



GHNNC



GRANADA HILLS NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Spring Newsletter

www.ghnnc.org

VOLUME III, ISSUE I

MAY, 2011

Upcoming Events

Citrus Sunday

Sunday, May 15
8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Drop off your excess citrus fruits, which will be shared with those in need by local neighborhood food banks. In the Knollwood parking lot south of Fire Station 18 on Balboa Blvd. Info: sdevandry@ghnnc.org

Open House

Saturday, May 21
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Come discuss your hopes and wishes for your ideal neighborhood, and meet our Board members! Join your favorite committee. Light refreshments will be provided.

11139 Woodley Ave.,
corner of Woodley Ave.
and San Fernando Mission Blvd.

Summer Social

Saturday, July 16
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for a fun summer event. Meet your neighbors in a social setting. FREE line dancing instruction. No partner needed. No experience necessary. Bring your friends! Enjoy ice cream, desserts, and refreshments.

St. Euphrasia School Hall,
at the corner of Shoshone Ave. and Mayerling St. in Granada Hills.

President's Message

By Kim Thompson
ktompson@ghnnc.org

Amid the turmoil of the City's budget crisis, some things stay the same: We all want a good life in safe and friendly neighborhoods. Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC) is proud of our role in helping make Granada Hills a great place to live, work, and play. We strengthen the lines of communication between stakeholders and City officials. No one knows the community's concerns better than its residents do!

The past year has been challenging, but also exciting. With the participation of volunteers, our committees helped new development fit into the character of the area, supported ordinances to eliminate ad trailers on streets, informed officials of the neighborhood concerns about LADWP, informed residents of the events surrounding the new high school, helped make numerous cell towers inconspicuous, opposed the expansion of group homes that house ex-felons, and monitored the landfill.

In March, Mitch Englander was elected to replace retiring Councilman Greig Smith in CD 12. He will assume his duties in July. We welcome him and look forward to working with him.

At our April meeting, Congressman Brad Sherman spoke and answered many questions from the audience. We also had the privilege of introducing the recently appointed principal of the new high school, Dr. Gregory Vallone. We would like to hear from you about topics of interest and speakers for the next year.

We are a board elected by you every other March, and we serve as the liaison between the community and City Hall. We were the first NC in the Valley to submit our application, and we were certified in 2003. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are a stakeholder of GHNNC. We welcome your participation, suggestions and ideas! You don't have to be a board member to join or even chair committees.

We have 3 vacancies on the Board of Directors: Parks Representative, Small Business Representative, and District 2 Representative (for MWD, DWP and LAPD employees). Check our bylaws at www.ghnnc.org to see if you qualify.

Stop by our office on May 21 when we will host an Open House from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Meet us, voice your concerns or issues, and find out exactly what we do!

We look forward to a great year for Granada Hills in spite of constrained budgets. One thing is certain: There will always be new challenges, and our community will continue to need the help of concerned citizens. There will be parks to beautify, organizations to support, and neighbors to help. Why don't you sign up for our emails and join a committee?

Landfill Odor Complaints Skyrocket

By Wayde Hunter
whunter@ghnnc.org

The number of odor complaints at Sunshine Canyon Landfill has hit an all-time record: 394 during February and March! The types of trash have changed and the volume has increased since Republic bought out Allied Waste in late 2008 (Allied previously bought BFI). As the landfill continues to rise, odors escape more easily and are often so strong that residents cannot enjoy their own backyards, and our schoolchildren are impacted. The SCAQMD has issued an Order of Abatement due to the odors, but despite several studies, no one seems able to fix the problem. For a thorough discussion, visit our website. Report odors by calling SCAQMD at 1-800-CUT-SMOG. For more information, contact Wayde Hunter.

Neighborhood Watch Alive & Well!

By Jan Subar
jsubar@ghnnc.org

Are you aware that the national Neighborhood Watch Program is thriving in our community? Do you know who your block captain or Senior Lead Officer (SLO) is? If you cannot answer yes to these questions, read on!

Neighborhood Watch is a national crime prevention program that gives local communities and individuals an ability to help local police keep their neighborhoods safe and a nice place to live. Here in the North Valley this program has been in effect for many years. It is run in cooperation with the LAPD and is supported by many community groups and organizations. Neighborhood Watch allows you to be the eyes and ears of your community. Who knows your block and neighborhood better than the people who live there?



Through this program, groups of neighbors form an alliance to fight crime by being aware observers. Learn who lives on your block, what cars they drive, when they leave for work and when they come home, and who visits them routinely. Be a friendly nosy neighbor! Learn how simple things like keeping your house lit up at night, doors and windows locked, and cars tended to, lessen your chance of being a victim of crime.

Within the GHNNC area, there are two Basic Car areas and SLOs that administer this program. SLOs hold monthly meetings to present crime statistics for your local area, trends in the area and City, guest speakers on various safety/City topics, and a place to voice your concerns and meet your neighbors. You can request a meeting on your block to help you and your neighbors get organized. For more information, contact Jan Subar.

Basic Car 17A35, SLO Dario Del Core (27286@lapd.lacity.org) covers West of Balboa, and meets the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 PM at St. Euphrasia Church. Basic Car 17A49, SLO Janine Angeles (30392@lapd.lacity.org) covers East of Balboa, and meets the 4th Tuesday at 7:00 PM at Fire Station 87.

Look for the new Neighborhood Watch signs that GHNNC is posting to help protect our area. Remember, a good neighbor is a friendly, safe, and nosy neighbor!

When Disaster Strikes

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org

Need a reminder about living in earthquake country? How about Japan's recent 9.0 shaker? Disaster planning in Southern California for our overdue earthquake on the San Andreas fault anticipates it to be between 8.1 and 8.2. Still huge!

Immediately after the Northridge earthquake, did you know what to do, and did you do it safely? Did you know what *not* to do? Are you prepared now for our next disaster? CERT can help with all of that. CERT, Community Emergency Response Team (started by the L.A. Fire Department in 1986), "is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens may initially be on their own and their actions can make a difference." We're not talking just first aid and CPR, although they're covered. This training is essential to protect yourself and others. The 1985 Mexico earthquake killed more than 10,000 people and injured over 30,000. Local volunteers, without any training, were credited with over 800 rescues. However, more than 100 of these untrained responders died during the rescue operation. CERT training helps you avoid being a victim.

GHNNC will sponsor a CERT I class at the Rinaldi Adult Learning Center, probably in the Fall. If you're interested, send an email to cert@ghnnc.org and ask to be placed on the notification list.

CERT I topics covered include how to manage utilities and put out small fires; treat the three medical killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock; provide basic medical aid; search for and rescue victims safely; organize themselves to be effective; and collect disaster intelligence to support first responder efforts. You may get to put out a real fire using a fire extinguisher. CERT I classes are free, CERT II and CERT III courses, covering advanced topics, are not free.

At each Board meeting we offer an *EP Item of the Month* to help build your Emergency Preparedness (EP) kit. Items previously

provided include an instant cold pack, a warm pack, an emergency blanket, a 12-hour light stick, and more. So drop by our regular Board meetings and pick up your free EP Item of the Month and a free 32-page preparedness booklet.



Want Representation for Your Organization?

By Jan Subar
jsubar@ghnnc.org

Calling all groups and organizations within the borders of GHNNC. Do you know that there is a Board Member who represents YOU??? If you belong to an organization, club, or group that meets at least four times a year within our area, please contact our Neighborhood Organizations Representative, Jan Subar. We would like to help your organization become more involved in community activities and make sure we are meeting the needs of your members in the GHNNC neighborhood. Whether you are a large group, small group, interested in arts, music, dance, politics, or any other, you count to us!

Public Safety Committee Serving Stakeholders

By Ray Pollok
rpollok@ghnnc.org

The Public Safety Committee has been busy helping to keep Granada Hills North safe for our stakeholders. One issue of continuing concern is the vehicular congestion surrounding Frost Middle School, where the heavy traffic makes the streets near the school unsafe at drop-off and pick-up times. We are working closely with the Frost administration and LAPD Traffic Safety Detail in developing a plan to help keep our children safe, with the cooperation and understanding of the school's neighbors, students, parents, drivers, and visitors.

Other matters dealt with this year have included buying and installing Neighborhood Watch signs, addressing graffiti reduction, earthquake and disaster preparedness, illegally posted signs, and sidewalk repairs. We are planning a CERT I class in our area later this year (see *When Disaster Strikes*).

Watch our website and come to our meetings to learn how you can help to effectively come up with long-term safe solutions for our community. For more information, contact Ray Pollok.

Cell Towers

By Agnes Lewis
alewis@ghnnc.org



Picture 1

The wireless companies all know you hate those pesky dropped calls, so they keep installing new cell towers. It's all line-of-sight: Your cell phone must see the tower through walls or other obstructions.

To install a new tower, a company finds a good site and negotiates with the property owner for a lease. Then the City must approve. No one wants to *prevent* cell towers from being installed, but we don't want to see them.

Picture 1 is a typical cell tower designed for functionality. Would you want that in front of your house? We wouldn't either, and that's why

GHNNC gets involved in the approval process.

Cell towers can be "stealth"—disguised to blend into their surroundings. We have worked with many companies to put the antennas into faux pine trees, faux palm trees, faux cypresses, and faux flagpoles. The best ones hide in a roof structure, so you don't notice they are there (Picture 2). If you *know* what you're looking for, you can spot them, but often people pass by them without realizing what they are.

Even faux trees can be badly designed if the antennas are too visible beyond the branches. Very badly designed faux trees can be seen from the southbound 405. There is a palm close to the bottom of the hill and a pine farther up, with antennas sticking out all over.



When a cell tower is planned for the public right-of-way, the Bureau of Engineering has jurisdiction. Usually there are few other trees in parkways to help hide the towers, so they may instead look like light poles. We're committed to keeping wood-pole-mounted, visible antenna arrays from cluttering up your neighborhood.

We're proud that City Planning adopted our standards for stealth. We work to make sure the applicant installs and maintains landscaping. Can you

spot the towers? There is a pine tree just north of the auto shops on Balboa near Midwood, cell antennas worked into the steeple of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, a cypress at Balboa near Woodley, and even an upcoming faux barn at the top of Highwater. They're all over the place!



Picture 2



Congressman Brad Sherman Spoke at GHNNC

By Kim Thompson
kthompson@ghnnc.org

At our April 25 meeting, Congressman Sherman covered a wide-ranging list of topics, including funding for re-vegetation after the Sesnon fires, providing federal funds to help fix potholes, and the on-going study for the Rim of the Valley Corridor to protect open land. Certificates of Recognition were awarded to Wayde Hunter, Anne Ziliak, and Becky Bendikson for their work on monitoring compliance by the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and other community concerns.

There will be a Town Hall meeting with the Congressman on Sunday, May 15, at 3:00 PM, at the new Performing Arts Center at CSUN. Parking will be free for the occasion.

The Congressman is a member of the Committees on Foreign Affairs and on Financial Services. He spoke at length about U.S. involvement in Libya, and the wide range of opinions about what the President is and is not allowed to do. He felt that it is important to follow the Constitution, and that the President has 60 days from the first date of action to get Congressional approval. The cost so far is reportedly at \$600 million, but that is just the marginal cost of the missiles used and does not include items like salaries of the military. There is also a big problem in that some of the leaders of the Libyan rebellion have strong ties to Al Qaeda. Congressman Sherman believes that the rebels should disassociate themselves from rebel leaders who took an active role in killing Americans in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Responding to questions, Congressman Sherman addressed the importance of vocational education, avoiding spending federal stimulus money on frivolous projects, energy problems and possible incentives for converting large fleets to natural gas. One speaker passed around a 100 trillion dollar note from Zimbabwe and said that the U.S. dollar has shrunk by 50% over the past ten years, making fuel and other costs higher. The Congressman discussed the tradeoffs between a weaker dollar, which helps exports and creates jobs, and a stronger dollar that keeps inflation down. He also talked about increasing Pell grants for college students and the pros and cons of raising or lowering corporate taxes.

Constituent Services routinely helps with problems with the federal government, such as veterans' benefits, Social Security issues, visa problems, and others. Contact Carolina Krawiec at the Valley office at 1-818-501-9200.

YOU Have the Last Say!

By Leon Marzillier
lmorzillier@ghnnc.org

All organizations work by a set of rules. Neighborhood Councils operate by a set of Bylaws. From time to time, these Bylaws require revision due to changing circumstances, or because one or another of the provisions was not working as intended. All proposed changes must be approved by a majority vote of the stakeholders at a Special Meeting.

We are in the process of revising our Bylaws so that sections that have been found to be ambiguous are made clearer. In addition, the City has mandated that all Neighborhood Council Bylaws follow a standard table of contents. This means reshuffling and reorganizing our entire set of Bylaws to fit the template.

The latest set of GHNNC Bylaws will be voted on at a **Special Stakeholder Meeting on Monday, June 27, 2011, at 6:00 PM**, immediately preceding our regular Board meeting. All stakeholders are encouraged to attend and vote. The proposed revisions will be posted on our website well in advance of the Special Meeting. If you are interested in the process, Policy and Rules Committee meetings are open to all.

Citywide Issues

By Sid Gold
sgold@ghnnc.org

How do you get a voice when the City wants to change the rules? How do you even find out about it? For example, rules on how many pets you can have, or what you can build on a hillside, or whether billboards are allowed? Our Citywide Issues Committee helps keep stakeholders and the Board informed on items affecting the entirety of the City.

The committee has recommended policies concerning the LADWP, animal control ordinances, sidewalk repair, billboard placement, and installation of parking meters within Council District 12. This is one of the core functions of a Neighborhood Council: to let legislators know the opinions of the residents.

The Chair of this committee is also the GHNNC City Information Officer, tasked with tracking all citywide issues of interest to the Board, and working with other Neighborhood Councils on coalition building and areas of mutual support.

All interested parties are invited to attend our meetings and speak about their concerns.

Attention Eco-lovers

By Neysa Frechette
nfrechette@ghnnc.org

Our next project will be to beautify the corner of Sesnon and Balboa with water-wise landscaping. Volunteers are very welcome! This project is perfect for students in need of community service credits. Other eco-related volunteer projects are in the works, led by our Student Representative. Contact Neysa Frechette at nfrechette@ghnnc.org.

Valley Region High School #4

By Kim Thompson
kthompson@ghnnc.org

Since the day of the auction 7 years ago to the tour of the new school in April, Granada Hills has followed its progress. LAUSD policy for new schools, *Public School Choice*, allows organizations to apply to run schools. The applicants were LAUSD Local District 1 (LD1) and Granada Hills Charter High School (GHCHS). Plans were submitted and there was a lot of community involvement. Teachers, parents, and community members voiced their opinion in an advisory vote held on January 28-29. The final tally: 1,962 votes for GHCHS and 1,903 votes for LD1. The applications were then sent to the LAUSD Superintendent, who recommended LD1. On March 15, LAUSD Board members voted unanimously to award the new school to LD1.

LD1 has 133 schools in the Valley with 87,930 students. More students score Proficient or Advanced in LD1 than in any other school in LAUSD and the state overall. LD1 held 20 community meetings to gather input from the parents, businesses, and community members. The overwhelming theme was Art. LD1's Writing Team wrote a plan for Small Learning Communities with an art-infused curriculum. They formed partnerships with CSUN, CalArts, the LA County Arts Commission, and the Valley Economic Alliance, among others.

VRHS #4 was built to prevent overcrowding at Cleveland, Monroe, Kennedy and GHCHS. To avoid the problem of creating artificial boundaries, the "Zone of Choice" was designed to allow students who reside within the school's boundaries to apply for their current resident school or to apply for VRHS #4. There will be 1,250 students enrolled when the school is fully operational. There will only be grades 9-11 the first year, with 12th graders starting in September, 2012. Contrary to rumors, there will be no busing to the new high school.

At our GHNNC meeting on April 25, we were pleased to present Dr. Gregory Vallone, the new principal. Dr. Vallone has a background in art and impressive experience as a teacher, principal, and as a speaker across the nation. He is currently the principal at Holmes Middle and formerly the principal at Monroe High. He was also a teacher and coach at San Fernando High and a District Director working on school reform packages. We look forward to working with him.

The community will be asked to participate in the naming of the new school. The full plan for VRHS #4 can be viewed online at http://www.lausd.net/District_1/Valley_Region_High_School_4.pdf.

GHNNC President Kim Thompson was on the Design Team and the Committee to select the new principal.

Changing Land Uses

By Anne Ziliak and Agnes Lewis
aziliak@ghnnc.org, alewis@ghnnc.org

Granada Hills is one of the few areas where there is still land available. The Granada Hills-Knollwood Community Plan defines what kinds of buildings can be built where and what kinds of businesses should be allowed. It's updated every 10 years by City Planning, volunteers, stakeholders, and the City Councilperson's office.

We monitor new development and significant remodel applications. We attend hearings, research issues, and make recommendations to City Planning and Zoning Administrators. Sometimes a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is needed, which spells out the rules for a permit, hours of operation, signage, noise, lighting, traffic, etc.

For example, the JETS (Jewish Educational Trade School) applied for a CUP to operate a new boarding school on the site of the former Jewish Community Center on Rinaldi St. The school will offer occupational training for up to 250 young men within the context of a religious school. This is not a "by right" use but requires a Conditional Use Permit.

The original proposal was for two new 4-story buildings on the front of the property, totally out of character with the area. Neighbors worried about traffic, off-site parking, and possible noisy off-hours activities. Working with the applicant for over a year, we asked for changes. The two tall buildings were replaced with three lower ones farther back on the property to mitigate their visual bulk. There is a strict limit on the hours and number of outdoor activities. Most of the students are prohibited from having their own cars and from parking in the streets near the school. The revised project approved by the City reduced the possible negative impact on the neighborhood.

New development in Granada Hills usually takes place in the hillsides, one of the oldest areas zoned for horses. The Community Plan calls for certain minimum lot sizes where a present or future owner can keep a horse. Those who don't intend to keep horses can still enjoy large lots that help preserve a semi-rural ambiance.

Developers often try to get smaller lots and denser development. We work to preserve the character of our neighborhood by holding developers to the lot sizes required in the Community Plan.

You have a choice whether your neighborhood has thrift stores, or auto repair, or composting facilities—you just need to get involved. Join the GHNNC PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) Committee. You're welcome to voice your opinion, sit in, or join.

The Signal at HOWS

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org

Our local market, HOWS, is not there. And neither is the traffic signal promised years ago to relieve the congestion and improve ingress/egress to all the shops and businesses. But it's coming—the traffic signal, that is. Soon. No, really.



If you want to know the history of the signal and our efforts to get it installed, drop by one of our Board meetings and ask about it, but be prepared to stay after the meeting. Let's just say there are lots of players and varied interests involved. But we're in the final stretch. A little more paperwork, a few more signatures, a little more waiting, and we'll be off. Money has been allocated for quite some time and the request to get the funds released is in process, so there *should* be no hang-up there. Instead of multiple private contractors and City crews (as once envisioned), all work will be done by the Bureau of Street Services, so no need to prepare, process, and award outside bids.

A traffic signal will be installed about midway along the frontage of Knollwood Plaza. Some curb cuts, signal loops, driveways, and some redesign of a portion of the parking lot are required. If you've ever wondered why the signals at Midwood Dr. and Lorillard St. keep you waiting in long lines on Balboa Blvd. for the green, it's to allow Balboa Blvd. between the two signals to clear of vehicles so that shoppers can get in and out of the Plaza relatively safely. With the new signal, the congestion should ease up a bit. Oh, and no, we've not (reliably) heard what might replace HOWS.

Keep Informed with Weekly emails

By Aaron DeVandry
adevandry@ghnnc.org

The best way to keep up to date with what's going on in your neighborhood is to go to www.ghnnc.org, click CONTACT US, and select "Mailing List Signup Form." Enter your email address in the form, click "submit," and we'll take care of the rest. You'll get a weekly calendar of events in and around Granada Hills. Reminder: We use your email address only to send timely information about YOUR neighborhood. You can opt out any time. We will never give out your data.

New Aliso Canyon Park

By Anne Ziliak
aziliak@ghnnc.org

The new Aliso Canyon Park design has been approved and the construction contract has been put out to bid. In 2003 our Council office (CD 12) bought five acres of land along Rinaldi between Zelzah and Reseda that used to be the DaMoore equestrian facility, where over the years, many kids learned to ride. Funds came from Proposition K and from the Sunshine Canyon Amenities Fund, which was set up to compensate for the harms from the landfill.

This is the head of the Aliso Canyon Trail, part of the Backbone Equestrian Trail System that circles Southern California. This land had been vacant for many years, and this was an opportunity to restore the area to equestrian use. GHNNC PLUM drew plans, and set a meeting with the Department of Recreation and Parks. Before those meetings could take place, CD 12 chose to work with CSUN urban design students to re-plan Aliso Canyon Park. Public forums were held. Many of the ideas first floated by GHNNC were incorporated into their design.

The final plan was presented to a Local Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC) by the CD 12 office. There were unresolved issues at the end of this short series of meetings. By ordinance, wheeled vehicles are not allowed on any posted City park trails, which are reserved for pedestrian and equestrian use only. Some LVNOC members wanted the trails to be opened in the park for bicycles. GHNNC opposed the idea, because of the danger when some cyclists travel at high speed, potentially colliding with people and spooking horses. Any biking trails would have to be entirely separate.

Some wanted to add a building to become a neighborhood meeting venue. Most of the LVNOC members felt strongly that the park should be kept natural. A neighbor circulated a petition with hundreds of signatures with that request.

Recently, the Recreation and Parks commissioners voted to put the design out for bid, ignoring the issues and without notice to the community. The final plan is a minimalist design that includes only a restroom with solar lighting, a paved parking lot with room for a few cars and up to six horse trailers, but no community building. The controversial building is included in the Environmental Impact Study, and remains a remote possibility if funding is available later. The City Council did not specifically vote to change current ordinances, so bike riding will continue to be prohibited on the trails.

Most of the actual trails are outside the park boundaries, but this small park will be a great addition to the Backbone Trail System. It will continue to be mostly wild and natural, and a pleasant place to spend a few weekend hours.

GHNNC & GHSNC Hold Faith-Based Meeting

By Ralph Kroy
rkroy@ghnnc.org

We held an initial lunch gathering of Granada Hills congregational leaders at the GHNCC office on March 15, 2011. There are 27 congregations within Granada Hills North and South Neighborhood Councils, 9 in the North and 18 in the South. At least one representative was invited from each congregation. We were pleased with the turnout.

The following attended: Pastor Kalesita Tu-ifua, Knollwood United Methodist Church; Pastor Kalesita's husband, Sione Tu-ifua; Rev. Michael McMorrow, Center for Spiritual Living; Rabbi Ahud Sela, Temple Ramat Zion; Reverend Jeffrey Nelson, Bethlehem Lutheran Church; Pastor Desmond Langford, Granada Hills Baptist Church; Tonee Sherrill, Chief Administrative Officer of H.O.P.E.'s House Christian Ministries; Delia Cirino, Active Member First United Methodist Church of Reseda; Faith-Based Representatives Ralph Kroy, GHNNC, and Alexia Cirino, GHSNC.

A blessing was given by each leader. It was lovely to hear how different and yet similar each blessing was.

There was much discussion on a variety of topics. No one had ever been invited to an event like this and all were happy to attend. We discussed what a Neighborhood Council is and where we are today. We discussed ways to work together to help each other reach out to the cross-over communities for each congregation's and Neighborhood Council's events. There was positive response to the idea of the leaders participating in the Granada Hills Parade in full dress robes with the "coexist" banner carried among them.

All in all it was a successful and moving event and we'll be planning another gathering in a few months.

Cut and Grind Project

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org



In October, 2010, the sidewalk grinding project began in Granada Hills. Stakeholders from GHNNC, GHSNC, and Old Granada Hills Residents' Group (OGHRG) canvassed a large portion of our area, noting the locations where the sidewalk lifted 3/4-inch or less. These could be ground down, making the adjacent concrete slabs similar in height. Bigger ones would have to be dealt with later (OK, so probably much later).

\$100,000 from the Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Fund is being used for the project and coordinated by CD 12, so no taxpayer dollars are being spent. We have the services of two very capable and enthusiastic men for this one-year project. So if you hear a noise that sounds like rocks tumbling in a dryer, go outside and say "Hi!" to them.

As of March 31, they have completed 3,883 cuts at 416 addresses. That's about 70 addresses (with multiple cuts) per month. Granada Hills has submitted over 3,000 addresses, but the Bureau of Street Services is not accepting any more and not all locations will get done. But a lot will, and that's good news for our community.

Outreach

By Edward Headington
ehheadington@ghnnc.org

Newsletters, Twitter, Facebook, email, movie nights, and summer socials – they are all tools to get your attention. We're the Outreach Committee, and we bring you news of how local government decisions affect you. In return, we ask that you tell us your concerns about our City and neighborhood. Sign up for our emails! If you have imagination and you're a "people person," come help us recruit volunteers to continue to make this the best neighborhood in the Valley.

Parks Update

By Ralph Kroy
rkroy@ghnnc.org

O'Melveny Park is the City's second-largest park at over 700 acres. It is a wilderness park, which means that no scheduled athletics or programs are allowed. It is connected to Bee Canyon Park, a park that extends from Sesnon to Balboa, between Van Gogh and Orozco. Due to the recent wildfires, open fires are no longer allowed even in the picnic areas.

There are mountain lions, coyotes, and rattlesnakes in O'Melveny Park! Bee Canyon Park is much safer and has a children's playground. Although the playground suffered damage from the recent storms, it is now open for fun.

GHNNC has a Parks and Beautification Representative. The seat is now vacant because longtime Granada Hills resident and parks supporter extraordinaire Mary Ellen Crosby stepped down and moved to Palm Springs. She will be missed by all. If you would like to apply for that Board seat, please contact us.

There is an independent "Friends of the Parks" volunteer group in the area. For more information, contact Ralph Kroy.



Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council
ghnnc.org

Prsrt Std
US Postage
PAID
No Hollywood, CA
Permit No. 8

1-818-923-5592 – to contact GHNNC or visit us online at www.ghnnc.org.

1-800-CUT-SMOG (388-7664) – to report odors or other nuisances emanating from Sunshine Canyon Landfill at San Fernando Rd. near the end of Balboa Blvd. SCAQMD tracks complaints.

1-877-ASK-LAPD (275-5273) – for any NON EMERGENCY question or to report a crime after the fact. **Report crimes in progress by calling 9-1-1.**

1-818-885-8885 – report graffiti to this 24-hour number for removal in less than a week. Can also report to **3-1-1**.

1-818-756-8501 - Council District 12's Northridge Field Office.

1-818-501-9200 – Congressman Brad Sherman's Sherman Oaks office.

1-800-560-0010 – for Van Nuys Airport noise complaints.

1-818-530-4125 – Food Forward. Volunteer harvesting teams pick your fruit and donate 100% to food pantries.
www.foodforward.org.

Regular GHNNC Meeting Locations and Times

Committee meetings are held at the GHNNC office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. Phone: **1-818-923-5592**.

Agendas for all meetings are posted at several locations within our boundaries (including our office) at least 72 hours before the start of the meeting, and on our website, www.ghnnc.org.

Board Meetings – Last Monday at 6:30 PM, Rinaldi Adult Learning Center auditorium. During school closings, the time and venue may change. Check for updates at www.ghnnc.org. The May meeting is on Monday, May 23, 6:30 PM.

PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) Committee – Third Monday at 2:00 PM. Contact aziliak@ghnnc.org for action on cell tower applications, subdivision requests, CUPs, and other land use or building code issues.

Public Safety Committee – Second Tuesday at 2:00 PM on even-numbered months and at 7:00 PM on odd-numbered months. Contact rpollok@ghnnc.org for traffic issues, crime, neighborhood watch, or emergency preparedness.

Policy and Rules Committee – Second Friday at 3:00 PM. Contact imarzillier@ghnnc.org.

Citywide Issues Committee – Third Wednesday at 7:30 PM. Contact sgold@ghnnc.org.

Outreach and Publicity Committee – Second Tuesday at 4:00 PM. Contact ehedington@ghnnc.org.

Board Member Contact Information:

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