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THE ECHO

Est. 1955 / WINTER 2012 P.O. BOX 9949 - GLENDALE, CA 91226

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

GOCHA 2012 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

GOCHA 2012 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE KICKS OFF THIS JANUARY *PLEASE JOIN!*

January marks the beginning of our annual membership drive which follows the calendar year, i.e., from January 1st to December 31st. This year we have included a question as to whether you would like to participate in the newly reorganized Neighborhood Watch Program. Only



with your support can we monitor and address our canyon issues, provide a forum for information, create activities that bring together our residents and continue to assist all of our Canyon homeowners. An early response to the enclosed membership renewal form would be greatly appreciated. Kindly complete the form and mail it with your payment check. Only with everyone's support can we continue to work for the benefit of our canyon families.

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Published by:
GLENOAKS CANYON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
Proudly serving the residents of Glenoaks Canyon - and all of Glendale since 1955

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT

THURSDAY, MARCH 1st

6:30-8:00 PM Joe Bridges Clubhouse, Park

ANNUAL CANYON DOG PARADE

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH

1:30 to 4:00 PM Glenoaks Park

GLENDALE'S ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 19th

Meet at Canyon Marker, 9:00 AM

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, AUG. 7th

TBD (Stay Tuned!)

ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19th

7:30 TO 9:00 pm Bridges Clubhouse, Park

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22nd

8:00 AM- 11:00 AM Bridges Clubhouse, Park

GLENOAKS CANYON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION 2012 Board of Directors

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Secretary Mike Nosanov.....240-7391

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Carol Kemp.....244-1097

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Gerald Rankin.....241-0450

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NEW PARK BENCHES INSTALLED

As many of you know who frequent our Glenoaks Park, four (4) beautiful new, green benches have mysteriously appeared along the main path.

It was not the work of "Park Elves", but rather through the diligent efforts of our Board member Angela Vukos (pictured). It was her idea, and Angie tirelessly lobbied the City for the benches. And now, thanks to her efforts, we now have the ability to sit in comfort and watch our children (and grandchildren) play... or just enjoy the world passing by.



The President's Column

Winter 2012

Happy New Year, everyone! As you can see in this issue of the Echo, some changes have taken place with regard to your GOCHA Board of Directors. It is my honor to assume the office of President – taking over from Joan Morris, who has given us 4 outstanding years of leadership. Joan has graciously accepted the position of Editor of the Echo. And the Pancake Breakfast will be in the capable hands of David Weeks.

We all look forward to a wonderful, event filled year starting with our annual Membership Drive. In spring, our Annual Dog Parade will again fill Glenoaks Park with a variety of our four-footed friends.

On a serious note, an important new canyon wide program, The Neighborhood Watch, is being launched. Under the guidance of Chris Murray, who is coordinating the activities, block captains are moving ahead with setting up their respective areas of communication. The ultimate goal is to make our canyon a safer place to live for all of us by being able to inform, not only law enforcement, but every neighbor in the canyon -in a timely manner - of any suspicious activities that may take place.

Proving the timely need for a Neighborhood Watch program, our canyon was hit by a rash of mid-day burglaries in late November, early December. Three homes were entered and possessions taken. This proves that we all need to be more vigilant and watchful of our surroundings. A strong Neighborhood Watch Program will make our canyon safer.

I urge all residents to become involved in the Neighborhood Watch Program. Information will be available at the Fraud and Identity Theft meeting on March 1st . You can also contact Chris Murray (310) 279-6448 or Russell Shinn (818) 331-7130 to find out how you can join this much needed program.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our activities throughout the year and I am also available to assist you with questions you may have about GOCHA and our Canyon.

Paul Chamberlain, President
president@glenoakscanyon.org
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Update to Metro Line 201/Beeline Route 13 Service (Schedule Below)

Metro Line 201 is running again! This fall it looked like public transportation into the Canyon would be cut due to low ridership and high costs, however, thanks to the responses from Glenoaks Canyon residents, the City Council decided to work with the county to bring back Metro Line 201. Thank you all for your calls, emails and letters to City Council members. Also, special thanks go to Angela Vukos for spearheading this effort.



A Controversy About Brush Clearance

In mid-August 2011, residents walking in the hills found that extensive brush clearing had been done along the sides of three fire roads on the ridge between Glenoaks Canyon and Eagle Rock. Unfortunately, the cuttings were left in place. A lengthy correspondence then ensued. It featured numerous emails and telephone conversations in which Fire Chief Harold Scoggins, Battalion Chief Vincent Rifino, and Mayor Laura Friedman diplomatically fielded complaints about the brush clearing operation.

I learned that the brush clearance was the work of Los Angeles County "camp crews" composed mostly of young people who accept a sentence to do this type of work in lieu of other punishment for various infractions. These crews do brush clearing for a number of fire departments in the area. According to established practice, the crews do not haul away the clippings when they finish their assignments.

(Brush Clearance Cont.)



Originally the Fire Department resisted the request to remove the cuttings on the grounds that the dead brush was not a serious fire hazard and that leaving it in place was consistent with area standards. The effort to get the Fire Department to change this practice was led by me and by Rick Brodey, a landscape architect living on Sleepy Hollow Drive. Rick took photographs of some of the cast-off cuttings and mutilated plants, as well as sending highly persuasive emails to accompany the photographs. Rick and I had several objections to what had happened. The main one was that, regardless of the Fire Department's initial response about fire hazard, the dead clippings would add to the fire danger of our combustible hills. Secondly, we thought that the brush clearing had been unnecessarily aggressive. Plants, including oak trees, that were not interfering with the roadways had been destroyed or mutilated. In addition, the combination of overly aggressive clearance and failure to remove the cut brush compromised the appearance of the roads, detracting from the recreational experience of those who use what have become popular hiking trails. We urged the Fire Department to initiate a new policy requiring removal of cut brush whenever brush clearance is accomplished.

Eventually the Fire Department responded favorably. In November the cut brush was removed. We wrote to Fire Chief Harold Scoggins and Battalion Chief Vincent Rifino thanking them for their willingness to change a long-held practice, one which had been convenient but which, we believe, was not in the best interests of our community. We also wrote to Mayor Laura Friedman thanking her for her valuable assistance in this matter.
Gerry Rankin

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815a	830a	845a	900a	916a	921m		931m	935a	946a	1003a	1015a	1030a
1135a	1150a	1204p	1219p	1235p	1240p		1251p	1255a	106p	124p	136p	152p
255p	312p	326p	341p	357p	402p		411p	415p	426p	442p	454p	511p
435p	452p	507p	523p	539p	544p		551p	555p	608p	622p	634p	651p

Don't forget to attend our

SPECIAL MEETING

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 1st

FROM 6:30 TO 8:00 PM
at the Glenoaks Park Clubhouse

Topics will be

FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT
and

OUR NEW
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
PROGRAM



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