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Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council



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E-NEWSLETTER - MARCH, 2013



L-R: Senior Lead Officer Janine Angeles - Aliso Canyon - LA City Attorney Carmen Trutanich

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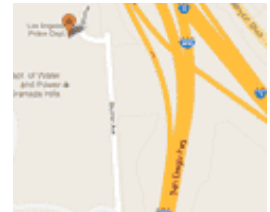
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GHNNC March Board Meeting will be held on April 1st, 2013

Please note the date and location for
GHNNC's regular board meeting will be held
6:30PM, Monday, April 1st, at LAPD Davis
Training Center, 12001 Blucher Avenue, Granada Hills.

(free parking available for all attending)

[Click here for directions!](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

[Edward Headington](#), President - Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

Serving our community is one of the highest civic ideals we can perform and being a part of Los Angeles' neighborhood council system is one of the best ways to do that. A number of local issues like providing input on the Aliso Canyon park design come our way as well as more citywide and regional ones like the Community Care Facilities Ordinance (CCFO) and the Clean Water, Clean Beaches measure. I am proud to report that GHNNC has been at the forefront with a proactive Citywide issues and Public Safety Committees keeping us informed on the important challenges and opportunities facing us.



Not long after the Northridge murders, our representative at City Hall, L.A. City Councilmember Mitch Englander, held a Public Safety Committee Hearing at City Hall on boarding homes. GHNNC had weighed in on the issue and I had the opportunity to speak on their behalf and the thousands of stakeholders we represent. I also spoke again in [January](#) and February despite overwhelming opposition to the ordinance to stress how important it is to better regulate our boarding homes. It is problematic from a public safety standpoint as well as from [a humanitarian concern](#) for our seniors, veterans and other vulnerable populations being taken advantage of. Councilmember Englander is still working hard on the ordinance along with other Granada Hills leaders like Dave Beauvais and Maria Fisk. We remain optimistic that something will come to pass shortly before or after the new City Council and Mayor are sworn into office in July.



The Clean Water, Clean Beaches measure is another issue that came before us early this year and GHNNC has been active on. To date, there have been two hearings at the L.A. County Board of Supervisors and I have spoken at both on behalf of the GHNNC. Sometimes referred to as the [Storm Water Tax](#) because the "fee" it imposes on property owners, it was put before property owners in a non-transparent manner (junk mailers over the holidays that looked like it was from a campaign), had no sunset clause and possessed little specifics for a potential \$300 million project. While we all support the goal of cleaner water and beaches, we felt it should be put before all the voters in a more fair and straightforward manner - not a convoluted mail-in ballot just for parcel owners.

Ground breakings are wonderful to attend and ribbon cuttings are even better. It was great to be at the grand opening of the

Aliso Canyon Park. Anne Ziliak, a longtime Board Member of GHNNC and chair of our PLUM committee, had been part of the review process going back to Councilmember Greig Smith, and was instrumental in the redesign. Many suggestions and recommendations were incorporated and Granada Hills and the surrounding communities now have a more beautiful and accessible park as a result.



To paraphrase Pericles, the great orator of ancient Greece, "If Granada Hills shall appear great to you, consider then that her glories were purchased by valiant men and women who learned their duty." At the very least, do your part by voting in the next election on May 21st. It will determine the direction of our City for the next decade and there are other issues like medical marijuana dispensaries that require your attention. For more information, including how to register online, [click here](#).

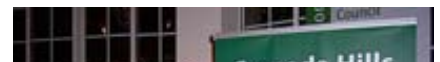
Finally, if you have time, consider being a part of GHNNC. It's YOUR neighborhood council and we are looking for spots to fill. You can also get involved even if you do not have time to serve on the Board.

Let me close by saying it is an honor to serve as your president and I look forward to staying in touch. You can reach me directly at EHeadington@ghnnc.org.

Annual VANC Mixer

Carla's Cafe, CBS Studio Center

The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), headed by founder and chair Jill Banks Barad, held its annual mixer at Carla's Cafe on the lot of CBS Studios on March 14, celebrating VANC's 10-year anniversary. All 34 Neighborhood Councils in the Valley had at least one board member attending. GHNNC was represented by board members [Sid Gold](#), *Citywide Information Chair*, and [Bill Hopkins](#), *Emergency Preparedness Chair*. The mixer is a great opportunity to network with fellow board members and stakeholders across the Valley, and City officials, including Grayce Liu,



General Manager of [DONE](#) (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - the City department that oversees neighborhood councils). A buffet-style dinner was available to all attendees.



Joseph Shore-Coss wins the raffle for an Emergency Preparedness Backpack.

Many City officials stopped by throughout the evening, as did several candidates for various offices. Speeches were made and VANC awards presented. Panorama City NC received the "Best of Community Action and Partnership" award for their work with LAUSD to allow children living across the street from a new school to be permitted to attend that school (original boundaries did not allow it). The "Best of Community Involvement and Advocacy" went to Porter Ranch NC for their 10 years of effort to get a new school in the neighborhood, culminating in the opening of the SPAN school (kindergarten through eighth grade) at the end of Rinaldi St. "Best of Community Outreach" was presented to North Hills West NC for their successful effort to prevent Restaurant Depot, a development that threatened their quality of life in the neighborhood, from being built. Finally, a "Razzie" award to the Mayor's Office for its threatened reduction to NC funding following the failure of Prop. A (one-half cent permanent increase in sales tax) to pass.

In addition, many door prizes were raffled off to those in attendance. GHNNC provided an emergency preparedness backpack filled with emergency, first aid, and survival products and literature. The pack was won by Joseph Shore-Coss, the District 4 Business Representative on the Midtown North Hollywood Neighborhood Council (www.midtownnoho.org). Here he is with the pack, next to our new pull-up banner.

Eating Healthy in the Aftermath of a Disaster

[Bill Hopkins](#), GHNNC Emergency Preparedness Chair

After the Northridge earthquake, local markets gave away a lot of product because refrigeration and electronic cash registers would not work without electricity. Very soon, the market shelves were emptied. That was a small reminder, and omen, of what can happen in a major earthquake or other disaster. How will you eat? How will you feed and provide for your family? Attend our April 2 Emergency Preparedness Meeting and discover the advantages of sprouting. Lisa Cianci and Ben Lawson of Cross Bull Ranch (crossbullranch.com) in Topanga Canyon will show us how to sprout nuts, grains, and seeds at home so that we can have fresh vegetable material at all times, even if we lack the space or time or energy to maintain a garden. You don't have to wait for an emergency to benefit from this practical skill. They will have samples to eat.

Sprouting is very inexpensive, nutritious, and easy to do and learn. It may be the only access we'll have to fresh food in the event of a disaster (unless you also have your own food garden).

We meet at our office, [11139 Woodley Ave, Granada Hills, 91344](#), at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of each month (holidays excepted). Everyone is welcome to attend. See you there!

Aliso Canyon Park

[Anne Ziliak](#), Chair Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Aliso Canyon Park is the newest addition to available recreation in Granada Hills. Many years ago members of the GHNNC PLUM Committee attended the Recreation and Parks Board when they approved the funding to purchase the Aliso Canyon property. Along many others including Porter Ranch and Granada Hills South Neighborhood Councils we spent many years participating in the design of the park. We were excited that equestrians and hikers would now have a staging and meeting place to use the great trails we have within the GHNNC area.

Now, it is a reality and an amazing opportunity for those that enjoy nature. There is a great staging area for equestrians, a riding ring (one of the first in the Northwest San Fernando Valley), bleachers to watch riders, a very large shaded picnic area and



bathroom facilities too. From Aliso Canyon equestrians and hikers can access the Backbone Trail system and reach O'Melveny Park and points north like Oat Mountain and East Canyon.



GHNNC BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: **WAYDE HUNTER**

PLUM Committee Member; Athletic Fields Ad Hoc Committee Member

"I joined because I felt that I could help the neighborhood have a voice in land use matters and that we could also have input into the political system which for so long had ignored the San Fernando Valley."

[Click here to learn more about the GHNNC Board Members!](#)

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GHNNC - MARCH, 2013

