

# THE VALLEY VILLAGER

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



VOL. 19 NUMBER 4 November 2009 P.O. BOX 4916, VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617

## FAA Rejects Burbank Airport Curfew

In early November the FAA rejected a proposed nighttime curfew that would have banned flights by airlines, cargo carriers, charter services and private pilots at Burbank Airport between 10 pm and 6:30 am with a few exceptions, such as public safety agencies. FAA officials concluded that the restriction was "not reasonable" because it would "create an undue burden on interstate commerce". Instead, the FAA said that other measures, such as soundproofing, are available for reducing aircraft noise in surrounding neighborhoods.

The proposed curfew also ran into opposition from Fed Ex, United Parcel Service and other cargo companies and trade groups who said that the Burbank Airport Authority exaggerated the noise problem.

In order for the FAA to approve a curfew it must meet a set of very exacting requirements established by Part 161 of the 1990 Federal Airport Noise Control and Capacity Act (ANCA), which require a local airport operator do an exhaustive and expensive analysis called a Part 161 study. The requirements in ANCA give priority to maintaining the national aviation system and short shrift to controlling aircraft noise and almost always enable the FAA to deem a Part 161 study to be inadequate. ANCA has been used by the FAA to frustrate a number of attempts by local airport operators throughout the United States to enact noise controls.

For three decades the noise from Burbank Airport has been an ongoing concern of neighborhood associations due to the flight paths going over North Hollywood, Studio City and Valley Village and there have been attempts to reduce the noise from aircraft taking off from Burbank Airport to the south.

Because ANCA empowers the FAA to be unresponsive to local concerns, Congressman Brad Sherman and Congressman Adam Schiff of Burbank said they would consider introducing legislation to modify ANCA to rein in the power of the FAA to veto local noise control efforts.

Contact Congressmen Sherman and Schiff and tell them you want a curfew and you support their efforts to modify ANCA:

Brad Sherman  
818-501-9200  
bradsherman.house.gov

Adam Schiff  
626-304-2727  
Schiff.house.gov

## Remember When

We live in a neighborhood that has undergone many changes over the years, but one thing that has not changed is the pride we feel for our little corner of the Valley.

Its history and roots are deep (literally and figuratively). For example, did you know that our area was once nothing more than walnut and orange groves dotted with farms and country roads? That the name "Valley Village" was first adopted for our neighborhood back in the 1930's?

Your association wants to preserve that history for its members, old and new, and is asking your help by contributing photographs of the area reflecting that history and change. If you have pictures of Valley Village, its streets, structures and landmarks or activities from the past, please contact us or send us copies that we can use in a visual history of Valley Village to be created on our website, [ValleyVillageHA.com](http://ValleyVillageHA.com).

Become a part of your neighbor's history and future!

**\*\* Season's Greetings! \*\* Happy Holidays! \*\***



## Our Website

### Committee:

We are forming a committee to maintain our website. If you have any experience designing web sites we would welcome you. Experienced or not, we could use your input. Please volunteer to join this effort by contacting Jerry at [jerryf2@gmail.com](mailto:jerryf2@gmail.com) or calling 818-762-7823.



### Archives:

Do you know that past issues of the Valley Villager are available on the Association website? Go to [ValleyVillageHA.com](http://ValleyVillageHA.com), click on Newsletters and select the issue you wish to read.

### Poll:

Neighbor to Neighbor referrals. Would you like to have a list of vendors for home maintenance and other services posted on our website? The referrals would be from members only, not advertisers. Tell us your opinion at [ValleyVillageHA.com](http://ValleyVillageHA.com) or call 818-506-5158.

#### EDITORIAL STAFF

Publisher: Peter Sanchez  
 Editor : Breice Reiner  
 Proofreader: Stuart Simen  
 Contributors: Dan Caplan  
 Jerry Fagin Ken Hearn  
 Jennifer Reed Lisa Sarkin  
 Betty Velasco Marc Woerschling  
 Phone: 818-506-5158

## A Letter from the President

What I did last summer. On July 6<sup>th</sup> I filed my papers to run for Los Angeles City Council. Me and my friends, relations and volunteer supporters went non-stop from that date until September 22<sup>nd</sup>. What a summer! On the positive side it was exciting and educational but it was also stressful and exhausting.

The paperwork I had to complete just to get into the race probably killed a couple of trees. But I must say, the employees at the City Clerk's office knew what they were doing. They had everything ready and were well trained to guide the potential candidate through the process.

Team Sanchez spent the next couple weeks gathering the 500 signatures of registered voters in District Two needed to qualify for the ballot. All had to be turned in on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> by 5:00pm. On Saturday night we had 350 signatures. On Sunday morning we discovered a math error and realized we only had 250. By Sunday night at 10:30pm after all the volunteers turned in their signature sheets, we had 748. Wow, that was the sigh heard round the world. Monday afternoon the Clerk's office declared that I had officially turned in 763 signatures. Tuesday afternoon I got the call that there were more than 500 valid signatures. I had made it on to the ballot; it was time to really campaign.

I soon realized I could not do this and work full time. I took the last three weeks of the campaign off from my job. My company and boss were great and supportive. The real work began, campaigning and participating in candidate forums.

At the first forum in Shadow Hills I met all the other candidates. I already knew Augusto Bisani, fellow Valley Villager and neighbor who lives across the street from me. I didn't know he was candidate until I ran into him at the clerk's office, which is where I also met Michael McCue. At the forum, Tamar Galatzan was seated to my right and Paul Krekorian to my left. That night I also met the other candidates, Mary Benson, Joe Essavi, Christine Essel, David Saltsburg and Frank Sheftel.

After six weeks and many forums, we got know each other pretty well. In fact, by the last forum we probably already knew what another candidate was going to say about a particular issue when asked. After all, we had heard each other speak many times by this point. I didn't want to like them because they were running against me but I found myself liking and respecting each of them.

Election Day, September 22<sup>nd</sup>! By a little after midnight we knew what the final results would be. Overall 12% of District 2 voters cast ballots. Valley Village had the highest voter turn out with 16%. I won both of the Valley Village precincts and 5% of the vote overall. That put me in fifth place. Five out of ten, not bad for a first timer.

It really was exciting, educational, stressful and exhausting and I have been asked, would you do it again? You bet I would! (And maybe I will.)

Christine Essel and Paul Krekorian are in the runoff on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Get out and vote Valley Village. Keep our voter turn out high!

The Homeowners Association does not endorse candidates. If you would like to know my personal thoughts visit my campaign website: [VotePeteSanchez.com](http://VotePeteSanchez.com).

Peter



## Character of Valley Village

Many commercial and multi-family buildings contribute to the cumulative character of Valley Village, which is largely informed by its single family neighborhoods. This is one important reason why our veteran activists in Valley Village Homeowners Association toiled to establish our Specific Plan and attempt to limit the growth along our primary and secondary streets.

When thinking of the character of Valley Village, consider this:

- Neighborhoods with a very significant number of pre-WWII houses.
- Most Valley Village subdivisions between Riverside and Magnolia, between Chandler and Burbank Boulevards from Laurelgrove to Colfax, were built before 1942. Sections near the Valley Village Park and south of Riverside Drive are pre-50's, unlike typical areas of the Valley. (This data was gathered by the Neighborhood Council Valley Village subcommittee on mansionization).
- The commercial "village" stretch of Magnolia between Whitsett and Wilkinson--the north side of which dates back to approximately 1937, the south side including the Post Office to 1949 is consistent with the traditional style of the original housing development.
- The former Dutton's Book Store building is similar in style to the single family neighborhoods.
- The building on the NE corner of Magnolia and Laurel Canyon is also similar to the single family neighborhoods.
- Brittany Floors, along with parts of the commercial stretch from Magnolia to Chandler which retain a low, articulated facade similar to the older parts of NoHo. Adding interest is the old fashioned, almost kitschy Carter Sexton palette sign, which is complimented by the Metropolitan car crashed in the nearby façade.
- Val Surf free-standing Colonial, built as a restaurant, echoes the traditional residential look of Valley Village.
- The Starbucks frontage, which has a modern twist on the motifs of traditional, low articulated facades at the sidewalk.
- Coopersmith Hair Salon on Riverside--a small, commercial usage of a residential type building, is one of several on Riverside Drive.
- Countless 1 and 2 story multi-family buildings from the 40's and 50's which use traditional motifs and materials such as pitched roofs, gables, moldings, siding, and brick compliment the single family neighborhood.
- Even the new Mediterranean style building on Laurel Canyon between Hesby and Otsego is similar in proportion and materials to vintage Spanish style houses (of which there are many in VV) puts forth strong landscaping that feels similar to what is found in the neighborhoods.

We hope this perspective helps to define some of the issues involved in our on-going discussions of how to improve our community.

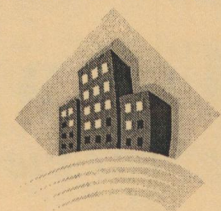
## Universal Expands

The proposed developments on Lankershim Boulevard will encompass both sides of the street. The west side is within Studio City, the east side is within LA County.

Metro/Universal Project includes several tall buildings, including TV studios, some residences or a hotel and it is expected to generate approximately 15,000 car trips per day despite its location near mass transit.

The Evolution Project expands the Universal Studios lot with several additional tall buildings including 2,900 residences off Barham with approximately 15,000 car trips per day. The traffic mitigations are not clear and appear to come from sources other than NBC/Universal. The Environmental Reviews for each of these projects are being done separately, although the lead agency is the City of LA Planning Department on both proposed developments.

The Studio City Neighborhood Council will be requesting, through a board action, that both proposed developments be considered as one to ensure that the cumulative effects of the projects are considered by all parties. The SCNC will be requesting support for our board action from the community organizations in the Southeast Valley.





## New Developments in Controlling Billboards

The past three years have been disappointing for those who have favored strong controls on unsightly billboards that have added so much ugly, visual clutter to the streets of Los Angeles. In 2006 the City Council approved one sided settlements to lawsuits seeking to overturn the 2002 Billboard Inspection Fee Ordinance. The settlements legalized several thousand illegal billboards owned by Clear Channel and CBS Outdoor and allowed those two companies to convert up to 840 of their existing signs to bright, energy consuming digital billboards which have generated strong protests from surrounding neighborhoods. In August, 2008 a Federal judge invalidated the City's 2002 ban on new billboards because it contained exception provisions which resulted in an inconsistent application of the ban that granted the City too much discretion, and that allowed City Council members the power to arbitrarily pick and choose which billboard companies were subject to the ban and which were granted exceptions to it in their districts.

However, during the past three encouraging developments in the First, in August of this year the ban on new billboards which and bans new digital billboards. City Attorney Carmen Trutanich. survived one court challenge. Superior Court judge overturned negotiated by the previous City legalized the illegal billboards and billboards. The lawsuit against the billboard company, Summit Media, settlements and opposed the Channel and CBS Outdoor. The agreements "poison" and concluded that the City acted beyond the scope of its authority by allowing the two companies to be given exceptions to the 2002 billboard ban. The judge will likely order the 100 plus conversions of regular billboards to digital billboards to be reversed and the digital sign faces removed. However, because the two billboard companies will probably appeal, the Superior Court judge's ruling may not be the final decision on this case.



months there have been two struggle to control billboard blight. City Council approved a second contains no exception provisions This was recommended by the new This new ordinance has already Second, in early November 2009 a the 2006 lawsuit settlements Attorney Rocky Delgadillo which allowed the conversions to digital settlements was brought by another that was not a party to the advantageous treatment for Clear judge called the settlement

These two developments indicate that, after three decades of trying, the City may finally be getting it right in controlling billboards.

### Other Ugly Advertising – Signs on Wheels

You can help reduce the visual blight caused by portable signs parked on the streets. As soon as you spot one call Valley Village Senior Lead Officer Manny Arregue at 818-634-0829. He will ticket the illegal sign and the owner must move it within 72 hours or pay a fine.

## Tell a Friend – Tell a Neighbor

*Invite someone to join Valley Village Homeowners Association*



## A Conversation With Manny Arreygue

Valley Village is very fortunate to have Senior Lead Officer Manny Arreygue and his officers watching over this entire area. Manny was kind enough to stop by for a meeting with VVHA Police Community Representative Betty Velasco and deliver the good news that crime was down over 27% for last month.

They discussed the problem that worries some residents concerning door-to-door salespeople. The majority of them are honest hardworking people. Still, it pays to be cautious. Manny's advice was to make yourself known without opening the door. There have been occurrences of burglars going around to the back when there is no answer. If someone claims to be from a Utility company, ask for their identification.

Manny also discussed the importance of making sure your doors and windows are kept locked securely. Motion detector lights are a great idea.

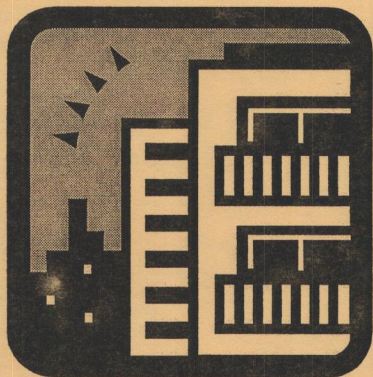
Always keep safety in mind and don't let yourself become a victim, especially during the upcoming holidays. While shopping and celebrating, keep purchases and valuables in the trunk of your car. Women need to keep a close eye on their purse as thieves have been known to have an accomplice distract a shopper while valuables were removed from the purse. It only takes a second. Also keep purses closed.

These helpful tips from Manny will keep Valley Village one of the safest areas anywhere.

## Tip From Neighborhood Watch

A Valley Village resident whose home was broken into reports: Shortly before the break-in a woman had knocked at his door saying that she was from a security company, and asked about installing a security system. The resident responded that he didn't have one. It is best that a resident not reveal to anyone that their house doesn't have a security system.

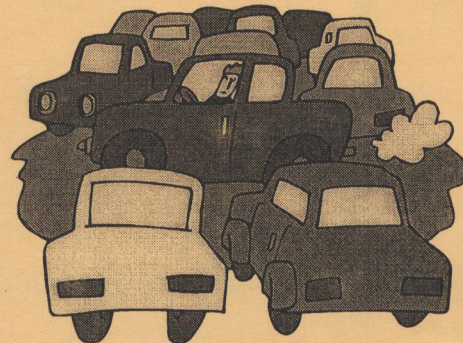
## Overheard in the Neighborhood about SB1818



- "They're installing cement canyons in the San Fernando Valley."
- "Developers now get to mow down affordable housing and evict all the renters using Ellis Act."
- "Applications are up for SB1818 entitlements for both condos and apartment buildings and developers don't have to prove they need the entitlements."
- "How long can property be left undeveloped to rundown and become a neighborhood blight?"
- "As much as 10 years can pass before building permits must be used."
- "Is anybody checking whether developers are selling to low income buyers or renters of affordable housing?"

Let's demand action from the Los Angeles City Council to amend SB1818 implementation.

To learn more about SB1818 see *OUR POSITION* on [www.ValleyVillageHA.com](http://www.ValleyVillageHA.com).





## Council District 2 Election

# Vote on December 8<sup>th</sup>

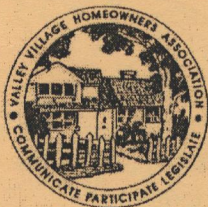
Christine Essel or Paul Krekorian

Neighborhood Council Valley Village,  
Greater Valley Glen Council,  
Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council &  
Valley College Associated Student Union  
are sponsoring a Candidates Debate on  
Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
Monarch Hall, Valley College  
5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen  
Parking available off Oxnard Street at Ethel Avenue

### Mark your Calendar

*The 2010 VVHA Membership Meetings will be:  
January 20<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>.*

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



P.O. BOX 4916  
VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617  
818-506-5158  
[www.ValleyVillageHA.com](http://www.ValleyVillageHA.com)

*Neighbors Working Together To Improve The Quality Of Life*