

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

May  
2008



July, 2001

www.oghr.org

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Zoning / Density

Financial

Communication

Fund Raising

Newsletter

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

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

Next Meeting is:

**Thursday, May 1st**

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

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

**Happy**



**Mother's  
Day**



**MEMORIAL  
DAY**

**7:00** Introductions - Sign In

**7:05** Reading of Minutes, Agenda Review

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

**7:15** OGHRC Committee Reports

Financial; Zoning & Density; Newsletter; Communication

**7:30 Guest Speaker; Tamar Galatzan; LAUSD Board Member**

**8:15** Election of Board of Directors

**8:20** New Business and Wrap-up

*June meeting will be at Granada High, Thursday, June 5th;*

### OGHRG President's Message - How Fat Can Los Angeles Get?

Our organization was founded because of zoning, density and growth concerns. But the problem is much larger than just our community. Like an overweight child on a diet of ice cream and potato chips, the city of Los Angeles keeps on eating with no concern for the consequences.

First a few facts: current population in the county is 10 million. Current population in the city of Los Angeles is 4 million. Current population in the San Fernando Valley is close to 2 million. Current population in Granada Hills is about 55 thousand. The city has 469 square miles, and the current density is over 8 thousand people per square mile.

The question is just how much more growth can Los Angeles sustain? In my opinion, not much more. Let's start with water. The city has four main sources of water; the Los Angeles aqueduct, which gets water from Mono and Owens Lake via runoff from the Eastern Sierra Nevadas; The California Aqueduct, which delivers water from the Western Sierra Nevadas, the Colorado aqueduct, which delivers water from the Colorado river; and local groundwater, which amounts to about 10%.

You can see the problem, only about 10% of our water is from local sources. And there are big problems with the other sources. Almost half of our water comes from the Owens valley. But the amount of water available is dependent on the snow pack in the Eastern Sierra Nevadas any given year. As global warming continues, that snow pack is going to shrink, perhaps very dramatically and quickly. Our second source comes from the California aqueduct, where we have to compete with other California cities and agricultural interests in the San Joaquin valley. Our other source, from the Colorado aqueduct, is shared with six other western states. Two of these states, Nevada and Arizona, are also experiencing incredible growth in their populations. Intense competition for this water will continue for years to come.

Water rationing over the summer is a very real possibility. Brownouts have become almost routine every August and September when temperatures exceed 100 degrees for

(Continued page 6)

## Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

### May Guest Speaker - Tamar Galatzan, LAUSD Board Member



Tamar Galatzan was elected in May 2007 to a four-year term as the District 3 representative on the LAUSD Board of Education. She ran a successful campaign based on her commitment to bring meaningful reform to public education in Los Angeles.

A graduate of Birmingham High School in the San Fernando Valley, UCLA, and Hastings College of

the Law in 1994, Tamar is a tireless advocate on behalf of civil rights, excellent public schools, social justice, and safe neighborhoods. A dedicated public servant, Tamar derives tremendous satisfaction from both developing and implementing creative solutions to improve our communities.

As an intern and aide to three members of the California Legislature and a member of Congress, Tamar frequently helped constituents who had been unfairly or needlessly denied vital government services. This experience gave her firsthand knowledge of the always slow and often counterproductive ways of public sector bureaucracies.

From April 1996 through June 2002, Tamar served as Western States Associate Counsel for the Anti-Defamation League. In this capacity, she handled numerous complaints involving discrimination or harassment in the workplace and public schools. She also worked extensively on successful legislation to mandate hate crime and incident reporting in California schools.

In June 2002, Tamar became a Los Angeles Deputy City Attorney with the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program assigned to the LAPD Van Nuys division – a position she continues to hold today. She was drawn to the program by its emphasis on identifying, prioritizing, and addressing potential criminal activity. Tamar firmly believes in taking proactive measures to prevent crimes before they occur and has been credited by many civic organizations for resolving community problems that had previously been ignored by city agencies for decades.

Tamar and her husband, Brendan, have two young sons, the eldest of whom started kindergarten in the LAUSD in the fall of 2007. She decided to run for the School Board based on her conviction that the education system is failing many of our children. As evidence, she points to a high drop-out rate; mediocre test scores; a bureaucracy pre-occupied with its own narrow interests; and failure to guarantee the safety of every student in the San Fernando Valley.

A proven problem-solver and avowed foe of bureaucratic inertia, Tamar Galatzan is an ideal school board member. She combines passion, boundless energy, and eternal optimism in her quest to provide all LAUSD students with a world-class education.

### Coming Events



**Apr 28:** Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm Van Gogh Elementary School

**May 1:** Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Meeting; 7:00 See cover page for agenda

**May 3:** Mayor's Office day of Service in the West Valley; info,

Mayor's office at 818-778-4982

**May 3:** Fire Station 87 grand opening; 10124 Balboa; 10-2; see article

**May 10:** Annual S.O.L.I.D. Pancake breakfast, 7:30 am -10:30 am at Devonshire Police Station

**May 5:** Granada Hills Chamber annual Golf Tournament; 818-368-3235; golf slots available

**May 6:** GH Chamber Gov't Affairs Committee monthly meeting; 11:45AM, Chamber office, 368-3235

**May 10:** Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, 7:00pm First Baptist Church; 11011 Havenhurst

**May 11: Mother's Day**

**May 12:** Valley Vote meeting; Mayor Villaraigosa guest speaker; see article; 7:00 Galpin Ford; contact Joe Vitti; javit-tisr@cs.com

**May 17:** Military Loyalty Day; see article

**May 26: Memorial Day**

### Hospital High

After numerous phone calls and emails by many people, the graffiti on the perimeter fence covering was cleaned up in mid April, only to be hit again and remains tagged. It was suggested to Joseph Pina, our LAUSD community representative, that maybe it would be better to just take the green covering off the chain link fence leaving no surface for the vandals to tag. He said that then there would be dust problem, but he would bring the idea up again to the facilities managers.

There is a public pre-construction meeting scheduled for May 15th, 6:30 PM at Patrick Henry Middle School. There is also a Ground Breaking Ceremony June 2nd at 10:00 AM.

Tamar Galatzan will be the guest speaker at the May 1st monthly meeting. Maybe she will try to explain why this school of questionable need is still scheduled to be built.



On May 12th, the cost to mail a first class letter will be **42¢**. Other forms of mail will also be increased. May 2007 was the last increase.

**Planning for Density?**

Whether it is Granada Hills, Northridge, Sunland-Tujunga, Valley Village, Northridge, West LA, Miracle Mile, Encino, Sherman Oaks (just to name only a few) most neighborhoods within the city of LA are faced with an unprecedented tidal wave of commercial and residential development. Shortly after taking office, Mayor Villaraigosa threatened to “Manhattanize” Los Angeles, suggesting that single family homes with front and backyards are an old concept and archaic. No doubt about it, the Mayor is making good on this threat! And he is not working alone. There are plenty of very eager developers, City Councilmembers, Area Planning Commissioners, and the Los Angeles Department of City Planning working together to do whatever it takes to build, build everywhere- bigger, higher, denser!! And in the process, Community/Specific Plans, laws and ordinances have been completely subverted, ignored and nullified. Adding insult to injury, there are newly passed ordinances, proposed ordinances and Community Plan revisions all designed to “alter density and dimensions”. Neighborhood Councils and Organizations throughout the City are taking notice! They are forming coalitions and taking legal action to deal some of the latest actions that the City has taken to further densify:

**Density Bonus:** In February 2008, the City of Los Angeles passed Ordinance # 179681 to reflect the changes SB 1818 and SB 435 made in the state density bonus law. Developers are given incentives to build higher density (ranging from 5-35%) than zoning laws permit in exchange for affordable housing units. Other incentives to developers include reduced required parking, decreased requirements for yards/setbacks/ lot coverage, and increased in height limits.

**Baseline Mansionization:** In response to over-sized single family dwellings, a one-size- fits-all, City-wide ordinance has been proposed to deal with massing, scale, size of new construction, additions to, and remodels on single-family residential zoned lots. This proposed ordinance does not apply to lots located in Hillside area or Coastal Zone.

**Community Plan Revisions:** Under a recently established New Community Plan Program, the Planning Department is studying the land use plans for 9 (one of them being Granada Hills) of the City’s 35 communities. The purpose of the Community Plan is to plan for density. These plans specify what type of development will be permitted (density and intensity). Both, a Valley Village homeowner and the Environment and Housing Coalition Los Angeles (group of 17 homeowners) have filed separate lawsuits against the newly adopted Density Bonus. Legal charges claim that the city violated California

law by failing to study environmental and traffic impacts of all density-bonus projects. As for the proposed Baseline Mansionization Ordinance, residents in areas such as Beverly Grove and Sunland-Tujunga cite that there is no requirement for new development to fit the prevailing size, scale, and setbacks of established neighborhoods. For older or historical neighborhoods the BMO may actually allow for further mansionization. Additionally, it has been asserted that if the City adopts this ordinance, it may be breaking state law. Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports controls on mansionization but opposes the one-size-fits all approach. Size should be taken into account for the local area. Lastly, revising Community Plan revisions pose significant challenges. At City Planning sponsored focus meetings here in Granada Hills, officials ask questions such as “So where do you think density should go, or how about mixed use projects along transit corridors?” There is no other issue that is more contentious or controversial than planning for density. Many community members are questioning the intensity of future density, since population analysts forecast that Granada Hills is one of the slowest growing subregions within the city of LA. Residents are also closely monitoring Councilman Greig Smith’s proposed motion (in 2003) to amend the Community Plan to limit residential density. OGH residents are definitely concerned that in the final end, the Community Plan revision may simply fall short of expectations.

So, let’s ask ourselves, do we really want to “Manhattanize” ?? If the answer is YES, no problem we can sit by, do nothing and watch it happen, because it is happening.....

Or do we along with other neighborhood organizations send a loud resounding message to our elected representatives against any attempts in trying to turn our City of Angels into a big rotten apple! *Maria Fisk*

References: [www.cityplanning.lacity.org](http://www.cityplanning.lacity.org), [www.lancongress.org](http://www.lancongress.org), Morris, Steven. (2008, Feb 29-March 6). City Hall’s Density Hawks are quietly changing L.A.’s DNA. *LA Weekly*. Russ, Katherine.(Jan/ Feb2008). Proposed Mansionization Ordinance Said to be Weak. *North Valley Reporter*. Kerry Cavanaugh. (4/13/08). Report sets city’s target for housing. *Daily News*. Kerry Cavanaugh (4/15/08). 2<sup>nd</sup> suit filed over density bonus. *Daily News*. Kotkin, Joel. (12/13/05). Hands off my yard, Mr. Mayor! *Los Angeles Times*. Haefele, Mark.(4/6/08).The undeveloper. *Los Angeles Times*. Christopher,Bill (3/21/08). Revisionist History-the Art of Planning in LA. *CityWatch*

**Recently Sold Homes**

10520 Yarmouth	\$397,000	17610 San Jose	\$599,000
17256 SF Mission	\$375,000	17209 Index	\$440,000
18036 Horace	\$615,000	17828 SF Mission	\$420,000
17320 Tulsa	\$520,000	17227 Index	\$495,000

Courtesy; *Marla Rhoades, Realtor 818 571-0678*  
 Information from the SoCalMLS is believed to accurate but not guaranteed



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

CSUN Construction - Press Release

NORTHRIDGE, Calif., March 5, 2007) — The workhorses of major construction—cranes, bulldozers and trucks—are beginning to appear on campus as Cal State Northridge enters one of its busiest building phases since the massive reconstruction projects of the 1990s.

Work has begun, or is being planned, for five projects—a student housing complex, science building, parking structure, faculty and staff housing, a new Center for the Performing Arts and a new student recreation center—that will add to the offerings available to the campus community and the public on the 356-acre campus.

Work began Dec. 17 on the \$30 million student housing complex slated for the northeast side of campus, south of

Lassen Street between Lindley and Zelzah Avenues.

Ken Rosenthal, manager of construction services for CSUN's Facilities Plan-



ning, said workers have completed pad preparation for the new complex: a 58,000-square foot, four-story dormitory; a four-story, 29,000-square foot dorm; and a single-story, 6,000-square foot "common program" building with a recreation room, a classroom and other features.

The student rent-funded complex will provide living space for 396 students, two to a bedroom with shared living/meeting quarters. Tim Trevan, director of Student Housing and Conference Services, said the small-scale design will give students a greater sense of community. It is expected to be completed by spring of 2009.

The much-anticipated four-story Science 5 building (Chaparral Hall) is "right on schedule," said Colin Donahue, associate vice president for facilities development and operations.

The nearly 90,000-square foot building is expected to "come on board" in spring 2009. The \$51 million total cost of the project was funded by a 2004 state capital construction measure.

Work began in December for the planned 406,000-square foot, G3 Park-

ing Structure off Zelzah Avenue between Prairie and Dearborn Streets.

"G3 will provide lots more parking on the campus' west side," said Captain Fred Fernandez, head of Public Safety's parking and transportation services unit. "It will spread out our ability to provide overall campus parking."

Fernandez said G3's 1,776 stalls—including those on its accompanying surface lot—will represent an emphatically welcome net gain of about 1,000 parking spaces for the campus. Campus users should start parking in the \$22 million structure in spring 2009.

The initial phase of the Devonshire Downs residential community for faculty and staff is due to break ground on the North Campus in fall 2008, with the welcome mat rolling out

in fall 2009 for the first homeowners. Phase I will close out in 2010.

Nearly 160 two-story town homes on about 15 acres between Lindley and Zelzah Avenues north of Lassen Street will comprise the first phase. Upon completion, Devonshire Downs will have approximately 400 units.

Plans are being made for the groundbreaking later this spring for the planned new regional Center for the Performing Arts.

In the meantime, schematic designs are now under preparation for the more than 100,000-square foot Student Recreation Center, a dramatic three-story structure to be built east of the University Student Union.

Working and preliminary drawings are next, said project coordinator Bryanne Knight, followed by the start of construction in summer 2009. With a total project cost of \$70 million authorized by a spring 2007 student referendum, the facility is slated to open in 2011.

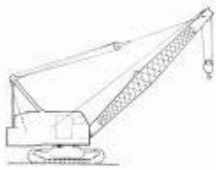
An abundance of ideas are pouring into the schematic design phase, said Jason Wang, associate director of USU operations and services. "We have decided on a 'green ethic' as one of our major design criteria," said Wang.

Ideas include the "thoughtful, energy-efficient use of natural light" using east-facing windows and innovations such as the sloping of the high basketball court ceilings, to allow heat to circulate naturally and rainwater to roll off effectively. Knight believes a planned entry level rock wall will prove irresistible to student users, and the liberal use of glass will permit passersby to look in on all kinds of activities, "promoting the idea of health and wellness for our students, both mentally and physically."

About 50 percent of the third-floor indoor jogging track—at an elevation of 15 feet above the three-court basketball gym—will be windowed, providing joggers with a splendid view of the outdoors and adjacent mountains.

Other student-requested features include an outdoor lap and leisure pool, a racquetball court, a multi-activity gym, rooms for group fitness classes, a sport club meeting space, a drop-in child care facility, a boxing studio, cardio exercise and weight spaces and more.

All five construction projects are being funded through bonds or specific capital outlays, not through the general fund.



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## Memorial Day

According to Professor David Blight of the Yale University History Department, the first memorial day was observed in 1865 by liberated slaves at the historic race track in Charleston. The site was a former Confederate prison camp as well as a mass grave for Union soldiers who had died while captive. A parade with thousands of freed blacks and Union soldiers was followed by patriotic singing and a picnic.

The official birthplace of Memorial Day is Waterloo, New York. The village was credited with being the birthplace because it observed the day on May 5, 1866, and each year thereafter, and because it is likely that the friendship of General John Murry, a distinguished citizen of Waterloo, and General John Logan, who led the call for the day to be observed each year and helped spread the event nationwide, was a key factor in its growth.

General Logan had been the principal speaker in a city-wide memorial observation on April 29, 1866, at a cemetery in Carbondale, Illinois, an event that likely gave him the idea to make it a national holiday. On May 5, 1868, in his capacity as commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, a veterans' organization, Logan issued a proclamation that "Decoration Day" be observed



nationwide. It was observed for the first time on May 30 of the same year; the date was chosen because it was not the anniversary of a battle. The tombs of fallen Union soldiers were decorated in remembrance of this day.

Many of the states of the U.S. refused to celebrate Decoration Day, due to lingering hostility towards the Union Army and also because there were very few veterans of the Union Army who lived in the South.

The alternative name of "Memorial Day" was first used in 1882, but did not become more common until after World War II, and was not declared the official name by Federal law until 1967. On June 28, 1968, the United States Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, (taking effect in 1971) which moved three holidays from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create three-day weekends. The change moved Memorial Day from its traditional May 30 date to the last Monday in May. *Wikipedia*

## Military Loyalty Day - May 17

Veterans of Foreign Wars presents Loyalty Day, honoring those who serve in the military, past, present and future.



Dennis McCarthy, columnist for the Daily News, will be the guest speaker. 10am; Chatsworth Depot Train Station; 10038 Old Depot Plaza Rd.; Chatsworth

## Bits & Bytes By Bette - Supermarket Saving Strategy

Scenario: You run into the market to buy a few basics, and \$60 later you leave the store wondering "what happened".

Points to Ponder:

1. Go with a list. In fact make copies of the "master" list that you can add to, such as meat, milk, and produce – pasta, soups or cereals. This way the high priority foods remain on top. Plus you can have a "load-up-on" items when on sale.
2. Study the sales cycles. Generally a cycle is 12 weeks, clip coupons and check out the websites (see below) for money-saving tips, coupons, and regional sales information. .
3. Coupons: 20 minutes of coupon clipping can shave 20% off your weekly grocery bill. Combine your coupons with sales.



Most coupons have a life expectancy of three months or more. Use the coupon with item is on sale.

4. Patrol the border of the store: produce, meat, bread, and milk – items that make up the bulk of your budget. Then shop the inside aisles for the remaining items.
5. Look high, then low. The higher-priced items are in the "easy-to-grab-middle" of the shelves. Look for "store brands". Try it once, use it, and make your decision to purchase again or move back to the name brand.
6. Watch the scanners. Ask the cashier to wait until you have unloaded your cart before ringing up the items. If they don't want to wait or can't wait, ask to have someone unload the cart for you. WATCH THE SCANNER. Always check your receipt before leaving the store. TAKE YOUR TIME.
7. Protect your produce: Those plastic bags you grab in the produce aisle can actually SPEED DECAY. Wash and DRY your produce. Remove as much AIR as possible, and seal the bag.
8. DATE leftovers rather than guess wrong about the days those leftovers sat in your fridge and you risk getting sick. WHEN IN DOUBT – TOSS THEM OUT!

Bette says:

[WWW.THEGROCERYGAME.COM](http://WWW.THEGROCERYGAME.COM) - an informative site; however, membership is required for a nominal fee.

[WWW.COUPONS.NET](http://WWW.COUPONS.NET) - I found this very good with free coupons from grocery to fast food. Health items to cleaning supplies. On-Line Orders: \$5.00 coupon for Target.com; and percentage coupons from WeightWatchers, AT&T, 1-800-flow-ers, more.... *Bette Biers with AARP On-Line Excerpts*



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Meet Mayor Villaraigosa

Mayor Villaraigosa will be the featured speaker at the May 12th meeting of Valley Vote and you are welcome to attend. It will be at their regular meeting place in Galpin Ford's 2nd floor meeting room. The address is 15555 Roscoe and free parking is provided in the Orion Street lot. Space is somewhat limited so please register by emailing Richard Leyner at rleyner@socal.rr.com or call 818-742-1638. Refreshments compliments of Galpin Motors. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Plan on attending and think of something you would like to ask the Mayor directly.

New Fire Station Opening- May 3rd

First publicly announced in April, 2004 the replacement Fire Station on Balboa just south of Devonshire is now service. After 2 years of construction there will be a Grand



Opening Ceremony for the new LA City Fire Station # 87. Major Villaraigosa and Councilman Greig Smith along with Fire

Chief Douglas Barry and Chief City Engineer will be there to dedicate this new facility. Station tours will be given and there will be a helicopter flyer, music, fire house chili, face painters, jumpers, refreshments. Wilshire the Fire Dog will also be there for the Saturday, May 3rd event. The hours are 10-3 and the address is 10124 Balboa Blvd. For more information contact Megan Cottier at the Council District 12 office: 818-756-8501 or email the fire department at LAFD-CommunityLiaison@lacity.org

Teen Driver Safety Class

The Granada Hills Charter High School PTSA will host a free driver safety class for teens from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm May 10th at the school's Highlander Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave.



Parents of future or current motorists are invited to join their teens for the California Highway patrol START SMART program. CHP officers will discuss traffic collision avoidance techniques, collision causing factors, driver/parent responsibilities, and seatbelt usage. Additionally, testimonies will be provided by officers who have investigated fatal collisions involving teens, and by family members who have lost love ones in traffic collisions.

President's Message Cont'd from front page

several days. Yet our city politicians continue to let developers build on every square inch of land available. And when the land runs out, they simply allow the developers to build up instead of out.

Enough. Enough of the overbuilding. Enough of the transit corridors and density bonuses and the McMansions. Instead of converting every existing open space to concrete and asphalt, how about leaving some open space for parks? Instead of jamming 5,000 square foot houses onto 7,000 square foot lots, how about leaving some room for a yard and some trees? Isn't eight thousand people per square mile too many in too little already? Dave Beauvais

Day of Service - May 3

Together with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Councilman Dennis P. Zine, we invite everyone to join the Day of Service!

8am to 12pm  
Chatsworth Depot Train Station  
10038 Old Depot Plaza Rd. Chatsworth

Resource fair at 11am. Closing program at 12:30 pm.

The event is part of Big Sunday, when volunteer charitable and community improvement activities will be held throughout the City.

Activities include school and senior center beautifications, clean-ups, tree plantings, children's art projects, electronic waste drive, pet adoption, environmental resource fair and more. Free lunch will be provided for participants.

For more info call Tessa Charnofsky at (818) 778-4990 or email Tessa.Charnofsky@lacity.org.

Advertisement for K NOLLWOOD REALTY, INC. featuring contact information for Josh Jordahl, Realtor, including phone numbers and email address.

Advertisement for Granada Hills Florist featuring Millicent R. Ford, 'The Pioneer Florist in Granada Hills Since 1954', with contact information and a small illustration of a woman with flowers.

**Police Pancake Breakfast**



Supporters of Law Enforcement In Devonshire (S.O.L.I.D.), is holding its 13th annual all you can eat Pancake Breakfast at the Devonshire Police station (Devonshire & Etiwanda ) Saturday, May 10th, from 7:30am until 10:30am. Proceeds from the \$5 per person cost will be used to purchase "non-city" available materials and equipment. A few examples of donations provided included: upgrading and remodeling

the workout room; cell phones for detectives; night vision binoculars; digital cameras; TAC lights for shotguns; computers; copy machines; and more There will be free child ID with digital picture and thumbprint available, courtesy of Hollywood-West Valley Masonic Lodge. Come and meet some of the police officers and local supporters as they flip and serve the tasty pancakes. For more information call (818) 756-9011

**Neighborhood Watch - I7A27**

A street robbery occurred on April 6, at 11:30 pm in the vicinity of Chatsworth and Amestoy. Suspects approached victim and demanded property, cell phone was taken. Suspects are described as 2 Male Hispanics 20/25 yrs old in a 90/95 4 door, black Oldsmobile. Jewellery was taken in 2 residential burglaries, one in the 10900 block of Zelzah and the other in the 18000 block of SF Mission. A1977 Harley motorcycle was stolen and there were 2 BFMV's in our area.

Keep an eye out for mail thieves. The suspects were putting Avon catalogs in mailboxes and removing personal mail. Possible vehicle is an older Toyota 4-Runner Gray or Green in color. *SLO Dario Del Core*

**Singer's Zingers - Profiteering?**

The dictionary defines **profiteer** as "one who seeks or exacts exorbitant profits by taking advantage of public necessity". Does this bring to mind any particular industry that you deal with regularly ?

A few years ago, Richard Gilbert, a professor of Economics at U.C. Berkley, looked into the breakdown of the cost of a gallon of gasoline in the State of California that reflected the following:

- Extracting crude 33%
- Refining 34%
- Retail sales 8%
- Taxes 26%


In general, California and Hawaii lead the nation with highest gasoline prices. California supposedly because of our size and also our fascination with gas guzzling SUV's and Hawaii because they have basically one large industry -- tourism. However, why do we who have oil wells and refineries rank at the top of the gasoline price list. Well, I think most of you have heard of the "smell test" --- if it smells rotten its probably is rotten".

*The Zinger monthly column is solely the opinion and thoughts of the author, Hal Singer. You may or may not agree with his opinion and some of his columns may be controversial. We received several comments taking issue with last month's column about illegal immigration. They declined to have their opinion printed in response. We welcome comments and suggestions about our newsletter and would love to have an additional monthly columnist. the editor*

Devonshire Division Crime Stats  
3/16 thru 4/12

Homicide ....0	Burglary ..... 76
Rape ..... 0	GTA ..... 45
Robbery ..... 18	BFMV ..... 129
Aggravated	Personal/
Assault ..... 24	Other theft ..85
Shots fired .. 3	Arrests ..... 290

Data from LAPD website COMPSTAT section



LAPD Devonshire Area Annual  
**Town Hall Meeting**  
Hosted by Captains Sean Kane and Steven Ruiz with the Senior Lead Officers (SLO's)

Topic: **Identity Theft**  
Detective Calvin Hill; Valley Forgery

Wednesday, May 28,  
at 7:00 PM  
Shepherd of the Hills Church  
19700 Rinaldi, Porter Ranch



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# May 2008

**Old Granada Hills Residents' Group is a non profit organization of volunteers and concerned residents of our community. In our 7th year, we are a voice well known to our elected representatives with issues that affect us all - please join us.**

**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*

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