelled my cell phone, debit and credit cards from the telephone in the manager's office at Sam's Club), it cost me over \$500 to replace my driver's license and re-key my home, car and business. More importantly, however, I impress upon your readers that there are good people in this world. At this time of year when we pray for peace and love, I thank God for the "Angels" in my life. To the juvenile thief, I hope you keep the Miraculous Medal that was in my wallet. May the Blessed Mother, Mary, guide you to a life of character and honesty.

Merry Christmas,
Cathy Ercek
Sunland Tujunga

Billy's COMFORT SHOES • BOOTS • SANDALS • CLOGS
Lifts, Orthopedics, Alterations and all Shoe Repair
(818) 363-2753
11856 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344 • Knollwood Plaza

\$10⁰⁰ OFF!! all **We also carry many other brands of comfort shoes!**
Large & Wide Sizes!
Diabetic Shoes and Socks

★ Shoe Clearance ★
SELECTED STYLES
UP TO 50% OFF!!!

One discount purchase per customer expires 12/31/06

Do You Like North Valley Reporter? Please Support our Advertisers

SERVING THE PUBLIC

Message from Chief Bratten

Los Angeles Police Department

As we near the end of 2006 and begin the holiday season, I'd like to reflect on the past year. While the LAPD has enjoyed many successes that reflect the hard work of our men and women to make the City safer., we have also experienced losses...those who are not with us because they are serving overseas, those we have lost due to illness and accidents, and the loss of one whom paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

As of the first of December, a total of 25 Los Angeles Police Department employees, 19 sworn and six civilians are serving in the U.S. armed forces deployed on overseas assignments. Of those 25, nearly half will be spending their second, third, even fourth holiday season away from family and friends. While the Department offers financial and career support to our activated military personnel, our LAPD family also offers emotional support to these employees who are our partners and coworkers.

This has also been a difficult year because for the first time in two and a half years, the LAPD lost an officer in the line of duty. On Sunday, October 22, Northeast Area Officer Landon Dorris and his partner were investigating a minor traffic collision when a car hit Officer Dorris. The 31-year-old officer had been with the Department for just over three years. He served six years with the California Highway Patrol prior to joining the LAPD. Officer Dorris is survived by his mother and two sisters, a fiancé and two young sons, ages three and one-and-a-half.

We were also challenged this year by the deaths of several Department employees due to illness and accidents. This past year we lost 12 sworn officers, including 2 reservists, and one civilian employee. This past year presented a different set of challenges for several LAPD officers who suffered serious, life-altering injuries. In August, Hollenbeck Area Officer James Tuck was seriously hurt when he and his partner made a traffic stop in the Montecito Heights area. They had just pulled over a car when

the passenger got out and charged the officers. He sprayed their patrol car with high-velocity rounds from an AK-47. Officer Tuck was shot three times, with one bullet nearly severing his left hand at the wrist. The news for this young officer is promising, his physicians believe he will regain about 85 percent of the use of his hand after a year of rehabilitation.

Newton Area Officer Enrique Chavez was seriously wounded when his three-year-old son accidentally shot him in the back as they drove near their Anaheim home. Officer Chavez underwent surgery to have a metal rod placed in his spine and he remains paralyzed from the waist down. Officer Chavez is in rehabilitation and is progressing ahead of schedule.

In mid-June, West Traffic Division Officer Michael Toth was riding his Department motorcycle on his way home when he stopped to help officers from the California Highway Patrol conducting an accident investigation. As he was leaving the scene, a sports utility vehicle hit Officer Toth. He was rushed to a hospital and had extensive surgery on injuries to his face, chest and legs. Officer Toth is going through physical therapy and recently had more surgery to repair damage to his right foot. His goal is to be back at work mid-year 2007.

And finally, this summer Southwest Area Officer Kristina Ripatti was shot and paralyzed from the chest down while trying to arrest an armed man who had robbed a gas station. Now she spends several days a week in rehab and she works out in a gym to increase her upper body strength. As she learns to adjust to life in a wheelchair, Officer Ripatti also fights to stay mentally fit as she challenges conventional medical wisdom that she will never walk again.

Kristina, her husband Southeast Area Officer Tim Pearce, and their young daughter Jordan were recently featured on ABC television's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Their home was "made over" free of charge by hundreds of

Happy (And Safe) Holidays To All

A Message From The LAPD

The holiday season is upon us. With the season comes visits from loved ones, warm feelings of thanksgiving for our blessings, and holiday cheer. Unfortunately, the holiday season also brings out many opportunistic criminals who will prey upon those who have worked hard for what they have, and for the gifts they intend to give to their loved ones. Don't become a victim of these opportunists. Please take some simple precautions to make yourself and your loved ones harder targets for the criminals among us:

- When shopping during the holiday season, when possible, go with a companion. If you have your vehicle parked in a shopping mall where you might make several trips to the vehicle with gifts, move to a different parking space each time you place gifts in the trunk of your vehicle, and never leave any item of value in the passenger compartment of your vehicle. Some thieves watch shoppers as they return to their vehicle. If the shopper returns to the mall after placing items in the vehicle, the thief knows the shopper will most likely be gone for a while, allowing ample time for the thief

to break in to the vehicle and steal your gifts.

- Although many of us like our Christmas trees to be conspicuously displayed in the front windows of our homes, be cautious not to put gifts under the tree where a passerby might be able to see the opportunity to quickly break a window and relieve you of the gifts you've purchased.
- When using an ATM machine to get cash, try to have a companion with you and be mindful of your surroundings. This is especially important in the evening hours. If you see someone "just hanging out" near the ATM machine, come back at a different time, or find another machine to use.
- When going out for a stroll, also try not to be alone. Opportunist robbers find people who are walking alone much easier victims than those in groups. Ladies, unless absolutely necessary, don't carry a large purse when on a walk. Try to fit a few important items in a change purse which could fit into your pocket so a potential thief doesn't see an item he/she would like to take away from you.



Please place your vehicles in a garage, if you have one. When parking your vehicle on the street, in a parking lot, or in your driveway, please lock it. One again, please do not keep anything in the passenger compartment of your vehicle.

- Lastly, if you drink alcohol, please drink in moderation. Excessive ingestion of alcohol has caused too many tragedies during what should be a very festive time of the year. Remember, never drive after consuming alcohol. Use a designated driver.

I could go on, but I hope my few suggestion have started you thinking about your safety and the safety of your loved ones and your property. With a few precautions, you can ensure that this happy time of year is not marred by becoming a victim of a crime.
 Captain Joe Curreri
 Foothill Area

volunteers to accommodate Officer Ripatti's new disabilities.

This will certainly be an emotional holiday season for her and the others I have mentioned.

As you celebrate with your own loved ones, take the time to remember those men and women of the LAPD who are facing extraordinary physical and emotional challenges, those who will not be home with their loved ones, and those that have gone before us. In this city noted for its angels, these are the LAPD's angels.

Let me offer you and your families my best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.

Rise-N-Shine Cafe

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

Omelets
 Biscuits 'n Gravy
 Chicken 'n Waffles
 Chicken Fried Steak

Order Everything ☺ It's all Great!

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

**Sharon, Keith
& Family**

818-352-5755

**9685 Sunland Blvd.
Shadow Hills**

FUR, FEATHERS AND FINS

Toys and Treats for Homeless Pets

You can help a shelter by donating a new pet toy or pet treat to Toys and Treats for Pets. This popular program collects everything from rubber balls, kongs, pet sausages to chew bones and then distributes them to the shelter animals during the holidays until they run out. The items provide exercise, treats and mental stimulation, and help lower stress experienced by animals waiting for permanent loving homes.

Toys and Treats for Pets collection boxes are located at Animal Services Centers throughout Los Angeles. For more information please contact, (888) 452-7381 or visit one of your local Animal Care and Control Center.

Holiday Gifts That Please People and Pets

This holiday season; why not give gifts that enrich the lives of people and animals?

A wide range of gifts are available to provide people and pets with companionship, foster respect for animals and the environment, or improve an orphaned animal's quality of life.

If someone you know is ready to add a dog or cat to the family, don't buy them the animal. Instead, give them a Pet Gift Certificate from L.A. Animal Services. Selecting a pet, like making a friend, is persona, so it's important to let the owner choose. With a Pet Gift Certificate, the recipient can select from among the hundreds of adoptable animals at the city's six Animal Services Centers and provide a shelter animal with a loving home.

Certificates are available in a variety of amounts and can be used for dogs, cats, and rabbits. Adoption fees include vaccinations, spaying or neutering, and (for dogs) licensing. Certificates are valid for one year. To purchase a Pet Gift Certificate, visit any of the City of Los Angeles' six Animal Service Centers:

If you'd like to help a shelter animal, but your gift list doesn't include a potential pet owner, you can make a donation on a person's behalf to the City's Animal Welfare Trust Fund. Donations enhance the quality of life for shelter animals by funding animal supplies, medical equipment and improvements to Animal Service Centers.

How to Keep Pets Safe During the Holidays

Pet owners are encouraged to follow simple precautions to assure their pet's safety during the holiday season.

L. A. Animal Services reminds pet owners that popular holiday greenery such as mistletoe, poinsettias and holly berries are poisonous to pets. Human holiday edibles, especially chocolate, also can be harmful. Glass ornaments and tinsel are attractive to pets but pose serious health threats if chewed on or swallowed. Animals may also make the fatal mistake of chewing the cord on the Christmas tree lights and other decorations.

To keep pets safe, all food and decorations should be kept out of their reach. Turn electrical decorations off when a room is unattended. Cover Christmas tree stands to prevent pets from drinking the water and secure trees to prevent them from being toppled.

Pet owners who will be out of town for the holidays should make arrangements for the care

of their pets. "People should be certain that their animals will be provided food, water and appropriate care and a secure environment," said L. A. Animal Services General Manager Ed Boks. "Dogs must be licensed and all pets should wear identification. This greatly increases our chances of reuniting lost pets with their owners." If a pet is lost without identification, the owner should repeatedly visit local Animal Services Centers and, where legal, post signs in the surrounding neighborhood.

City of Los Angeles Animal Services Centers will be closed to the public on Sunday, December 24, Monday, December 25, 2006, and Monday, January 1, 2007, in observance of the Christmas and New Years Holidays. Emergency services will be available during this time. The centers will resume regular business on Tuesday, December 26, 2006 and Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

For information or assistance, residents can call L.A. Animal Services at 1-888-4LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381 (TTY Hearing Impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

L. A. Animal Services houses and cares for abandoned and unwanted animals in its six shelters, enforces animal-related laws, and acts to prevent cruelty to animals.



Won't You Adopt Me?



"Q" ID#A844310,
2 year old, Male/Unaltered
Tan Staffordshire Bull Terrier



"Abbot" ID#A843549,
2 year old, Male/Unaltered
Gray Domestic Short Hair

Animals in shelters don't have all the comforts of home. We try to make the animals as comfortable and as happy as possible and you can assist us by donating: BLANKETS, NEWSPAPERS, GALLON JUGS OF WHITE VINEGAR, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED RECTANGULAR LITTER BOXES, WOOD STOVE PELLETS, AND JINGLE CAT TOYS

Save up to
\$2,000
at closing

Plus, get an Exclusive Guarantee
of our mortgage value



Exclusive Guarantee

We're so confident in our mortgage value, if you're approved with us but close anywhere else, we'll give you \$200.* Your new home is waiting, so get started today.

Ask an associate today
how we can help you save.



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

Bank of America  Higher Standards

Horse Keeping - from page 5

Pacific Ocean needs to start farther inland than five miles and jurisdiction must be expanded into all coastal watersheds. Coastal watersheds cover everywhere in California with the exception of places like Death Valley, where no water drains to the ocean.

Is The Horse Industry The State's Next Endangered Species?

What implication does that have for other farms throughout the state? California horsemen and the future of horses in California are in limbo. The California Public Resources code does not include horse keeping in its listed definitions of agricultural uses. Horses are protected from slaughter by declassifying them as livestock. The entire California horse industry is vulnerable to the force and authority of this action. If this precedent is allowed to remain, it follows that large equine operations can no longer take for granted

their agricultural designation, rights, subsidies and protections obtained by growing hay and feed and keeping other livestock like sheep and cattle and exotics used for food. Taken to the extreme, the keeping or riding of a single horse could ultimately be used as a litmus test to remove the agricultural protection of an entire operation, as is evidenced by the recent Cease and Desist and Restoration orders which were applied to all of MVF's operations.

Three words must be added to the list of agricultural uses in California's Public Resources Code— "And Equine Keeping." This is the only action that will protect, preserve and support small horse ranches and recreational uses all over the state and give the horse industry the ability to avail itself of farm protections like the Williamson Act and operation assistance already available in California. It would retain the protection

of horses from slaughter. The need to clean our beaches and bring tourists back to the California Coast is a statewide imperative. That need should not be working to remove the horse industry.

The American Horse Council (AHC) has identified its financial contribution in California as the largest in the nation; accounting for over \$4 billion in direct contribution to the State's economy. Cal-Bred registries and the California Horse Racing industry must intervene. We need legislation similar to other states that have statutes, rulings and verdicts supporting the breeding, raising and sale of horses as an agricultural activity. California needs a horse council and an action committee. California passes racing bills, farm bills, agriculture bills and open space protection, but as the Commission demonstrated in its recent decision, none of that is a guarantee of the preservation of horses in California.

HERE'S MY CARD

CLEAN PALACE HOUSEKEEPING



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

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

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

AUTO HOME LIFE HEALTH COMMERCIAL

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

(818) 352-6044

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



PET GROOMING
by **Jackie Savage**
REASONABLE RATES
TENDER LOVING CARE

7758 WYNGATE STREET
Tujunga CA 91042

Call For Appointment
818-352-0536

www.thefishlady.com



1.800.4FISHLADY
THE FISH LADY
Fish Pond Maintenance Specialist

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



Retirement Planning Associates

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

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

James A. Ellis
Sunland-Tujunga
Lions Club

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

I Buy Houses

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

Refinancing SOLUTIONS available
we can STOP FORECLOSURE
PERSONAL LOANS

Call Dr. Levant
818.459.3738
www.DrLevantbuyshouses.com

Jan Gruen

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

Home Improvement Construction
Specializing in Concrete & Masonry


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



TUJUNGA AUTO SALES INC.
Buy - Sell - Trade - Finance - Visa - MC

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

7529 Foothill Blvd.
Tujunga, CA 91042



ALICE
COMPUTERWORKS CORP.

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

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

www.alicecomputer.com
varouj@alicecomputer.com

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Need Room "Al Timins"
defrauded of my home needs a room. I was awarded man of the year and town hero. I am a philanthropist, veteran, doer and giver, community activist. I believe in God. A non-smoker I am the Julia Cilds of San Fernando Valley, a member of the Legion, Elks past Pres. of S-T Kiwanis. I am a certified chef-invetor of Chili on a Stick. Reg. Trade Mark 2594881
Phone (818) 723-5207

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED

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

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

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

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

Christmas on Parade

Granada Hills



The blistering wind and biting chill didn't stop the 23rd Annual Granada Hills Holiday Parade on Sunday, December 3. The Parade included Grand Marshall's Donna Martell and Dick Jones, who both appeared in many western movies during the '50's and throughout their careers. The Parade sponsored by the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce included many local organizations and schools and the environment felt like Mayberry U.S.A.



Pacoima

Santa Claus arrived on a Fire Truck at the Pacoima Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 10. They managed to stay ahead of the rain during the 2 mile parade that started on Van Nuys and Amboy and ended at Herrick St.



They say that self praise is
no recommendation

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

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

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



818-353-9143

Tomi@TomiRealty.com

Helping sellers and buyers for 15 years

Classy Jewelers

December Extended Hours:

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm • Thurs-Fri 9am-7am • Sun 10am-5pm

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

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



FREE
Jewelry Cleaner

Come in and visit our store and receive a Jewelry Cleaner FREE
Expires 1/31/07

35% OFF
Any Watches

Expires 1/31/07

25% OFF
Any Jewelry
Purchase or Repair

Loose Diamonds Excluded
Expires 1/31/07

(818) 352-2380

Located in the StarBucks Plaza
8325-D Foothill Blvd.
Sunland

