

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

Intro	1
Shopping Center	1
Food Trucks	2
Movie Night	3

Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

We'd like to re-introduce the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council to you and give you an update about what the council's been up to since our Spring 2011 newsletter.

Neighborhood Councils (NC) were created by a change in the city charter in 1999. The GHSNC was certified as an NC in 2006 and is run by a board of 21 volunteer directors who meet once a month to address the concerns of stakeholders within our NC boundaries. Limited funding for operations and community projects is provided by the city.

GHSNC has a number of committees made up of Directors and Stakeholders to address general and specific community issues. Our major committees are Outreach, Planning and Land Use, Beautification, Education and Public Safety. We work on projects, large and small, that benefit the community. We also

work on issues such as overbuilding, traffic, graffiti, and public safety. In the last year, we've also sponsored candidate debates for local elections. Last spring we held a debate for the City Council CD 12 candidates, and more recently sponsored a debate with the candidates for Congressional District 30 at Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences. Our monthly Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Check out the articles in this newsletter for more details about our activities and upcoming events. For information about meeting locations, or to contact us, please visit our website at www.GHSNC.org.



Regency Shopping Center Renovation Update

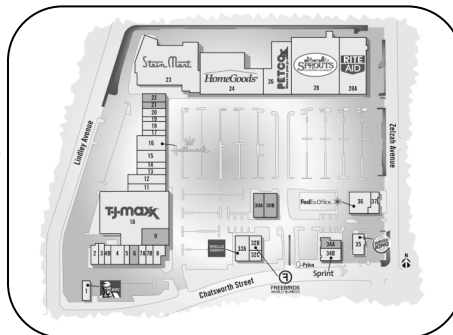
By Gina Greschner, Renters Director

If you frequent shops on Chatsworth Street, you may have wondered about the progress of renovations at the Regency shopping center on Chatsworth and Zelzah. Construction has been completed on the main strip: Rite Aid relocated to the east end of the center to allow for a drive up window; next to that is the popular new Sprouts Farmers Market; the facades on the west end, including TJ Maxx, Pickup Stix and the U.S. Post Office are still undergoing remodeling. Now the core of the center is nearing completion, with Home Goods (a home furnishings store scheduled to open in August), moving into the former Rite Aid spot.

You may have noticed that the former UPS and Winchell's Donuts building is...no longer standing! However, that space will be rebuilt to accommodate two new shops—rumor says possibly a sushi restaurant and an Italian restaurant. As of late April, all but seven of the forty storefronts have been leased.

As for new tenants, the former Blockbuster will house a Wells Fargo Home Mortgage and two eateries: Freebirds World Burrito, and a healthy Mediterranean place called Zankou Chicken. The old Baker's Square/Dupar's will become two stores: Sprint and another as yet to be determined. A second wireless provider, Verizon, will be on the west end by Plaza Cleaners and along with a new Fantastic Sam's. Carter's, a children's clothier, will open up next to the Hallmark store.

Recent city requirements, such as alignment of the paved entryways to the complex, have slowed things down, causing the now over-budget \$17 million dollar renovation to delay its estimated completion date. Detours and traffic within the complex are a bit of a headache, but once it is finished, it will be a lovely addition to Granada Hills. With any luck, we might be able to take advantage of the pedestrian-friendly walkways and plazas by the summer months.



The Granada Hills Food Truck Phenomenon

By Dave Beauvais, Community Organizations and Jerry Askew, Business

It started as a tie in with a couple of local Granada Hills businesses on Chatsworth Street. Within a few months, it grew to one of largest spontaneous food truck events

Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Additionally, hundreds of additional vehicles during this 4 to 5 hour period meant jammed parking on side streets in residential areas.

the cooperation and support of many food truck operators, the Chamber instituted a fee system, which pays for trash clean up after each event, and periodic steam cleaning of the sidewalks to remove food and grease stains. But not all the food truck operators are participating in this program. The Chamber is working on a "Granada Hills Friendly" ID, so customers will know which vendors are cooperating to keep the sidewalks clean.



in the country. Customers, who kept in touch with their favorite trucks through Twitter and Facebook, came from all over the San Fernando Valley and beyond on Wednesdays and Friday evenings. Local residents took advantage of the phenomenon and packed the sidewalks to sample the wares. On some nights more than 60 vendors showed up, filling more than two city blocks with bumper to bumper food trucks, serving thousands of customers. So what could be wrong with this picture?

Some business owners on Chatsworth Street love the additional exposure for their business; on the other hand, other business owners have valid complaints. First and foremost is the fierce competition for parking on Chatsworth between White Oak and Zelzah. Many food truck operators resorted to "saving" parking spots with a personal vehicle, which led to drastically reduced, and on some days, non-existent parking, on

Because of the popularity of the event, the trash containers put out by the vendors and the few trash containers located along Chatsworth are often overwhelmed and overflowing. This leads to grease stains on the sidewalk, and unwanted insects and vermin. The additional vehicle and pedestrian traffic along Chatsworth can also create problems. All too often, customers dart from between trucks to cross Chatsworth Street, and despite seeing hundreds of people on the sidewalks, many vehicles fail to slow down.

The Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, with support from the GH South Neighborhood Council, has taken steps to mitigate these problems. With

Additionally, the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council and Council District 12 are helping to make this event safer and more enjoyable. The Neighborhood Council has purchased trash containers to supplement the permanent containers and those put out by the food truck operators. The Neighborhood Council has also funded lighting for the pergola at Veteran's Memorial Park, which improve public safety there. Additionally, Councilman Englander has pushed through approval for a crosswalk at Yarmouth Street to improve pedestrian safety for the event. Working together, businesses, residents, food truck operators and local organizations can make this popular event a win-win for everyone.



Neighborhood Purpose Grants

One of the guiding philosophies of the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council is to contribute a good portion of the council's budget to improving the quality of life in our community (NC 2006 budget: \$50,000; expected 2012-13 budget: \$37,000). Approximately 50% of the NC budget has funded the following projects since Spring 2011

Education

- Haskell ES
- Kennedy HS
- Porter MS
- Granada ES
- Granada Hills CHS
- Granada Hills CHS/Petit Park
- Valley Academy Arts & Sciences
- Knights in Music Foundation
- Beautification
- Support for 3 Class
- Air conditioning
- Computers
- Boy Scouts Vietnam Vet's Memorial Project; Robotics team
- Basketball Camp
- Music Dept., Art Dept., Grand Opening
- Support

Community

- Petit Park/GH Rec Center
- Spring Egg Hunt, 2011 & 2012, Halloween Event; Summer Camps
- June 2011, September 2011, June 2012
- Granada Hills Rotary Foundation
- Veteran's Park Triangle Pergola Lighting; Park Maintenance
- Food Truck Night
- Waste containers
- Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce
- Granada Hills Holiday Parade
- Community Interfaith
- Mixer/Luncheon
- Community Events
- Citrus Sunday, No. Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair, CERT Training
- Neighborhood
- Veterans Park Holiday Tree Lighting; Neighborhood Watch Signs
- Kiwanis Club
- USA Street Flags



**Saturday
June 23rd**



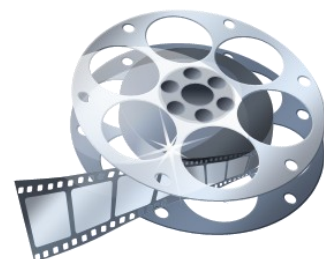
A Movie Under the Stars!



Come join the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council and have a movie on us at Petit Park on Saturday, June 23 at sundown.

Taking the family out for a movie on a Saturday night is pretty expensive, so why not join us and see a fun family flick on the big screen for free? As a bonus, you can hang out with your friends and neighbors from around the block, enjoying the outdoors on a mild summer evening. We recommend bringing blankets or beach chairs to sit on, a picnic dinner and your friends and family. This time around, we will

be screening *How to Train Your Dragon*. The GHSNC board members will be working hard giving out complimentary popcorn, and if you bring this newsletter, we will even give you a fancy, new tote bag. Every time you use it, we hope you'll remember the fond memories you had with us!





Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council
11024 Balboa Blvd., Box 767
Granada Hills, CA 91344

Organization



Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

Keep in Touch!

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

Email: board@ghsnc.org
Website: www.ghsnc.org
Phone: (818) 217-0511

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ghsnc
Twitter: www.twitter.com/GHSouthNC



We need your voice ~ Come join us at our monthly board meetings!

Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
June, July and August meetings: Rawley Hall at Granada Hills Charter High School