

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

**April  
2009**



July, 2001

[www.oghr.org](http://www.oghr.org)

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Financial

Communication

Fund Raising

Newsletter

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

Newsletter articles, pictures,  
comments, suggestions:  
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or mailing address above

Next Meeting is:

**Thursday, April 2nd, 2009**

**7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Granada Hills Charter High School- Rawley Hall**



**7:00** Introductions - Sign In

**7:05** Reading of Minutes,

**7:10** Community Announcements; News; Updates; Events

**7:15** OGHRC Committee Reports

Financial; Zoning & Density; Newsletter; Communication

**7:30 Guest Speaker; Steve Shakelford, Van Nuys Airport**

**8:10** Graffiti update; OGHRC taking action

**8:15** Citrus Sunday, May 3rd

**8:20** Zelzah Ave. Speed Limit update

**8:30** New Business and Wrap-up

*May meeting will be at Granada High, Thursday, May 7th*

### OGHRG President's Message - Recycling

A few months ago, my article discussed the water situation in Los Angeles. In the article I pointed out that Los Angeles is facing severe cutbacks in the delivery of water from various sources. So it was no surprise to me to read the headline of the February 10, 2009 Daily News announcing there will be mandatory water rationing this summer. And it is going to get worse.

The Mayor is looking for cutbacks on residential water use of 25 to 40%. That's on top of the 6% voluntary cutback that DWP customers have already delivered. To residential homeowners and renters that means some drastic changes. And it means more than just curtailing sprinkler systems and cutting down on showers. It means some serious life-style changes. This crisis is serious, immediate and most likely permanent.

This situation should lead us to the obvious question; Mr. Mayor, Mr. Councilman; if our predicament is as serious and urgent as you say, why are you pushing to increase density, bring more people and more demand for water into Los Angeles? Could it be because you are more concerned about getting donations from big developers than you are about the city drying up and blowing away in the wind? Could it be that your political careers are more important to you than the survival of the city itself?

So here is the message to our political leaders. If we have a severe and immediate water crisis on our hands, then react accordingly. Stop all new development until such time as we can figure out if we have the water infrastructure to accommodate any additional population. Of course, the answer is already evident. We don't have the water infrastructure necessary to sustain even modest growth in the short or long term. And you would know that if you preformed annual infrastructure reviews as required by law.

The DOT has decided to increase the speed limits on Zelzah between Rinaldi and Nordoff. The limits will be raised by five miles per hour between Rinaldi and San Fernando Mission Blvd. and five miles per hour between San Fernando Mission Blvd. and Chatsworth. The speed limit raises are in compliance with state law, and will allow LAPD to use radar to enforce the limits.

Thanks primarily to the efforts of Jerry Askew, Verizon is going to have to re-install a number of their FIOS relay boxes in Old Granada Hills. You may have noticed these boxes

(Continued page 2)

## April Guest Speaker - Steve Shackelford



Steve Shackelford has been an FAA employee for over 37 years working at 11 facilities in four states. Most of his career has been in the Flight Service, Terminal, and Regional Office options of the Air Traffic Division serving as a specialist and as a supervisor. He has also worked in the FAA's Office of International Aviation in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, rebuilding runways, installing security fences, and upgrading the electronics of navigational aids. He also regularly speaks as an Accident Prevention Counselor for FAA's Flight Standards Division on a variety of aviation weather and flight technology topics.

Academically, Steve earned a Bachelors of Public Administration degree from the University of San Francisco and graduated as the Valedictorian of his class with a 3.93 overall GPA. He recently completed a Masters Degree in Aeronautical Science at Embry Riddle University. In fact, his master's thesis is about the impact of ADS-B technology on the national airspace system. He also holds a California teaching credential in Aeronautics.

Personally, he is married, has two daughters and five granddaughters. So obviously, somebody is missing a Y chromosome somewhere. He has been flying since he got back from Vietnam in 1969, is considered a subject matter expert on the Wright Brothers, and has appeared on the History Channel.

In addition to his work with the FAA, Steve teaches meteorology at Mt. San Antonio College two nights a week. He is well known for quite a number of unusual classroom demonstrations and teaching devices that he's built. These include a portable wind tunnel, a device that creates a controllable 8 foot tall tornado and an aircraft wing that he uses to create rime ice and then clear ice. He's even created a sonic boom right in the classroom. His explanations of various weather phenomena are very well known. For example, he can make atmospheric stability (normally a pretty difficult subject to completely grasp) perfectly understandable to everyone using a cow and a Chinese wok. In short, and his students know this well, his classes (particularly in meteorology) are fun and unforgettable.

April

Birth flowers are the daisy and sweet pea, birthstone is the diamond. Chocolate Eaters Month; Child Abuse Prevention Month; European-American History Month; Sexual Assault Awareness Month; International Guitar Month; National Humor Month; National Smile Month; National Pecan Month; Stress Awareness Month; Alcohol Awareness Month; Autism Awareness Month; Occupational Therapy Month

## President's Note - continued from front page

along Encino, Yarmouth, Zelzah and San Jose. These boxes have been installed on utility poles, usually at a height of four to five feet. This was for the convenience of Verizon employees for easy access to the box. The boxes are light beige, which makes them an inviting graffiti magnet. Moreover, many of the relay boxes can be climbed by children, or create a pedestrian hazard. Representatives from the GHSNC and GHNNC have completed a survey and forwarded the findings to Verizon. The survey identifies those boxes we believe should be relocated to a height of approximately ten feet.

Thanks to all of you who submitted their dues via the envelopes enclosed in last month's newsletter. So far we have received over 60 envelopes with this year's dues. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated, and will help us carry on the work of OGHRG, especially the newsletter. *Dave Beauvais*

## Earthday at Chatsworth Park

Join Councilman Greig Smith for a day of fun and environmental awareness at our Earthday celebration, Saturday, April 25 at Chatsworth Park North.

They will be organizing environmental clean-up activities at the park, including painting over graffiti and park beautification. Free trees and reusable shopping bags will be available to volunteers. **Saturday, April 25 9:00 am - 11:30 am**

Chatsworth Park North 22300 Chatsworth St.

For more information, 818-756-8501

## Attend "MYhistoricLA"

Attend "MYhistoricLA," a special event to kick off SurveyLA, the City's first-ever comprehensive survey of its historic resources, on Saturday, April 4 at the Central Library in Downtown.

While Los Angeles has a rich and diverse cultural heritage and architectural legacy, 85% of the city has never been surveyed to identify significant historic places. Historic preservation professionals need your historical knowledge about your own neighborhood to help conduct the survey.

Join amateur historians and Los Angeles aficionados and share your knowledge of L.A.'s hidden gems, view a screening of the SurveyLA video, attend a lively panel discussion with city officials, preservationists, community organizers and developers regarding this historic survey.

**Saturday, April 4 11:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Los Angeles Central Library, Mark Taper Auditorium  
630 W. 5th St., Downtown**

For more information visit <http://preservation.lacity.org/survey> or call the Office of Historic Resources, Department of City Planning at 213-978-1200.

### Singer's Zinger - SHAFTED – IN SPADES !

1. Did you know that 92% of the mortgages in the United States are and have been paid on time ? That means that we are submerging our children and grandchildren in billions of dollars of current and future debt to bail out the remaining 8% of the irresponsible mortgagees.

2. The world's largest insurance conglomerate, American International Group has received billions of dollars from you tax payers to compensate them for their gross mismanagement.

3. Lehman Brothers investment group rewarded a group of executives with bonuses at the time of their recent bankruptcy filing.

4. The Security and Exchange Commission whose job it was to avoid the current meltdown to the best of my knowledge has not refunded a dime of the past remuneration they so ably accepted for the irresponsible performance currently exhibited by the financial markets.

5. The Congressmen and Senators of the United States Congress who we so handsomely pay with inflated salaries and various occupational "bennies" were warned in writing on three separate occasions of the probability of this financial collapse

And --- bottom line, one out of three homeless people of this great country of ours is a veteran !! We can spend billions of dollars on these so called irresponsible financial geniuses but we can't take care of the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our cushy and comfortable life style . I call that shafted – in spades !!

### 80th Birthday Party - Granada Elementary

Granada Elementary will be celebrating their 80th birthday with a awesome party on Saturday, April, 25th.

Planned events include a small car show, historical displays, cake cutting ceremony, game booths and a craft area where children can make a small wooden toy. There will also be appearances by our elected officials and Jim Hier, the author of "Images of America, Granada Hills" will be speaking on the history of Granada Hills.

LAPD ,LAFD and local community organizations will be there. And you can get a Tommies burger while looking at the birthday cards from students.

All Granada Elementary alumni are invited to be part of the celebration - contact John Horn at [Johnhorn67@yahoo.com](mailto:Johnhorn67@yahoo.com) Come to the school, enjoy the party and learn about Granada Elementary's 80 years in Granada Hills.

**Saturday, April 25th**

**Granada Elementary 17170 Tribune St.**

### Shop Old Granada Hills

Our business district defines our community. Because commercial areas tend to be highly visible and well traveled – they set the tone and trend of the neighborhood. It is the business district that makes a first and lasting impression. Knowing this, many local organizations have come together, volunteering their time and effort to support the look of our local businesses. Yes, it shows – new medians, store-



front remodels, new benches, well maintained trees and new landscaping all serve to beautify the area and make it more inviting for customers. To attract customers, businesses can also do their part to ensure a safe and clean environment. Shopper shy away from areas that threaten their safety such as loitering youths, illegal dumping, poorly lit parking lots or graffiti covered walls & billboards.

Although, these are hard economic times and we are seeing many struggling businesses across the Valley. Nationally about 148,000 retail stores from big-box chains to mom-and-pop shops have shut their doors in 2008. Luckily, Old Granada Hills businesses have not suffered as much as those in other areas, but we are seeing our share of empty store fronts up for lease. All the more we need to support our local businesses more than ever. Rather than shopping at some far away large chain or big-box, think of visiting a smaller mom and pop along the Chatsworth Street Business District. There are a wide variety of professional services including dentists, lawyers, insurance, real estate, fitness trainers, pet groomers/suppliers, car rental, and nail/hair salons. Other merchants offer goods and products including vacuum cleaners, floral arrangements, TVs, small appliances, antiques, and flooring/carpeting. There are also some tasty items that can be found at local restaurants, bakeries, and international grocery stores. We have some terrific stores and shops right here within walking distance. THINK LOCAL -- save time and money on gas!

### Tree Stumps

The week of March 7, 2008, Greig Smith introduced a motion to fund the removal of nearly 200 large, unsightly tree stumps in our district. Recently, in Old Granada Hills, large eucalyptus trees have been removed on city parkways, leaving large stumps behind. In addition to contacting Bureau of Street Services, Citywide Services Directory, a request for tree stump removal (parkways only) can be emailed to [Councilmember.Smith@lacity.org](mailto:Councilmember.Smith@lacity.org), or call the CD12 office: 818-756-8501.

## Coming Events



- Apr 1;** April Fool's Day -Wednesday
- Apr 2:** Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Meeting; 7:00 See cover page for agenda
- Apr 4:** MyHistoric LA; LA Central Library; 10-4
- Apr 7:** GH Chamber Gov't Affairs Committee monthly meeting; 11:45AM,

Chamber office, 368-3235

**Apr 9: Passover**

**Apr 12: Easter Sunday**

**Apr 9:** Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm First Baptist Church of Granada Hills; 11011 Havenhurst Ave

**Apr 15: Income Taxes Due**

**Apr 16:** Neighborhood Watch 17A35 Basic Car Mtg, St. Euphrasia Church, 11766 Shoshone; 7pm. SLO Del Core

**Apr 18:** 818 phone area code mandatory usage

**Apr 18:** Chatsworth Day of the Horse; Ride On Therapeutic Horsemanship; 818-300-1469

**Apr 20:** Valley Vote meeting; 6:45 Galpin Ford; Guest Speaker; contact Joe Vitti; javittisr@cs.com

**Apr 22: Earth Day**

**Apr 22:** Administrative Professional/Secretaries Day

**Apr 25:** Earth Day park beautification; Chatsworth Park North 818-756-8501

**Apr 25:** Granada Elementary 80th birthday party

**Apr 25:** Friends of Library book sale; see article for details

**Apr 26:** Chatsworth Historical Society Garden Festival; 11am-4pm; 818- 341-3053

**Apr 27:** Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm Van Gogh Elementary School

**Apr 28:** 17A49 Neighborhood Watch 7:00 pm LAFD Fire Station at Balboa and Devonshire; SLO Janine Angeles

**May 3:** Citrus Sunday,

**May 4:** Granada Hills Chamber annual Golf Tournament; 818-368-3235; sponsorships and golf slots available

## New Car Purchase Credit

The Economic Stimulus Bill provides a tax deduction for state and local sales taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light trucks, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles. You do not have to itemize your deductions to receive this deduction. This deduction is particularly helpful to Californians because of our state's high sales tax rates.

The deduction is for the sales taxes on purchases of automobiles priced up to \$49,500. If you buy a more expensive vehicle, you can still claim the deduction, but only as to the tax that applies to the first \$49,500 of the price.

The deduction phases out for taxpayers earning an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of over \$250,000 for couples filing joint returns and an AGI of over \$125,000 for single filers.

The deduction only applies for tax year 2009. *US Congressman Brad Sherman*

## Book Sale

The Friends of the Granada Hills Library will be having their quarterly book sale on Saturday, April 25, 2009, from 9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. The Friends of the Granada Hills Library were established in 1982 and has fundraised over \$300,000 to purchase books and supplies not covered by the LAPL budget; (i.e.your taxes) for the library to date. Currently we have over 60 members who participate in our book club discussions, sort



books for our upcoming used book sales, volunteer their services, i.e., writing a newsletter, setting up our web page, and some who even participate in our monthly meetings (first Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m.) where we discuss the various programs that the Granada Hills Library

offers to the public at no cost to the public. Some members come only to our annual holiday lunch at a local restaurant and we love that kind of participation too.

"The funds they raise definitely put the icing on the cake. I think most patrons would be surprised to learn how many of the services and programs they enjoy are supported by the Friends," said Senior Librarian Pam Rhodes. The members of the Friends of the Granada Hills Library are a delightful group of people who live in the area. We all have a love of the library and are all thankful for its existence. The resources are vast and the people are educated, wise, and friendly. Most public libraries have a Friends group and we are fortunate to have such a dedicated group in Granada Hills.

To join the Friends of the Granada Hills Library or just to inquire, call and leave a message at the library 818 368-5687. You can always stop in and fill out an information card to join too. We are located at 16040 Petit Avenue, Granada Hills, CA. *Renee Zepezauer*

## \$1,000 Reward

The total sum of \$1,000 will be paid in the aggregate to those person(s) identified as having submitted information relative to identifying, in whole or in part, those responsible for the act of Graffiti Vandalism or Illegal Dumping. An application needs to be filled out and processed. Details and application form can be accessed through City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works website: [www.lacity.org/dpw/dpwhome.htm](http://www.lacity.org/dpw/dpwhome.htm) (office of community beautification-graffiti removal).

## Recently Sold Homes

17121 SF Mission	\$350,000	10663 Aldea	\$232,888
17815 San Jose	\$365,000	11618 Collett	\$390,000
17621 Hiawatha	\$378,000	16633 Ludlow	\$435,000
17319 Tribune	\$775,000	16112 Lahey	\$225,000
10580 White Oak	\$414,000	10524 White Oak	\$515,000

Courtesy; Marla Rhoades, Realtor 818 571-0678

Information from the SoCalMLS is believed to accurate but not guaranteed

**Founder's Day**

The Southern California Motion Picture Council has come to Granada Hills and will be celebrating Founder's Day at the Odyssey Banquet Center on Monday, May 4 at 7:00 P.M. On May 1, 1936, Mrs. Linda Burke founded the organization awarding those who are in the entertainment industry that have established high standards in their work in the motion pictures or in television!

Celebrate 73 years with celebrities and members as they enjoy an evening of music, entertainment and a gourmet buffet. Please make your reservations by April 27. The cost is \$29.95. Call in your reservation at 626-794-1968. Reservations are required in advance!

Come to the Odyssey at 15600 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills!

The Southern California Motion Picture Council  
P.O. Box 3672 Los Angeles, California 90078

**Free Spring Egg Hunt**

Enjoy the parks colorful wildflowers while the children hunt for eggs. Every child will go home with something even if they don't find any hidden eggs. You can also have your child's picture taken with a bunny or have them play on the moon bounce air machine.



The event is primarily sponsored by the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council and the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks.

**Saturday, April 4, 10am - 12pm**  
**O'Melveny Park 17300 Sesnon Blvd.**

**April 18th - 818+**

The transition period will be over April, 17th. Due to the new overlay area code we must dial the 818 area code to all calls in the 818 area. Beginning April 18th, calls will not be completed and a recording will instruct you hang up and redial with the area code. Be sure to reprogram your stored phone numbers.

New telephone lines or services may be assigned the 747 area code after May 18th.



Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce  
**30th Annual Golf Tournament**  
Monday May 4th  
Porter Valley Country Club

Putting contest, Continental Breakfast Shotgun start, No host cocktails, Silent Auction, Awards Dinner and Prizes

Sponsorships and Golf Slots Available **818 368-3235**

**Hawaii - \$100**

In conjunction with the Mike Casey Golf Tournament, a Grand Prize Raffle for a week's rental of a beach front villa on Maui that can accommodate 10 is available to everyone. Only 100 tickets will be sold and the cost is a mere \$100. Buy more than one and odds of winning are greater. You will be able to arrange what week you want, pending availability. Drawing will be held May 5th at the Golf Tournament and the winner need not be present. You can come by and have dinner and a chance for other raffle prizes after the golf. All proceeds benefit the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce. Contact the Chamber office at 368-3235



**Disaster Preparedness Expo**

Don't miss the 3rd Annual Disaster Preparedness and Crime Prevention Expo at CSUN, Tuesday, April 28 in Northridge. There will be a wide range of booths and demonstrations with information on home and business crime prevention, emergency preparedness, auto theft prevention, drug and alcohol awareness, child safety, identity theft prevention and more. Dodger Dogs lunches will be on sale for \$5.

**Tuesday, April 28 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**  
**Magnolia Walk**  
**CSUN campus**

For more information, call Kit Espinosa at 818-677-5816 or email [Kit.Espinosa@csun.edu](mailto:Kit.Espinosa@csun.edu).

**LAPD and Special Olympics**

Mark your calendar for the upcoming "Tip-A-Cop" dinner at the Claim Jumper Restaurant in Northridge, Thursday, April 16 and help raise funds to support the Special Olympics!

Local Police Officers will wait tables for guests at the restaurant, with all tips going to the Special Olympics. The last Northridge Tip-a-Cop event raised the most funds of any Claim Jumper location. Help break the record this year!

**Thursday, April 16, 2009 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  
Claim Jumper Restaurant at Northridge Fashion Center  
9429 Tampa Ave.

For more information, contact David Bush, LAPD Community Relations, at (818) 599-3538 or email [R2493@earthlink.net](mailto:R2493@earthlink.net).

Devonshire Division Crime Stats  
2/15 thru 3/14

Homicide ....1	Burglary ..... 74
Rape ..... 3	GTA ..... 52
Robbery ..... 33	BFMV ..... 154
Aggravated	Personal/
Assault ..... 20	Other theft ..119
Shots fired .. 1	Arrests ..... 397

*Data from LAPD Compstat*



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 8th year, we are a voice well known to our elected representatives with issues that affect us all - please join us.**

# April 2009

### 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 a sponsor and have your business listed, please call us at (818)368-7454*



**POSTAL PLUS**

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FAX (818) 366-0370

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## Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

**"Get Involved in Your Community"**

GHNCC meets the last Monday of  
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[www.GHNCC.org](http://www.GHNCC.org)



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