

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

**February
2012**



July, 2001

www.OGHRG.org

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Zoning / Density
Communication
Fund Raising
Newsletter

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Newsletter articles, pictures,
comments, suggestions:
rfisk@verizon.net
or mailing address above

Next Meeting is: **Thursday, February 2nd, 2012**

7:00 pm - 8:36 pm

Granada Hills Charter High School

Rawley Hall



Happy
Valentine's
Day



- 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; Speakers
- 7:30** Update on Community Care Ordinance
Update on Redistricting Council
Update on Granada Hills/Knollwood Community Plan
Discussion and vote on some current issues
- 8:20** New Business and Wrap-up

March meeting is March 1st, Councilman Mitch Englander, guest speaker

OGHRG President's Message

Annual Dues Call: As all of you know, we start collecting our annual dues at the first of the year. In this issue and again in March we will insert self addressed envelopes for your convenience. At this point I usually go into a recitation of the good work this organization does. This year, I want to spotlight one thing. You are reading it. The OGHRG newsletter is published throughout the year and keeps you up to date on issues involving not only our local community, but city, county and state issues as well. Annual dues are \$25 per household or \$15 for an individual, and receiving this newsletter is well worth it.

Still Waiting for the Community Care Ordinance: The CCF ordinance is still pending in the Planning and Land Use Management Committee, chaired by Councilman Reyes. Opponents of the Ordinance, led by the Sober Living Network, are lobbying our Councilpersons to vote against the final version. We again are going to circulate information on this issue door to door. I urge you to contact Councilman Mitch Englander and tell him that you want to see this ordinance passed to protect our neighborhoods. Contact information is 212-473-7012 or email councilmember.englander@lacity.org.

Speakers Needed: Our speaker Chair, Gayle Biava, is asking for ideas and help in securing speakers for the coming year. If you know anyone who would be an interesting speaker, or have a suggestion, please email Gayle; her contact information is on the front page.

Biannual election of Board: In accordance with our bylaws, nominations for a new Board of Directors will be conducted at our April meeting, followed by an election by those present at our May meeting. We have seven Directors, who select officers once the new Board is elected. I am asking all of you reading this newsletter to consider running for a Board position. We have a dedicated core of volunteers who serve on the board and on committees, but no one can do this work indefinitely, nor should they be expected to. Time for some folks to step up to the plate and take a few swings. *Dave Beauvais*

GH Chamber Installation and Awards

The Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce is holding the 84th annual Installation and Awards Ceremony at the Odyssey Restaurant on Friday, February 24th. At this dinner and social event, the 2011 Board of Directors will be recognized and the 2012 Board and Officers will be sworn in. Newly elected Board President, Wynn Ritch will be beginning his reign. The nominees for the Gil Benjamin Citizen of the Year Award will be honored and the winner will be announced. As of this writing, there have been 6 names submitted for nomination: Jerry Askew, Dave Beauvais, Pastor Kathy Richter, Eileen Smulson, Joe Vitti, and Jane Stanton. There will be an auction for a variety of items and opportunities. You are welcome to attend and meet the people involved with our business community. For more information or to RSVP, contact Bonnie Bursk at 818-368-8646 or the Chamber office at 818-368-3235.

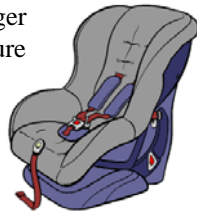


Children's Car Seat Check-Up

The California Highway Patrol in coordination with Northridge Hospital Medical Center is hosting a Children's Car Seat Check Up Day.

Northridge Hospital
Saturday, Feb. 25 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
By appointment only. call (818) 885-8500 ext. 3437.

Car seat check-ups teach parents and caregivers, hands-on in your own car how to correctly use a child's car seat or seat belt. Trained and certified child passenger safety technicians work with parents to ensure car seats: have not been recalled; do meet federal safety standards; are installed correctly; are appropriate for the child's age, weight and height.



Studies show 72% of children's car seats are not properly installed or used. California has new booster seat laws in effect as of January 1, 2012. Come learn about the new laws and the best ways to keep your children safe in the car. *from Councilman Englander's weekly briefing*

✿ This newsletter issue was proofread by Bart Mills

 Stephen Mikita, PT, MPT

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Food Truck Update

Food Trucks on Chatsworth Street are either a problem or a benefit, depending on who you talk to. The differences in opinion are, in large part, centered around why there are problems and why there are opportunities.



A little more than 3 months ago, a plan was put in place to try and gain some control of the issues related to the convergence of the food trucks in Granada Hills. Using the only control mechanism available - the County required "bathroom

letters", agreements were signed by both the merchants and the food truck operators. Roughly a dozen of the merchants along Chatsworth Street agreed to offer their "bathrooms" to the food trucks and have the Chamber of Commerce facilitate the distribution of the letters. The truck operators also signed an agreement with the Chamber which, in part, asked them to abide by the posted parking hours. Care was given to fulfill preferences in regard to individual trucks and their location to a merchant. D&M Cleaning Services has been collecting a cleaning fee and issuing the "bathroom letter" to those participating mobile food vendors each day they are in town.

Toward the end of last year, some of the merchants were disregarding their agreement or declined to participate in the local plan and some of the trucks chose not to be bothered with getting the "letter" or paying the cleaning fee.

With the New Year, as a result of consultation with the local merchants, the plan was revised with new agreements intended to limit the Food Trucks to Fridays only. All participation in the plan is voluntary and there is no provision to prevent a merchant from making their own arrangements with food trucks on any night.

There is no control over Food truck operators who choose to ignore the plan or try to bypass the County Health requirements. It is only with a cohesive community approach involving cooperation of the merchants working together in support of the agreement plan that will bring some control to the Food Truck phenomenon.

BONNIE MARIE BURSK (818) 368-8646
FAX (818) 368-9547

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Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

School Open House

Hillcrest Christian School and Los Angeles Baptist are pleased to announce their upcoming Open Houses on February 2nd & 3rd, 2012. As a part of the ongoing transition of becoming one unified school starting in the 2012-2013 school year, each will host an Open House that will showcase the work and accomplishments of the current students and reveal the plans for the future. On Thursday, February 2nd, the South Campus (LAB) will be open from 6:00 – 8:30 pm. On Friday, February 3rd, the North Campus (HCS) will also be open from 6:00 – 8:30 pm. Starting fall 2012 the North Campus located at 17531 Rinaldi St., Granada Hills will be for students in grades kindergarten – 8th. The South Campus 9825 Woodley Ave, North Hills will be for students in grades 7th – 12th. For more information, check out our website at www.hillcrestchristianschool.org or call (818) 368-7071.

New Restaurants Coming

 By springtime this year we will have 2 new restaurants in the Granada Village Shopping Center. They will be located in the reconfigured building that was occupied by Blockbuster.

Homegoods is on its way to opening in the space that was Rite-Aid before they relocated to the East end of the Center next to Sprouts. So far, nothing has been announced to go into the former DuPars/ Bakers Square building.

As part of the Shopping Center renovation, they are moving the Chatsworth Street entrance slightly west to align with the shopping center entrance across the street. Have you noticed the tight right turn needed to get into the center at the new main entrance if you are westbound on Chatsworth? That was mandated by the Department of Transportation.



Coming Events



Jan 30: Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm Rinaldi Adult School

Feb 1: GH Chamber Gov't Affairs Committee monthly meeting; 11:45AM, Chamber office, 368-3235

Feb 2: Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Meeting; 7:00 See cover page for agenda

Feb 2,3: Hillcrest and LAB campus; open house; see article

Feb 9: Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, 6:30pm Valley Academy of Arts & Sciences; www.GHSNC.org

Feb 14: St. Valentine's Day, Tuesday

Feb 17: 17A35 Neighborhood Watch; 7:00pm St. Euphrasia Church, 11766 Shoshone Ave.; SLO Dario Del Core

Feb 18: Home financing seminar; see article

Feb 20: Presidents' Day

Feb 20: Valley Vote; 6:45 Galpin Ford

Feb 21: 17A49 Neighborhood Watch, 7:00 pm. 10124 Balboa (Fire Station 87); SLO Janine Angeles

Feb 24: GH Chamber installation awards dinner; see article

Feb 25: Safety seat check up; see article

Feb 27: Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm Rinaldi Adult School


Complete Automotive Service

Dave Jackson



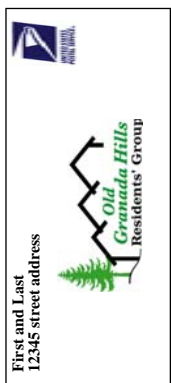
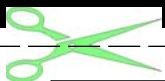

60 Minute Tune

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Fax (818) 831-6609
Email: daveJackson@60minutetune.com

February

3

2012



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\$15
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 \$50
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Name _____

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Please join us at our Monthly Meeting the first Thursday of the Month at:
7:00 PM Granada Hills Charter High School

Old Granada Hills Residents' Group PO Box 34055 Granada Hills CA 91394

A message from SLO Dario Del Core; Basic Car 17A35

This correspondence is not meant to create any kind of scare but I do want you on your toes with the understanding there is nothing new in the concept that criminals do live and operate among us as they always have. Having said that, I need everyone to stay alert and remain vigilant.



We have closed yet another year with a significant drop in crime but there are indicative signs that times may be changing and our good practices and awareness level need to be at their best.

This is the time to pay attention to details; always be mindful of your surroundings and be disciplined with your personal security; your own well being first and then your home and personal property.

Don't get complacent at anytime, anywhere. Always look around...doesn't matter if you are out shopping, out for a walk or on your property just watering your lawn. Be aware of who's around you and always think one step ahead; what would you do if someone was to unexpectedly approach you? You have to see that person coming in order not to be startled and be able to quickly evaluate the situation. Is this a friend or a foe? Do I want to stand here and engage or do I want to divert right away? A split second may be all you have to make the right decision.

Think accordingly and pre-plan. You may go a lifetime and never be a victim of a crime but the truth of the matter is that there is a good chance most of our neighborhoods (yes even here in Porter Ranch, Northridge and Granada Hills) have some kind of criminal element living or operating within; in some cases we may be living near individuals who have recently gotten out of prison and we may not even know it.

We need to be aware of this and practice good tactics at all times. Scan your home as you approach. Make sure no one

and nothing seems out of place before you pull in the driveway or in garage. Look around you as you get out; don't have your hands full of stuff where you may be impaired to react. Do this every single time.

Always have a plan....for yourself and for your family, when you are out and when you are in your home.

Think about what you would do if an intruder was to approach you or suddenly force his way into your home. Talk to your family members and make sure everyone understands their role; who stays out and who does the guarding.

Practice response drills for earthquakes, fires and medical emergencies. It is always best to be prepared and not needed than to be caught off guard.

If you have any questions or want to talk more in-depth about these topics, about personal or home security, self defense or firearm related questions don't hesitate to contact me.

My best wishes to all of you for a safe and happy 2012. Stay alert. Dario Del Core

Officer Del Core's Neighborhood Watch meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Eurphrasia Church; Shoshone at Mayerling, north of Rinaldi. At the 7:00pm meetings, Dario usually has an informative guest speaker; gives current statistics; talks about recent crimes in the area; and takes questions.

- Compstat crime stats have not been updated at newsletter publishing time.



LAPD Helicopter flying around and wonder what is happening? Call LAPD Air Operations at: 213-485-2600

Use the space below for comments and suggestions or if you would like to make any corrections to your mailing label

Five horizontal lines for writing comments and suggestions.

Last year we received single donations from \$10 to \$1,000

Thank you!

The production and mailing cost of this newsletter is about \$500 per month. It is our largest single expense and your donation helps to continue its publication. With it, we try to bring you news and events that relate to all of us in this local community. It is mailed to over 1350 addresses in this immediate area providing a common thread for communication. The newsletter is also posted and archived on our website. We welcome articles for publication.

Readership and Action

Last month we ran an article and photo of the Veteran's Park at Chatsworth and Zelzah. In that article was a plea for help from the local VFW post to contribute to a fund for the 3 flags that fly over the park. The local winds take a toll on the condition of the flags and thus need to be replaced often.

Before many of us received the newsletters in the mail, Jake Parunian, owner of Kenn Cleaners, read the article and immediately called Ray Pollock, commander of the VFW post on Chatsworth Street, and pledged to "take care of the flags".

Jake is a tremendous asset to Granada Hills. His love and caring for the community and the country is unmatched by anyone. He was a major contributor to the Veteran's Park and is responsible for bringing Menchies, which is across from the park, to Granada Hills. Editorial plug: Kenn Cleaners has 3 locations in Granada Hills. Customer service is number one.

African-American History Month

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African Descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. The first celebration occurred on February 12, 1926. For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist/editor Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month. Each year, U.S. presidents proclaim February as National African-American History Month. source: www.census.gov

http://locatela.org/

LocateLA is a new website created by the City to offer a free, database of commercial properties and businesses in L.A.

Its many features include a business finder, property finder, incentive finder, and business start up organizer. It is meant to help new businesses start up and help existing businesses in the City of Los Angeles. It is also useful for anyone wanting to learn about our community.

It offers an interactive online map that shows all commercial properties for lease or purchase with photos and details about the property. from Councilman Englander's weekly briefing

Valentine's Day - Monday, Feb. 14th

Opinions abound as to who was the original valentine, with the most popular theory that he was a clergyman who was executed for secretly marrying couples in ancient Rome. Emperor Claudius II felt that marriage weakened his soldiers. In any event, in A.D. 496, pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor St. Valentine. Through the centuries, the Christian holiday became a time to exchange love messages, and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers. Esther Howland, a native of Massachusetts, is given credit for sending the first valentine cards in the 1840s. The spirit of love continues as valentines are sent with sentimental verses, and children exchange valentine cards at school. US Census Bureau



Home Financing Problems ?

Congressman Brad Sherman will host a seminar on home refinancing, home purchasing and foreclosure avoidance.

Saturday, February 18th 9:30am - 12:30pm

- * Pointers for Homebuyers
* Refinancing Even with Low Equity
* Foreclosure Avoidance
* Free Personal Counseling from Government Experts

Sherman Oaks/East Valley Adult Center
5060 Van Nuys Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
More information: www.bradsherman.house.gov/

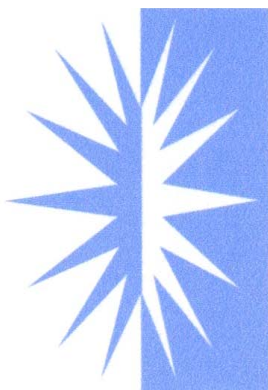
Chinese New Year 2012



Chinese New Year began Monday, January 23rd, according to the Chinese calendar which consists of both Gregorian and lunar-solar calendar systems. 2012, is the year of the Dragon.

Recently Sold Homes

Table with 4 columns: Address, Price, Address, Price. Rows include 10440 White Oak, 12128 Louise, 11064 Louise, 12123 Louise, 17420 Ludlow, 17846 Lahey, 17619 Rinaldi, 17531 Tulsa.



Landscape Design By Gene Behrns

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P.O. Box 34055
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.

February 2012

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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