

# THE VALLEY VILLAGER

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



VOL. 15 NUMBER 1 January 2005

P.O. BOX 4916, VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617

## Community Support Helps Police Lower Crime Rate

Valley Village has always been a safe and wonderful place to live. Much of this can be attributed to our community involvement. Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has reported that violent and property crime is down as much as 20%. While this is really good news, unfortunately when crime goes down sometimes the volunteerism declines as well.

When the Senior Lead Officer program was in jeopardy, the community rallied in an amazing fashion to get that program reinstated. Sadly, attendance has now dropped off dramatically at the monthly Neighborhood Watch/Senior Lead Officer meetings.

The Valley Village Homeowners Meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> will present opportunities to discuss this with Captain William Sweet and our Senior Lead Officer Manny Arreygue. We need the continued support of our community to keep the Neighborhood Watch meetings going. Important information is given out at these meetings on making your home safer, preventing scams and identity theft and making your cars safer from burglary.

Anyone interested in volunteering or attending can call Boardmember Betty Velasco at 818-769-7090. She is a Police Community Representative (PCR) and Board liaison for the LAPD.

## What Can Be Done To Make Our Community Safer?

What can be done to make our community safer?  
Who should be doing it?

- You?
- Me?
- Them?

How about us?

The Homeowners meeting on Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> will bring together important members of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and volunteer residents active in Neighborhood Watch. Valley Village needs new ideas and proposals to revitalize community participation in public safety projects.

Organizing events that encourage family participation and neighbors getting to know each other can be fun and helpful. Being observed as an active, alert community dissuades those who look for an easy target.

Captain William Sweet will speak about local situations and answer your questions. The LAPD Lieutenant who deals with gang activities in the North Hollywood area will also be on the program along with our Senior Lead Officer Manny Arreygue.

This will be a grass roots effort to improve the way Valley Village is protected. Come and be part of the solution.

## Election Time in Valley Village – February 16, 2005

There are Federal elections and State elections and City elections; there are even International elections, but the election closest to the heart of the matter is right here in Valley Village. Come out and vote for the officers and board members of your Valley Village Homeowners Association.

They don't levy taxes, but they do represent your interests in the community. They don't get paid but they do work hard to preserve the beauty and charm that make Valley Village a wonderful place to live.



## From Our Senior Lead Officer

Hello Everyone:

To end 2004, our area had a reduction in overall crime. The only crime that was slightly up, was residential burglary. Hopefully, with your help, that particular crime will decrease this year.

Once in awhile I'm asked how often I check my voicemail messages. Usually I check the voicemail twice a day if I'm on duty. If not, I check it as soon as I return from days off. I work a compressed work schedule, therefore my schedule is different every week. If in the event you ever need to get ahold of a Senior Lead Officer and you can't wait for my callback, (due to my days off), call the Community Relations Office at 818-623-4001.

As a reminder, if you need the Police to respond call Dispatch at 877-275-5273. And, of course, if there is an emergency call 911. Remember, as a Senior Lead, we get requests after the fact.

Senior Lead Officer  
Manny Arreygue

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## From The President

First of all, I am wishing all of you a Happy, Healthy 2005.

A five week trip to Australia, (visiting my large family in Melbourne) made me very much aware of the need for beautification in our neck of the woods. It certainly would improve the quality of our life. I was struck by the fact that in Melbourne and in Adelaide most streets were divided by beautifully planted median stripes and trees, trees, trees on both sides of the streets. I was envious!

As mentioned in the October 2004 issue of The Valley Villager, our Association is embarking on a modest improvement to our business area. We are planning to distribute a low-maintenance potted plant for the front of every business establishment, at no cost to the merchant. As a community service, Steven's Nursery has generously quoted us a rock-bottom price. They will completely pot the plants and will also deliver them. We do need your help in distributing letters of permission to each business – (Laurel Canyon Boulevard from Riverside Drive to Burbank Boulevard, and Magnolia Boulevard from Ben Avenue to Vantage Street.) By the way, if you can spare a couple of hours, please call The Association at 818-506-5158 for further details.

Breice and I will have a final meeting at Wendy Greuel's office regarding the median strip on Laurel Canyon. There will be a new monument sign and improved landscaping, which will enhance the area.

We received the following thank you letter from PACE (Parents Association Colfax Elementary School).

*Dear Lori,*

*Please accept our gratitude for the very generous contribution from Valley Village Homeowners Association. The students and families of Colfax Elementary are so lucky to have your support!!*

*Sincerely,*

*PACE Wendy Hauptman*

We also contributed to the Principal's fund to be used for school improvements.

Please attend the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Our program includes Captain Sweet of LAPD and our Board Election. Your attendance and vote is very important!

See you on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Lori

## Board of Directors Election February 16th 7:30pm

(See page three for details and nomination form)



## Orange Line Landscaping Underway

The fence is going up. The drought resistant plants are going in. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of the Landscape Advisory Committee, Lori Dinkin and Marc Woerschling, and with the support of County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky there is irrigation and trees. We are hopeful the final landscape will be reasonably attractive.

## Valley Village Board of Directors Election and Nominations

Valley Village Homeowners Association election of board of directors will be held at the membership meeting Wednesday, February 16, 2005, 7:30 pm.

Any paid up member of the Association is welcome to self-nominate or nominate any other paid up member for a position. Each person nominated must sign a commitment to serve if elected. To nominate someone, cut out the form below. To nominate for more than one office attach additional pages to the nomination form. The nomination form must be returned by February 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Association Board consists of:

President  
Executive Vice-president  
Vice-president  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Six (6) Members-At-Large

All eligible nominated candidates will be on a printed ballot, and voting will be held at the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting but will not appear on the printed ballot. To be on the printed ballot, the nomination must be received by February 9<sup>th</sup> at The Association address. Voting is by closed ballot and will be counted that evening at the meeting.

### Nomination Form

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(To verify their acceptance of nomination and eligibility)

Office Nominated for: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: VVHA PO Box 4916 Valley Village, CA 91617

## Land Use Issues

Given the growing problems with the City handling of land use issues in our community, the Valley Village Homeowners Association (VVHA) and the Neighborhood Council Valley Village (NCVV) is requesting an early February meeting with Councilmember Wendy Greuel.

The meeting will address:

- >Creating a Project Design Review requirement by amending the Valley Village Specific Plan to require all new construction projects first be reviewed by the VVHA and NCVV before being allowed to proceed through the City review process.
- >Establishing an interim control ordinance to freeze further "mansions" projects in Valley Village pending amendments to the Specific Plan. Amending the Valley Village
- >Specific Plan to require that requests for property use changes to be subject to the Plan.
- >Improving communication from City Planning and Building and Safety Departments in regard to proposed projects and City approval decisions.
- >Exploring the possibility of introducing a City Charter amendment to require that Los Angeles Area Planning Commission members, currently appointed by the mayor, be appointed from their Neighborhood Councils with recommendations of the respective NC Board.



## Homeowners Association Meeting

*Wednesday, February 16, 2005 - 7:30pm*  
*Colfax Elementary School, 11724 Addison Street*  
*Valley Village, CA 91607*

Valley Village Homeowners Association continues to bring important and influential speakers to Association meetings:

The featured Speaker will be Los Angeles Police Department's **Captain William Sweet**. He is the Area Commanding Officer, North Hollywood Community Police Station. He joined the Los Angeles Police Department in July 1970 after graduation from the Police Academy. He has worked in divisions throughout the city with officers and detectives in varying capacities and earned Bachelor and Master's degrees in Criminal Justice from California State University, Long Beach.

Valley Village Resident Volunteers will be available to your answer questions with information to help you learn about crime awareness, emergency preparedness and how to organize your block for Neighborhood Watch.

The Valley Village Homeowners Association Board of Directors Election will be held at the beginning of the meeting. Arrive at 7:30 to cast your ballot. Votes will be counted during the meeting and results will be announced at the end of the evening.

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