



GHNNC



GRANADA HILLS NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Spring Newsletter

www.ghnnc.org

VOLUME IV, ISSUE I

MAY, 2012

Coming Events

Board Elections Fall, 2012

The GHNNC will hold a selection process in the fall to seat a new Board of Directors. Any GHNNC stakeholder interested in being a candidate for a seat on the Board should contact our secretary, Carl Buettner, at 818-923-5592 or cbuettner@ghnnc.org to express their interest.

Summer Social Saturday, July 14, 2012 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

St. Euphrasia School Hall,
11766 Shoshone Ave.,
Granada Hills. See page 2.

Citrus Sunday Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Bring your picked and bagged fruit to Knollwood Country Club parking lot, north end by Balboa, just south of Fire Station 18. See page 4.

Disaster Preparedness Fair

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Fire Station 87, 10124 Balboa Bl. Annual Disaster Preparedness Fair. Sponsored by your local Neighborhood Councils and CD12. Demos, prizes, preparedness information, food, fun, and learning.

Newsletter Editor:
Bill Hopkins
Committee: Sue DeVandry,
Jan Subar

President's Message

By Leon Marzillier
lmazillier@ghnnc.org

Whether you have lived in Granada Hills for under a year or over 50 years, or anything in between, you are likely to agree that this is a special place to live—quiet, well-kept neighborhoods, affordable housing, ready access to several local shopping centers, and to several freeways. Nevertheless, as with any community, there may be things you would like to see changed, and there may be changes that, if you knew they were coming, you would be adamantly against. Who controls the conditions of our streets? The proliferation of cell phone towers? The odors coming from the landfill? Limits on over-development? Safety and security in our neighborhoods?

Issues like these are generally under the jurisdiction of the City Council. Did you vote for your City Councilmember in the last election? Are you aware of what he has accomplished, or is trying to accomplish? If you wanted to see a change in our community, or oppose something new, would you know how to go about it? After all, there are just 15 elected representatives sitting on the Los Angeles City Council, and those that they represent number in the millions. That is why, at the beginning of this century, an effort was launched to bring local representative government closer to the governed. A system of Neighborhood Councils (NCs) was established. There are now 95 NCs, representing every corner of Greater Los Angeles, of which Granada Hills is a part. In fact, Granada Hills is represented by two of these NCs, and if you received this newsletter, you are part of Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC). The other one is Granada Hills South (www.ghsnc.org). You may have noticed our green banners along our main streets, like Balboa Bl. and Rinaldi St. Those of us active in GHNNC invite you to become more involved. We provide a conduit between you and the City Council, to articulate your ideas and concerns.

We regularly monitor development plans in our community, and oppose any proposals that violate the Community Plan or the erection of cell towers that would mar the aesthetics of our community. We keep informed about issues of public safety, and at our Board of Directors' meetings, hear from law enforcement and local government agencies. We have supported the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NCs and the Department of Water & Power Office of Public Accountability (Rate Payer Advocate). We have participated in making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding the Los Angeles City Budget.

One initiative that GHNNC took recently regarding the landfill was to request that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) make an overall assessment of the cumulative impacts of all of the gas handling and processing projects at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill for both current and projected volumes.

We have met in several different places, but most recently we have been meeting at the Rinaldi Adult School, which itself has become a concern for our Neighborhood Council. We have taken a strong position against the proposal by the Los Angeles Unified School District to eliminate adult education altogether, and supported efforts by faculty and students to prevent that from happening.

Except for holidays that conflict, we generally meet as a Board on the last Monday of each month. We also have regular committee meetings each month. If you are interested in any of these issues, or have other concerns, please join us. You will be glad you did!

Annual Summer Social—Hawaiian Luau

Place: St. Euphrasia School Hall
Address: 11766 Shoshone Ave., GH
Date: July 14, 2012
Time: 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Aloha! Please join us for another fun Summer Social. This year's theme is Hawaiian Luau and we are planning a fun filled evening with Hawaiian food trucks, limbo contest, pineapple bowling, trivia games, and a hula hoop contest.

Polynesian dancers from Aloha Hula in Granada Hills will perform at 7:00 PM, and our own dancing kahuna, GHNNC Board Member Steven Steinberg, will be teaching everyone some fun Hawaiian dances. So put on your muumuu, hibiscus lei, puka shells, or your favorite Hawaiian shirt and come meet your neighbors for a wonderful evening.



By Lydia Plescia
lplescia@ghnnc.org

Emergency Preparedness Meetings



We're all in this together, and we will need each other's help during and after the next big disaster or terrorist attack. Come to our Emergency Preparedness meetings on the first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM, at our Neighborhood Council office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. Get to know your fellow stakeholders, your neighbors, share ideas on preparedness, discuss topics of interest relating to being prepared, express your concerns, and hear guest speakers on a myriad of topics. Recently, we've heard how the physically impaired can be better prepared; how the Red Cross prepares; and how to protect yourself and family after a release of nuclear radiation.

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org

Want Representation for Your Organization?

By Jan Subar
jsubar@ghnnc.org

Calling all groups and organizations within the borders of GHNNC (the 118 freeway to the south, the 405 freeway on the west, Aliso Canyon on the east, and up to the county line). 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 ensure we are meeting the needs of your members in our neighborhood. Whether you are a large group, small group, interested in arts, music, dance, politics, or any other, you count to us!

Making LAFD Even Greater

By Councilmember Mitchell Englander, Twelfth District
Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org



In Granada Hills and other Northwest San Fernando Valley communities, we are blessed with beautiful hillsides, abundant wooded nature areas, and lots of open space. That also brings with it the risk of disastrous wildfires. Whether fighting fires or responding to devastating car accidents, our Fire Department is always there to protect our lives, our families, and our homes. Protecting public safety is the City's first responsibility and it is my priority. I am committed to ensuring our Fire Department can make use of the best technology and knowledge available. On Feb. 17, 2012, I introduced a motion to implement FIRESTAT-LA, which would create a new system using leading-edge technology and innovative management techniques to make the best Fire Department in the country even better.

FIRESTAT-LA is modeled after the LAPD's highly successful COMPSTAT, in effect since 2002. It addresses crime using technology and management accountability. COMPSTAT is founded on the principles of accurate and timely intelligence clearly communicated to all, rapid concentrated deployment of resources using the most effective strategies, and relentless follow-up and assessment to constantly find efficiencies and make improvements. It has proven highly effective in New York, Washington, D.C., and has helped reduce crime rates in L.A. to their lowest levels in decades.

Under Chief Brian Cummings' leadership, the Los Angeles Fire Department has already made great strides in incorporating technology to improve deployment and operational efficiency. FIRESTAT-LA will take this to the next level by utilizing near real-time data collection and mapping of incidents, with frequent meetings to open more dialogue between all levels of the Fire Department.

My motion requests that the Fire Department report to the Public Safety Committee, which I chair, in 60 days on the capabilities of the technology platforms currently being used by the LAFD. They will also give an analysis of the solutions that would be necessary to meet the operational objectives of the Department in the context of FIRESTAT-LA, an operational plan for frequent management meetings, and a timeline for implementation.

It is common sense to use models that have worked, and to apply them to other situations. It makes sense to take the incredibly advanced and increasingly inexpensive technology and use it to our advantage. On April 17, City Council approved the motion to begin implementation. Our weekly newsletter and website at www.CD12.org will keep you informed.

Neighborhood Watch/Crime Update

By Jan Subar
jsubar@ghnnc.org



Do you make your house look lived-in when not at home? Do you keep your doors locked all the time? Do you know your neighbors? Do they know you? When shopping, do you put packages out of sight in your car?

In our Spring newsletter last year, we introduced you to the national Neighborhood Watch program. Many of you got involved. If you've been procrastinating, now is the time to join. Early this year, a rash of crimes hit our area hard, starting in the Porter Ranch area in January and spreading to Granada Hills in February. Most were residential burglaries and theft of/from cars. March has brought some relief to these crimes, due in part to action by LAPD in the affected areas. Be aware of people in your neighborhood who do not belong. Some of these burglaries happened when residents were home. A number of them are the type where someone knocks on your door asking to use your phone, or more than one person comes by and one distracts you while the other burglarizes your house. A burglar also may pose as a magazine salesperson, repair person, or city worker. Be alert! Engrave your valuables with your driver's license number to help with retrieval if stolen. Another crime keeping LAPD busy is theft of copper pipe (sprinkler, air conditioning, plumbing) and electrical wiring. Be sure to secure any you may have out in the open. Salvage copper pays well today.

To join Neighborhood Watch and learn how to protect yourself and your neighbors, contact your Senior Lead Officer (SLO), or attend their monthly meeting. If you live west of Balboa Bl., Dario Del Core (27286@lapd.lacity.org) is your SLO. His meetings are at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of the month at St. Euphrasia Church, 11766 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills. If you live east of Balboa Bl., your SLO is Janine Angeles (30392@lapd.lacity.org). Her meetings are the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 PM at Emeritus of Northridge, 17650 Devonshire St., Granada Hills, upstairs meeting room. Go to www.lapdonline.org and sign up for E-Policing or Nixle reports of local crime and other occurrences.

Last year GHNNC posted new Neighborhood Watch signs in our area. We are looking for a few additional locations. If you have a suggestion for a sign placement, please contact Jan Subar at jsubar@ghnnc.org.

It's a PLUM of a Job

By Anne Ziliak
aziliak@ghnnc.org

We are the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee. Ten very dedicated members meet every month to review and discuss land use issues impacting our stakeholders, and often our neighboring communities.

We review, monitor, and respond to projects like Sunshine Canyon Landfill, new home sites, business development, cellular phone towers, conversion of properties to a new use, and code enforcement issues. We make recommendations on projects outside our boundaries that affect our stakeholders and when a neighborhood council requests our support.

When we are notified or discover that there is a proposed project within our boundaries, we attempt contact with all who may be impacted, researching and reviewing each project and considering how it would impact the neighbors, always striving to be fair to all parties. We rely on the City to inform us when application is made to modify and/or build within our boundaries. Many issues are brought to us directly by stakeholders. This avenue is crucial, as the City doesn't always tell us everything.

Here are a few items we've been working on: **Solar Zoning:** Encourages solar installation by streamlining approval of structures that support solar energy systems. **Alternative Paving Materials:** Allows materials more sustainable than concrete and asphalt to be installed in driveways and parking lots. **Farmers' Market:** Allows Farmers' Markets to be established in residential zones with discretionary review, and a streamlined approval process for the commercial and manufacturing zones. **Bicycle Parking:** Increases bicycle-parking requirements and requires design standards. **Modified Parking Requirement District:** A tool that allows communities to tailor parking requirements to their own needs. **Shopping Cart Containment:** Requires new or remodeled stores to install systems to deter shopping carts from being removed from store premises. **Multiple Approvals Revisions:** Standardizes processes, synchronizes expiration dates, consolidates language, and clarifies implementation of recent subdivision map extensions granted by State law. **Revisions to the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) Averaging Conditional Use Permit (CUP):** Encourages mixed-use and historic preservation by allowing flexibility in project design. **The Community Care Facilities:** Clarifies where licensed and unlicensed group homes can be established.

We are following the proposed **Community Care Facilities Ordinance** very closely. It is an on-going problem within the Granada Hills area, and other communities as well. Many residential homes are being converted into group/sober living housing. These group homes often include large numbers of parolees/probationers, and house as many as 47 residents (sometimes more) in a house intended for one family. This can result in significant negative impact on the community.

How Prepared Are You, Really?

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org

255,000 people displaced; 53,000 people injured; 1,800 will die; 300,000 buildings in L.A. will suffer significant damage; a \$213 billion tab; 1,600 fires; 133,000 single family homes destroyed; major disruptions to utilities (electricity, communications, water, gas, sewer), roads, and freeways; up to 100,000 landslides. And that's just after the first major temblor, with strong shaking for a minute, and less for 2 to 3 minutes more! Then the aftershocks, causing more damage to weakened infrastructure and buildings, including failure.

The BIG ONE is coming, but when? We know the anticipated 7.8 to 8.1 magnitude earthquake is 300 years overdue, but what can you do? How about some insurance—the kind of insurance and confidence that comes from being prepared. How much water do you store? How will you handle sanitation? Have you provided for your pets? Do you have extra medication and copies of prescriptions? Do you have enough food to last for 2 weeks that doesn't require cooking? Extra batteries? Could you find your way home if familiar landmarks have toppled? Knowing what to do and, often more importantly, what *not* to do in the aftermath of a large-scale disaster or terrorist attack is critical to your survival.

Take a free CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class, taught by LAFD personnel. Visit www.cert-la.com to sign up. Last October, GHNNC sponsored a CERT class at Rinaldi Adult School with LAFD Firefighter Kevin Mason. Thirty-seven students learned (among other things) how to keep themselves safe; manage utilities; 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 ourselves to be effective; and collect disaster intelligence to support first-responder efforts.

We anticipate having a CERT class in the fall. Contact us at cert@ghnnc.org for details. Learn first aid and CPR for humans, and for your pets. Visit www.redcrossla.org. Attend our Emergency Preparedness meetings the first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM, at our Neighborhood Council office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. See you there!



Rinaldi Adult School CERT class

Fruit Pickin' Day



By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org

Citrus Sunday is a one-day citrus collection drive providing fresh fruit to food banks throughout the San Fernando Valley. In 2009, nearly one million L.A. County residents (1 in 10) received food assistance, of which 40% were children. This year's 7th annual collection event is on September 23. You are encouraged to pick excess fruit from your trees up to 3 days ahead, and drop it off Sunday between 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM in the Knollwood Country Club parking lot, 12040 Balboa Bl., south of Fire Station 18. For help picking your fruit the Saturday before, contact Food Forward at 1-818-530-4125 or www.foodforward.org. Food Forward sends out volunteer harvesting teams at other times of the year to pick excess fruit and vegetables, donating 100% to local food pantries. Property owners receive tax donations for each pound harvested. For more on Citrus Sunday, visit www.ghnnc.org.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill

By Patti Costa
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Temporary flare.

As many of you know, Republic Services (operator of Sunshine Canyon Landfill) entered into a Stipulated Abatement Order with South Coast Air Quality Management District on December 3, 2011. This was a collaborative effort between Republic Services and the regulatory community. Conditions in the Order primarily relate to actions that must be taken to expand and augment the landfill's systems for controlling landfill gas. Prior to December, we were actively working on many of the required actions including several large projects designed to enhance the site's gas collection and control system. We will continue to work with the regulatory community until these projects are successfully completed. These projects include the installation of new vertical and horizontal wells, the installation of a new temporary flare until our new flare #9 is installed, construction of a new, larger diameter piping system and other improvements related to increased operations and maintenance activities, as well as increased monitoring. We're pleased to report that SCAQMD approved flare #9, and we expect to fire it up by Aug. 3, 2012.

We encourage you to call the site during business hours at 818-833-6500 or our 24-hour hotline number, 800-926-0607, if you have any questions or would like information on what we are doing to address odors. We look forward to working with the community and are committed to being a good neighbor. To learn more and to read our newsletter, please visit our website at www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com. Tours may be arranged by calling during business hours.

Patti Costa, a licensed Professional Engineer employed by Republic Services, is our District 1 Representative on the Board, an elected position.

A Bright Light

By Agnes Lewis
alewis@ghnnc.org

Los Angeles is replacing most of its streetlights with LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes), the technology that lights most electronics. The existing HPS (high pressure sodium) streetlights already use about 6 times less energy (watts) for the same amount of light (lumens) as an incandescent bulb, and last 6 times longer, so they were a good deal when first used. LEDs are even better: about 40%-50% less energy than HPS, and they last more than twice as long. Every time a light burns out on a street, a crew has to come out with a bucket truck to replace it—so the longer the light lasts, the less maintenance costs.



The City started replacing the 140,000 warm orange-ish HPS lights about 3 years ago as part of the Clinton Climate Initiative, after a pilot project. So far about 70,000 have been retrofitted. Residential streetlights, with fixtures containing 30 LEDs, and collector streets (50 LEDs) will be completed in about 4 months. Major streets (60+ LEDs) will be completed by July, 2013. Older HPS fixtures will be safely recycled. Those less than 3 years old are sold at auction.

The initial cost of the LED fixtures is higher. This is financed through energy rebates from the LADWP, reduced power costs, and Federal loans, which are financed for 7 years. After that, the City would save about \$10 million a year.

The LED's brightness can be tweaked a bit by adjusting the electrical current setting. They're initially set at midpoint, but if they are too close to a house or the City gets complaints, they can set them brighter or dimmer, and can use directional shields to guide the light away from a home's window. If you drive around at night on residential streets, you will easily spot the much whiter, brighter-appearing light.

Public Safety Committee Looking Out for You

By Carl Buettner
cbuettner@ghnnc.org

The Public Safety Committee has been busy helping to keep Granada Hills North safe for our stakeholders by dealing with quality-of-life issues. We followed up on your concerns for the safety of our children and pedestrians on the streets around Frost Middle School. After meeting with the principal and LAPD Traffic Detail, the Frost Middle School PTSA handled the traffic congestion during student drop off and pickup by re-directing traffic through the campus. We continue the installation of Neighborhood Watch signs, address graffiti reduction, illegally posted signs, pot-hole and sidewalk repair, helping to keep sidewalks free from encroaching flora, and working with the various departments on street stop sign placement and traffic signal timing. We recently formed an Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee to assist stakeholders in preparing for earthquake and other disasters within our community. Watch our website and come to meetings to learn how you can help to effectively come up with long-term solutions for our community. For more information contact Ray Pollok, Public Safety Committee Chair, at rpollak@ghnnc.org.

Stay Informed with Weekly Updates

By Aaron DeVandry, webmaster
adevandry@ghnnc.org

Visit www.ghnnc.org, click Contact Us, and "[Subscribe to Our Emails](#)." Enter your email address, click "Sign me up," and we'll take care of the rest. You'll get a weekly calendar of events in and around Granada Hills. Opt out any time.

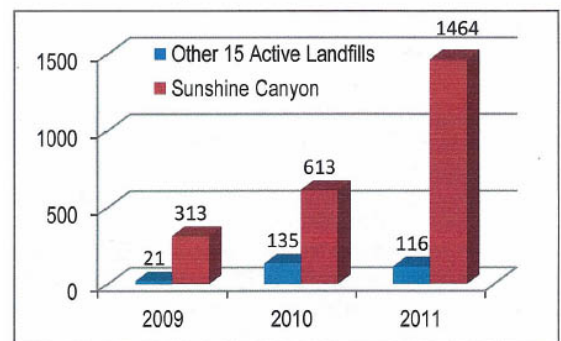
Landfill Odor Complaints Continue

By Wayde Hunter
whunter@ghnnc.org

In our last newsletter, we indicated that the odor reporting had hit record levels. Since last year there has been a Hearing for the Order for Abatement of Odors on December 3, 2011 and new information provided by the SCAQMD in their December 7, 2011 SCAQMD Report to the Technical Advisory Committee which covers most of the year. This report is very comprehensive, and compares Sunshine Canyon Landfill with the 15 other landfills within the SCAQMD's jurisdiction. The final tally for all of 2011 was 1,565 odor reports, and 28 NOV's (Notice Of Violation).

As expected, the number of odor complaints has not declined dramatically, with 163 complaints in January and 104 in February, 2012. Twenty percent of all calls to the SCAQMD came from Granada Hills, and the number of complaints about Sunshine Canyon is 10 times higher than all of the other 15 landfills combined.

Odor Complaints at Active Landfills 2009 to Present



It is hoped that with the completion of all of the requirements in the Abatement Order, including the installation of a temporary flare and the addition of a new flare (#9), residents will see some relief. As always, if odors are detected, you should call 1-800-CUT-SMOG (800-288-7664) immediately. For more information, contact Wayde Hunter.

Wayde Hunter is also President of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc., and Vice Chair of Sunshine Canyon Landfill-CAC.

The Signal at Fresh & Easy

By Bill Hopkins
bhopkins@ghnnc.org



The community welcomes the new Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market that has finally opened at the former site of HOWS Market in Knollwood Plaza. A large portion of the parking lot has been repaved, a new handicapped access ramp from the sidewalk to the parking lot has been built, but we still don't have our traffic signal. The City will soon submit their E-76 package to CALTRANS for approval. This is a required step in the process for projects that are receiving federal funds. The large package demonstrates that the signal is fully funded, shows the completed design, includes utility clearances, easements, rights-of-way, and complies with all the other Government rules and regulations, including a Request for Authorization to Proceed. After their review and approval, CALTRANS will then release their money to the City. Our Councilmember Mitch Englander's office has informed us the signal will be installed in 2014.

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. GHNNC interacts with Neighborhood Councils and alliances (including the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils—VANC and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition—LANCC, and others) to have a united voice and speak for the community at City Hall.

The Committee Chair is elected by the Board, tasked with tracking all citywide issues of interest to our stakeholders and working with other Neighborhood Councils on coalition building and areas of mutual support. All interested parties are invited to attend our meetings and participate. Stakeholders are invited to become members of the Committee.

Faith-Based Community

By Ralph Kroy
rkroy@ghnnc.org

Ralph Kroy and Alexia Cirino, Faith Based Representatives from GHNNC and GHSNC, are meeting with local ministers, pastors, and rabbis to discuss the needs of their congregations and their concerns for the community. A big concern is Emergency Preparedness and how the faith community can respond in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Their idea is to encourage the faith community to work in concert at placing on their property large cargo-style containers filled with emergency supplies such as water, food, blankets, basic medical supplies, simple rescue tools, etc., which would be purchased, maintained, and managed by the individual houses of worship. In the event of a natural or manmade disaster, these supplies would be made available to the general community in the best way possible.

One congregation, *Our Savior's First Lutheran Church of Granada Hills*, has been working on this and has found the permits required by the City to be cost prohibitive. They are working on getting the cost of the permits reduced or waived to allow this to have as broad and wide an application as possible throughout the San Fernando Valley and the City of Los Angeles. Contact Ralph (rkroy@ghnnc.org) or Alexia (acirino@ghsnc.org) for more information.

Help Reduce Visual Blight

By Public Safety Committee
CleanTeam@ghnnc.org

Signs, signs, everywhere a sign—nailed to trees, pasted on equipment boxes, fastened to utility poles or street signs, taped to signal and light posts, obstructing the sidewalk or placed in the public right-of-way, stuck in the parkway, and ones on private property but which extend into the public right-of-way. They reduce visibility, increase driver distraction, create a negative impact on our health, our quality of life, the environment, and often become trash on your lawn, in the street, and clog the storm drains.



We all want help finding our missing schnauzer, advertising our business, selling our stuff, and showing support for our favorite political candidate. However, such sign posting on public property and in the public right-of-way is illegal in Los Angeles. Call 3-1-1 to report illegally posted signs. Each year the Bureau of Street Services removes about 300,000 signs, at a cost of over \$60 million.

Where can you legally post? Within or on your own property, or other private property with permission of owner, inside store front windows (with permission), and community bulletin boards. Other restrictions may also apply.



You Have the Last Say!

By Carl Buettner
cbuettner@ghnnc.org

Our board is governed by a written set of bylaws (voted on by stakeholders) and standing rules (voted on by Board members), which are periodically updated. On Monday, June 27, 2011, all stakeholders were encouraged to meet preceding our regular Board meeting to approve the GHNNC revised bylaws. Stakeholders provided further improvements to the bylaws which were then approved by all in attendance and submitted to the Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE). The Policy and Rules Committee is currently processing recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee on Goals and Priorities to create a list of Best Practices that our Board may follow, rather than making specific rules to be adhered to. DONE commended the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, and will use its report as a Best Practice for all 95 NCs. We meet the first Tuesday of the month, 8:30 AM. All are welcome.

Aliso Canyon Park Update

By Anne Ziliak
aziliak@ghnnc.org

The Aliso Canyon Park Improvements Project consists of a 7-acre equestrian day-use and park facility at a former, privately owned equestrian site within Aliso Canyon Park on Rinaldi Street, between Hesperia and Chimineas Avenues. Aliso Canyon Park is an existing, undeveloped City park, covering approximately 60 acres, and is part of the Backbone Equestrian Trail System that encircles Southern California.

The project includes a parking area for equestrian trailers and passenger vehicles, along with a 220-foot by 110-foot riding ring, a small bleacher, meadow areas, walking paths, bio-swale, picnic areas with both shaded and unshaded tables, a picnic area for group use, and a modular (self-contained) restroom. Minimal lighting is provided by solar-powered LEDs. There will also be a pedestrian bridge crossing the creek, and the entrance from Rinaldi St. will be regraded for easier access.



Equestrian Day-Use and Park Facility at Aliso Canyon in May, 2012.

Amenities further include a bike rack, horse waterers, hitching posts, split rail fencing, and landscaping with California native plant species. Tentative opening is September, 2012. This project is funded by Prop. K for \$964,390.

Soccer is Alive and Kicking at AYSO Region 174

By Sue DeVandry
sdevandry@ghnnc.org



Plans are underway for a fantastic season of soccer at the Youth Sports Complex in North Granada Hills at 13100 Balboa Bl. Soccer camps, coach and referee training, and field improvements are all planned before the fall season begins on September 8, 2012. Your children deserve a chance to participate in one of the best youth soccer programs in all of California for the past three decades.

Registrations will take place at the AYSO fields on May 17 and May 24, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM; and June 23, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. Current Registration fees decrease for each additional child up to the 4th child. Prices increase July 1 with no sibling discount. Sign up today!

Visit their website at www.ayso174.org to print out registration forms, and read about all their great programs, including Tournament Teams, Spring Soccer, and Adult Co-ed Leagues.

Councilmember Mitch Englander and others have been meeting with GHYRC (Granada Hills Youth Recreation Center) regarding the soccer and baseball fields. His office is negotiating with MWD for a 4-year extension to the current lease and hopes to have a signed agreement by the end of May, 2012, according to John Lee, Chief of Staff for Englander.

Sue DeVandry is on the board of the American Youth Soccer Organization Region 174.

New Board Officers

By Leon Marzillier
lmazillier@ghnnc.org

Each March, your Board holds officer elections, and at our March 27, 2012, meeting, we elected new officers. The election was conducted by Dave Beauvais, President of Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council. Nomination and voting is by Board members. Elected to serve as President for the 2012-2013 term is Leon Marzillier; Anne Ziliak as Vice President; Carl Buettner as Secretary; Kim Thompson as Treasurer; and Sid Gold as City Information Officer. At our April 30 meeting, we elected Sue DeVandry as Financial Officer. The position of Outreach Officer is open. These positions are currently required to be filled by a Board member.

We have vacancies on our Board: District 2 (MWD/DWP/Odyssey) and Small Business Representative. Would you like to join us in working on one or more of the issues covered in this newsletter? Per our bylaws, vacancies may be filled by a vote of the Board. If you are interested in serving, contact Board President Leon Marzillier (lmazillier@ghnnc.org). To review the qualifications for these positions, refer to ghnnc.org/bylaws.pdf and ghnnc.org/standingrules.pdf.



Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council
ghnnc.org

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- 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. 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.**
- 1-818-832-0633** – LAPD Devonshire Desk (local police information).
- 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**.
- 1-818-882-1212** – Council District 12's Chatsworth 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 local food pantries.

Regular GHNNC Meeting Locations and Times

Check for updates of Board and Committee meetings at www.ghnnc.org

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 day, time, and venue may change.

PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) Committee – Third Monday at 3:30 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 and safety issues, crime, and Neighborhood Watch.

Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee – First Tuesday at 7:00 PM. Contact bhopkins@ghnnc.org.

Policy and Rules Committee – First Tuesday at 8:30 AM. Contact cbuettner@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.

Board Member Contact Information:

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