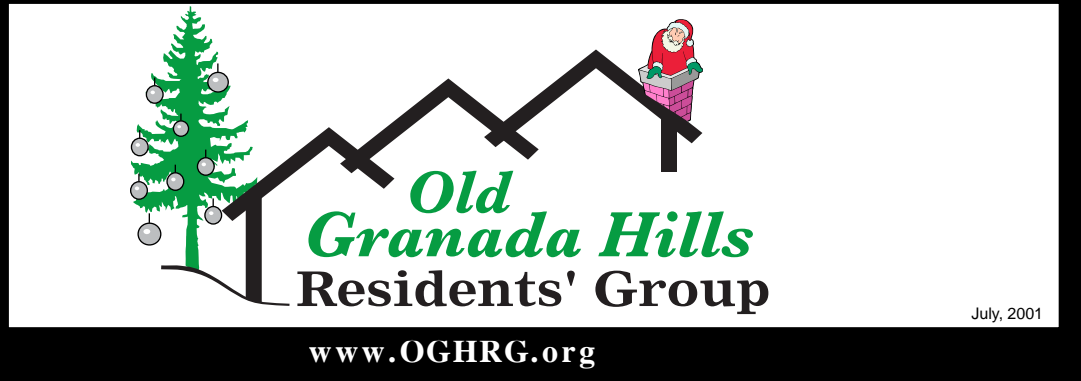


...to identify, discuss, and resolve problems and issues within our community...

**December
2011**



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- Fund Raising
- Newsletter

Newsletter articles, pictures, comments, suggestions:
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Next Meeting is:

Season's Greetings



Thursday, December 1st, 2011

7:00 pm - 8:36 pm

**Granada Hills Charter High School
Rawley Hall**

- 7:00** Introductions, Disclaimer
- 7:05** Reading of Minutes, Agenda Review
- 7:10** Community Announcements; News; Updates; Events
- 7:15** OGHRG Committee Reports
Financial; Zoning and Density
Newsletter
- 7:30** **Guest Speaker; Tom Shea;** Staff Research UC Cooperative
Extension; Possible death to our Citrus trees
- 8:00** **Updates:** Community Care Ordinance
Community Plan; Sidewalk Ordinance
- 8:20** New Business and Wrap-up

January meeting is January 5th, Granada Hills Charter High School

OGHRG President's Message

Annual Holiday Parade: The Annual Granada Hills Holiday Parade will be held on December 4, 2011. This annual event is sponsored by the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce. The parade route as usual will start at Chatsworth and Petit and proceed west to Zelzah, culminating at Granada Hills Charter High School. This year's theme is "Winter Wonderland" and the Grand Marshall is Actress Shirley Jones.

Still Waiting for the Community Care Ordinance: Our latest information on the CCO is that it is back with the Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUM). We have been advised that there are still some issues to be addressed between PLUM Chair Ed Reyes and the City Attorney's office before the final ordinance is reviewed by the PLUM committee. It is unknown at this time whether the committee will require another vote, or take public comment. Hopefully, the issues will be promptly resolved and the full City Council can take a final vote before the end of the year, but at this point I am not betting on it.

The Los Angeles ordinance is based, at least in part, on an ordinance adopted in Newport Beach. That ordinance is in litigation and currently at the appeals level, having been shot down in District Court. The Department of Justice has filed an amicus brief on behalf of the plaintiffs. From what I read, the DoJ has intervened based on comments from the public that they construe to be discriminatory. This points out the need to discuss this issue in a civil and rational manner, without resorting to hyperbole or superheated rhetoric.

Protect Your Citrus Trees: Our December guest Speaker is Tom Shea, who will be speaking about the Asian Citrus psyllid, an insect that carries a fatal citrus disease. This bacterial disease, huanglongbing or HLB, infects any type of citrus tree, rendering the fruit inedible and misshapen. The disease kills trees within five years. This disease has already decimated the citrus industry in Florida. For more information go to www.californiacitrusthreat.org and attend our December meeting. *Dave Beauvais*

December Guest Speaker - Tom Shea

Tom Shea is a Staff Research Associate with the University of California Cooperative Extension serving Riverside & San Bernardino Counties. He works in the Subtropical Horticulture Program where his primary focus is on citrus, avocado, dates and other subtropical fruits. He has also collaborated with UC Farm Advisors with lychee, longan and blueberry production. He has been involved in citrus leafminer research since 2002 in Riverside and San Diego Counties. He has been conducting ACP/HLB informational meetings and talks to the Calif. Assoc. of Nurserymen and Garden Centers, numerous garden clubs, Master Gardeners (trainees and veterans), rare fruit growers and other interested civic groups since 2008 throughout Southern California.

Tom will bring us up to date on the problem described below and let us know what we can do to prevent **the loss of our orange trees.**

The Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) is a pest that acts as a carrier or vector spreading "huanglongbing" (HLB), a devastating disease of citrus trees. This bacterial disease is transmitted to healthy trees by the psyllid after it feeds on infected plant tissue. There is no cure once a tree becomes infected. The diseased tree will decline in health and eventually die. It is a threat to all California citrus growers both in commercial and backyard settings.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) conducts field surveys for ACP and other pests statewide.



Recent detections of ACP in Tijuana, Mexico, reemphasize the importance of increased surveillance for ACP Southern California. Survey methods for ACP include visual inspections by CDFA and

county field inspectors, "sweep netting" for insects, and the placement of yellow panel "sticky traps" in host trees and shrubs in citrus nurseries, commercial citrus-producing areas and residential properties throughout the state.

- The best gifts we get are from those who have nothing to give but themselves.
- After the Holidays, most of us are behind in our bills but way ahead on our calories.

Food Trucks

The Food Truck event in downtown Old Granada Village has established itself as the largest spontaneous event of its kind in the entire country. Since late spring, 12 to 63 Food Trucks



have planted themselves on Chatsworth Street, bringing in several thousand customers, Wednesday and Friday evenings. It is not without controversy with opinions at both extremes of love or hate. Some merchants complain that customers

can't get to their stores with food trucks or their representatives taking up parking spots early in the day. Other merchants love them saying it brings life to the community. Comments include. "Two days are overwhelming"; "Friday only would be best"; "Ban them altogether"! The Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce has accepted the challenge from both the residential and business community that something should be done about it, exercise some control over it.

The facts: The Food Trucks can park basically anywhere on public streets as long as they follow the posted signs like every other vehicle is supposed to. Chatsworth Street has a 2 hour limit up until 4:00 pm, so that has little bearing. The red zones restrictions are fairly well adhered to. Changes to existing parking arrangements are not possible within the constraints of state and local ordinances.

The LA County Health Department which, in addition to their basic food handling codes, requires that a mobile food vendor that is parked for more than 1 hour have adequate bathroom facilities available for their employees within 200 feet of the truck. The bathroom has to be noted via an official "Bathroom Letter" kept on the truck.

The GH Chamber, through a few committee members, has spoken to the merchants and food truck owners and has devised a plan that has been working for a few months now. The merchants that agreed to have their bathrooms available are documented along with the trucks that have agreed to conform to the plan. Bathroom letters are facilitated by the Chamber office and issued each Wednesday and Friday.

A cleaning service has been established by a local couple who have instituted a voluntary fee for each truck. They collect money from each truck and often get 100% compliance. They have been keeping the sidewalks, streets, and alleys, free of litter and have recently begun hot water pressure washing of the sidewalks.

The problems and complaints still persist with the Chamber working with the LAPD, Dept. of Transportation, County Health, and our Councilman's office discussing options and solutions. There will be a more formal review towards the end of the year.

• This newsletter issue was proofread by Bart Mills



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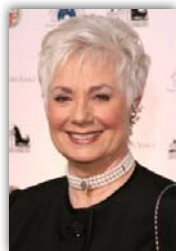
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Holiday Parade

Oscar-winning actress, TV star and activist, **Shirley Jones**, is this year's Grand Marshall at the 28th annual Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Holiday Parade, taking place on **Sunday, December 4th**, rain or shine, starting at 1:30 at Petit Park along Chatsworth St. to Zelzah.



The theme of this year's parade is "Winter Wonderland - A Salute to the Youth of our communities." The parade, which is the largest holiday event of its kind in the San Fernando Valley, will feature theme-related costumes, theme decorations, music and automobiles, along with community-sponsored floats, youth groups, marching bands and equestrians.

TV audiences will remember Shirley Jones from The Partridge Family, while movie-goers will fondly recall her performances in Oklahoma and Carousel, as well as her stunning Oscar turn in Elmer Gantry.

Currently Ms. Jones is actively promoting a memorial park for the victims of 9-11. The park, on land purchased by Shirley and her husband, Marty Ingels, in Big Bear, has a 600 pound girder from the World Trade Center, flags and the names of the victims. Donations for the park can be made through www.shirleyjones.com to Fawn Park, a non-profit organization.

Book Sale

The Friends of the Granada Hills Library will be having a book sale on Friday, December 9th (2-5pm) and Saturday, December 10th, from 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. Lots of paperbacks, hardcovers, fiction and nonfiction books will be offered at excellent prices. The sale will take place in the community room at the library which is located at 10640 Petit Avenue, Granada Hills, CA (corner at Chatsworth St.) The library phone number is 818 368-5687. *Carol Mandelberg*



Coming Events



- Dec 1:** Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Meeting; 7:00 See cover page for agenda
- Dec 4:** Sunday; Granada Hills Holiday Parade 1:30 on Chatsworth St.
- Dec 6:** Granada Hills Chamber Government Affairs Committee monthly meeting; 11:45am, Chamber office, 368-3235
- Dec 7: Pearl Harbor Day**
- Dec 8:** Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, 6:30pm Valley Academy of Arts & Sciences; www.GHSNC.org
- Dec 9,10:** Friends of the Library book sale; see article
- Dec 11; Hanukkah Festival; Skirball; see article**
- Dec 16: Last day of PALS toy drive; see article**
- Dec 19?:** Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 6:30pm; Rinaldi Adult School on Encino and Rinaldi. www.ghnnc.com
- Dec 21:** First day of Winter
- Dec 21: First Day of Hanukkah**
- Dec 24:** Free Dorothy Chandler event, see article
- Dec 25: Christmas Day** - Sunday this year
- Dec 26:** Boxing day
- Dec 31: New Years Eve**, Saturday
- Jan 2:** Rose Parade

Too Old to Work?



Architectural Lighting magazine had a short article on Eva Zeisel, who was the first woman to have a solo show at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1946. In 2005, she was awarded the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award for Lifetime achievement. Currently, she

has partnered with a decorative lighting company and will be introducing her first lighting collection this fall. The lighting fixtures will include 2 pendants, 2 wall sconces, and 2 table lamps, all featuring Zeisel's signature organic forms. She celebrated her 105th birthday in November.....

Police are concerned about a rise in people casing our neighborhoods. They often are on bikes or have just parked a car down the street and walk around looking for easy targets and where they won't be seen. Home burglaries are frequently happening during business hours when no one is home. Know what is going on in your neighborhood. Any suspicious activity should be called in to the non-emergency number - 1-877-877-5273. And keep your garage doors closed. *from Neighborhood Watch Nov. 17 meeting.*

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PALS Holiday Toy Drive



The holidays are around the corner, so please start thinking about toy and gift donations for the annual LAPD Devonshire PALS (Police Activity League Supporters) Holiday Toy Drive.

All of the donated gifts and toys will be distributed to the hundreds of kids who participate in the programs at the Greig Smith LAPD Devonshire Youth Center on Saturday, December 18. Please donate, before December 17th, a new, unwrapped toy, gift, book, gift certificate or other age-appropriate gift for kids up to 17 years old. Gifts can be dropped off at the Council District 12 office, located at 18917 Nordhoff St., Suite 18,

Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

You can also drop off gifts at the Youth Center, located at 8721 Wilbur Ave., at the corner of Parthenia St. in Northridge, Mondays to Thursdays, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Fridays 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. More info, please call 818-885-6432

Hillcrest Christian School Expanding

Hillcrest Christian School has aquired the campus of LA Babtist Middle/High School located in North Hills on Woodley next to the VA Hospital. Beginning with the next school year, grades 7 to 12 will be at the North Hills campus and kindergarten thru 8th grade will remain at the Rinaldi facility. Students in 7th and 8th grade have the option of which campus to attend.

Visibility Generator

Is advertising in this newsletter a good value and a smart marketing tool to get local customers? Ask Gene Behrns, who has taken out an ad here for the last 6 months. He wanted to increase his landscaping business in this local area to cut down on his travel to more distant homeowners and businesses. His ad is working. Every month since his ad has appeared, he has had many inquires that resulted in at least one job.

As the new year begins, consider placing an ad in the newsletter to get your message out to the local community. We publish every month - except August - and mail to 1388 addresses, primarily in the area around downtown Granada Hills known as Old Granada Village. It is also sent to selected government officials and posted on the internet.

It's True

Advertise your business here

This size ad is only \$35 per month. With a 3 month committment you can submit an article about you, your business and its connection to the community - all for only \$100. Larger ads are available. *Postal regulations forbid Insurance, Banks, and Travel Agency Ads*

818-368-7454 rcfisk@verizon.net

Packages to Our Overseas Troops

Operation Gratitude is a San Fernando Valley-based non-profit organization that mobilizes volunteers to write letters and assemble care packages filled with donated goods, and ships them to American troops serving in the military overseas. To date, they have sent over 600,000 care packages.

Holiday Drive Sept. 15 to Dec. 5

You can help this worthy cause by volunteering through December 17th, to help assemble packages, writing letters to troops, or by donating goods or money to Operation Gratitude.

To learn more about Operation Gratitude, visit their website www.OperationGratitude.com or call (818) 909-0039

Permanent Recognition

A sign was unveiled November 17th acknowledging Granada Hills Charter High School winning the 2011 National Academic Decathlon. In a ceremony, attended by the student's coaches and parents, Councilman Mitch Englander congratulated the student Academic Decathlon team and said that he was, "so proud of this amazing achievement...".

Granada High is the first Charter school in the competition's 30 year history to capture the national title. The new sign is located on Zelzah Avenue near the main entrance to the school.

Free Gifts?

The Holiday shopping season brings out hurried shoppers, crowded malls and full parking lots. It also brings out thieves that will help themselves to anything they see in your parked car. Do not leave anything in sight in your car. If you go back to your car to put items in your trunk, be aware of who is watching, if possible drive to a new parking spot. Don't become a victim.

KCSN-New Public Affairs Show ?

Do you have stories about people, places or projects in the San Fernando Valley that the community may be interested in hearing about? KCSN/Los Angeles, a public service of California State University, Northridge, is developing a new public affairs show and is seeking program ideas. Submit your suggestions to Karen Kearns, General manager, at kearns@csun.edu

For more information visit www.kcsn.org. 818-677-3090

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Featured Home



When other areas of our city are suffering from blight and neglect, the community of Old Granada Hill is thriving! But it wasn't always that way. It wasn't until after the Northridge Earthquake, that our neighborhood began a slow and steady revitalization. Instead of pulling up stakes and leaving, many neighbors like the Kick family decided to stay put to rebuild and remodel their homes. They could have moved, but where to? Where else could they find an area with all that Old Granada Hills has to offer: custom homes on large lots; academic decathlon winning high school; a variety of churches and places of worship; backyards filled with orange and fruit trees; park-like landscaping; historical landmark deodar trees; convenient shopping within walking distance; reasonable traffic; and not to forget the friendliest neighbors in the Valley.

As their family grew, Don and Natalie Kick realized that they would soon outgrow their home, located at 17413 Ludlow Street. Instead of moving to a community full of large cookie cutter houses, the Kicks decided to build their dream home here in OGH. It has been a 6 year labor of devotion and dedication. This project ended up being a family affair. Don's dad Ray, lent a helping hand along with solid construction advice. Both Don and his dad are expert woodworkers and handcrafted the wood trim and some furniture pieces throughout the home. Don did most of the heavy lifting – doing most of the construction on the project himself. Only a few jobs were turned over to subcontractors. Natalie also had a big part in the exterior and interior design of their home and has added her touches to the furniture, color theme, and handmade goods that complement the Craftsman motif.

The house can't be missed. It is a breathtaking 2-story craftsman, surrounded by natural woodlands style landscaping, interspersed in between river rock, and a large porch that spans the front of the home. Neighbors are thrilled that the Kicks decided to make Old Granada Hills their home. And the Kicks are thrilled to move out of the temporary cramped quarters into their new 2,800 sq ft, 3 bedroom - 3bath spacious home. Thanks to neighbors like Don, Natalie and their 4 beautiful daughters, the community of Old Granada Hills just keeps on getting better and better!



Hanukkah Family Festival

The Skirball Cultural Center presents its annual Hanukkah Family Festival that welcomes people of all backgrounds to celebrate the holiday of light, freedom, and dedication. Families can enjoy the festival through a variety of activities including performances, storytelling, art workshops, gallery tours, and more. **December 11**, 11:00am to 4:00pm

The Skirball Cultural Center is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda. General admission is \$10. Free for members and children under 12. 310-440-4500 www.skirball.org

Train Ride to Santa's North Pole Village

Ring in the season with a trip to the North Pole on the Travel Town Railroad, which will take passengers on a magical ride aboard a miniature train. At the end of the line will be Santa's Village, brilliantly decorated with festive light displays and scenes of winter to put visitors of all ages in a jolly holiday mood. **December 2- 4, 9 - 11, 15- 21**. 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Travel Town Museum, 5200 Zoo Dr., Griffith Park
\$8 (per round trip) 323-662-9678 www.laparks.org

Free Music Center Event

As seen on TV every year. Choirs, instrumental groups, and dance companies representing the many cultures of Los Angeles celebrate the season with seasonally-themed music and dance. Around 1,500 performers from 35 groups, chosen by competitive application, participate in the event. Parking is also free for this event that runs from 3:00pm to 9:00p on **December 24th**. Dorothy Chandler Pavillion is at 135 N. Grand Ave, Downtown Los Angeles. 213-972-3009 or www.lacountyarts.org

Recently Sold Homes

17801 Mayerling	\$825,000	11821 Louise	\$586,000
17169 Lahey	\$295,000	17601 Clymer	\$265,000
11824 Andasol	\$490,000	11800 Shoshone	\$627,000
17166 San Jose	\$250,000	12812 Jolette	\$485,000

Devonshire Division Crime Stats 10/16 thru 11/12

Homicide0	Burglary 107
Rape 4	GTA 41
Robbery 15	BFMV 135
Aggravated	Personal/
Assault 19	Other theft.....77
Shots fired .. 7	Arrests 362

Data from LAPD Compstat



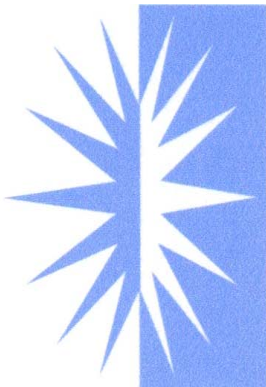
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Granada Hills, CA 91394

Old Granada Hills Residents' Group is a non profit organization of volunteers and concerned residents of our community. In our 11th year, we are a voice well known to our elected representatives with issues that affect us all - please join us.

December 2011

**Please Support Our
Neighborhood Sponsors**

The businesses you have seen listed in this newsletter are dedicated to preserving our Old Granada Hills Neighborhood. If you would like to become an advertising sponsor please call us at (818)368-7454 or email; rcfisk@verizon.net



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