

COMMUNITY NEWS

Maximum Crowd at Kickoff Event



Kevin James,
KRLA AM 870

Former Mayor Richard Riordan was a Special Guest Speaker at the kick off fundraiser for LA Clean Sweep on Saturday, July 17, at the Mayflower in North Hollywood. The room of approximately 200 attendees who turned out in the sweltering heat, was bursting at the seams as Master of Ceremony, Radio Talk Show Host Kevin James introduced Mayor Riordan and Ron Kaye, Founder and Chairman of Saving LA Project’s LA Clean Sweep Committee. Other speakers included Shirley Ford with The Parent Revolution, Parents Advocate Lydia Grant, Tezomoc leader of South Central Farmers and Gerardo Almeida, organizer of labor union organizer. The event received wide spread publicity from the media because members of Clean Sweep plan to raise funds in order to seek and support qualified candidates to run for public office in 2012.

Info: LACleanSweep.com

Congressman Supports Verdugo Hills Golf Course



U.S. Congress Member Howard “Buck” McKeon brought his office to Sunland-Tujunga on Friday, July 9. He met with Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council’s Executive Committee members in the morning to discuss land issues and other concerns of the community. He then met with a core group of community activists during lunch and followed up with a Town Hall meeting in the afternoon. The Congressman is a graduate of Verdugo Hills High School and reiterated his support for preserving both the Verdugo Hills Golf Course for open space and recreational use, as well as the Rim of the Valley.

Continued from cover — **Septic**

work properly, protect the public’s health and do not pollute any waters of the State. By easing administrative issues and lightening the burden on homeowners, the City intends to act as a buffer between the State and residential OWTS.

As part of this MOU and the waiver extension, however, the State has mandated the City to develop this ordinance to regulate the operation of septic tanks, and the ordinance must be in place by December 31, 2010. In addition, under the City’s storm water permit and water quality regulations for bacteria, the City is required to diligently address and eliminate any potential sources of pollution, especially bacteria. Having properly operating OWTS is an essential component for the protection of the quality of our waters and compliance with State and Federal laws.

The proposed ordinance already has undergone many revisions as we have been listening to the input people have offered at these meetings. We know that there is a great deal of information circulating about this important topic, and that some of it is inaccurate or outdated, so we want to make sure everyone knows, from us, where we stand at this time.

At the most basic level, the proposed OWTS ordinance is our attempt to take inventory of the systems out there. We believe there are approximately 12,000 OWTS in the City, but we want people to register so we know where they are and so owners can indicate that they are caring for their systems properly. This would involve self-certification, and the registration would be good for five years. While nothing is finalized, we expect that this fee will be minimal, or may even be administered at no

cost. This will apply to the vast majority of OWTS in Los Angeles.

Based on the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board’s most recent list of impaired water bodies, as defined by the 303(d) list of the Clean Water Act, there are approximately 300 OWTS in high-risk areas. This means they are either within 900 feet of active water wells, or within 600 feet of impaired water. Additional properties and areas along Santa Monica Bay in the Pacific Palisades area may be included as part of the high-risk areas as part of the City’s compliance with water quality mandates for bacteria in Santa Monica Bay. The proposed ordinance would require OWTS owners in high-risk areas to obtain operating permits every three years, and would require a certified inspection upon permit renewal. The cost for the OWTS permit in high-risk areas is currently being evaluated to ensure full cost recovery. We estimate that each three-year permit would cost \$350, or an annual cost of about \$117.

There has been much discussion about whether the City will require OWTS owners to connect to the sewer. The proposed ordinance will not require OWTS owners to connect to the sewer or to upgrade to advanced treatment OWTS. However, the City’s Municipal Code already mandates that property owners are required to connect to the sewer system if their septic system fails and/or requires replacement [LAMC 94.101.15.2] and a sewer is available within 200 feet of the structure [LAMC 94.713.4].

Residents should be aware that Assembly Bill 885 (passed in September 2000) directs the State Water Resources Control Board to develop standards for the permitting and operation of onsite sewage treatment and

disposal systems. These statewide standards were supposed to become effective in 2004, but they have been undergoing a long stakeholder review and revision process. As part of previous drafts of Assembly Bill 885 regulations, mandates to connect to sewers in high-risk areas were considered. Nothing has been decided at this time, but updates can be viewed at the California Water Resources Control Board website www.swrcb.ca.gov (go to “Septic” under “Programs” and see “New Draft OWTS Regulations”).

Thank you for your patience as we work through the process of preparing this ordinance. We are very grateful for your thoughtful input and engagement in this issue. We look forward to continuing to work together, and will be holding a few more “listening” sessions to hear from more of you. Two sessions will take place at the Bureau of Sanitation’s Media Center offices, located at 2714 Media Center Drive, Los Angeles, 90065 on Tuesday, August 3, from 1:30 pm.– 3:30 pm, and on Thursday, August 12, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. There will also be an evening session on Tuesday, August 10, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Council District 2’s Sunland-Tujunga Field Office - 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga 91042.

We will provide another update before the ordinance is finalized. For more information or to request a meeting, please call the Public Affairs Office at 213-978-0333, or email Lauren.Skinner@lacity.org. Approximately 40 percent of the OWTS are in the North San Fernando Valley.

Editor’s Note: Mr. Hagelkhalil is Assistant Director of the Wastewater Collection Systems and Watershed Protection for the Dept. of Public Work’s Bureau of Sanitation.

You Should Know...

By Nina Royal

Whooping Cough (Petrussis) - is back on the radar. The last outbreak was in 2005. Two hundred eighty-nine possible cases have now been reported and 184 are confirmed. The coughing of infected people who may not even know they have it is spreading the disease. The California Dept of Public Health is recommending vaccinations for children 7 years and older, who are not fully immunized, as well as persons 64 years and older. Call 211, or visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov for more information.

Volunteers needed for a Mounted Equestrian Patrol - Trails have become increasingly unsafe and misused. As a result, volunteers are being sought to commit a minimum of three hours on a weekend so that the trails can be utilized safely by everyone. For more information call Linda, 310-397-8886, or email: lindajones@promotionalstuff.com

Title Holders of foreclosed property beware - A new L.A. City ordinance has been passed that vacant property must be registered as defaulted and maintained and kept safe as soon as a notice is issued, or the city can levy a \$1000 a day fine per each code violation. Community members are requested to call the 311 hot line and report nuisance dwellings.

National Night Out August 3 - Check the Calendar in the middle of this issue for locations and times.

Neighborhood Council Election feedback meeting - by the office of City Clerk will be held Thursday **August, 5**, at Marvin Braude Constituent Center, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Rm 2B, Van Nuys. Neighborhood Council Board members are being invited to a series of regional meetings.

A Family Resource Fair in the North Valley - is being held by the Community Development Department. (CDD) and is a great opportunity to network and share resources. Businesses, organizations and service clubs will be providing resources and information regarding jobs, training. Also information services will be available free of charge to low/moderate and low-income residents in the City of Los Angeles and more. It will be held on Saturday, **August 7**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Hansen Dam Recreation Center, 11770 Foothill Blvd, Lake View Terrace. Contact Cynthia at CDD for more information at 818-352-135

Lloyd Hitt, retired as President of Little Landers Historical Society - The public is invited to join a celebration to honor his many of years of service to the Society, Bolton Hall Museum and the Sunland-Tujunga Community. Join him on Sunday, **August 8**, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave., Tujunga.

Looking for a job - Try the Job Fair hosted by Congressman Buck McKeon, Friday, **August 13**,

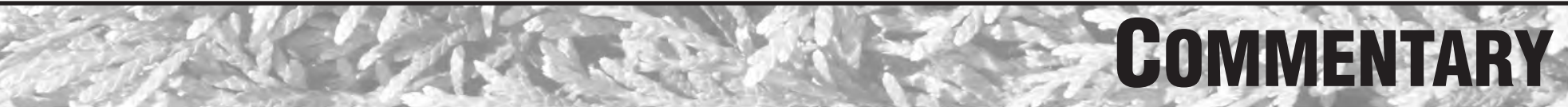
10:00 am – 3:00 pm in the Antelope Valley College Cafeteria, 3041 West Ave K., Lancaster. RSVP www.McKeon.House.gov.

Watermelon Festival time - is here. Marked an official tourist destination in the San Fernando Valley, the annual festival, sponsored by the Sunland-Tujunga Lions Club, begins **August 13 through August 15**. See the back page of this issue for more information.

A Non-Profit Leadership Summit - is being hosted by the Assistance League of So. California on Wednesday, **August 15**, 8:15 am to 4:15 pm, at 1370 St. Andrews Place, Hollywood. Council member Eric Garcetti will be the welcoming speaker. For questions, contact Marta A. Segura, District Director, at 323-957-4500, or by email marta.segura@lacity.org

The Sunland-Tujunga Family Safety Fair - scheduled to be held on Saturday, **August 21**, has been canceled until further notice due to budget cuts. City, County, and State Public Safety Departments are under strict financial control and until the economy improves there are no funds for extra outreach activities.

Community Carnival - A Fundraiser for LAPD’s Foothill Division Cadet program is coming soon. Save the dates, **September 3, 4, 5 and 6**, at Glenoaks and Van Nuys Boulevards. The times will vary. More information will be provided at a later date.



COMMENTARY

Money, Power and Corruption in L.A.



By Ron Kaye

What started 18 months ago as a David vs. Goliath struggle between ordinary citizens against the DWP and its IBEW now appears to be within eyesight of being on an even playing field. A massive effort to keep those organizations from taking \$4 billion out of the pockets of ratepayers for a phony solar energy plan has gained momentum to radically reform the nation's largest municipal utility and elect better people for a great Los Angeles.

On the upside, we have seen the City Council reluctantly stand up to the mayor's effort to raise electricity rates by up to 28 percent. We have also seen this same council escalate its battle over the DWP for an independent Rate Payer Advocate and change the makeup of the Board of Commissioners to free it from total political control.

Charter reform measures that would achieve those changes are expected to go on the ballot in March at the same time that the seven even-numbered Council seats are up for election.

The L.A. Clean Sweep reform movement (lacleansweep.com) is mobilizing people across the city to fight for citizen control of the DWP. Their goal is to also help elect new people to the City Council...people who have integrity and honesty and will stand up to the pressures at City Hall to go along with policies and programs they know are bad.

A new study entitled "Money and Power in the City of Angels", by Robert Stern's Center for Government Studies, shined the light on so much of what is wrong at City Hall. The study found that 99.93 percent of all Council votes were unanimous -- a shocking fact that shows just how controlled the Council, how lacking in independence of thought, and how submissive members are to the directions they are given.

The reason it's that way is because anyone who dares to show the courage of their convictions will be isolated and unable to achieve even the smallest needs for their district.

Here are some other facts the study uncovered: Incumbents in 2009 raised a combined total of \$5.3 million in private contributions, compared to challengers' total of \$285,000, a ratio of over 19-to-1. In addition, the study reported: "Independent expenditures made by unions, corporations, and other entities comprised about \$1.77 million and were concentrated in races for open seats."

In plain language, those who hold City Hall offices owe their elections to unions, developers, contractors and the flow of money that comes through lobbyists. It's a vicious circle in which the only interest that doesn't count is the public interest. That's why fees, taxes and rates keep going up and the city keeps moving closer to bankruptcy with libraries and parks closing, other core services being slashed, even as those residents who have any financial resources are having to pay the full cost of what services they do get, from ambulances to tree trimming to sidewalk repair.

The "Money and Power" study recommended that contributions to candidate controlled ballot measure committees should be subject to the same limits as contributions to candidate committees, and the information on contributions and expenditures should be put up on-line like those for candidates themselves.

It also called for banning lobbyists from "acting" as intermediaries who can deliver campaign contributions from their clients to officeholders or candidates that they have registered to lobby. You might remember that City Hall fooled the public into believing that lobbyists contributions were banned by the ballot measure that sneakily gave the Council a third term instead of being limited to two terms.

The study's recommendations are sensible enough. But laws and rules don't mean much when the people who write them and those who enforce them who are all part of a monolithic political machine.

The fight to fix L.A. is about power itself. Until strong and independent candidates are elected to office that are committed to and beholden to the voters nothing will change.

Join the L.A. Clean Sweep movement and get involved. It's going to take an army of ordinary people to change the political culture of City Hall and bring every segment of the community to a seat at the table of power. It can be done. It depends on you.

Editor's Note: Ron Kaye writes for the NVR and RonkayeLA.com

Continued from cover — **Parole**

Aguirre was adamant that "heads needed to roll" over these and other incidents. Aguirre named Matthew Cate, Scott Kernan, Robert Ambroselli, Margareta Perez and Maria Franco and said, "They have been less than transparent and totally incompetent." Assemblymember Nathan Fletcher and Ted Lieu both publicly acknowledged that the "system was broken".

Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck sent a letter to Cate expressing concern that Rueda had been placed on "non-revocable parole" in May, after serving just two years of a 10-year prison sentence on firearms and other charges.

Assemblyman Ted Lieu (D-Torrance), has called for an investigation by Office of the Inspector General (OIG). "Rueda should have never been on NRP," said Lieu. "This is another example of this failed parole policy. CDCR needs to halt the implementation of NRP immediately before someone dies."

SBX 3 18, the bill passed last year by, among others, former Assemblymember Paul Krekorian, now an LA City Councilmember, and Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes, a possible candidate for City Council's District 7. It was voted on before the Department of Corrections even wrote the policy and procedure for the implementation of the Bill. Others who voted to pass SBX3 18 can be found at: http://www.votesmart.org/issue_keyvote_member.php?cs_id=27630 and http://www.votesmart.org/issue_keyvote_member.php?cs_id=27478

While lawmakers scramble to make a bad law "better" with the introduction of SB 1487, that would allegedly clarify ambiguities of SBX3 18, no one appears to be challenging the incompetent actions of the CDCR or DAPO.

In March, Crime Victims United of California (CVUC) filed a lawsuit in San Diego Superior Court against the Governor and the CDCR. The lawsuit challenges the various constitutional violations by Governor Schwarzenegger and the CDCR with their "early release" policies alleging the law is in direct conflict with Marsy's Law, overwhelmingly passed by voters in 2008. CVUC is seeking a temporary restraining order to immediately stop the early release of prisoners in order to protect California's communities from dangerous criminals.

Aguirre said, "Those who voted for this defective bill owe the people and all in law enforcement a sincere apology for putting them in danger."

LAPD's Deputy Chief, Kirk Albanese, who is in charge of the San Fernando Valley, reported "I am happy to say that both officers are recovering from the injuries they sustained in that gun battle and both will make a full recovery and return to the field to serve the LAPD and the community in the near future."

Editor's Note: Caroline Aguirre, Parole Agent-Retired, who had 26 years of experience with the California Dept of Corrections and Rehabilitation, contributed to this article. Katharine.russ@charter.net

American Heroes Air Show



Photo by Bobby Royal

There was a large turn out at the American Heroes Air Show held in Hansen Dam in Lake View Terrace on Saturday, July 24, to honor our men and women in uniform, as well as civilian volunteers. High tech helicopters were on display, aerial demonstrations were performed, and two helicopters were busy providing rides to the public for a fee. Booths were manned by safety personnel for those seeking information regarding future careers in military and safety professions.

North Valley Reporter
www.northvalleyreporter.com
Telephone 818-563-1962
Email: InformNVR@aol.com
P.O. Box 674, Tujunga Ca 91043

Publisher/Editor
Nina Royal

Layout Design
Paccio Ad & Design

Contributing Writers
Tomi Lyn Bowling, Commander James Canler,
Michael Connelly, Captain Joseph M. Hiltner,
Marlene Hitt, Ron Kaye,

Investigative Reporter
Katharine Russ

Proofreaders
Paula Warner

Photographers
Cindy Cleghorn, Lloyd Hitt,

North Valley Sales Representatives
Gordon Lee, Betty Salazar

Special Recognition to:
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Sunday, Aug 1

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Monday, Aug 2

STNC/Land Use Comm.
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7:00 pm 818-951-7411
Info: stnc.org

Tuesday, Aug 3

National Night Out Events
Help Stamp Out Crime
Potluck Festival
Liberty Temple Church
13821 Osborne, Arl
6:00-8:00 pm

Andres Pico Adobe
Food & Entertainment
10940 Sepulveda, MH
4:00 – 7:00 pm

Picnic
Sepulveda Rec Center
8810 Kester, NH
6:00-8:00 pm

Picnic & Movie
Northridge Park
10100 Reseda, Nrth
Picnic dinners a 7:00 pm
Movie at dark

BBQ & Child Activities
9261 Wakefied, PC
6:00-8:00 pm

BBQ & Child Activities
14265 Terra Bella PC
6:00-8:00 pm

Community Forum
Plaza Del Valle
8700 Van Nuys, PC
6:00-8:00 pm

Block Party
BBQ and Child Acivities
Marson and Salmoa, PC
6:0-8:00pm

Pot Luck & Outreach
Hansen Hills
Empire Dr. & Empire Pl, Pac
6:00 pm

Pot Luck & Movie

Richie Valens Park
10731 Laure Cyn, SV
6:00 pm

BBQ, Pot Luck

Live Entertainment
Little Lander Park
10110 Commerce, S-T
6:00-9:00 pm

Block Party and Entertainment

Carey Ranch, Syl
6:00 – 8:30 pm

Fitness Fair

Food & Beverages
Sylmar Park, Syl
6:30-10:00 pm

Block Party

Food, Child Activities
Blythe at Cardenas Park VN
5:00-7:00 pm

Block Party

BBQ and Child Activities
Marson and Salmoa, PC
6:00-8:00 pm

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

FTDNC Land Use
9747 Wheatland, SH
7:00 pm

NHNE NC Outreach Com.
Valley Plaza Library
12311 Van Own, NoHo
6:30 pm 818-765-2202

Wednesday, Aug 4

Rotary Club
Coco’s Restaurant
10521 Sunland Blvd., S-T
7:00 pm 818-951-5299

NHWNC Gen. Meeting
Holy Martyrs Armenian School
1667 Parthenia St., NH
7:00 pm

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

Thursday, Aug 5

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

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland Blvd., SV
12:00 pm -1:30 pm 818-768-9888

PCNC-Commerce Com
Wells Fargo Bank
8548 Van Nuys Blvd., PC
2:00 pm

Sunshine Canyon Advisory Comm
Knollwood Country Club, GH
12040 Balboa Blvd. GH
3:00 pm-5:00 pm

S-T League of Women Voters
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., S-T
1:30 pm 818-782-4236

Kagel Cyn Civic Assoc.
Dexter Park, KC
11053 No. Trail Rd. KC
7:30 pm

Saturday Aug 7

Friends of GH Library
10640 Petit Ave., GH
10:30 am 818-368-568

Family Resource Fair
Hansen Dam Rec. Center
11770 Foothill, LVT
7 am – 2 pm 818-352135

Sunday, Aug 8

Lloyd Hitt Reception
Little Landers Historical Soc.
Bolton Hall Museum
10110 Commerce, S-T
4:00-6:00 pm

Monday, Aug 9

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

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

GHNNC, Rules & Policy Comm.

11139 Woodley Ave, GH
4:00 pm

L.A. Equine Adv Commit.

L.A. Equestrian Center
Grand Prix Banq. Room A
480 W. Riverside, Burbank
6:30 pm

Tuesday, Aug 10

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm-4:00 pm 818-52-3420

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

SVANC Gen Meet
10631 Vinedale Ave., SV
6:30 pm

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

PNC – House/Econom. & Land Use Comm.
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Pac
5:30 pm 818 890-1563

Northridge West NC
Beckford Elem. School
19130 Tulsa St., Nrth
7:00 pm

MHNC Budget & Finance
LAPD Mission Station
16161 Sepulveda Blvd., MH
7:00 pm 818-892-2414

FTDNC Land Use
9747 Wheatland Ave., SH
7:00 pm

Wednesday, Aug 11

STNC Gen Meet.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
Refresh. 6:30 pm
7:00 Meet. 818-951-7411

FTDNC Exec. Board
9747 Whatland Ave., SH
7 pm
Sun Valley Beautiful
9081 Tujunga Ave., SV
11:30 am

No Ho Neighb’d Watch
Pentecostal Church
6800 Radford, No Ho
7:00 pm 818-331-1398

Thursday, Aug 12

LAPD CPAB
Foothill Div.
Big Jim’s Restaurant
8950 Laurel Cyn SV.
6:00 pm 818-756-8866

Valley Alliance of NC’s
Sherman Oaks Hospital
4929 Van Nuys, S.O.
6:30 pm

FTDNC Equestrian Meet.
9747 Wheatland, SH
7:00 pm

GHSNC Gen. Meeting
Granada Hills Charter H.S.
Guest: Wendy Greuel
10535 Zelza, GH
7:30 pm 818-668-5969

SNC Spring Clean Up
Sylmar Heights Area
8:00 am 818-367-3487

August 13, 14, 15

S-T Lion’s 49th Watermelon Festival
Sunland Park - \$2 adm
Sunland & Foothill Bl, S-T
See back page for info

Sunday, Aug 15

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Hansen Dam Triatahalon
Hansen Dam Rec. Center
Foothill & Osborne, LVT
7:00 am
Info: www.hansendamtri.org

Wednesday, Aug 13

Job Fair
Antelope Valley College
3041 W. Avenue K, Lancaster
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Thursday, Aug 15

Leadership Summit
1370 St. Andrews Pl, Ho.
8:15 am – 4:15 pm

Monday, Aug 16

Valley Vote
Galpin Ford
15555 Roscoe , NH
6:30 pm

SNC Land Use Comm.
SNC Office Sylmar Park
13109 Bordon, Syl
6:30 pm

GHNNC Outreach & Pub.
11139 Woodley, GH
7:00 pm

Tuesday, Aug 17

Arleta NC Gen. Meeting
Beachy Elem. School
9757 Beachy, Arl.
6:30 pm

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

LAPD-CPAB
Mission Division
11121 Sepulveda Blvd., MH
8:30 pm

Rotary Club
Coco’s Restaurant
10521 Sunland Blvd., S-T
7:00 pm 818-951-5299

Pacoima NC
4:00 pm -Senior Advocate
5:00 pm -Comm. Outreach
6:30 pm -Gen. Meeting
Pacoima Comm. Center
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Pac

MHNC Quarter. Outreach
LAPD Mission Station
11121 Sepulveda Blvd., MH
7:30 pm

Northridge East NC
Northridge Academ HS
9601 Zelzah Ave., Nr
7:00 pm

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

NV City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., S-T
6:45 pm -7:30 pm

GHNNC Outreach & PR
11139 Woodley, HG
7:00 pm

Wednesday , Aug 18

North Hills West NC
New Horizons,
15725 Parthenia St. NH.
7:00 pm 818 893-8613

STNC Safety Comm
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill B Blvd., S-T
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

S-T SERVS
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., S-T
6:45 pm -7:30 pm

SNC Land Use Comm
SNC Office, Sylmar Park
13109 Bordon, Syl
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

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Strathern Neigh’d Watch
Strathern Elem. School
7939 St. Clair, NoHo
6:30 pm

Thursday, Aug 19

FTDNC Gen. Meeting
www.ftdnc.org for location
7:00 pm

SNC Gen. Meet.
Hubbard St. Elementary
13325 Hubbard St., Syl
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Northridge East NC
Northridge Academy
9601 Zelzah Nr
7:00 pm

Saturday, Aug 21

NHNE NC Gen Meet
Strathern Elem. School
7639 St.Clair Ave. No Ho.
7:00 pm 818-765-2202

Sunday, Aug 22

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Monday, Aug 23

GHNNC Gen. Meeting
Van Gogh Elem. School,
17160 Van Gogh, GH
6:30 pm

Thursday, Aug 26

Northridge South NC
Northridge Middle School
17960 Chase St., Nr
7:00 pm

SNC Board Mtng.
Sylmar Rec. Cnter,
13109 Borden, Syl
6:30 pm 8737

Sunday, Aug 29

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Tuesday, Aug 31

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Wednesday, Sept 1

STNC Safety Comm
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., S-T
7:30 pm

Rotary Club
Coco’s Restaurant
10521 Sunland Blvd., S-T
7:00 pm 818-951-5299

NHWNC Gen. Meeting
Holy Martyrs Armenian School
1667 Parthenia St., NH
7:00 pm

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

Thursday, Sept 2

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

S. V. Rotary
Mandarin Terrace
8815 Sunland Blvd., SV
12:00 pm -1:30 pm 818-768-9888

PCNC-Commerce Com
Wells Fargo Bank
8548 Van Nuys Blvd., PC
2:00 pm

Sunshine Canyon Advisory Comm
Knollwood Country Club, GH
12040 Balboa Blvd. GH
3:00 pm-5:00 pm

S-T League of Women Voters
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., S-T
1:30 pm 818-782-4236

Kagel Cyn Civic Assoc.
Dexter Park, KC
11053 No. Trail Rd. KC
7:30 pm

Saturday Sept 4

Friends of GH Library
10640 Petit Ave., GH
10:30 am 818-368-568

Sunday, Sept 5

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

Monday, Sept 6

STNC/Land Use Comm.
North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
7:00 pm 818-951-7411
Info: stnc.org

Tuesday, Sept 7

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm 818-52-3420

FTDNC Land Use
9747 Wheatland, SH
7:00 pm

Wednesday, Sept 8

STNC Gen Meet.
NV City Hall
7747 Foothill, S-T
Refresh. 6:30 pm
7:00 Meet. 818-951-7411

FTDNC Exec. Board
9747 Whatland Ave., SH
7 pm
Sun Valley Beautiful
9081 Tujunga Ave., SV
11:30 am

No Ho Neighb’d Watch
Pentecostal Church
6800 Radford, No Ho
7pm 818-331-1398

Thursday, Sept 9

Valley Alliance of NC’s
Sherman Oaks Hospital
4929 Van Nuys, S.O.
6:30 pm

FTDNC Equestrian Meet.
9747 Wheatland, SH
7:00 pm

GHSNC Gen. Meeting
Granada Hills Charter H.S.
Guest: Wendy Greuel
10535 Zelzah, GH
7:30 pm 818-668-5969

Saturday, Sept 11

Plan Check NC
Hist. Downtown O.R. Center
114 W. Fifth St., L.A.
10:00 am -1:00 pm

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “To Mount Lowe
With Love”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
1:00 pm 818-352-3420

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

GHNNC, Rules & Policy Comm.
11139 Woodley Ave, GH
4:00 pm

Monday, Sept 13

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

Tuesday, Sept 14

Bolton Hall Museum
Presents “Water”
10110 Commerce Ave., S-T
Docent Tours
1:00 pm-4:00 pm 818-52-3420

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

SVANC Gen Meet
10631 Vinedale Ave., SV
6:30 pm

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

PNC – House/Econom. & Land Use Comm.
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Pac
5:30 pm 818 890-1563

Northridge West NC
Beckford Elem. School
19130 Tulsa St., Nrth
7:00 pm

MHNC Budget & Finance
LAPD Mission Station
16161 Sepulveda Blvd., MH
7:00 pm 818-892-2414

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Operations Valley Bureau

In the recent weeks, local shopping malls throughout the San Fernando Valley have been the scene of repeated auto-related thefts from high-end sport utility vehicles. Specifically, late model General Motors vehicles to include Yukons, Tahoes, Denalis, and Escalades have been the focus of car thieves.

Recent victims of these crimes have reported going into malls and local movie theaters only to return to their vehicle and find electronic mirrors, back seats, tailgates, navigation systems, and dashboard instrument clusters removed from their cars. The thieves are not as focused on taking the cars as removing accessories and key electronic stock components that can likely be used on other similar vehicles.

Due to the volume of these crimes which range from the San Fernando Valley into Ventura County. It is reasonable to assume that several groups of car thieves are working independently.

As a reminder for public awareness, the police department is suggesting that you follow steps routinely to enhance the security of your personal property and vehicles when leaving them unattended.

The Los Angeles Police Department places a high priority on the apprehension of these criminals and has dedicated a number of police resources to address and focus on these crimes. The apprehension and prosecution of these criminal remains a goal of the police department and our local communities. We are asking your assistance, by reporting criminal activity and by taking care to properly park and lock your vehicles.

Birthday Party Gone Wrong

Pacoima - Sunday, July 18, LAPD Foothill Division Officers, responding to numerous neighbor complaints, shut down a very large, loud birthday party in the area of Cayuga Ave. and Pierce Streets. 60 to 70 revelers were creating a disturbance, angering many of the neighbors.

An Air Support Unit was over-head when a number of the party celebrants pelted police with rocks, bottles, cans, and other items. One officer was admitted to a local hospital with a concussion after having been hit with a heavy object.

The Air-Ship called in more police and skirmish lines were formed to try to disperse, in an orderly manner, what had quickly become a disorderly crowd. The additional officers were also assaulted as they attempted to close the party down.

The LAPD has learned that an Internet video exists that appears to depict a portion of the incident between the officers and some of the party attendees and also appears to show the officers in the skirmish line formation.

Among the charges against the nine partygoers arrested are: Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Peace Officer, and/or Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing an Officer

As a result, Foothill Division has received several calls and interviewed the partygoers who complained about the actions of some of the officers, including excessive force.

The Internal Affairs Group is conducting an investigation into the matter, which will include inspection of all evidence, a review of any videos, which may have been taken, and interviews of involved parties of the incident.

Listen Up...Please Don't Become a Victim!



Captain Joseph M. Hiltner
Commanding Officer
Foothill Area Station
Los Angeles Police Department

We're in the midst of summer and property crimes still plague all of our communities. Residents of the Pacoima, Lake

View Terrace, Sun Valley and Sunland-Tujunga areas, this means You!!! Little things that you do to prevent crime sends a clear message to career criminals that all of us mean business. Although this point has been spoken about over and over again, it has not reached everyone. All of us here at Foothill Area Police Sta-

tion remind you to remind your neighbors, friends and relatives of the following:

For your homes:

- Keep your doors and windows locked to prevent an uninvited entry.
- Trim bushes and trees so that your house and front door are visible from the street.
- Don't leave valuables, including jewelry and cash, purses or brief cases on your dresser.
- Put up motion lights around your property and/or leave lights on at night. Criminals do not like light.

And for you cars:

- Never leave your car running or keys in the ignition.
- Always roll up your windows and lock the car, even if it is in front of your house.

- Do not leave valuables in plain sight, e.g., I-pods, cell phones, GPS, wallets, or cash.
- Park in lighted areas. Anti-theft devices like alarms and clubs may help also.
- Use special screws available from Foothill Community Relations to prevent the theft of your license plates.

Please make it a personal mission for each you to tell someone about the above reminders. Any tip, even if minor, helps us to solve bigger cases. If you or your neighbors would like to start a neighborhood or business watch, please contact the Foothill Community Relations Office at (818) 756-8866. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

THIS N THAT

Futurama

By Marlene Hitt

It has been said that the nomadic people who once lived in this area had hand-made homes called wicki-ups. These houses were made of Tule reeds and grasses which, when full of vermin and probably pretty dusty, were burned down and a new house built.

Think of all manner of items not needed in that society: dust cloths, vacuum cleaners, cleanser powders, oven cleaner spray, toilet brushes, paint removers, plaster patch and crack fill. And dishwasher soap, furniture wax and floor cleaner.

Those who built out of logs and debris gleaned from the canyons, like one fella, name of Silas, never needed to clean out his fireplace because he dragged in trees to his cabin, burned the ends, then kept dragging the tree farther into the parlor until it was burned to ash, wherein he had to go get another tree. That man had no

windows so he didn't need windex or paper towels.

If we could think hard enough we could have earthquake-proof homes underground and cooking over a cookhouse outside. Has that been done? The walls would be thoroughly washable so that every morning a rush of air would go down the walls and floor followed by jets of water, all debris going down the drain in the center of the dwelling. If a carpet was necessary, all furniture could be raised on chains and suspended while the one vacuum, placed as a wall to wall extra strong rug beater with edge attachments. At the touch of a switch the vacuum cleaner would just chug along and suck up every molecule of debris. Then in ten minutes your house would be spic and span clean, non-allergenic; all this while you shower and dress.

All stuff and junk (called 'projects') would be housed in hidden rooms and caverns.

All cooking would be done with as many prepared

foods as possible. Combine a can of tomatoes, a can of beans and some leftover roast and there you have it!

Look for other handy hints in the forthcoming cookbook being created by the Little Landers Historical Society housed in Bolton Hall, Tujunga.

This wishful thinking column is really a commercial for the upcoming cookbook being prepared by Sandy Shaffer-Broms and the museum committee. Our book will be a three-in-one with, not only recipes, but also a business directory and helpful handy hints for the house.

Please share your recipes by sending to Bolton Hall Museum, P.O.Box 203, Tujunga 91043, or E-mail to landmhitt@Cs.com, subject "cook book" or "recipes".

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

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THIS N THAT

HERE'S MY CARD



Carrick's Journey

—Part Twenty-Nine

By Tomi Lyn Bowling

Whiskers didn't really know what to expect when he set out on this journey. He only knew that Sebastian, Drake, and Fanella would be there, wherever there was, to instruct him further. Though he started out very early in the morning it was now getting dark and Whiskers stopped quite suddenly nearly causing the woman behind him to fall over to avoid running into him. He stood in his spot, looking around at the vast numbers of people making this trek.

Whiskers stepped off the path where the others continued in a line. He walked over to a thicket of trees and began to settle in for the night. Whiskers looked up inside the trees as though he was making sure he was safe beneath it. Then he suddenly let out one of his famous belly laughs, set down his big rifle, dropped his backpacks and belts and jumped onto the trunk of one of the trees. He shimmied up the trunk and reached out into the branches. Much more carefully he made his way back down. He gently placed the three eggs he had found in a pile of leaves while he made a little fire.

Whisker's reached down to grab one of the eggs just in time to see a small piece of shell come flying off. He was not prepared for what happened next. The appearance of a little bird head popping out of the egg made even a grumpy old man coo. Tired, hungry, and now realizing he had not found his night meal at all, he mustered up the strength to climb back up into the tree and return the hatching chicks to their nest.

As he came back down he noticed the line of travelers had all but disappeared. He stepped back onto the path and looked forward and back several times in disbelief. There were a few still walking but the rest had disappeared. He walked forward a few yards and then saw that one group had now gone off to the side, just like he had done. Then he noticed another, and another. All had parked themselves for the night. Whiskers went back to his little spot and started to unroll his blanket. A cloth packed with some meat and bread fell out as he did. He smiled when he saw the cloth. He knew exactly where that cloth had come from. He happily ate some, but not all, having to work hard to stop and save some for later.

To be continued...


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Analysis of Changes in LA’s Planning Department



By Dick Platkin

Gail Goldberg, the Director of Planning, recently quit her job. One week after her last day at work, the Mayor nominated the Chief Zoning Administrator, Michael LoGrande, to become the new Director of Planning.

Why did the Mayor and his consigliere, Austin Beutner, decide that they wanted a City Hall backroom player to take over the Planning Department?

Some turn to personal scheming for an explanation, but I think the deeper answer is the poor state of the local, regional, and national economies. As a result, short-term real estate speculation continues to be the preferred investment strategy rather than long-term business or city planning by the politicians and investors that these economies enable. Despite the current Great Recession, large investment houses and corporations are awash with cash, but with few ways to profitably invest it. Old-fashioned options, such as taxing some of this money so the government can use it for planned infrastructure improvements, no longer compute. Such a public approach is too iffy, and it takes too long for a new subway or remodeled airport to produce a better business environment.

Since major investors can’t make money like they used to, by investing in public infrastructure and actu-

ally making and selling things for a profit, they have turned to increasingly risky financialization. In a nutshell, more and more of their business models consist of buying and selling financial instruments, most of which are based on real estate speculation.

This desperation by large investors previously led to the Savings and Loan crisis of the 1980s. It also produced the bank meltdowns of 2008-9. In both cases losses at the top were covered by the Federal government.

The process which led to those speculative collapses is still alive and well in Los Angeles and much of the United States. Never mind that the crises of the 1980s and then twenty years later in the first decade of the 21st century showed the folly of such a high risk investment strategy. Never mind that it will not work again.

After all, there simply is not enough demand to profitably fill new condos and shopping centers, especially in Los Angeles. The specter of empty buildings, just like the S and L crisis, is again at hand, except this time the Federal Government is broke. Even those real estate investors who have no intention to build anything, whose investment strategy is to collect building entitlements so they can flip properties and make some quick money, will be blind-sided when they, too, run out of buyers and bailouts.

Meanwhile, with public services cut and infrastructure underfunded, Los Angeles has become a less invit-

ing place to live, to work, or to run businesses. Voila, a downward spiral appears in which each short term City Hall maneuver, like furloughs and layoffs, begets further urban decline.

Who wants to live or do business in a rundown city, like Los Angeles is becoming, if they have a choice?

As part of this pitiful race to the bottom, each “planning” decision is short term and designed to facilitate risky real estate speculation at the expense of adopted city plans and zoning. More to the point, why go through the pretense of maintaining plans or having a planning director who can talk the profession’s talk, when you can quickly bring in a replacement from the dugout who claims he can walk *their* walk? Why should plans and zones get in the way of quick entitlements allowing commercial real estate to be flipped?

But, sooner or later, the truth will come out. Quick entitlements might produce a few small fortunes or even a modest building boom, an echo of the 1980s, but they will not revive Los Angeles. When the dust settles and the quick buck artists have moved on -- most of them avoiding a stint at “Club Fed” -- Los Angeles will need even better urban planning than it has occasionally had in the past and could still have and desperately needs in the present.

Editor’s Note: Dick Platkin is a Los Angeles based city planning consultant. He invites comments on this article at rhplatkin@yahoo.com.

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