



COUNCILMEMBER ENGLANDER'S E-NEWS



Nov. 18, 2011

www.CD12.org

RECENT LEGISLATION

Working to Improve City Street Repair Work...



Working to Improve the Quality of Street Repairs

We introduced a motion on Wednesday, Nov. 16 calling for better enforcement of the City's quality standards on road repair work done by private contractors. Every year, the City issues over 10,000 permits for utility installation and repairs on the public right of way, and many of them involve removing and repaving large sections of City streets.

Although the City must be notified before the work is done, and the work must be inspected to ensure it is up to traffic safety and quality control standards, that is often not the case. The road repairs are often not up to standards and that compromises the

integrity and safety of the streets.

Similar problems involving sewer construction have been mitigated by raising bonding requirements and tightening oversight of contractors. The motion calls for the Bureau of Contract Administration and the Bureau of Engineering to report to the Public Works Committee with recommendations on similar solutions to ensure that all street repairs are up to the City's standards.

Supporting Efforts to Mitigate Odors Problems at Sunshine Canyon Landfill...

We introduced a resolution this



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week in support of the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) petition to amend the stipulated order of abatement between the AQMD and Republic/BFI in response to the hundreds of verified odor complaints received concerning the Sunshine Canyon Landfill.

[Click here to see the full resolution.](#)

The petition requires that many improvements be made to the landfill's gas collection and flaring systems and requires an onsite independent environmental monitor. The SCAQMD Hearing Board will convene in Granada Hills at the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Saturday, Dec. 3

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Valley Academy of Arts & Sciences

10445 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills

[Click here for a map.](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Come to the Holiday Toy Express and Support the Toy Drive for At-Risk Kids...



Get ready for the Holiday Toy Express, the Metrolink train covered in 50,000 colorful holiday lights, with animated displays, live entertainment, Santa and more, stopping at Chatsworth Depot Metrolink Station on Friday, Nov. 18.

Come enjoy a free holiday party with your whole family, and bring unwrapped, new toys to donate to the Devonshire PALS (Police Activity League) Youth Center and Spark of Love toy drive. All donated toys will go to struggling families in the community who may not be able to afford to buy

holiday gifts for their kids.

PALS offers valuable after-school programs to offer at-risk youth in our community positive alternatives to crime, gangs and drugs. Please visit www.devonshire-pals.org.

The festivities include live performances by the Woman's Quartet-from River Oaks Chorus, and the Chatsworth Hills Academy Glee Club, and free popcorn provided by Councilmember Mitchell Englander.

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UPCOMING EVEN

Sunday, Nov. 20
Concert at the Rancho

Come enjoy another evening of exotic music and culture at El Rancho Cordillera Del Norte. Mayan Mystique features Central American music, dance and artwo

Concert: 4 pm
Reception: 5 pm
El Rancho
Corner Wilbur Ave. &
Nordhoff St., Northridge

For information or
reservations call (818) 9
0396.



[311 Online](#)

In addition to calling :

We are co-sponsoring this great holiday event, together with the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council, Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council, Chatsworth/Porter Ranch Chamber of Commerce, the LAFD, LAPD and other local organizations.

Friday, Nov. 18

6:30 pm - festivities start

8:15 pm - train arrives

**Chatsworth Depot Metrolink Station
10046 Old Depot Plaza Rd., Chatsworth**
[Click here for a map.](#)

This is the only opportunity to see the train in the west San Fernando Valley, so don't miss out! For a full event schedule and listing of all the stops please go to www.metrolinktrains.com/holidayexpress.

Street Closure for Construction of Canoga Orange Line...

As part of the construction of the Canoga Ave. Orangeline busway extension, Nordhoff St. from Canoga Ave. to Deering Ave. will be closed Friday, November 18, 9:00 pm, until 6:00 am on Monday, Nov. 21.

Crews will remove the asphalt and place new Portland Cement Concrete and new asphalt concrete pavement on Nordhoff St. The closure will not affect north-south traffic along Canoga Ave.



Metro's Orange Line Extension on Canoga Ave. is progressing rapidly. The 4-mile dedicated busway will run from the Chatsworth Depot Metrolink Station to the endpoint of the Orange Line dedicated busway at Warner Center in Woodland Hills, providing a vital mass transit link to the residents and businesses of the Northwest Valley.

For more information, call Metro Community Relations at (213) 922-3668 or (818) 701-2827 or email molextension@metro.net or visit www.metro.net/projects/orangeline.

Help Provide Thanksgiving Dinners to Struggling

to report problems or request services, you use 311 online.

Visit <http://tiny.cc/311LAC> and find the appropriate service.

ONGOING

Help Care for Animals Shelters - Operation Blankets of Love

With winter upon us, it's great time to support the efforts of Operation Blankets of Love, a San Fernando Valley-based non-profit organization that provides blankets to help keep animals in shelters warm and comfortable.

Drop off donated blankets, towels, pet beds and other pet items! at Pet People located at 18040 Chatsworth St. in Granada Hills.

For more information, call Brad Smulson (818) 406-6584 or [click here](#).

Neighborhood Public Safety, Crime, and Emergency Information Updates from LAPD's NIXLE

The LAPD offers a free service that allows L.A. residents to sign up to receive messages directly from the LA Police Department. The LAPD uses NIXLE to send updates on crime trends and public safety/crime

Families...



Join CD 12 and North Valley Family YMCA to Give Free Thanksgiving Dinners to Struggling Families

Councilmember Mitchell Englander and the entire CD 12 staff are volunteering on Monday, Nov. 21 to help North Valley Family YMCA distribute 1,000 Thanksgiving dinners to struggling families. You can be part of this wonderful annual effort by the YMCA by volunteering or donating food or money.

Turkey Donation Challenge!

Councilmember Englander is donating \$1,000 to the Thanksgiving dinner program, and will donate an additional \$5 for every **whole turkey** donated by an individual. So bring a turkey to donate to the YMCA and help us give even more to this wonderful event!

Each year, the North Valley Family YMCA distributes baskets with a

turkey and all the fixings so that a family can have their own complete Thanksgiving dinner at home. It is hard to express how important it is for a family that is barely able to keep afloat during these tough economic times to be able to provide their kids with a Thanksgiving dinner.

The YMCA needs donations of frozen turkeys, \$10 gift certificates for Ralph's or Food 4 Less and donations of canned cranberries, pumpkin, green beans, gravy, boxed mashed potatoes and other Thanksgiving food items. Monetary donations are always welcome.

You can drop off a check made out to "YMCA" or food items at the YMCA Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 10:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, or Sunday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Checks can also be mailed to Sisy Sagastume, North Valley Family YMCA, 11336 Corbin Ave., Porter Ranch CA 91326.

Volunteers are also needed for Saturday, Nov. 19 and Sunday, Nov. 20 to help prepare the baskets.

To sign up, donate, or for more information, please call Sisy Sagastume at the North Valley Family YMCA at (818) 368-3231 ext. 2304.

Encino Farmers' Market Open Through Winter...

Come shop for farm fresh produce, delicious prepared food and arts and crafts every Sunday at the Encino Farmers' Market.

Many farmers' markets are closed during the winter, but Encino Farmers' Market stays open year



prevention tips. It also uses NIXLE to provide crucial information to the public in case of emergencies or disasters.

Residents can sign up to receive updates directly toward one or more specific neighborhoods, and can receive it by text message on their phone, or by email. To sign up or learn more, visit www.NIXLE.com.

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CHAMBERS OF

round, so you can find those delicious items that are in season during the winter, such as mushrooms, clementines, root vegetables, brussel sprouts and cauliflower.

Every Sunday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm
ONEGeneration Center
17400 Victory Blvd., Lake Balboa

This certified farmers' market features a wide variety of California grown fruits, vegetables, fresh flowers, eggs and chicken, honey, mushrooms, plants, and more! Every other Sunday you can have your knives sharpened, which will help your fine cutlery last a lifetime.

To find more farmers markets in your neighborhood, visit the California Federation of Certified Farmers' Markets [online farmers' market finder](#).

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Honoring City Attorney Unit that Defends Police in Lawsuits and Saves Millions in Taxpayer Dollars...



We were proud to present commendations to the City Attorney's Civil Litigation Unit in City Council, in recognition of 20 years of service to the City of Los Angeles. We were joined by City Attorney Carmen Trutanich.



The unit was formed in 1991 by then Chief of Police Daryl Gates and City Attorney James Hahn in order to defend the men and women of the LAPD involved in civil litigation arising from police incidents. On average, the Unit carries a case load of up to 200 civil cases at any given time and has represented thousands of Police Officers in civil lawsuits.

The Unit has a track record of winning 84% of all of their trial cases, and has saved the taxpayers of Los Angeles millions of dollars every year. They are one of the leading litigation units in the nation and they set the standards that other American law enforcement agencies strive to meet.

Council Member Englander, joined by City Attorney Carmen Trutanich, honoring 20 years of outstanding work by the City Attorney's Civil Litigation Unit, in the City Council meeting.

Street Sign Congratulating Granada Hills Charter High for Winning the 2011 National Academic Decathlon Championships...

I was proud to unveil a street sign on Thursday, Nov. 17 congratulating Granada Hills Charter High School on winning the 2011 National Academic Decathlon Championships. I was joined by school Executive Director Brian Bauer, the Academic Decathlon Team members, and over 100 students, teachers and parents.



Councilmember Englander joined by Executive Director Brian Bauer, team coaches and a team member, were hoisted up in a cherry picker to unveil the sign.

It's a proud day when we can say that a school in our community is the best in America. The achievements of these amazing students is truly inspiring. To see our photo album from the event, visit our [photo galleries page](#).

Congratulations!

Join Operation Gratitude and Help Support Our Troops Overseas During the Holidays...



There are only three more Holiday Assembly Days so come join Operation Gratitude and help assemble care packages to send to US troops serving overseas. The next assembly day is on Friday, Nov. 25

Friday, Nov. 25
Saturday, Nov. 26
Saturday, Dec. 17
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Operation Gratitude
National Guard Armory
17330 Victory Blvd., Van Nuys

Operation Gratitude is a San Fernando Valley-based non-profit that organizes volunteers and donors to put together care packages to ship to our troops serving overseas to

offer them support and comforts from home. The care packages include everything from toiletries and snacks to books and letters of support.

Please RSVP to Volunteer Coordinator Penny Alfonso by sending an email to opgratvolunteer1@yahoo.com with "Operation Gratitude Volunteer" in the subject line.

Festival of Trees...

Don't miss Northridge Hospital Foundation's Festival of Trees, a three-day event where individuals and businesses can purchase, decorate, display and donate an artificial tree, wreath, centerpiece or handmade quilt for the Hospital's silent auction.

Enjoy live entertainment in the Magical Music Land with carolers, live bands and dance acts. Stop by Santa's Sweet Shop for hot cocoa, candy, fudge, cookies and other holiday treats.



The event raises funds to help Northridge Hospital purchase lifesaving equipment, technology and to support programs for the Richie Pediatric Trauma Center.

Opening Night

Thursday, Dec. 1

6:00 pm - Welcome & Reception

7:00 pm - Tree Lighting Ceremony & Silent Auction

21701 Prairie St., Chatsworth

Bid on exquisitely decorated trees, wreaths, centerpieces and quilts.

Tickets: \$25. \$15 presale before Friday, Nov. 18

For ticket sales information call (818) 885-5341 ext. 3

Festival Celebration

Friday, Dec. 2 & Saturday, Dec. 3

10:00 am to 9:00 pm

Entertainment & children's activities, auctions on festival items.

Tickets: Adults - \$5. Kids ages 3 to 12 - \$3. Free for kids under 2.

For more information, visit or call (818) 885-5341 ext. 3

REPORTS FROM OUR STAFF

CMTC Offering Free Assistance to Manufacturers in the San Fernando Valley...



Our Field Deputy Erik Richardson is also our office's business liaison. He regularly offers information and resources to businesses in our District as part of our overall effort to help local companies thrive, create jobs and boost the economy.

He reports this week on a highly valuable service offered to small manufacturers by California Manufacturing Technology Consulting (CMTC). CMTC is a non-profit corporation that has been providing free consulting to small manufacturers in Southern California since 1992. CMTC operates through a cooperative agreement between the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership of the National Institute of Standards and Technology under the Department of Commerce.

CMTC's Small Manufacturers Advantage Program offers expertise and leadership to help small manufacturers identify and solve their problems. Their experienced consultants go to hundreds of small manufacturers every year, work with them to identify issues using their Company Snapshot assessment tool. Then they provide an improvement plan that the company keeps, that they can use to build higher productivity and profits. To learn more about this program, [click here](#), call CMTC at (310) 263-3060 or email sma@cmtc.com.

For more information about CMTC's other programs, call (310) 263-3060 or email contact@cmtc.com. To sign up for CMTC's manufacturing email newsletter, [click here](#).

This message was sent to by:

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