

# Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

Volume 2, Issue 1

Spring 2011

## Welcome to GHSNC

*Dave Beauvais, GHSNC President*

Welcome to Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council. You may have just picked up this newsletter and are wondering: "What the heck is a Neighborhood Council?" Neighborhood Councils were created by a change in the L.A. City Charter in 1999. The 92 Neighborhood Councils throughout the city of Los Angeles are overseen by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.) and are given limited funding for operations and community projects by the city. The GHSNC, certified in 2006, is run by a board of 21 volunteer and elected directors, some representing special interests like the business community, seniors, and education, while others are elected to at-large positions. The Board meets once a month to direct operations and address concerns and issues of stakeholders within the boundaries of the NC.

GHSNC has a several committees made up of Directors and stakeholders to tackle specific issues. Our major committees are Outreach, Planning and Land Use, Beautification, Public Safety and Education. We work on projects, large and small, that help benefit the community. For instance, GHSNC has provided funding for special projects in our neighborhood schools (see pg. 3) and worked with the Granada Hills Rotary Club to revitalize Veteran's Memorial Park (located at Chatsworth & Zelzah). We've collaborated on events at Petit Park and elsewhere in the community, like the annual holiday parade and October Street Faire. We started summer outdoor movie nights and will continue that tradition again this year. We also work on issues such as overbuilding, traffic, graffiti control and public safety. We've sponsored Community Emergency Response Training (C.E.R.T.), and will sponsor another session in May (see pg. 3). Additionally, we have co-sponsored a Disaster Prevention event with other North Valley Neighborhood Councils, as well as Citrus Sunday, an annual event that gathers tons of fresh citrus fruit for San Fernando Valley food banks. For information on these activities and more, please visit our website at: [www.GHSNC.org](http://www.GHSNC.org).

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## Get involved with the town you love

*Jett Dunlap, GHSNC At-Large Director*

On the second Thursday of each month, a group of volunteers gives up their time and comes together to increase safety, create and share local activities, and beautify our town. They hold a public meeting where stakeholders in the community are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Why should you come out to have a say in how your town looks and operates? I've had passionate discussions with my friends and family about how things should be different: politically, locally, and in the world in general. At the end of the conversation I had a sinking feeling, because I knew in my gut that all of my talking didn't have any effect on the outcome. Unfortunately, this is a pretty common sentiment, but I found a solution for myself that may work for you.

One day this newsletter came to my door. My girlfriend picked it up and said, "Jett, you are always talking about getting involved and I think this is your chance." With that suggestion, I attended a few meetings to meet the people involved and see what went on. I sat and listened to the agenda items being discussed by the council members and the audience. Some items were irrelevant to me directly, and others interested me greatly, but each one had some impact on our community.

*Continued on page 2*

“Get Involved...” continued from page 1

I realized how much pride I have for my community. These meetings encouraged me to throw my own hat into the ring by running for a seat on our Neighborhood Council. This was my way of having a voice and being involved in the process of actual change. What I urge you to do, fellow Granada Hills South brothers and sisters, is to help us shape our community into what you would like it to be. You don't have to be a NC director or come to every single meeting, but I encourage you to see for yourself what it's all about. Perhaps you can sit in on a general meeting or simply visit the website to get a better picture of what's happening in your neighborhood. We sponsor fun and worthwhile events throughout the year that you and your family should check out. We listen to local schools and other community groups that reach out for support. We think of ways to make our area more unique and attractive. Maybe with your ideas and input, we could achieve even greater results.

### Sidewalk grinding

*Dave Beauvais, GHSNC President*

If you are a resident of Granada Hills, you may have noticed a crew working on your sidewalk recently. This two-man crew is grinding small (up to 3/4 inch) disparities between pads of concrete on residential sidewalks that are usually the result of tree roots. These irregularities can be the source of a trip and fall for pedestrians, because they're not as obvious as larger ones. The 3/4 inch limit was recommended because grinding more than that could endanger the strength of the concrete. Councilman Greig Smith redirected mitigation funds from the Sunshine Canyon Landfill for this project. He enlisted the assistance of both Granada Hills North and South Neighborhood Councils and the Old Granada Hills Residents' Group to identify sidewalks in Granada Hills for grinding. The three organizations worked to identify thousands of potential tripping hazards. Semee Park, CD 12 Field Deputy, reported the following progress:

October	196 cuts, 30 addresses
November	424 cuts, 49 addresses
December	400 cuts, 53 addresses
January	834 cuts, 63 addresses
Feb. & Mar.	2,029 cuts, 221 addresses
Total:	3,883 cuts, 416 addresses

As you can see, the grinding team has become more proficient with experience. There are still a lot

of locations that need work; however, this is a great example of how neighborhood councils can have a positive impact on their communities. Thanks to all stakeholders and directors of GHSNC and OGHRG who walked neighborhoods to identify sidewalks in need of repair.

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### Got Bulky Items? Potholes? Broken Sidewalk? General Questions?



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### Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

*Robert Stevens, Chair*

Although it's been 17 years since the Northridge Earthquake, recent massive earthquakes in Haiti and Japan remind us of their devastating impact. If this happened again, here, would you be ready? The City of Los Angeles holds free classes to help you understand your responsibilities in an emergency and will train you to be prepared. C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team) trainings are available free of charge to anyone in the City of Los Angeles. If you are interested, please visit our website, [www.ghsnc.org](http://www.ghsnc.org). More information is also available at: [www.certla.com/basic](http://www.certla.com/basic) or call the L.A. Fire Department at (818) 756-9674. The Public Safety Committee would also appreciate any input you may have concerning safety and quality of life in Granada Hills. An excellent source of regular safety information – about neighborhood block watch or general curiosity about crime in the neighborhood – can be had by signing up for “e-policing” at [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org).



## CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

*Check our website for more info about other community events & meetings*

### General GHSNC Board Meeting

Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Granada Pavilion, 11128 Balboa Blvd., GH

### GHSNC Outreach Committee Meeting

First Thursday of each month  
Time and location varies

### GHSNC Planning & Land Use Committee Meeting

First Wednesday of each month  
Time and location varies

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

  
**Sunday May 15, 2011**  
**Citrus Sunday**

### GHSNC Movie Night 3

**Saturday, June 18**  
Details TBA

### GHSNC Movie Night 4

**Saturday, September 10**  
Details TBA

### Granada Hills Street Faire

We are working with the  
GH Chamber to bring the Street Faire back!

**Check our website for updates on this  
and all events: [ghsnc.org](http://ghsnc.org)**

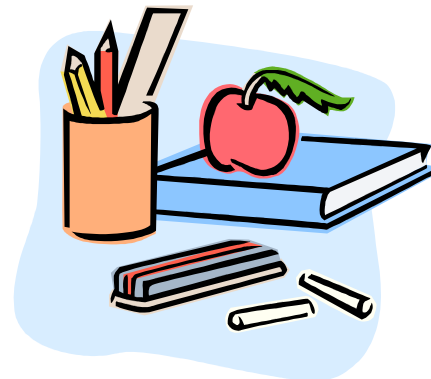
## Education Committee

**Julie Carson, Chair**

One of the most important quality of life factors for any community is the caliber of its schools. Our community is very active in the schools that lie within our boundaries: Granada and Tulsa Elementary Schools, Porter and Patrick Henry Middle Schools, Granada Hills Charter High School, and the new yet-to-be named Valley Regional High School #4, as well as schools who serve the population of our NC, like Haskell Elementary, Kennedy High, Kennedy-San Fernando Adult School and CSUN.

The GHSNC recognizes the importance of this priority and hosted a community forum last fall to hear proposals from potential operators of our new high school that's set to open in the fall. Over the last few years, the GHSNC has also used some of its funding to assist our local schools with special projects to supplement and improve our students' educational experience. We've given these grants over the last few years to: Tulsa ES - computers; Granada ES - computers; Porter MS - gym air conditioning unit; Granada Hills CHS: Robotics Team (twice) and quad beautification; Kennedy HS - Preschool program, Special Ed business project, Teaching Careers program; Patrick Henry MS - Knights of Music Foundation to supplement their music program.

Providing a superior education for its young people is vital to the health and vitality of any society, and is one of the top priorities for our community.



### GHSNC Sponsored Events:



**Classes Begin in May  
Visit our website to sign up**



**We have 2 Movie Nights  
Planned again this year. Keep  
an eye on our website for info  
as it become available.**

## Granada Hills South NC Contact Information

Mailing Address:  
11024 Balboa Blvd., Box 767  
Granada Hills, CA 91344

Email: [board@ghsnc.org](mailto:board@ghsnc.org)  
Website: [www.ghsnc.org](http://www.ghsnc.org)

Phone: (818) 217-0511

### Follow us on:

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/GHSouthNC](http://www.twitter.com/GHSouthNC)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ghsnc](http://www.facebook.com/ghsnc)

### Graffiti Removal

To report graffiti, call:  
West Valley Alliance: (818) 885-8885, or  
City of LA: 311

## Other Important Websites

Councilman Greig Smith:	<a href="http://www.CD12.org">www.CD12.org</a>
City of Los Angeles:	<a href="http://www.lacity.org">www.lacity.org</a>
L.A. Police Dept.:	<a href="http://www.lapdonline.org">www.lapdonline.org</a>
L.A. Fire Dept.:	<a href="http://www.lafd.org">www.lafd.org</a>
Gr. Hills Chamber:	<a href="http://www.grnadachamber.com">www.grnadachamber.com</a>
Old Gr. Hills Residents Grp:	<a href="http://www.oghrg.org">www.oghrg.org</a>
Granada Hills North NC:	<a href="http://www.ghnnc.org">www.ghnnc.org</a>

## Other Important Phone #'s

Councilman Greig Smith:	(818) 886-5210
Gr. Hills Chamber:	(818) 368-3235
City of Los Angeles:	311
County of Los Angeles:	211
Gr. Hills Rec Center:	(818) 363-3556
Gr. Hills Public Library	(818) 368-5687



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