E-News for the Week: August 4, 2017...

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Launching the CD12 Neighborhoods FIRST Initiative...

This week I launched a new initiative for our district to specifically aimed to address the primary issue affecting safety and livability in CD12 today: the rise in homelessness.

This is an issue affecting every corner of Los Angeles and we've been developing programs around it for a while. Thus far, my office has helped find funding, without resorting to taxpayer dollars, to establish and build the first shelter in the district for homeless families at the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission. We launched the 250LA project in partnership with the SFV Rescue Mission which seeks to shelter an additional 250 homeless children and their families through commitments of monthly donations by local small businesses. We've acquired a second Mobile Shower unit to provide dignity and resources directly to the homeless community to serve as a key point of contact to developing relationship and getting those in need to accept help. We created Clean Streets Clean Starts in partnership with the SFV Rescue Mission, the Northridge South Neighborhood Council, and Northridge Sparkle to enlist homeless volunteers in a community beautification effort while helping to eliminate their impediments to obtain housing and full-time employment. The program was awarded with the Clean Streets "Game Changer" award by Mayor Eric Garcetti.

The Neighborhoods FIRST Initiative, or Fully Integrated Resources and Support Team, is a comprehensive program that will focus specifically on CD12. My office will have a full-time staff member devoted to addressing issues of homelessness. The first task will be assessing and mapping all of

volunteer networks active in the area. *Read on...*

RECENT LEGISLATION

Expanding Waste Hauler Franchise Options for Businesses in our Community...

Today, I introduced a motion, co-authored by my colleague, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, to create more flexible pricing options for businesses and commercial properties covered under the new recycLA waste hauler franchise.

We're just seeing the beginning of complaints about the new waste hauler franchise as more businesses and commercial properties see their pricing options. While haulers are required by contract to 'right-size' services based on the needs of the client, the current pricing scheme does not have enough flexibility to reflect the full range of needs for area businesses.

Businesses and commercial properties covered by the new waste hauler franchise have reported steep increases in cost of service with prices doubling or tripling in some cases. Under the current set of options clients can generate less waste than even the smallest bin size yet are still required to pay the price of a full bin. The motion seeks to reduce costs for businesses by exploring the creation of a bin sharing option in which businesses producing less waste can be rewarded with the option to share costs with other low waste businesses. ***Read on...***

Bringing Prompt Payment to the City of Los Angeles...

This week, I introduced a motion instructing City departments to study the feasibility of a Prompt Payment policy based on similar policies adopted by other entities in our region. Adoption of Prompt Payment will ensure that

months on end to receive payment for services rendered.

Timely payments are critical to small businesses because of their cash flow requirements. With up to 37 separate City departments, businesses that contract or do business with the City often experience payment delays that are created by having to navigate through varying invoice and payment processes, or not knowing who to communicate with in the appropriate department. ***Read on...***

Offering a Reward to Help Stop Those Responsible for the Recent Series of Bank Robberies...

This week, City Council passed my motion offering $15,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the persons responsible for a series of bank robberies committed over the past two months.

This motion sends a message that the City of Los Angeles won't ignore criminals who threaten the safety of residents and businesses in Los Angeles. With this reward, we're putting these criminals on notice that there is no safe hiding place and that we won't stop until justice is served.

Known to law enforcement as the "Thelma and Louise Bandits", the crew is suspected of committing four armed robberies of banks within the City of Los Angeles and fifth in the city of Manhattan Beach. The FBI is the lead investigative agency on the case working with the support of LAPD. Detectives believe that a reward may compel member of the public to provide information on the identity of the persons responsible for these crimes

contact the LA Crime Stoppers hotline at (800) 222-8477.

COMMUNITY NEWS

National Night Out and a Movie Under the Stars...

This week, I was proud to partner with the Los Angeles Police Department's Devonshire Division and the Department of Recreation and Parks for the 2017 National Night Out: America's Night Out Against Crime and present a Movie Under the Stars. This national celebration promotes police-community partnerships, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie.

Families in attendance enjoyed the summer night (and a little rain!) in a safe and fun family outing, while meeting community organizations and watching the Lego Batman Movie at Northridge Park.

This year, National Night Out also marked the launch of our Neighborhoods FIRST Initiative, an extremely localized focus on addressing homelessness issues in our community.

Honoring the Granada Hills Woman's Club...

Today, I celebrated the 90 year anniversary of the Granada Hills Woman's Club in City Council. Founded in 1926, the nearly 100 members with ages ranging from 20's to early 90's, provide a strong anchor for the Granada Hills community. The club members are dedicated leaders and community partners that raise money for charitable giving through sock hops, Bunco party, rummage sales and clubhouse rentals.

Last year, the club raised over $68,000 giving financial and in-kind support to numerous worthwhile charities including the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission, Guide Dogs of America, and military and veterans causes.

The Club has also generously provided their clubhouse for community meetings and hosts an annual luncheon for local police officers. Additionally, the membership supports other local organizations and events such as the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, the Granada Hills Parade, and the Granada Hills Street Faire.

Thank you to the Granada Hills Woman's Club for all of the outstanding work you do for the San Fernando Valley.

Update on Aliso Canyon...

This week, in the wake of the California appellate court's rejection of the County's efforts to issue a stay, SoCal Gas began to inject gas at the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage facility. This follows a decision by the CPUC that allowed for the injection of gas at the facility up to a maximum 28% of the

This decision to resume operations at the facility is premature, irresponsible, and wrong.

By rushing to resume injections, the CPUC has not allowed the County to finish conducting critical health studies on the impacts of the original gas leak or even complete a root cause analysis to determine why there was a leak in the first place.

The SoCal Gas Company's own former Storage Engineering Manager has said that the seismic risk created by the Santa Susanna fault, which bisects the facility and is widely expected to be due for an earthquake, creates a real risk to the integrity of the wells and could precipitate another major blowout.

The fact is, Los Angeles is not facing an imminent energy shortage which is the claimed reason for resuming operations. In the time that the facility has been offline, we've been through record winter rain and record heat waves without major service interruptions. So long as the facility remains open, I will join the community in fighting to shut it down.

Fall Sports with the Northridge Recreation Center...

This fall brings four different sports league opportunities to Northridge Recreation Center. For the first time, online registration will be available for a one week period.

The leagues are as follows:

- Flag Football for coed youth ages 7 to 12 years old.
- Soccer for coed youth ages 3 to 12 years old.
- Volleyball for girls ages 8 to 15 years old.
- Softball for girls ages 9 to 17 years old.

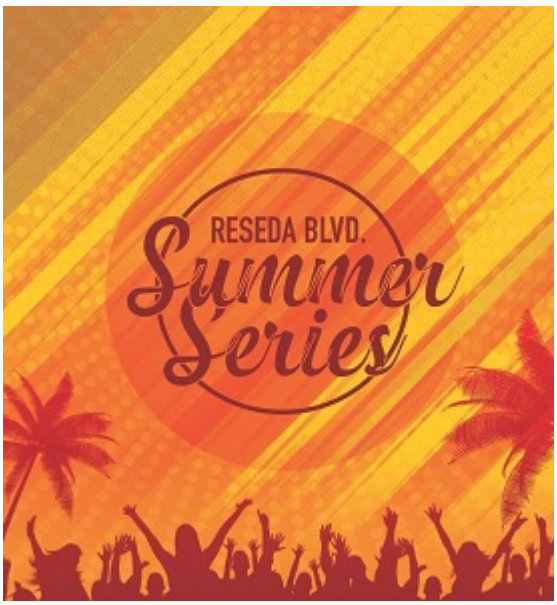
Now through August 5

Priority Registration
Saturday, August 5

Open Registration
Monday, August 7 and will continue until the leagues are full

To obtain a priority registration number, please visit your local park office. For more information, go to www.laparks.org.

Reseda Blvd Summer Art Series...



Join your Northridge community during the Second Annual Reseda Blvd Summer Series brought to you by CJ Berina with the support of a Department of Cultural Affairs Arts Activation Grant. This recurring event will take place on Saturday August 5th, Saturday August 19th, with a series finale on August 26th.

The Summer Series is a multi-cultural extravaganza featuring live performances, artists, and local merchants. Enjoy food trucks, live music, an art walk and outstanding local talent. Come celebrate the San Fernando Valley on Los Angeles' First Great Street, Reseda Blvd! The event is free and open to all ages.

Saturday, August 5
6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

8906 Reseda Blvd.
Northridge

Click here to view the flyer. For more information, go to the Reseda Blvd Summer Arts Series Facebook page. Check out the newest video from the

VIDEO CONTEST: The 2017 Making Movies that Matter Youth Short Film Festival...

Click here to view the 2017 Making Movies that Matter Youth Film Festival submissions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Make an Appointment at the CD12 Community Service Center...

My office is now taking reservations for community members to meet one-on-one with representatives of City Departments at our Community Service Center in Chatsworth.

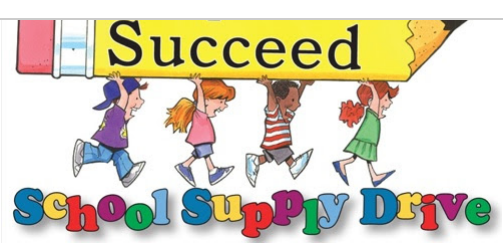
There are regularly scheduled times when you can meet with City Departments, including Planning, Police, Transportation (LADOT), the Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Sanitation, Department of Water and Power, Building and Safety, Recreation and Parks, Neighborhood Empowerment Department, Housing & Community Development, Animal Services, and the Department of Aging. This offers community members an opportunity to get information and assistance in Chatsworth without having to travel all the way downtown. Meetings with Department representatives are by appointment only, but you can speak with our Field Deputies at any time.

With the new recycling and waste hauling franchise taking effect, many of you have had questions about how this change will affect your service. A special Waste Management team is available throughout the summer to discuss all of your concerns and answer any questions you might have regarding the new franchise system for commercial and multi-unit housing. Please call our office to schedule an appointment.

Community Service Center
9207 Oakdale Ave. Second Floor
Chatsworth

To make an appointment and for more information, call (818) 882-1212.

LAPD Devonshire PALS Back to School Supply Drive for Students…



needed school supplies. The Devonshire PALS Youth Center is currently collecting notebooks, paper, glue, crayons, backpacks, pencils, and pens as they prepare to start a new school year. As the summer break winds down, remember to support the PALS education program and the kids in our community.

Donations are accepted now through August 9

PALS Youth Center
8721 Wilbur Ave.
Northridge

For more information, call (818) 885-6432.

West Valley Wildlife Workshop…

Join L.A. Animal Services for an educational session on the wild animals you may encounter in your neighborhood. L.A. Animal Services wildlife specialists will share information on deterrents and how to keep your pets safe.

Thursday, August 10
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

West Valley Animal Shelter
20655 Plummer St.
Chatsworth

For more information, call (888) 452-7381.

Granada Hills Woman's Club Hawaiian Bunco Blast...

Join the Granada Hills Woman's Club during their Hawaiian Bunco Blast -

clothing and accessories for entry in a special drawing. A $25 donation is requested.

Friday, August 11
9:30 am

10666 White Oak Ave.
Granada Hills

Pre-paid reservations are required. For more information, call (818) 363-9844 or go to www.granadahillswomansclub.org.

Free Senior & Community Resource Fair...

The Valley Interfaith Council is hosting a free senior and community resource fair. There will be raffles, a snack bar, vendors, health screenings, give-aways, and more with fun for the whole family.

Saturday, August 12
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church
20121 Devonshire St.
Chatsworth

For more information, call (818) 885-5144.

Fundraiser for the Granada Hills Charter High School Marching Band...

Support the Granada Hills Charter High School Marching Band by purchasing mattresses, box springs, pillows and other bedding accessories at up to 50% off. The band has the opportunity to raise the funds needed to continue the excellent music

Saturday, August 19
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Granada Hills Charter High School
10535 Zelzah Ave.
Granada Hills

For more information, visit their Facebook Page.

Free Movie Matinee at Chatsworth Library…

There will be a free showing of *Moonlight* in the Chatsworth Library Community Room. The movie is sponsored by the Friends of the Chatsworth Library. Light refreshments will be available. This movie is rated R.

Thursday, August 24
1:30 pm

Chatsworth Library
21052 Devonshire St.
Chatsworth

For more information, call (818) 341-4276 or go to laplchatsworthfriends.org.

CD12 PETS OF THE WEEK

The West Valley Animal Shelter Dog of the Week is Perla (ID #A1713249). She is a 6 year old yellow Chihuahua who will eagerly become your new best friend! Her mellowness makes her ideal for anyone with a quiet lifestyle. And her gentle nature shines in everything she does. Come meet and adopt this sweetheart today!

Our West Valley Animal Shelter Cat of the Week is Panny (ID #A1713249). This 12 year Tortie-Calico will purr up a storm once you start petting her silky-soft brilliantly-colored long coat. Panny is a curious girl who likes to watch you and whatever is happening around her or outside her window. Panny needs to stay indoors only so she can stay safe always. Come adopt this affectionately purring beauty today!

Bring home forever love, smiles, purrs and wags -- come adopt a shelter pet today! Dogs, cats, puppies, kittens, bunnies, all sizes, types and fur lengths, from playful youngsters to gentle, loving seniors -- they are waiting for you at your local Animal Shelter right here in CD 12! Come fall in love at the West Valley (L.A. city) Animal Shelter at 20655 Plummer St., Chatsworth, (818) 756-9325. See all the city shelter animals at theL.A. Animal Services Search-By-Shelter Page.

STAFF REPORT

Reports from our Staff: Leaf Blower Exchange Program…

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is conducting leaf blower exchange program! Commercial landscapers and gardeners operating within AQMD can exchange gas-powered backpack leaf blowers for new low emission, low noise, back pack leaf blowers at a discounted price. Exchange events will be held at multiple locations. Pre-registration is required and the reservation is only valid for the date and location pre-selected. A maximum of five leaf blowers can be exchanged per company or organization.

For more information and to register, call 1 (888) 425-6247.

CITY HALL
200 North Spring
St. Rm 405
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 473-7012
Fax: (213) 473-6925

COMMUNITY
SERVICE CENTER
9207 Oakdale Ave
Chatsworth CA 91311
Phone: (818) 882-1212
Fax: (818) 701-5254

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