



Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council

ghnnc.org

Granada Hills North NC Newsletter

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

11139 Woodley Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344

President's Message

We are happy to be reaching out to our stakeholders again. Yes, if you live north of the 118 freeway, west of the 405 freeway, east of Aliso Canyon, and south of the Los Angeles County line, you are part of GHNNC. We are your voice to the City of Los Angeles.

Neighborhood Council elections are coming up. You can log onto our website, ghnnc.org, to sign up and run for a Board seat. Join us and do good things for our community! See the elections article on page 3.

Our committees work tirelessly to preserve the quality of life in the greatest community in Los Angeles. All of our meetings are open for you to participate and help us determine the needs of the community. We encourage you all to join and participate in these committees, not just attend the meetings.

The **Outreach Committee** will be out there to meet you and let you know what is new in the neighborhood. Do not miss our FREE shredding event to help you dispose of old documents and help protect you from identity theft. The committee is planning more opportunities to give you a chance to see what is new in the area and possibly get you involved in one of our committees, or even a seat on the Board.

Our **Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee** has been very busy dealing with many issues from proposed developments, illegal construction, and the operation of the new DMV office. We still have large parcels of land that developers would like to build more houses on than are allowed and individuals that want to McMansionize our neighborhoods. Our PLUM Committee is here to help you.

Our **Citywide Issues Committee** attends local and city meetings to determine which issues will affect our community. They track City Council files and motions so we can notify the community and provide our input before the City takes action.

Our **Public Safety Committee** and **Emergency Preparedness Committee** are dedicated to the safety and preparedness of our community. If you have never attended one of our Emergency Preparedness meetings, you are missing the opportunity to plan for your family's survival after a disaster. These meetings are extremely informative and very well attended. The Public Safety Committee is always looking for ways to improve the security and well-being of all of our stakeholders. If you know of any areas in our boundaries that should be looked at, please alert Public Safety.

We are looking for volunteers to get involved in our city parks. Did you know we have the second largest park in the city, O'Melveny Park? We also have Aliso Canyon, Zelzah, and Bee Canyon parks. These are beautiful oases for all of us to enjoy, and we need your help in preserving and improving them.

There are more committees you can get involved in, including **Policy and Rules** and **Ethics**, and the occasional ad-hoc committee, which is formed to address a specific issue.

Please let us know how we can help you and your neighbors and consider joining one of our committees so you too can be involved in YOUR community.

Stakeholders interested in being a part of our Neighborhood Council or learning more about what we do may contact the President, Michael Greenwald, mgreenwald@ghnnc.org.

Board Member Contact Information

Michael Greenwald, Board President and Residents' Association Rep.: mgreenwald@ghnnc.org

Ray Pollok, Board Vice President, District 3 Rep., and Public Safety Chair: rpollok@ghnnc.org

Mike Chibidakis, Board Financial Officer and District 3 Rep.: mchibidakis@ghnnc.org

Vanessa Silver, Board Treasurer and District 3 Rep.: vsilver@ghnnc.org

Donna Zero, Board Secretary and District 3 Rep.: dzero@ghnnc.org

Samuel Andress, District 3 Rep.: sandress@ghnnc.org

Sid Gold, District 3 Rep. and Citywide Issues Chair: sgold@ghnnc.org

Bill Hopkins, District 3 Rep., Emergency Preparedness Chair, and Public Safety Vice Chair: bhopkins@ghnnc.org

Rahim Kazi, District 3 Rep.: rkazi@ghnnc.org

Ralph Kroy, Faith-Based Rep.: rkroy@ghnnc.org

Bill Lillenberg, District 3 Rep.: wllenberg@ghnnc.org

Betty Moreno, District 3 Rep.: bmoreno@ghnnc.org

Amanda Nall, Students Rep.: anall@ghnnc.org

Rob Sherman, District 1 Rep.: rsherman@ghnnc.org

Jan Subar, Neighborhood Organizations Rep. and PLUM Co-Chair: jsubar@ghnnc.org

Jim Summers, Community Interest Rep. and 2016 Election Chair: jsummers@ghnnc.org

Joe Vitti, District 3 Rep.: jvitti@ghnnc.org

Victoria Watson, District 3 Rep. and Outreach and Publicity Chair: vwatson@ghnnc.org

District 2 Rep.: Vacant

District 3 Rep.: Vacant

Educational Rep.: Vacant

Environmental Rep.: Vacant

Parks Rep.: Vacant

Small Business and Workers Rep.: Vacant

Youth Groups Rep.: Vacant

Being a Good Neighbor—Report Violations to 3-1-1

Leaf Blowers may not be used before 7:00 am or after 10:00 pm. (LAMC 112.4(c))

Construction in residential areas limited to the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 pm, during the week, and 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturdays. It is banned on Sundays. (LAMC 41.40(a)(c))

Tampering with or stealing refuse, rubbish, and salvage from containers placed at curbside for collection is prohibited. (LAMC 66.28)

Properties must be free from graffiti, trash, debris, and overgrown vegetation. (LAMC 91.8104)

Items such as indoor furniture, plumbing fixtures, construction, or auto parts are not to be stored in the yard. (LAMC 12.21A(a), 12.08A, 12.21C1)

Vehicles should not be parked in the front area of the property, except in a designated driveway. (LAMC 80.71.3)

Home Auto Repair, other than from minor emergencies, which must be completed within 24 hours, should be done within a building or in an area which is entirely enclosed from view by a wall or fence. (LAMC 12.21A1(a), (12.21A8(a))

Trash/Recyclables/Yard Waste/Manure containers can be set out on the curbside no earlier than 6:00 pm the evening before collection, and are to be removed no later than 8:00 pm following collection. (LAMC 66.27)

Disposing of large items, including furniture, water heaters, etc., out on your curb or parkway to be picked up can only be done by calling 3-1-1 or (800) 773-2489 and asking for *bulky item pickup service*. They will tell you when to put things out and when they will pick them up. (LAMC 66.27)

Litter is to be picked up from your property and placed in appropriate trash receptacles. (LAMC 57.21)

Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee

The PLUM Committee studies and makes recommendations about issues of land use in our community. It reviews requests by homeowners, developers, and businesses that may affect our area and our stakeholders.

Sometimes it is about a business or developer that wants to rezone a lot to do a particular project in our area. The PLUM Committee hears the proposal, offers suggestions and advice on making the project fit better into the community. Sometimes there is a fit to some area need; sometimes the proposal is out of character with the area in terms of size or use. Perhaps it is a project that many residents do not want. When there is little controversy about a proposal, the committee works with the applicant to make the project as good as possible, and then the committee recommends to the GHNNC Board whether the project should be supported. It is important to realize that the full GHNNC Board, after due discussion, makes its determination and then advises City agencies of its decision. An example is the proposal for a new childcare facility on Woodley Avenue—this fit into a current neighborhood need.

When a project is controversial, such as the proposal for an eldercare facility in a residential area, with a large proposed footprint and dense occupancy, the committee also publicizes it to stakeholders for their input, may hold additional public meetings, and may propose changes to the developer, which may include a mitigation plan. After due diligence, the committee makes its recommendation to the Board. In the recent instance of the proposed eldercare facility, the developer eventually abandoned its plans.

At times homeowners may have an issue with, or want to build on, their lot. If this falls within City guidelines for the zoning, PLUM does not get involved; but if it poses a problem for neighbors, the committee works to either improve the project so it is a better fit, or recommends that the GHNNC Board request applicable City agencies to deny the project.

Sometimes a City ordinance or conditional use permit (CUP) is flagrantly violated. An example is the building of high block walls that encroach on an equestrian trail counter to the City's easement and the City's conditions for the trail. Then the committee alerts City officials of the particular enforcement agency—such as Bureau of Engineering or Department of Building and Safety. Another example would be a liquor store that operates beyond the hours approved in their conditional use permit, or a school that uses loud public address systems that bother neighbors.

More current issues are those that deal with placement and appearance of cell towers, adding lights to the youth sports fields on Balboa Blvd., and O'Melveny Park sporting uses. PLUM works with organizations and residents to balance concerns for safety and the quiet use of their properties.

The PLUM Committee depends on stakeholders (homeowners, residents, people who work in the area) for involvement and assistance. You are the eyes and ears of our community and we want to work with you for our positive existence in this wonderful community. If you are interested in being involved with or on the PLUM Committee, or for assistance with a matter relating to PLUM, please contact PLUM co-chairs Agnes Lewis, ajlewis7@gmail.com, or Jan Subar, jsubar@ghnnc.org.

Residents' Association Representative

Living in Granada Hills for the last 36 years has made it very clear to me that residents' associations need representation as they are a unique entity. Where quite a few City decisions have an effect on an individual property, that very same decision can affect up to two thousand homes in a given association. In the past year we have had numerous issues brought to us by our neighborhood Homeowners Associations (HOAs) and

residents' associations. These vary from maintenance of and access to horse trails, to major developments that will bring more traffic, congestion, and noise.

If your association has any questions, please contact Michael Greenwald, Residents' Association Representative, at mgreenwald@ghnnc.org.

The Granada Hills Woman's Club is collecting coats, sweaters, ponchos, warm hats, and gloves for the homeless in our community. Contact Virginia Snow, (818) 363-0848, or Diane Eichman, (661) 254-3715.

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council 2016 Elections

Neighborhood Councils have a great deal of influence in Los Angeles City policy. Neighborhood Councils (NCs) were created by City Charter to *promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs*. There are often different opinions on how money allocated by the City to NCs should be spent, and which policy positions should be recommended to our elected officials. NCs also submit Community Impact Statements (CIS) that become part of City Hall motions. If you would like to have a say in your community, please vote in our elections. Even better, step up and run for a Board seat, or participate in one of our committees or events.

GHNNC has all 25 board seats up for election this year. Each seat is for a 2-year term. Although the election day is **April 9, 2016**, the candidate filing period ends on **February 9, 2016**. Voting will be at the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council office, 11139 Woodley Avenue, Granada Hills, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please vote! You will need to show ID, and be able to demonstrate your qualifications to vote for particular board position(s). For more information on our elections, please visit

the GHNNC election website at <https://empowerla.org/elections/region2/ghnnc16/>.

To serve on our Board (or any of our committees), you must be a stakeholder within Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council boundaries (see our website for a [boundary map](#)). A GHNNC stakeholder is defined in our bylaws as anyone who lives, works, owns property, or can affirm a substantial and ongoing participation within the NC boundaries. To review our governing documents, please refer to ghnnc.org/bylaws.pdf and ghnnc.org/standingrules.pdf. Our website is ghnnc.org.

For any questions, please contact Jim Summers, GHNNC Election Committee Chair, at jsummers@ghnnc.org, or by phone/text at (818) 321-6259. Information is also available at EmpowerLA.org/Elections, or by calling the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at (818) 293-8683. You may also contact the Region 2 Independent Election Administrator (IEA), Molly Lynn Taylor, molly@empowerla.org or by phone/text at (310) 920-0965. There is election information posted and available at our office at 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills.

Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund

The North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc., known as the NVC, administers the Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund. The Trust Fund was established in 2002 as partial compensation to the local community for the oil wells in our backyard. Through several changes of ownership, the companies have continued to contribute annually to the fund, and the distribution of those funds is handled by the NVC. Three of their most recent large projects include funding the *CPR Anytime* training program by the American Heart Association at Van Gogh Elementary, Robert Frost Middle School, Granada Hills Charter High School, and John F. Kennedy High School;

installation of additional security cameras and fiber optic connections in O'Melveny and Bee Canyon Parks; and replacement of the old water fountains with combination water fountains and pet watering stations in those same parks. One of our more recent projects you might be familiar with is the renovations to the children's playground in Bee Canyon Park. A list of all contributions can be found at www.nodump.com.

For further information, contact Wayde Hunter, WHunter01@aol.com, President of the North Valley Coalition & Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund.

RoboCalls

Let's face it. Who hasn't received unsolicited robocalls day or night from some company trying to sell you some home improvements or some other type of service or product, and they call you again and again even when you say you are not interested or that you are on the **National Do Not Call Registry**. Illegal robocalls remain a significant consumer protection problem because they repeatedly disturb consumers' privacy and frequently peddle fraudulent goods and services that cause significant economic harm.

There have been recent hearings conducted in the US Senate Special Committee on Aging on June 10, 2015 to examine the proliferation of unwanted calls. Written and oral testimony was taken from affected individuals and from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) representative. The written testimony of individuals can be viewed here: http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearings/ringing-off-the-hook_examining-the-proliferation-of-unwanted-calls.

Consumer Reports ran an article on the same which appears in the September 2015 issue titled *Rage Against Robocalls*, which is well worth reading. They confirm much of the testimony offered in the Senate Hearing and offered suggestions and advice under *What to Do When the Phone Rings*, like trying to avoid getting satisfaction from yelling, blowing whistles, dialing 1 to connect with a live person, 2 to be removed from their robocall list, or having a baby babble into the phone. It doesn't work—just hang up. Along with other suggestions, they also evaluated a number of devices under *Consumers Rate Robocall-Blocking Devices* which are specially designed to stop robocalls. It seems that not only landlines are being affected but a growing number of cell phones as well. You can file a complaint with the FTC at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/GettingStarted?NextQID=35&Url=%23%26panel1-5#crnt>.

Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste the Right Way

S.A.F.E. (Solvents/Automotive/Flammables/Electronics) recycling and disposal (no business waste) is available in our community at 10241 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills (former location of Fire Station 87), and is open Saturdays and Sundays (only) from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Collections are suspended during rainy weather.

You are required to remain in your vehicle, so plan accordingly when loading up. Remember, it is against the law to transport more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste to collection sites. Please pack and secure your hazmat waste properly to prevent tipping or spilling of the waste during transportation. For more information, and a list of what they will and will not accept, visit www.lacitysan.org.

New Renewable Energy Project at Sunshine Canyon Landfill



Sunshine Canyon Landfill is home to a new landfill gas-to-energy (LFGTE) project. The 20-megawatt renewable energy project is capable of generating enough electricity to power nearly 25,000 area homes.

Republic Services partnered with Sunshine Gas Producers, a joint venture between DTE Biomass Energy and Aria Energy, to develop the Sunshine Canyon LFGTE project.

LFGTE projects capture methane from biogas, which is

generated by the decomposition of waste within a landfill. The methane can be harnessed and converted into renewable energy sources that supply the local power grid. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), landfill gas-to-energy projects reduce reliance on non-renewable energy resources, such as coal or petroleum. Based on EPA calculations, the carbon emissions prevented by the new Sunshine Canyon gas-to-energy project from entering the air is equivalent to the consumption of more than 100 million gallons of gasoline.

For more information, contact District 1 Representative Rob Sherman (and GM of the landfill), at rsherman@ghnnc.org.

Outreach and Publicity Committee

The Outreach and Publicity Committee works to keep stakeholders informed, active, and interested in our community. We deliver comprehensive and accurate information, plus unique and organized events, along with devout participation from our stakeholders. The Outreach and Publicity Committee strives to unite stakeholders in an outgoing and enthusiastic manner; not only for the service of our neighbors, but also for the service of our community. To stay informed, please sign up on our website, ghnnc.org, to receive our weekly emailed Calendar of Events.

Last year, we held a free community shred event. More than 80 stakeholders turned out to have their no-longer-needed documents shredded. It was extremely successful, so we are hosting another FREE community shred event on **Saturday, March 12, 2016**, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Bring your old paperwork, bills, confidential papers, tax returns, and any other



documents you want to see shredded (yes, you can watch) to **Knollwood Plaza, 11846 Balboa Blvd.** in Granada Hills. Paperclips, staples, etc., do not have to be removed, and papers don't have to be removed from three-ring binders or file folders (including hanging folders or those

with Acco fasteners) before being fed into the mobile shredder. Maximum of 5 bankers boxes per family. Up to 5 CDs and DVDs may also be shredded.

For further information, contact Outreach and Publicity Chair Victoria Watson, vwatson@ghnnc.org.

Respect Your Neighbors and Our Neighborhood

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 unlawful in Los Angeles City. Call 3-1-1 to report illegally posted signs, visit bss.lacity.org/request.htm, or use the

MyLA311 smartphone app. Each year the Bureau of Street Services removes about 300,000 signs, at a cost of over \$60 million.

Key points to remember for garage sales: A maximum of five events, each not exceeding 2 days, are allowed per year. Sale items must be **used** only, no new merchandise. Sales are not allowed on sidewalks, streets, parkways, or any other public right-of-way. Hours are limited to between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.



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. Social media sites work extremely well in promoting your event. Other restrictions (such as size, length of time posted, physical shape, placement location, and quantity) may also apply.

Students Have a Say in Granada Hills North

Hello! My name is Amanda Nall and I am the Students Representative for GHNNC. There are 11 schools within the boundaries of our Neighborhood Council, ranging from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. Our Neighborhood Council values each school and being in this position allows me to reach out to our community from a unique perspective—

through the students. I am excited to become a part of the local schools and be a voice for the students on the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council.

Contact our Students Representative, Amanda Nall, anall@ghnnc.org.

Emergency Preparedness Meetings in Granada Hills

Third Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm



Perhaps you remember this iconic “fire on the water” image from the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake in our own backyard on Balboa Blvd. near Lorillard St. in Granada Hills. That’s 22 years ago! How long were you without

running water? Sewer services? Electricity? Could you stay in your home? Were you prepared? Remember, 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 third Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at our Neighborhood Council office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. Get to know your fellow stakeholders and 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. We’ve heard how to prepare our pets for disasters, how the physically impaired can be better prepared, how to use FRS/GMRS radios, about the dangers of EMPs, how to protect yourself and family after a release of nuclear radiation, how to safely store water, and what safety precautions to take around natural gas. To receive meeting notices, updates, and other valuable preparedness information, send an email to the chair, Bill Hopkins, bhopkins@ghnnc.org.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Community Advisory Committee (SCL-CAC)

The SCL-CAC serves as the liaison between the landfill operator “and the community and as a means for the community to communicate with the Regional Planning Commission and other regulatory agencies on an ongoing basis regarding issues involved in the development and operation of the Landfill.”

At their March 12, 2015 meeting, **Dr. Cyrus Rangan**, Director, Bureau of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment, County of Los Angeles Public Health, spoke about the effects of odors. The entire speech and further information can be found on www.scl-cac.org. Below are some excerpts from his comments.

“And so, when I hear about a situation like this, when we are talking and emphasizing this notion about odor complaints, that’s where for me it’s a big focus, and it really does actually cause adverse health effects, not necessarily outcomes, but have adverse health effects.... When you are talking about something like odors; no I’m not saying you can’t get cancer from smelling an odor. But what I can say is that, yeah, can it cause eye irritation, nose irritation, mouth irritation, throat irritation, nausea, light headiness, a feeling of ick. All those

kinds of things. Yeah, of course you can. And do I as a physician consider those to be real health effects? Real physiological effects? Yes, because they are real.

“So...I’ve seen that kind of statement before in lots of letters from lots of different kinds of industries and agencies, about you know, ‘our facility or this facility or that facility does not pose a threat to public health.’ You know those kinds of wordings...threat to public health. I’ve seen that kind of wording a lot. But, when it comes to something like live odors, and the kinds of complaints that you have voiced today, well, those are public health as far as I am concerned.

“The World Health Organization and the CDC have been coming out recently with statements saying that things like odors and other things of that scale that affect people’s daily quality of life or daily living are considered Public Health issues.”

The SCL-CAC meets every other month (next is Mar. 10) on the second Thursday, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, in the Fairway Room at Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Anytime Is the Time to Shop Local

THANK YOU!
FOR BUYING LOCALLY

By choosing local and independent, you not only get personal service and value, you’ve helped your community!



Here’s a call for all of us to SHOP LOCAL...at least a little bit more. Please support the local independent businesses who have stuck it out, who compete with the big box stores without the resources or political

power. They deserve our patronage. And it’s not just good for them. It’s good for us. Did you know that money spent at chain retailers return only 13.6% of the revenue into the local community? Money spent with independent businesses returns 48%.

Where we shop, eat, and play—all of it makes our community home. Our one-of-a-kind businesses are unique and help form the character of the community. Local businesses are owned by people who live in the community and are more invested in the community’s future.

Does that mean you should never shop at the store taking up a whole block or online? No. We all love the convenience of being able to buy bandaids, a birthday card, and towel rack in one place, as well as free 2-day delivery like everyone else, but it’s not an all-or-nothing scenario. If we can shift a small portion of our spending back to the local independents, together we can make a big difference.

Many of us already Shop Local once a year on Small Business Saturday (the Saturday after Thanksgiving). Let’s be aware every month where our dollars are going. Do you get your flowers from the local flower shop or from an Internet florist? Do you order your pizza from the local family who’s been around for 25 years or from the corporation who can afford to buy a spot on Super Bowl Sunday?

Please support our local independent businesses in Granada Hills, the city that’s known as the **Valley’s Most Neighborly Town**.

For more information, visit www.nowshoplocal.com.

Faith-based Information

The faith-based representative and faith community attended several safety sessions offered by the LAPD. These included sessions on domestic violence, and safety of facilities and members, along with handouts.

There is much that can and should be done in this area, and additional meetings are being planned.

Los Angeles Police Chaplin **Sgt. Crawford** retired in December, 2015 after over thirty years with the force. Best to you in retirement.

For years, we've been working with various City departments to

make it easier to store disaster response items on religious properties. In most cases, the cost of necessary permits and fees are extremely high. We have yet to find a fair resolution with the City. If these kinds of supplies are not on hand and readily available to our stakeholders at the time of a major disaster, such as the anticipated 8.2 magnitude earthquake along the San Andreas fault, an opportunity to provide for the greater good, when police, fire, paramedics, and utility crews won't be coming soon, will have been missed.

Contact our Faith-based Representative, Ralph Kroy, rkroy@ghnnc.org.

Neighborhood Watch News and Crime Update



Do you make your house looked lived-in when not at home? Do you keep your doors locked and some lights on all the time? Do you know your neighbors? Do they know you? When shopping, do you put packages out of sight in your car? These are questions we asked of you a few years ago.

We previously introduced you to the national Neighborhood Watch program, as well as our own. Many of you formed Neighborhood Watch groups in your neighborhoods. If

you've been procrastinating, now is the time to join. Early this year a rash of crime hit our area hard. Most were residential burglaries and theft off/from cars. Be alert! Look ahead. Engrave your valuables with your driver's license number to help with retrieval if stolen. Get to know who belongs in your neighborhood, and more importantly, who does not.

To join or form a Neighborhood Watch group 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 Blvd., Dario Del Core (27286@lapd.lacity.org) is your Senior Lead Officer. His meetings are at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday at St. Euphrasia Church, 11766 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills. If you live east of Balboa Blvd., your SLO is Janine Angeles (30392@lapd.lacity.org). Her meetings are at 7:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday at Brookdale of Northridge, 17650 Devonshire St., Northridge. Always good to check before you go. Go to www.lapdonline.org and sign up for E-Policing or [Nixle](#) reports of local crime and other occurrences.

GHNNC has purchased Neighborhood Watch signs for our area. Contact your Senior Lead Officer to get a program started and these signs installed on your block. They are an effective deterrent. If you have questions about Neighborhood Watch programs in your area, contact your SLO or Jan Subar, Neighborhood Organizations Representative, jsubar@ghnnc.org.

Englander Demands SoCal Gas Recognize Adjacent Communities Affected by Leak



On January 13, I submitted a motion asking that the Southern California Gas Company recognize and extend their relocation efforts to include the immediately adjacent communities of Granada Hills, Chatsworth, and Northridge and that residents requesting relocation from

those communities be treated with the same respect and priority as anyone with a reasonable relocation request.

Overwhelmingly, many residents of the adjacent communities of Chatsworth, Northridge, and Granada Hills are reporting that they too are experiencing symptoms related to mercaptan exposure. Unlike residents of Porter Ranch, however, they report that they have tried to take advantage of relocation assistance and have either been denied or relegated to a non-priority status, or simply have not received return phone calls, thereby extending their considerable exposure and suffering.

Odors and airborne chemicals don't stop at community lines or ZIP code boundaries. It is critically important that all reasonable relocation requests be accommodated by SoCal Gas and that everyone experiencing symptoms be treated equally.

The **Customer Resource Center**, which I requested the SoCal Gas Company open in November, is now open at 19731 Rinaldi St., Porter Ranch, Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. This physical storefront, which is ADA accessible and multilingual, provides a one-stop portal of information for all

members of the public. Several hundred residents per day have already utilized this resource. The SoCal Gas Company will be expanding this center with the space next door to accommodate growing requests.

To report a smell or potential gas leak, call the SoCal Gas Company at (800) 427-2200 and call the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) at (800) 288-7664 or go online: <http://www.aqmd.gov/contact/complaints>.

For residents who wish to relocate, SoCal Gas is providing free, temporary housing accommodations, including locations that can accommodate residents with disabilities and people with access and functional needs. For residents with pets, they have arranged pet-friendly locations. To receive temporary housing accommodations, call (877) 238-9555. If you feel you have suffered illness, harm or injury as a result of the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak, call the Claims Department at (213) 244-5151, or fill out the online form at <https://www.socalgas.com/about-us/claims>. For information on K-12 students and school-related issues, contact the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and Local District Northwest at (818) 654-3600. You can also email your Local District Northwest Superintendent, **Vivian Ekchian**, directly at vivian.ekchian@lausd.net.

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter at CD12.org. You can reach me directly at Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org.

9th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair, Saturday, October 1, 2016

Online registration opens July 1 at www.ValleyDisasterFair.com



"A prepared community can save lives, reduce the severity of injury, reduce property damage, and take care of one another when roads are inaccessible and emergency assistance is unavailable. The goal of the Fair is to educate the public about the importance of preparation and to demonstrate life-saving and safety techniques."

Bill Hopkins, Chair, Valley Disaster Preparedness Team
President, Southern California Preparedness Foundation (www.SoCalPrep.us)

The 9th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2016, in the rear of Fire Station 87 at 10124 Balboa Blvd., between Lassen St. and Devonshire St., in Granada Hills. Starting July 1, you'll be able to register online. Optional registration makes your family eligible to receive a free Family Emergency (EP) Preparedness Starter Kit (while supplies last), distributed only at the Fair. Registering online, instead of at the Fair, allows you to spend more time taking in all that the Fair has to offer, including a free lunch (while supplies last) and the Speakers Series. Reserve 10/1/16 on your calendar for the 9th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair. Everything at the Fair is free to attendees. Visit www.ValleyDisasterFair.com.

Highlights from the 8th Annual Fair:

- ◆ Families from over **52 Neighborhood Councils** and all **15 City Council Districts** registered online.
- ◆ Of those responding, 77% said they would be attending for the first time.
- ◆ Our Speakers Series, with **LAFD Captain/Paramedic Stacy Gerlich, Seismologist Dr. Kate Hutton, LAUSD OES Dr. Jill Barnes, Survivalist Mr. Tim Kneeland, and MySafe:LA's Mr. David Barrett**, experienced near-capacity attendance.
- ◆ **Cedars-Sinai** screened 56 donors and collected 50 units of blood (68% increase in blood collection over prior year).
- ◆ Ham radio station **K6D** made 138 contacts in 38 states and 5 Canadian provinces with a piece of wire for an antenna.
- ◆ The **International Dutch Oven Society** served over 1,100 tastings, and solar ovens baked chocolate chip cookie samplings.
- ◆ The Fair was powered by the sun, courtesy of **LADWP's** solar power trailer.
- ◆ **Calvary Chapel Disaster Relief Ministry** served over 2,000 meals.
- ◆ **Red Cross Children's Earthquake/Safety Puppet Show** educated youngsters on earthquake and fire safety.
- ◆ Several exhibitors demonstrated and taught "compression-only" (sidewalk) CPR.
- ◆ Fairgoers and exhibitors were very impressed with the range of offerings at the Fair and the contents of the free EP kits.

Public Safety Committee

Needed: A few good men and women! If you live or have an interest in Public Safety in Granada Hills North, then you are qualified to be a member of our committee. Being a Board member is not required—just one or two hours of your time to attend our monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm. Additional time outside of meetings may be required to assist the committee with its tasks. Be part of the team and help develop long-term safe solutions for our community.

Have you had any crime problems? First, file a police report. It will help you and your neighbors. Second, if you are still concerned, contact us. We can help put you in contact with the LAPD Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for your area. We can also put you in contact with your local Neighborhood Watch group or guide you on getting one started in your area.



Old Granada Hills Residents' Group, now in its 15th year, was formed to be an advocate organization for the historical area of Granada Hills. The group is a 501(c)(3) state- and city-

recognized voice for all issues affecting not only Old Granada Hills and the surrounding community but also the larger city-wide issues that impact our way of life. Its longevity is due to the countless hours of volunteer work and monetary donations from individuals and businesses that support the monthly newsletter. The Residents' Group reaches out to other local

Do you know of any dangerous street conditions in our area? A dangerous intersection that needs painting, signs, or a pothole repaired? We are here as your representative and to get your report to the right people at City Hall. Some city departments are still low on funds, so we can't guarantee everything will be immediately repaired, but a lot of the people who work for the City are very conscientious in their duties and responsibilities, and we know who they are.

With El Niño upon us, get emergency alerts sent to you by registering at www.NotifyLA.org. For tips and preparedness information, visit the City's website at www.ElNinoLA.com.

For more information, or if you are interested in joining our Public Safety Committee, contact the Public Safety Committee Chair, Ray Pollok, rpollok@ghnnc.org.

organizations, including the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, for constructive partnerships and sharing of information. Some of the issues include: the renewed Granada Hills Community and Specific Plans; illegal group and boarding houses; cell towers; position statements for mansions, small lot subdivisions, community care facilities, septic tanks, shopping carts, street vendors; code enforcement; Citrus Sunday; and preservation of the historic Deodar Trees. They meet every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at Granada Hills Charter High School, 10535 Zelzah Ave. Visit Old Granada Hills Residents' Group on the web at www.oghr.org.



Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council
ghnnc.org

**Granada Hills North
Neighborhood Council**
11139 Woodley Ave.
Granada Hills, CA 91344

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GHNNC NEWSLETTER

- 1-818-923-5592 – to leave message for GHNNC, or visit us online at ghnnc.org.
- 1-800-CUT-SMOG (388-7664) – to report odors or other nuisances emanating from Sunshine Canyon Landfill, Aliso Canyon gas leak, etc. Tracked by SCAQMD.
- 1-213-244-5151 – Southern California Gas Company Claims Department
- 1-877-ASK-LAPD (275-5273) – for any *NON-EMERGENCY* question or to report a crime after the fact. **Report crimes in progress and emergencies 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 quick removal. Can also report to 3-1-1 or MyLA311.
- 1-818-882-1212 – Councilmember (12) Mitchell Englander's Chatsworth Office.
- 1-818-501-9200 – Congressman Brad Sherman's Sherman Oaks office.
- 1-818-376-4246 – Assemblymember (46) Adrin Nazarian's Van Nuys office.
- 1-818-365-2464 – Assemblymember (39) Patty López's San Fernando office.
- 1-818-781-7407 – U.S. Representative (29) Tony Cárdenas's Panorama City office.
- 1-800-560-0010 – for Van Nuys Airport noise complaints.
- 1-800-427-4661 – National Flood Insurance Program (TDD/TTY: 1-800-427-5593)
- 1-818-530-4125 – Food Forward. Volunteer harvesting teams pick your fruit and donate 100% to local food pantries

We are Working On...

- Neighborhood Council elections
- LADWP's proposed rate increases
- Cellular tower placement and stealthing
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill and odor complaints
- SoCal Gas Company leak at Aliso Canyon underground storage facility
- Recycled Water Advisory Group
- Construction of a second large UV treatment plant at the Los Angeles Reservoir (Woodley Ave. and 405 freeway)
- Community Care Facilities Ordinance (CCFO)
- Street and sidewalk repair
- Shred events for your documents

GHNNC Elections 2016

Candidate filing deadline is Tuesday, February 9
Election day is Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
at Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
11139 Woodley Avenue, Granada Hills, 91344

Regular GHNNC Meeting Locations and Times

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

Board Meetings – First Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Saint Euphrasia School Hall, 11766 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills. Check website to confirm meeting location. Please bring a can of food for our food drive. Free Emergency Preparedness item at each meeting.

Outreach and Publicity – Second Wednesday at 2:00 pm. Plans/implements outreach events throughout the year and solicits stakeholder input to the City decision-making process. Contact Victoria Watson vwatson@ghnnc.org.

PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) – Third Monday at 3:00 pm. Deals with issues such as cell tower applications, subdivision requests, conditional use permits (CUPs), and land-use and building code issues. Contact Jan Subar jsubar@ghnnc.org or Agnes Lewis ajlewis7@gmail.com.

Public Safety – Second Tuesday at 2:00 pm. Works on local issues concerning traffic and safety (vehicular, bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian), crime, and Neighborhood Watch. Contact Ray Pollok rpollok@ghnnc.org.

Emergency Preparedness – Third Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Learn and share how to prepare for disasters, big and small. Free Emergency Preparedness item at each meeting. Contact Bill Hopkins bhopkins@ghnnc.org.

Citywide Issues – Third Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Deals with issues involving LADWP, Sanitation, Gas Company, etc. Contact Sid Gold sgold@ghnnc.org.

Executive – Tuesday prior to Board meeting. Consists of Board officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, financial). Considers procedural and financial issues, Board agenda items, and tracks PLUM matters. Chaired by the Board president, Michael Greenwald mgreenwald@ghnnc.org.

Agendas for all meetings are posted at our office and on our website (ghnnc.org), and may be posted at other locations within our boundaries at least 72 hours before the start of the meeting, and in our weekly calendar emails with links to the referenced meeting agenda. These meetings are open to the public.

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

To email the Board: board@ghnnc.org.