

**DENNIS P. ZINE** Councilman, Third District



The Third District Services the Communities of Canoga Park, Reseda, Tarzana, West Hills, Winnetka & Woodland Hills November/December 2006 Volume 6 Issue 2

> **Editor & Publisher Yvette Whitaker**





#### Inside this issue:

2006 Accomplishments	1-2
Planning Issues	3
Winnetka & Woodland Hills	4
Canoga Park & Reseda	5
Tarzana & West Hills	6
Legislative Issues	7
Community Meetings	8-9
2006 Accomplishments List Dia de Los Muertos Festival	10
POSSE Members Clean-up!	11
PrimeTime Zine Cable Show	11
Thanks to Councilman Zine	12-13
Staff of Councilman Zine	14
All Around Z-Town Photos	15-16



#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

'As your Public Servant, my Staff and I Pledge to ...

- Improve the Quality of Life in our District.
- Maintain Public Safety.
- Follow Up your Concerns in a Timely Manner. 3.
- Keep you Informed of Issues in the District
- Attend your Meetings and Events.
- Have the Communities Priorities Come First.

**DENNIS P. ZINE** Councilman, Third District

MOTIONS: Councilman has introduced 694 motions from July 2001 to the present. Some of the Motions that were introduced and passed by City Council this Tennie Pierce - LAFD \$2.7 Million Discrimination Case; New Limitapast year: tions on Medical Marijuana; Notorious BIG Settlement; LAPD Housing Assistance; Safe Child Custody Exchange; Resolution to support AB 2210 More Stringent Towing Regulations; Nestor Traffic Photo Red Light; Slurry Seal & Proposed Penalties; Military Personnel; LAPD Air support Retirement Vacancies; LAPD Streamlining Booking & Jail Transport Procedures; Violence prevention at Cyber cafes; Pocket bikes-stores must post regulations; Enhance information distribution of new Medicaid prescription drug program; City internet link -other US municipal web sites regarding Canadian prescription drugs; Support court action to keep "Under God"in Pledge of Abandoned baby information sticker -to be placed on dumpsters and Allegiance; many others.

PRESS RELEASES: 27 Press Release were sent out between January 1 thru present . Some Press Release sent this past year: Zine & Rosendahl Acknowledge Mayoral Veto in Pierce Settlement, Zine Requests Reconsideration of Pierce Settlement, Zine Seeks Answer from LAPD Regarding Upswing in Gang Violence, Zine Introduces Reward Seeking Info on Restaurant Robberies in SFV, Zine Requests \$50,000 Reward for Info on Tarzana Temple Hate Crime, Zine Introduces 2 Motions to Honor Military Service; Zine Denounces Remarks by Iranian President, just to name a few.

CRA PROJECTS: Streetscape/Public Improvements; Canoga Park: New street trees and furniture - 4 blocks; Repair/Replace sidewalks on Sherman Way between Topanga Cyn Blvd. and Canoga Avenue; Reconstruction of 2 deteriorated commercial alleys in Canoga Park; Fabrication and installation of entry signs for Canoga Park and Winnetka; Reseda: 2 traffic signals installed, enhanced crosswalks throughout business district, bus stop security lighting; Refurbishment of Sherman Way Medians and installation of 2 new medians; Canoga Park Facade and Signage Program-improvements on 30 storefronts along Owensmouth; Reseda Facade and Signage Program-improvements on 32 storefronts along Reseda Blvd. and Canoga Park Window Replacement Program-financial assistance to 30 businesses to replace graffiti/acid etching damage.





#### **CRA** (Continued from page 1)

**Economic Development:** Business Attraction and Retention Program-provides assistance to new and existing businesses. 4 new businesses have located in project area and 12 existing businesses are receiving assistance. **Catalytic Projects:** Reseda Theater-CRA purchased vacant deteriorated property for resale and rehabilitation; Canoga Park Library-CRA purchasing former library for disposition and adaptive reuse; Community has expressed strong preference for a restaurant at this site.; Canoga Park Parking Structure- performed a needs assessment, followed by possible financing and development of parking structure; Independence Shopping Center-partially financing rehabilitation of 21 storefronts in shopping center. The owner is matching funds on an approximately 1:2 basis; Reseda Parking Lot Rehabilitation Project-construction of major upgrades to 1.5 acre parking area in Reseda business district.

**NEW DEVELOPMENTS/CONSTRUCTION:** Warner Center Specific Plan Re-Study is fully funded. Currently we have a Specific Plan working group made up of representatives from the neighborhood council, the homeowners association, the business community, the development community, the Planning Department and DOT; Walnut Acres, ICO motion introduced to temporarily halt narrow split lots, flag lot adjustments, and oversized accessory dwelling units until a study can be done and suggestions made to help ensure the character of the community; **20600 Ventura Ave Tuscany at Woodland Hills** mixed use development will set aside 25% or 70 units for senior housing; Warner Center ICP 25% of new housing developments in Warner Center must be set aside for moderate income residents; Police Housing Motion A propsosal to use excess City land to develop affordable housing opportunities for beginning LAPD officers to promote police officers living in the City of Los Angeles and to add an incentive to attract and retain officers; Defeated Ahmanson Ranch project-became state park -Valley gate now opened; New West Valley Police Station now opened; New and renovated libraries: west Valley Regional; Encino/Tarzana, Woodland Hills, Canoga Park; Rehabilitation of Fallbrook Mall; Renovation of Westfield's Topanga Plaza and Promenade Mall; Integrity of single family home neighborhoods have been protected in Walnut Acres, Melody Acres, and what is emerging as Reseda Acres; Tierra Del Sol-138 unit rental housing development for low to very low income families. Project also provides on site job training and placement, child care and case management, a Charter School and home to the future Dennis P. Zine Community Center.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilman Zine donates his time as an LAPD Reserve Officer; Councilman Zine works with LAUSD School Police in providing training and information; In-Car Video Cameras, \$5 Million Pilot Program South Bureau; 77<sup>th</sup> Street Police Station, repairs; DROP, extension to April 30, 2012; Hotel/Motel Nuisance Ordinance; Mobil Data Terminals, donated 148; Photo Red Light, 32 intersections by 2007; Pocket Bike, illegal to ride on public property; Police Hiring & Efficiencies Trust Fund; Restaurant Robberies, Town Hall Meeting 12/11/06; Safe Surrender Awareness Campaign, city-wide; Safe Surrender AB1873, Unanimous Council Support; Street Racing, increased penalties; Tennie Pierce, Mayor vetoed \$2.7 Million settlement; Provided funds for Graffiti Task Force with WVLAPD; Cited Home Depot for not locking up spray paint; Created task force to clean up massage parlors in West Valley; Responsible, with City Attorney for Canoga Park Gang Injunction; Increased security at City Hall, post 9-11-installation of metal detectors; Increased reward for taggers from \$500-\$1000; Save Our Children Safety Fair-fingerprinting, DNA testing; Tagger IMAS arrested, rearrested, jailed and fined \$20,000 and Shut down Show Girls Strip Club in Reseda.

**NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS:** 11,342 Trimmed; 2,606 Stumps Removed; 614 Trees Planted; 306 Tree Removal; 781 Emergency Trees Down; 2,845 Emergency Tree Limbs Down; 103.03 miles of streets resurfaced; 74.652 miles of streets slurry sealed; 51.26 miles of sidewalks reconstructed; 30 50/50 Sidewalk Reconstruction Program; 3,288 Signs Removed; 2,000 Newrack Permits; 45 Newsracks Impounded; 516 Service Investigations Completed; 197 Building Material Permits; 53,920 cubic yards of illegally dumped debris removed; 16,209 streetlights repaired; Bridge widening projects completed or in design: Vanowen, Winnetka, Lindley, Saticoy, Reseda, Corbin, Mason, DeSoto, Tampa and Strathern.

**DONATIONS:** \$25,000 a year from personal salary to non profit organizations; \$20,000 to each of the Neighborhood Councils. **2006 - \$39,930 to date** to: Downed Officer Support Ride, Fernando Awards, Lanark Recreation Center, New Directions for Youth, Grateful Hearts - LAFD Fundraiser, Minority Outreach Symposium, Jewish Labor Committee, Guadalupe Community Center, West Valley PALS, Parkhill School, Domestics Violence Task Fund, Girl Scouts and various other organizations.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Warner Center Transit Hub; East/West Busway (Orange Line)-secured parking lot completed; Provides free buses to senior citizen groups and children's groups for field trips; Provided free beach bus to transport Valley residents to the beach during summer months; 124 speed humps installed at 49 locations; 31 stop signs, 1 Smart Crosswalk, 3 traffic signal installed-an additional signal and Smart Crosswalk are in design. **(Continued on Page 10)** 



## JONATHAN BRAND CHIEF PLANNING DEPUTY

## **Unique Communities in CD 3 Deserve Preservation**

The historic roots of the San Fernando Valley are agricultural. Post-war suburbanization transformed the landscape subdivision by subdivision into the communities that we have today. However, several of these subdivisions incorporated residential and semi-rural and agricultural characteristics and are still around today. These areas are zoned "RA Suburban" and comprise Melody Acres in Tarzana. Reseda Ranch in Reseda, and Walnut Acres in Woodland Hills.

Our RA communities are very special in that they are characterized by large and wide lots. The minimum square footage is17,500 square feet (20,000 square feet for Melody Acres) and the minimum width along the street is 70 feet. Large and private backvards, wooded landscape, and rustic streets without curb, gutters, and limited street lighting characterize these communities. In these areas certain agricultural uses are allowed that are not permitted in higher density zones. The keeping of horses, poultry, and other domestic livestock other than pigs are allowed in the zone

so long as the animals and the structures that house them are permitted and that these structures maintain a certain distance from living quarters. Long-time residents love living in these communities and newcomers purchase homes here to enjoy the amenities that are only found in these areas.

Recently we have seen subdivision proposals that have asked to change the zone of a property to allow for higher density, proposals to flag lots to add a home to the rear of a property, proposals to subdivide a parcel without the minimum street frontage, and proposals to subdivide with less than the minimum square footage. All of these proposals require a discretionary action from the Planning Department. Increasing density above and beyond what is allowed by the zone designation is problematic for these communities in that they threaten the very characteristics that make them special like privacy, animal keeping opportunities, and a semirural look.

Councilman Dennis P. Zine is committed to the preservation of these last remaining RA Suburban zones and recommends denial to the Planning Department for requests that are not by-right or requests that require a zone change or general plan amendment. For Walnut Acres an Interim Control Ordinance has been proposed to temporarily disallow lot splits that require discretionary actions and to limit the size of guest homes that are sometimes only a few hundred square feet smaller than the main house. The community of Reseda Ranch is going through the process to officially designate the name of their community to Reseda Ranch. This name designation will help signify that Reseda Ranch is a unique area and that zone changes of its larger parcels are not appropriate. Melody Acres has footnotes to the Tarzana/Encino Community plan that limit the minimum lot size to 20,000 square feet and recommend the waiver of street improvements to preserve the rustic look of the street.



## OCTAVIANO RIOS, FIELD DEPUTY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF WINNETKA & WOODLAND HILLS

## Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Woodland Hills

# Opening Gala Benefit

**Nordrstrom's Grand** 

Councilman Dennis P. Zine attended Nordstrom Topanga's Grand Reopening Benefit in October to recognize and support their efforts in raising over \$170,000 for two Los Angeles nonprofits, Shane's Inspiration and Childhelp.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine presents a certificate to Pete Nordstrom and Marcille Hughes, Store Manager at the Nordstrom Grand Opening Gala.

The Nordstrom Family and Nordstrom's leadership was present at this exceptional event including Erik Nordstrom, Blake Nordstrom, Jamie Nordstrom, Peter Nordstrom, Regional Manager Rick Hernandez, and Store Manager Marcille Hughes.

Councilman Zine and the City of Los Angeles give their most sincere praise for Nordstrom's generosity and commitment to our communities. Thank you for being a part of our community for more than 20 years! This year marks the 20th year that Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Woodland Hills has been serving our communities! Councilman Zine showed his support for their service by presenting Kaiser Permanente's leadership a huge resolution and certificate recognizing all of Kaiser Permanente's contributions to the San Fernando Valley. Also, we extend our gratitude for all of those who shared your company at the 20th Anniversary Time Capsule Ceremony including DA of Orthopedics **Dusty Behrman, Area Medical Director Shirley Suda, Director** of Hospital Operations Cathy Casas, Medical Group Administrator Linda St. Clair, Dietician Ming Ying, Nurse Anesthetist Carol Hammill, Chaplain Fred Martin, Community and Government Relations Manager Susan Ng, and Senior Communications Specialist Sherry Crosby. Thank you Kaiser Permanente Medical Center for your commitment to the community!

## Valley Cultural Center's 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Gala

The Valley Cultural Center turned 31 years old this year and in October it celebrated with the 50's themed 2006 Annual Gala at the Marriott Hotel in Woodland Hills. Congratulations to Rose Goldwater who was presented with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clyde Porter Humanitarian Award and to Les Sumpter who received the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golden Horn Award. Both individuals have contributed significantly to our communities and we are fortunate and grateful to have them be a part of them. Happy Birthday Valley Cultural Center!

## **Third District Shopping**

The holiday season is here and Councilman Dennis P. Zine would like everyone to have a safe shopping experience. Councilman Zine and the Los Angeles Police Department would like to recommend to shoppers the following safety tips:

• Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.

- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry and carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.

• Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded areas.

• When using an ATM, choose one that is located inside a police station, mall, or well-lighted location.

• Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

• If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area and avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.

• Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car, lock it in the trunk. This creates a temptation for thieves.

• Teach your child to go to a store clerk and ask for help in case your child is separated from you.



## Reseda Post Office Dedication- Coach John Wooden

From Westwood to Reseda, many fans, UCLA cheerleaders and mascot, UCLA alumni, stamp collectors, elected officials and the local Reseda community came out to celebrate the Reseda Post Office dedication to Coach John Wooden on October 14, 2006.



UCLA Coach John Wooden, Congressman Sherman, Assemblymember Levine, Supervisor Yaroslavsky, the UCLA Cheerleaders and Mascot at the dedication of the John Wooden Post Office in Reseda.

Congressman Brad Sherman led the dedication efforts by drafting the legislation and having it signed by President George W. Bush back in August 2006. Once the legislation was approved, preparations got underway for the dedication ceremony. The Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency, West Valley Region worked with the United States Post Office to give the tired looking building a well deserved facelift.

October 14, 2006 was truly a special day as it was also Coach

## IRMA POMPOSO, FIELD DEPUTY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF CANOGA PARK & RESEDA

John Wooden's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Congressman Sherman, Assemblymember Levine, Supervisor Yaroslavsky, and current and past UCLA coaches and players were in attendance to pay tribute to this legendary individual. Coach John Wooden's family, including his daughter Nancy Muehlhausen who lives in Reseda, came out to celebrate yet another one of Coach's accomplishments.

Unfortunately, Councilman Dennis P. Zine was out of the country during this celebration but the City of Los Angeles declared October 14, 2006 Coach John Wooden Day. Congratulations Coach!



Erick Klafter, Sr. GM, Larry Green, Sr. VP Development, Peter Lowy, CEO, Mayor Villaraigosa, Councilman Dennis P. Zine, and Ken Wong, President of Westfields Topanga Mall at the ribbon cutting of the Grand Opening.

## Westfield Topanga Grand Opening

Have you been to the mall yet? On October 6, 2006 Councilman Dennis P. Zine along with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa celebrated the much anticipated grand opening of the Westfield Topanga Mall. The celebration kicked off with a VIP breakfast and we were pleased to see so many community members including the Canoga Park/West Hills Chamber and the Woodland Hills Chamber enjoying some delicious mimosas and eggs benedict. At around 9:30am the program kicked off with Peter Lowy, CEO Westfield, expressing his excitement to see the community's support of this project. Mayor Villaraigosa applauded Westfield's efforts of being a good corporate citizen while Councilman Dennis P. Zine commended Westfield's commitment to the community by creating over 3,500 retail and construction jobs.



Ken Wong, Mayor Villaraigosa, Peter Lowy, Councilman Dennis P. Zine and Larry Green at Westfields Topanga Ribbon Cutting.

Just before the spectacular finale which included a curtain drop and confetti celebration, Councilman Dennis Zine and the City of Los Angeles presented Westfield Topanga with a certificate of recognition!



## JENNIFER LOZANO, FIELD DEPUTY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TARZANA & WEST HILLS

### 2006 WEST HILLS FALL FEST

On Sunday, October 8, 2006 the Canoga Park West Hills Chamber of Commerce had their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Hills Fall Fest. The West Hills Fall Fest is a business expo, health fair and community festival that promotes local business and community involvement in the West Hills community.



Jennifer Lozano, Field Deputy for Councilman Dennis P. Zine presents a certificate to Chuck & Grace Gremer for their had work to the West Hills community since 1965.

The event was a huge success and doubled its attendance from the previous years thanks to all of the sponsors which included, Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Canoga Park West Hills Chamber, West Hills Neighborhood Council, CRA/LA, Daily News, A-Line Messenger Service, Fields Market, Hometown Buffet, Trader Joe's, and Valley of the Stars.

The West Hills Fall Fest had special performances, delectable treats, and plenty of fun activities for the children. JKD Premier Martial Arts, Cleveland High School Jazz Band, West Valley Music All Stars, Golden Performing Arts Center, Cutting Edge Karate, Guadelupe Folklorico, and El Camino Marching Band provided some of the entertainment, while local vendors including Corn Cobbler, It's in the Sauce, Hawaiian Delight, and Quiznos provided tasty treats for everyone to enjoy.



LAPD & LAFD helping to keep all who attended the West Hills Fall Fest safe.



Some of the artists demonstrating their skills at chalk art.

I had the honor to represent Councilman Zine at this wonderful event, in addition to presenting Charles and Grace Gremer a certificate thanking them for their hard work and dedication to the West Hills Community since 1965. The Gremer's have worked very hard over the years to make West Hills a great community to live, work, and play. They truly exemplify the character of the West Hills Community.

This is a fun filled event that everyone can enjoy. Hope to see you next year!

## 2006 TARZANA EMERGENCY RESOURCE NETWORK

During the month of December several Emergency Preparedness Kits will be given away by the Tarzana Neighborhood Council. Be sure to pick up your free kit at the next Tarzana Neighborhood Council meeting or by coming to our District Office located at 19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda.

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

It has come to our attention that motorist driving on Reseda Street, south of Ventura Boulevard are using the bike lane to pass other motorists. Please note that is not only illegal, but is very dangerous to those who are using the bike lane for recreational use. Just as a friendly reminder, please be courteous to pedestrians and other motorists. Thank you for keeping the 3rd District a safe environment.



BRIAN PERRY CHIEF LEGISLATIVE DEPUTY



## TRACEY CHAVIRA LEGISLATIVE DEPUTY

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: AGENDAS, RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS\_

Councilmember Zine continues to protect children and improve public safety by supporting the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission's program establishing safe child custody exchange sites.

The Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission initiated a program establishing safe child custody exchange sites around the County in law enforcement facilities where parents in potentially violent relationships can safely meet to exchange their children for visitation purposes.

The program started this year with the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Office making available in two of its stations a room where volunteers or nonprofit personnel can meet to receive the first parent with the child/children, make sure the court papers are in order about the visitation exchange, hold the child there until the other parent arrives, then releasing the child to that parent, again after validating that all is in order.

The point is to have a secure area monitored by a responsible agency to avoid the violent attacks that continue to occur between separated or divorced parents. In several incidents over the last four years, deaths have occurred at such exchanges. This safe exchange program offers some hope to stop this violence.

There is a strong need for one or more police stations in the City of Los Angeles where such exchanges can occur. The Sheriff's Office is providing space in its stations in Temple City and Carson. Culver City is considering offering a room in its police station. The need is particularly strong in the San Fernando Valley.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. This is a simple step that the City can take at no out of pocket cost to it to prevent a child from experiencing the undue trauma of witnessing their parents verbally or physically confronting one another during pick-ups or drop-offs for child visitation," said Councilmember Zine.

The City would not be responsible for providing any personnel to run the exchange, just to provide a room in a police station where a community based organization can monitor the exchange.

The safe child custody exchange program is funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women. Councilmember Zine has been a member of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission since

# **Community Meetings & Events Calendar**

# **Canoga Park:**

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm held at Canoga Park Community Center: 7248 Owensmouth Avenue, Canoga Park, 91303 (818) 756-9628.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Canoga Park Community Center: 7248 Owensmouth Avenue, Canoga Park, 91303 for Senior Lead Officer Patron (818) 731-2583 and 3rd Tuesday of the month (South Canoga Park) at 7pm at the Valley village Center: 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka, 91306 for Senior Lead Officer Zumstein (818) 374-7634.

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 am at Hometown Buffet: 6705 No. Fallbrook Avenue, Canoga Park, 91307 (818) 884-9906.

## **Reseda:**

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Canoas Banquet Hall: 18136 Sherman Way, Reseda, 91335 (818) 832-7540.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the West Valley Police Station: 19020 Vanowen Street, Reseda, 91335 Senior Lead Officer Jody McGee (818) 374-7635 & Senior Lead Officer Rygh (818) 374-2851.

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30 am at the American Legion: 7338 Canby Avenue, Reseda, 91335 (818) 345-1920.

## Tarzana:

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Tarzana Elementary School: 5726 Topeka Drive, Tarzana, 91356 (818) 345-1966

**Neighborhood Watch Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the West Valley Police Station: 19020 Vanowen Street, Reseda, 91335 **Senior Lead Officer Trulick (818) 374-7637.** 

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 am (please contact the Chamber for location) (818) 343-3687 or visit there website at www.tarzanachamber.com

**Property Owners Association:** 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Tarzana Community & Cultural Center: 19130 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, 91356 (818) 344-2137.

# **Community Meetings & Events Calendar**

## West Hills:

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm and 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm, both at the 911 Control Center: 23001 Roscoe Blvd. across from Fire Station 106, West Hills, 91304 (818) 719-8656.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Pomelo Elementary School: 7633 March Avenue, West Hills, 91304. Senior Lead Officer \Vanderburgh (818) 374-7632

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 am at Hometown Buffet: 6705 No. Fallbrook Avenue, Canoga Park, 91307 (818) 884-9906.

## Winnetka:

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Valley Village: 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka, 91306 (818) 648-6219.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at ABGU Demirdjian School Auditorium: 6844 Oakdale Avenue, Winnetka, 91306 for Senior Lead Officer Raigoza (818) 374-7631 and the 3rd Tuesday of the month (West Winnekta) at Valley Village: 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka, 91306 for Senior Lead Officer Zumstein (818) 374-7634.

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Canoga Park Bowl: 20122 Vanowen Street, Winnetka, 91306.

# **Woodland Hills:**

**Neighborhood Council Meeting:** 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Parkman Middle School-Auditorium: 20800 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, 91367.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Woodland Hills
Library: 22200 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, 91367 Senior Lead Officer Jackson
(818) 374-7638.

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** last Thursday of the month at 7:30 am at the Chamber Office: 20121 Ventura Blvd., Suite 309, Woodland Hills, 91367 (818) 347-4737.



Dia De Los Muertos Festival Written by Irma Pomposo, Field Deputy Serving the communities of Canoga Park & Reseda

Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead is a celebration of life and not death as the name states. This tradition dates back to Pre-Hispanic times when the Aztecs viewed death as a transition to higher form rather than simply an end of existence. In modern times, Mexicans as well as other Latinos celebrate Dia de los Muertos as a way of commemorating the dead.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine honors the Community Re-Development Agency, Charlotte Brimmer, Vickie Gilkey, Dan Kahn, Cecila Estolano, CEO and Leslie Lambert.



Aztec dancers perform for the crowd at the Dia de Los Muertos Festival.

On November 5, 2006, Sherman Way from Canoga Avenue to Jordan Avenue was closed to give way to the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dia de los Muertos Festival. Councilman Dennis P. Zine along with Councilman Tony Cardenas kicked off the day's festivities and welcomed the West Valley community to this celebration of diversity. Congressman Brad Sherman and Assemblymember Cindy Montanez also showed their support by making a special appearance. The day's events included the ever popular chalk festival, car show, children's art pavilion, altars, international foods and live entertainment. More than 15, 000 enjoyed this year's festivities and as expected this event was a total success. We look forward to celebrating next year's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Dia de los Muertos Festival!



Councilman Dennis P. Zine honors Karen Constine, General Manager for the Cultural Affairs Department,.

## COUNCILMAN ZINE'S 2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS LIST

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Assisted Canoga Park Community in winning the 2005 All-American City Award; Helped secure 5 full Valley Council seats as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Redistricting; Constituent Satisfaction Survey sent to all complainants; Arranged for 1,200 trees donated to schools for Arbor Day and Flagpole dedication at Warner Center Park in remembrance of 9-11 heros and more than 300 POSSE members-including a Spanish Speaking POSSE.

**<u>PUBLICATIONS/OUTREACH</u>**: Bi-Monthly Newsletter-Zine Line; Monthly Call-In TV Talk Show-Prime-Time Zine; Monthly news blasts to targeted neighborhoods on issues affecting them; New Homeowners Guide sent to all new homeowners in District and New Business Owners Guide sent to all new businesses in District.

**EVENTS SPONSORED OR CO-SPONSORED:** Free 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks display at Warner Center Park; 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grateful Hearts LAFD Fundraiser; Dia De Los Muertos; Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade; Concerts in the Park; Annual Z Awardshonoring outstanding Public Safety personnel.

**<u>NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS</u>**: Each community in the Third District has an active Neighborhood Council—Tarzana, Woodland Hills, Reseda, West Hills, Canoga Park and Winnetka.

#### (Continued from Page 2)

## **POSSE Members Clean-up their Neighborhoods**

On Sunday, November 19, 2006, residents of the Third Council District joined Councilman Dennis P. Zine and staff for the annual POSSE picnic and detail. POSSE members met in the morning at the West Valley Municipal Building where they were assigned to target and canvas certain areas to cleanup. In two hours, we took down hundreds of illegally posted signs, reported dozens of abandoned vehicles, graffiti, illegally dumped items, overgrown weeds, and other blight in the community. As part of this effort, we were joined by officers from the Los Angeles Police Department, West Valley Division, as well as Officer Leland Tang from the California Highway Patrol. After a hard day's work, POSSE members enjoyed a delicious brunch at the Sagebrush Cantina with the Councilman and his staff.

The POSSE stands for People Organizing Safe, Secure Environments and consists of a group of residents who routinely go out into their neighborhoods to eliminate blight. Councilman Zine has currently trained more than three hundred members in reporting quality of life issues. We encourage everyone to join. If you are interested in joining the POSSE, please contact Marisol Espinoza, District Director at (818) 756-8848.



Nancy Sweeney and Bob Green show off many of the illegal signs they removed from their neighborhoods.



As a big "Thank You" for a hard days work, Councilman Zine treated his POSSE members to brunch at the Sagebrush Cantina.

# 311

## Make One Call To City Hall

Residents may access information and any non-emergency service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The 311 call center is equipped to serve the hearing impaired and information is available in more than 150 languages.



## Parallax Forum Featuring



Join Councilman Dennis P. Zine on Parallax Forum Live Call In Program Hosted by Lee Kanon Alpert, 1st Thursday of every month at 8 PM Channel 37 on Time Warner Cable Television. Viewers can dial 818-773-0654 and speak directly to Councilman Dennis P. Zine "Live" on the air.

## THANK YOU, DANK U, MERCI, DANKE, GRAZIE, OBRIGADO, GRACIAS

As many of you know, I am the only Los Angeles City Councilmember who voted "NO" on the settlement of \$2.7 Million for the Los Angeles Fire Fighter Tennie Pierce. I have received hundreds of letters, e-mails and phone calls thanking me for doing so. I am only able to list a few of the messages and names of those who have thanked me for my vote. I send each and every one of you my most sincere "Thank You" for all of your kind and encouraging words.

Thank you for voting NO on the ridiculous Tennie Pierce settlement. You are truly looking out for the citizens of Los Angeles which is seemingly a lonely job as everyone else was ready to roll over until the Mayor stepped in. Thanks for the great job. We need more council members like you who are not inclined to rubber stamp multi-million dollar settlement but want that pesky stuff called evidence! **Shannon Cornay.** 

Dear Mr. Zine, Thank you for voting against settlement with the firefighter who sued the city over a prank. However, it is appalling that you are the only councilmember that knows right from wrong. There are so many innocent victims in our city most of which never receive any money for the crimes committed against them. I can not say that I enjoy living in the San Fernando Valley as I am from the west side but I am proud to know I live in a city where my councilmember votes his conscience. Sincerely, **Keri Ligerman**.

Kudos. The problem that I have with this type harassment case in general is that formerly all male bastions are subject to tasteless sophomoric antics as men do not grow out of junior high. If the rules against such behavior are enforced then that should be the end of it. Maybe stronger consequences such as being fired, but then you will have employment lawyers protesting and filing suits based on being too strict and the taking away earnings ability. The bottom line is that as a man you have to have the understanding that your fellow men are going to behave like asses. If you can not stand the heat then maybe being a fireman is not for you. **Norman Moore.** 

Dennis, Great job in standing up for what is right! I agree with Bill Handel this morning...you are the best thing that the City of L.A. Council has going for it! **Tori Robinson.** 

Like countless numbers of citizens of the City of Los Angeles, I applaud you for taking a righteous stand against the idiotic \$2.7 million settlement between Tennie Pierce and the City of Los Angeles. I often listen to KABC-Talkradio and KFI-AM and agree with your viewpoints and opinions. I think the next step is impeachment and/or firing of the L.A. City Attorney. Clearly, there must be some hanky panky between him and Genie Harrison, Pierce's attorney. I'll bet that the L.A. City Attorney was going to get a \$700,000 cut of the settlement underneath the table. I think the FBI should be called in to investigate. I just cannot believe that a majority of your fellow councilpersons had agreed to this crazy \$2.7 million dollars deal. Hell, I will eat some ALPO if the City gives me \$2.7 million dollars. It would be much better that the \$50,000/\$25,000 one would get for eating bugs, intestines and eyeballs in FEAR FACTOR. So, if you can, please inform the City Attorney that I am willing to have a little of ALPO if I can receive a \$2.7 million check from the City. Thanks, Councilman Zine, for watching our back. I hope you will consider higher political office in the future. I don't think the L.A. City Attorney has the brain or knowledge to defend the City against this silly law suit. Because of my workplace, I know some of the best and superb leading defense firms. If you need a recommendation, please free feel to contact me... Sincerely, **Bailey Chin.** 

I continue to be pleased with Councilman Zine's efforts on behalf of his constituents--this action being just one. I've been listening to his interviews on KABC on "McIntyre in the Morning" and believe he does us a great service by being the voice of reason on the city council. I appreciate his accessibility and his common-sense approach! At least the council will reconsider their actions on the current fireman lawsuit... what a travesty for the council to have reneged on their fiscal responsibility! Kudos, Mr. Z! **Peggy Tutone** 

## THANK YOU, DANK U, MERCI, DANKE, GRAZIE, OBRIGADO, GRACIAS

Hello Sir, I saw you on the news as the only person to vote against this stupid payout. We the hard working taxpayers of L.A. do not want our money wasted on a guy who is clearly abusing the system using race as an issue. He is a big guy who should be able to take a joke amongst his fellow firemen. My fellow friends serving in Iraq are facing real dangers. This 2.7 million should be spent on the thousands of soldiers from LA. Who's family needs assistance with their house and education. Many of us are tired of seeing all these different groups cry wolf over every little incident. When there is real racism or discrimination then it should be dealt with to the extent of the law. With every phony claim like this, no one will take any of these claims seriously anymore. Please on the behalf of the hard working taxpayers of L.A.. Who have to be stuck in two hours of traffic all day please vigorously oppose all these fake claims of discrimination. Do not back down to the scare tactics of these groups who claim to be standing up for our civil rights when they could care less about us. Thank you again for being the only person on the Council to stand up for the people of L.A. I and my neighbors will remember you in the next election. **Don Tran.** 

Dear Councilman Zine, After reading the many reports about Firefighter Pierce's brief settlement with the City of Los Angeles, it occurs to me that a terrible tragedy has occurred. You have been forced to work with a collection idiots and have the unenviable task of trying to talk sense to them. Thanks for standing up for what you believed to be right, for seeing the bigger picture and larger pattern (that a rather stupid prank had been perpetrated by a bunch of juveniles on someone who wasn't above the fray himself) and for looking out for the taxpayer. Too bad we can't find more people with your level of intelligence to do the jobs of the other council members. Good luck with your larger mission; I really do applaud your efforts. For better or worse, a few of us are watching. Best regards, **Patrick Brady**.

Regarding Fireman Pierce, thank goodness for your wisdom and common sense in such an absurd situation. It's hard to believe that something like this could go so far. **Rick Coleson.** 

Thank you for being the ONLY city councilman with sense enough to vote against the absurdity of giving away 2.7 million dollars of public money for the dog food prank. I don't know how you serve with other council members who are apparently bankrupt of responsibility and common sense. Please keep it up. **Silvia Brown.** 

Although I don't live in your district I would like to thank you for having the perserverence to be the only member of the city council to vote against the 2.7 millions dollar settlement awarded last week. Your common sense and will-ingness to stand up for what is right should be commended. Thank you again, **Dion Gazzaruso**.

You are the man! Thank you, thank you, thank you for a glimpse of sensibility on the hill. I heard you on Larry Elder and appreciate your simple common sense and willingness to do what's right. Far to uncommon. Please do me a favor and rub some shoulders with your fellow colleagues; I can only hope that your common sense and obligation to do the right thing for the people rubs off on them. **Jason Hanakeawe.** 

Robert Frazier, Albert Drouin, Earl Harbeson, Juan Carlos-Reyes, Marty Marino, Doug Aitken, James E. Blancarte, Ken Benson, Eric Cooper, Beverly Buss, John Walker, Elaine Jepson, Maureen Blatt, Michael Cervantes-Watson, Peggy Tutone, Kevin Vilensky, Charles Silverman, Michael Graham, Denis Cremins, Cindy Ommen, Pat & Don Voorheis, Boris Yaro, Dustin Troyan, Robert Kotler, Anthony Pichette, Lois Tannenbaum, Shirley Tagliere, Marlene Widawer, David Nunes, Robert Modell, Laurene Lehman, Kevin Kearns, Shelley Szpak, Sandra Stonehill, Matt Core, Lars Lovell, Laurie Juardo, Chuck Colvin, Robert Scott, Tanya Schneider, Robert Guevara, David Sears, Kevin Johnston, Eileen Johnson, J. Petralia, Laurence Brown, Donna Martin, Joyce Romano, Tiffany Wardzinski, Norma DAndrea, Karen Johnson, Tim Rapent, Peter Nichol, Leonard Skaist and many others who were brave enough to speak their minds. Contact Us! We love the emails we receive from you and would like to hear from you more.

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## Our Website Has Been Updated! Check It Out at: www.lacity.org/council/cd3

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#### **Committee Assignments:**

Chair: Vice-Chair:	Personnel Committee Audits and Governmental Efficiency
Member:	Public Safety
Member:	Rules & Elections
Member:	Executive Employee Relations Committee
Member:	National League of Cities-Board Member, Chair
	Immigration Task Force , Public Safety—Crime Prevention
	Steering Committee
President:	Independent Cities Association - (2006-2007)
Member:	Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC)
Officer:	LAPD-Line Reserve Officer-Fugitive Warrant Detail
Sergeant:	LAUSD—Reserve Motorcycle Sergeant
Member:	League of California Cities (LCC)
President:	Jewish Home of the Aging (JHA)
Member:	Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)





Councilman Dennis P. Zine, his Legislative Deputy Tracey Chavira with Assemblymenber Alberto Torrico of the 20th District.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Councilmembers Zine, Greuel and La Bonge with Michael Wilson, Consul General of Canada.



Councilmembers Dennis P. Zine and Greig Smith honor members of the Hope Unit Foundation in Council Chambers.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine with Rabbi Shlomo Moshe Amar from an Israel Delegation.



Yvette Whitaker, District Office Manager for Councilman Dennis P. Zine holds the moon in her hands at the Griffith Park Observatory. Councilman Zine took 200 of his constituents on a tour prior to the Observatory Grand Opening.



Councilmembers Zine, Hahn, Parks, La Bonge and Wesson with Consuella Mackey, the newly appointed Commissioner on Disability.





Councilman Dennis P. Zine honors the Magnolia Science Academy's Zarathustra "Zeb" Brady. The 11th grader won the Gold Medal at the 47th International Mathematics Olympaid 2006 held in Slovenia.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine honors Denise Leader-Stoeber of the Madrid Theatre in Canoga Park during L. A. Music Week.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine with on air personality Patty "Long Legs" Lopez for Movin 93.9 Radio.



Councilmembers Zine and Cardenas honor Noelia during Deaf Awareness month in City Council.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine and LAFD Station 84 accept teddy bears from Kaiser Hospital for trauma victims..



Councilman Dennis P. Zine with Rick Dees on air personality for Movin 93.9 Radio