The holidays are here! Santa arrives at Westfield Topanga Friday, November 12. He’ll be available for photos noon to 7 pm through December 24. Children can sit with Santa or do a socially distanced photo. Masks can be removed during photo capture. There will be two days for sensory Santa experiences for those with autism or special needs on December 5 and 12. Santa will be holding court in Level 1 near Target. For information visit westfield.com/topanga.

Dr. Dan Stepenosky, Superintendent of Los Virgenes Unified School District, was recognized last week by the Calabasas City Council for being named “Supervisor of the Year” by the Los Angeles County Office of Education. “Dr. Stepenosky is a leader in diversity, equity, and inclusion. His openness and transparency with his school community throughout the multi-year COVID-19 pandemic have provided information, direction, and support so others could do the same,” said Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Debra Duardo.

Diana Sanchez Wins Fernando Award

The Board of Directors of the Fernando Award Foundation announced Diana Sanchez as the recipient of the 63rd Annual Fernando Award. During Sanchez’s acceptance remarks, she said, “I’m honored and humbled to be selected as the Fernando Award recipient.” She also recognized her fellow finalists, shared her appreciation to her employer and dedicated the award to the memory of her late mother, late wife and to anyone who has fought cancer.

Sanchez is the Public & Community Relations Director for the Los Angeles World Airports-Van Nuys.
NOVEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CANOGA PARK: Canoga Park Women’s Club will hold a Holiday Boutique on Saturday, November 13, from 10 am to 3 pm. The boutique will feature unique gifts by local artists and crafters. It will be held at 7401 Jordan Avenue at Valerio. For more information call (818) 620-5345.

CALABASAS: The Ovarian Cancer Circle Inspired by Robin Babbini will hold a “Roxy’s Got Balls Drag Queen Bingo” on Sunday, November 21, at 6 pm. The fundraiser will fund research and programs for ovarian cancer. The event will be held at The Sagebrush Cantina, 23527 Calabasas Road. Tickets are $130 and available at theovariancancercircle.org/events.

WOODLAND HILLS: The Law Collaborative will offer a free telephone divorce workshop on Saturday, November 13, from 10 am to 12 noon. The event provides vital information to people who are considering or are involved in a divorce. The dial-in number is (609) 663-5450.

CALABASAS: Viewpoint’s Upper School Conservatory of Theater will present The Birds: A Modern Adaptation by Don Zolidis (based on Aristophanes’ play The Birds). The charming show is bookended by the hysterical antics of the rustics from A Midsummer Night’s Dream, with a delightful journey through mistaken identity, murder, love and war in between. The actors present comedy and pathos on November 19 and 20 at 7 pm and Sunday, November 21 at 2 pm. The event will be livestreamed from Viewpoint. Tickets are available at https://www.viewpoint.org/arts/performing-arts/theater-season.

NORTHRIDGE: Valley Jewish Community Center will hold a holiday boutique on Sunday, November 21, from 10 am to 3 pm. Vendors will be selling jewelry, gift baskets, home goods and Judaica items. Masks are required and attendees must show proof of vaccination upon entry. The event will be held at The Village at Northridge, 9222 Corbin Avenue. For more information email info@valleyjcc.org or visit valleyjcc.org.

COLLECTION EVENT FOR USED MOTOR OIL AND WATER-BASED PAINT

Saturday, November 13, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location: Calabasas City Hall (100 Civic Center Way)

Accepted Items: Used Oil, Oil Filters, Antifreeze, Automobile Batteries and Latex Paint

Please do not bring any oil-based paint, spray paints, any hazardous materials or business waste.
People in the News

Woodland Hills resident and longtime Rotarian Sheri Polak, above, was honored by Optimist Youth Services earlier this month. She received the 2021 Mentor Award for her more than 45 years of volunteering with never-ending love, care and devotion to the well being of the youth at Pacific Lodge Youth Services Home in Woodland Hills.

Pacific Lodge was founded in 1926 and originally housed young troubled boys who had committed a crime or whose families were falling apart.

Optimist Youth Services bought the home and most recently has used it as transitional housing for young girls escaping human trafficking.

Polak and other Rotarians have supported Pacific Lodge with fundraising, programming and donations. Polak was also instrumental in Rotary’s outreach program to Mexico’s Door of Faith orphanage and other charitable programs.

David Boito, above, a Woodland Hills resident and writer, has published his first novel. Valley Fliers was inspired by his frequent trips to the Apollo XI miniature airfield near Lake Balboa, west of the Van Nuys Airport. “I have always been captivated by the weekend warriors who religiously practice aerobatics at the park. I consider myself an avid spectator of the fly-ins and dogfights that these skilled pilots perform. They have a certain esprit and camaraderie that is admirable. I always thought it was the perfect setting for a film and it actually began as a film script.”

Boito studied film and creative writing at UCLA and his short stories have been featured in publications. His screenplays have been optioned by Revolution Studios and Solipsist Films. He has also written two full-length plays that have been staged. Valley Fliers is available at amazon.com.

Gary Powers, Jr., above, son of Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot shot down over Russia in May 1960, addressed a crowd at the Wings Over Wendy’s meeting November 8. Over 90 people were in attendance, many of whom knew and had worked with his father. Powers talked about growing up in the San Fernando Valley, losing his father at age 12, and not realizing the whole truth of his father’s USAF and CIA assignments for years. In 1998 a declassification conference revealed that his father’s mission was really a military operation. He turned from a disgraced spy to a military hero.

Powers spoke about his father’s mission, the filming of Bridge of Spies where he served as a technical consultant, and founding the Cold War Museum in Virginia. Powers sits on many museum boards and has published several books and articles on the subject of his father and the secret mission.

Congressman Brad Sherman

TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 2021
7:00 – 8:00 pm

A Telephone Town Hall operates like a large conference call, where you will hear Rep. Sherman’s opening remarks and then ask questions on any issue facing Congress.

To Participate call (855) 920-0548 any time during the Town Hall. RSVP at: BradSherman.house.gov/CVRRSVP
Word on the Street

The best thing about 2020? The traffic. Or rather, the lack thereof. Now, I don’t mind driving as long as we’re moving. But since we’re back to business, the 101 is a traffic jam, at least in the early morning and early evening. I was thinking about this last night when I was on my way to The Soraya theatre at CSUN. It’s great to have a venue right here in the valley where you can see top-rated talent.

We took Shoup all the way up to Roscoe, jogged over to Reseda and in no time we were parking and on our way in to see David Sedaris and all his wicked wit. The audience was laughing the entire night as he joked fun at pushy people, anti-maskers, drunks, and even his family.

Next week they’re offering the Count Basie Orchestra performing the music of Ella Fitzgerald.

I can’t wait! But the best part is that I don’t have to leave an hour or more in advance to fight the traffic.

I grew up going to the Hollywood Bowl and the Music Center downtown. I still love the Bowl in summer and the Ahmanson all year.

But it’s nice that the valley now has a place to call its own. A place where big name talent plays to a crowd that frankly, comes from all over the city.

With The Soraya I feel that the valley is finally getting some recognition.

The theatre is gorgeous, parking is easy and it’s 15 minutes from Warner Center.

Closer to home we have NBC has scheduled the movie In The Dark of the Valley to be aired Sunday November 14.

It is presented as “A Southern California mother discovers that the Santa Susana Field Lab, the site of one of the largest nuclear accidents in U.S. history, is located only seven miles from her home. Uncovered by the public eye for 20 years and never fully cleaned up, she grapples with the idea that the site may be responsible for exposing her daughter and community to cancer-causing radioactive waste.”

However, of great concern is the suggestion the toxicity of the SSFL is ONLY the 1959 incident. What is overlooked is the fact as recent as 1994 SSFL continued the practice of illegal disposal of chemicals in the sodium burn pits. While the ubiquitous wikipedia offers some details, it is a 2006 article in the Ventura Star which highlights more recent incidents, including an interview with James Palmer, who spoke of another communicable disease?

The practice of illegal disposal of chemicals in the sodium burn pits.

what is overlooked is the fact as recent as 1994 SSFL continued the practice of illegal disposal of chemicals in the sodium burn pits. While the ubiquitous wikipedia offers some details, it is a 2006 article in the Ventura Star which highlights more recent incidents, including an interview with James Palmer, who spoke of another communicable disease?

The toxic wells which resulted in 22 of 27 men on his crew dying of cancer.

The highly reputable Geosyntec was hired by SSFL owner Boeing to aid in the technical aspects of parameters for a cleanup, while at the same time it appears Boeing utilized the courts to aid in delaying the responsibility, timeline and costs of cleanup.

Meanwhile, were the suggestions in a May 2007 report from Geosyntec after the 2005 Topanga fire heeded before the 2018 Woolsey fire? “Both soil hydrophobicity recovery and vegetative recovery are necessary to reduce erosion and sediment yield potential to pre-fire conditions. Based on the findings from these two studies, and the fact that both the soil and the vegetative conditions must be restored to pre-fire conditions for a watershed to be considered “recovered” in the context of natural erosion control and sediment yield, total recovery at the site is expected to occur between five and 10 years from the time of the fire or 2010 to 2015.”

A 2017 letter by Geosyntec, to the Regional Water Quality Control Board, included this: “On June 28 2017, comments were provided to The Boeing Company recommending that further analysis be performed on potential downstream exposures to aquatic organisms. This additional analysis has been conducted and is included in this revised Final Human Health Risk Assessment.” However, after the 2018 Woolsey fire there were contentions of toxicity due to watershed. Why?

Another issue not directly related to the SSFL but also changing the value of “the mountain” and adjacent communities, is the dumping of construction waste, since 2007, on the 120+ acres owned by Mr. Fishback. While Ventura County has challenged in court his choices, he has filed bankruptcy and as of 2020 suggested he no longer lives in his home. Two curious comments about the soil hydrophobicity recovery

Note: (Continued to page 12)
Retailers Charter Own Ships to Stock Shelves for Christmas

By Janey M. Rifkin

Christmas is coming and the tallying cry is to shop early while supplies last! But wait! Closer to the holiday season might be a better answer for shopping days and here is why...

Shipping port delays, COVID-19 outbreaks, and worker shortages have snarled the flow of products between Asia and North America. Everything from toys and decorations to appliances and furniture are stuck in transport. Under normal travel circumstances, it takes about 40 days to transport goods across the Pacific, slowed to twice that time under current disruptions. Not in time for the Christmas rush!

However, the larger retailers such as Walmart, Home Depot, Target and Costco Wholesale Corporation are among companies that have chartered their own ships in order to mitigate the delays. The charters, somewhat smaller, are securing dedicated space in transport. Under normal travel circumstances, it takes about 40 days to transport goods across the Pacific, slowed to twice that time under current disruptions. Not in time for the Christmas rush!

The cost is nearly twice as high as moving merchandise in regular cargo ships, but some costs can be passed along to the purchaser, and it makes the holiday deadline.

The cost is nearly twice as high as moving merchandise in regular cargo ships, but some costs can be passed along to the purchaser, and it makes the holiday deadline.

By Janey M. Rifkin

Janey Rifkin is a syndicated writer and longtime Health Editor of the Valley News Group.
Matt Damon Shines in Stillwater

By Katie Sterling

Hollywood loves a good story ripped from the headlines. The more dramatic, the better. Add in foreign laws, a supposedly imprisoned innocent and A-list actors, and you’re guaranteed to churn out a winner. One of the more recent films takes liberties with a knockoff of the infamous Amanda Knox case. A Knockoff if you will…

Stillwater centers on Bill Baker (Matt Damon), an Oklahoma fish out of water who travels to Marseille, France and sets himself on a mission to exonerate his daughter (Abigail Breslin) who is imprisoned for the supposed murder of her girlfriend while studying abroad.

While it’s been a closed case for years, new evidence surfaces and Baker takes it upon himself to investigate, essentially attempting to make up for the years of past estrangement.

What starts as an investigation slowly builds into a narrative of domesticity as Baker becomes close with a local Parisian Virginie (Camille Cotin) and her young daughter Maya (Lilou Siavaud). Seeing as how Oklahoma is about as foreign to Paris as Paris is to Oklahoma, director Tom McCarthy (Spotlight) does an impeccable job of showcasing how the characters foil one another.

It’s evident that Baker, on the surface, might exude a certain political preference that could clash with Virginie’s Bohemian lifestyle, but as the leads learn more about each other’s cultures (both the good and the ugly), their differences ultimately end up strengthening their relationship. Perhaps the best parts of the film are the scenes between Baker and young Maya, who coexist through a stilted language barrier but nonetheless, form an unbreakable bond that’s both heartwarming and reflective of the relationship he clearly never had with his own daughter.

At almost two and a half hours, the movie is quite a slow burn and frankly, for a large chunk of it, the focus isn’t even centered on the murder charge. But, the narrative quickly loops back to why Baker is in Marseille and the film resets initially presents itself as one about redemption, it’s rather one about recognizing your mistakes and learning to live with the consequences with those actions.

With strong political and cultural undertones, it’s easy to assume that Stillwater will eventually be nominated during awards season and Damon is certainly worthy of a Best Actor nod. Without spoiling, the ending is a stilted language barrier but nonetheless, form an unbreakable bond that’s both heartwarming and reflective of the relationship he clearly never had with his own daughter.

Over a 60-plus year career, William James “Count” Basie re-wrote the history of jazz with 18 Grammy Awards, performing with his orchestra for kings and queens, major music festivals, multiple TV appearances and on every major stage in the world, and establishing jazz as a serious art form.

In the history of jazz music, there is only one bandleader that has the distinction of having his orchestra still performing sold out concerts all over the world, with members personally chosen by him, for over 30 years after his passing. The Count Basie Orchestra under the direction of Scotty Barnhart continues to further the Basie legacy and perform at sold-out concerts worldwide.

The current Count Basie Orchestra has won every respected jazz poll in the world at least once, won 18 Grammy Awards, performed for world royalty, appeared in several movies, television shows, at every major jazz festival and major concert hall in the world.

The singular American vocalist, Ella Fitzgerald, shared Basie’s history, with countless performances and multiple recordings, including their 1963 album Ella and Basie!, an album that many rank among the most important ever made.

The Count Basie Orchestra brings to The Soraya some of their original arrangements, to be performed by Lizzy Wright, a singer acclaimed for her vocal depth and agility. Her “Nearness of You” tribute to Ella Fitzgerald has been viewed more than one million times on her Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

The Count Basie Orchestra performs on Wednesday, November 17 at 8 pm. Tickets begin at $41 and are available at www.thesoraya.org or by calling (818) 677-3000. The Soraya is located at 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge.
Kick Off the Holiday Season With These Events

**Light Up Your Holiday at Lightscape**

The internationally acclaimed Lightscape is a must-see holiday event for 2021. The extravaganza of light, art, and music from London transforms the Arboretum in Arcadia to a night of wonder and light for an unforgettable event for family and friends. Wander through the magnificent Winter Cathedral and experience the breathtaking Fire Garden and more.

Lightscape runs now through January 16, and entries begin at 5:30 pm. Tickets are $30 to $32 for adults, $18 to $20 for children three to 12 and free for infants under two years (available at arboretum.org). The Arboretum is located at 301 N. Baldwin Avenue. Free park and ride is available at Santa Anita race track.

**Bradley Whitford Stars in “A Christmas Carol”**

Actor Bradley Whitford stars as Scrooge in the Center Theatre Group’s production of *A Christmas Carol*, taking the stage November 30 at the Ahmanson Theatre downtown.

Tony and Emmy Award nominee Kate Burton plays the Ghost of Christmas Past, while Grammy and SAG Award nominee Alex Newell is the Ghost of Christmas Present.

The magical new interpretation of Charles Dickens’ timeless story will play through January 1. Tickets are available at centertheatregroup.org or by calling (213) 972-4400.

**“Holiday Road” Lights Up Gillette Ranch**

Get ready for holiday fun as Holiday Road opens as a walking trail at King Gillette Ranch in Calabasas. Holiday Road’s immersive holiday experience features larger than life installations, thousands of lights and all of your favorite holiday cheer!

Enjoy a night full of bright lights, hot drinks, holiday activities and heartwarming memories. Grab a keepsake from the souvenir shop, enjoy adult beverages from the Holiday Bar and eat from many food trucks. The event is ADA accessible.

King Gillette Ranch is located at 26800 West Mulholland Highway. Holiday Road is open from December 3 to 31 from 5 to 10 pm. Advance ticket purchase is required at holidayroadusa.com.
Seven Rules for Surviving the Holidays

The time period between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day seems to arrive sooner each year. Holiday items are already hitting department store shelves. If the prospect of being bombarded by oodles of gadgets and sparkly items you don’t need leaves you with shivers of joyous expectation, then kudos to you; your time has come. If, however, you feel an uncomfortable pit in your stomach at the thought of sipping a gingerbread, peppermint stick latte while rushing about gathering items to bring to the annual get-together at your mother-in-law’s house – if per chance you can’t bake pies out of mince meat or Granny Smith apples, or you stink at projects involving a needle and thread, then read on. Here are some seditious tips for keeping your sanity.

1. Rethink the Concept of Presents – Spending a boatload of cash on “stuff” you don’t want is insulting enough to your psyche. Doing it for other folks, particularly those you love, is deluded. Consider exchanging “presence” with your loved ones instead of “presents.”

2. Beware Excessive Amounts of Coffee and Alcohol – Yes, coffee houses and restaurants all over America devise a slew of creative beverages this time of year – drinks with names like Candy Cane Espresso Blast Off or Curacao Martini with a Lime Twist. Over-consumption of these delights may result in indigestion and migraine headaches. All true holiday rebels know to avoid them.

3. Eschew Events with People You Can’t Stand – Family and friends aside, you’ll receive invitations this month to “parties” from everyone from the local boutique selling Brighton holiday bracelets at a mark-up, to co-workers carrying sprigs of mistletoe to dangle over your unsuspecting head. Post - you aren’t required to attend every event to which you’re invited. Some downtime curled up with a book and a cup of hot cocoa and your cat snoozing on your lap can make you feel happier and more festive.

4. Put Limits on Time Spent with Family Members – Of course, you love and cherish your family. The problem is the inevitable dynamic between siblings that results from lengthy conversations about the past, usually from parents, as they discuss your foibles as a kid that have absolutely no relevance to who you are today. Some manners guru, probably Emily Post, suggests three days is the limit of time one should spend with beloved, extended family... Consider following her sage guidance, and scheduling short, fun visits as opposed to lengthier ones rife with hidden land mines. If that’s impossible, find a place of sanctuary during long visits. After all, you’re all there to carve the roast in the center of the table, not each other’s self esteem. When you break bread with family, insist that it be in a spirit of joy and mutual understanding, which can only hold up for so long. Keep family visits short.

5. Respect Your Own Children. If you have offspring, refrain from expecting them to put on a show, be it singing, dancing, or performing mind boggling feats of long division in front of company. Don’t force them into itchy, uncomfortable clothing they despise for church services or other events. And find something for them to do over their long holiday break. Look for day camps – art, theatre, sports, whatever they enjoy – to enroll them in and keep them busy.

6. Limit Your Commitments. Refrain from volunteering to sew costumes for school pages at the same time as you prepare your famous marshmallow, pineapple yams for the annual gathering of the extended cousins club. Don’t offer to make the finger puppets for the holiday boutique unless you really enjoy that activity.

7. Avoid Places with Large Crowds, Excessive Noise, and Loud Music. Skip that extra trip to the mall in favor of going somewhere to soothe your nervous system, like a trip to a spa or a yoga class.

Ultimately, there are no “shoulds” when it comes to the holiday season. Let this be the year you allow yourself the freedom to relax and honor your inner promptings about what you want to do, even if it’s only for a day, an hour, or a few minutes.
How Delta Variant Dictates Our Fight to Overcome COVID

By Janey M. Rifkin

In a July study, medical researchers found that people infected with the Delta variant on average had roughly 1,000 times more copies of the COVID virus in their respiratory tracts than people infected with the original strain. Delta is about as easily transmissible as the chicken pox, they reported, and has turned backward our progress of two or three months ago when there was evidence of coming through the pandemic, a hard-fought health battle which took hundreds of thousands of lives of loved ones in our country.

Delta has already changed our masking lives whether inoculated or not, whether indoors or out. CDC Director Rochelle Walensky alluded to the fact that being vaccinated is the best way to reduce risk of contracting the virus, although even individuals who have been vaccinated are at risk for Delta. With Delta, the vaccines are somewhat less effective compared with earlier strains of the variants.

Being vaccinated is the best way to protect against severe disease and death. For unvaccinated people, Delta changes the old conventional wisdom; instead of contracting infection in approximately a 15-minute exposure, Delta puts a person most at risk in less than five minutes. Dr. Walensky also warned that transmission by vaccinated people is also possible as they can transmit contagion to others if they have been infected by Delta post-vaccination.

What about outdoor contamination, formerly considered safe? Scientists say Delta increases the risk of outdoor transmissions especially for the unvaccinated people. The air released in a breath may become infected and spread the infection. The risk increases outdoors in a more crowded setting such as a concert or a baseball game.

We’ve gone back to wearing masks again - indoors and out. We do not know other people’s status. Err on the site of caution! Get vaccinated and wear a good face mask.

Janey Rifkin is a syndicated writer and longtime Health Editor of the Valley News Group.

A new study indicates cognitive problems related to hearing loss may actually begin before hearing loss is detected. Early intervention is key to preserving cognitive function and maintaining quality of life.

Research suggests that treating hearing loss can reduce loneliness, delay cognitive delay, prevent brain fatigue and improve quality of life. Call to schedule a COMPLIMENTARY hearing evaluation. Don’t let your hearing loss go untreated.

Questions about your insurance benefits? Call 818-914-5077.

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Nazanin Ahmadian, DO
Pediatrics
Ashley Gregg, MD
Pediatrics
This holiday season you’re invited to attend a festive outdoor event that’s perfect for the whole family. The Valley Cultural Foundation, sponsored by ABC 7, presents a Holiday Arts & Music Festival on Saturday, December 4, from 3 to 8 pm.

Come down and enjoy the free activities that include pictures with Santa, arts and crafts, live performances and a snow area where kids can play.

Guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy as a part of ABC 7’s Annual Spark of Love Toy Drive and attendees can finish up their last minute holiday shopping and support local businesses at the same time.

A variety of food trucks will also be available. Vendor applications are now online at valleycultural.org/concerts_events/holiday-arts-and-music-festival/.

The Holiday Arts & Music Festival is sponsored by Councilman Bob Blumenfield, Amazon, Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Gaspar Insurance Services, Beating Wall Street, ABC7 Spark of Love, Boys and Girls Club of the West Valley, Joanne Littman, Keller William World Class (That Girl Realty) and Guild Mortgage.

Valley Cultural Foundation is working to comply with all agencies to assure a safe COVID event and will comply with all COVID instructions that are based on LA County Health Orders at the time of the event. Event information can be found at www.valleycultural.org, or by calling the hotline at (818) 888-0822.

Founded in 1975, the Valley Cultural Foundation’s mission embraces diversity of talent, community, business and education, by providing live entertainment programs and events in the arts.

Warner Park is located at: 21820 Califa Street, (at Topanga) Woodland Hills, CA 91367. The event will take place at the Lou Bredlow Pavilion.

Come hear live music, play in the snow, take pictures with Santa and bring a new toy for the Spark of Love toy driver.

Valley Cultural Foundation Presents A Holiday Arts & Music Festival Benefiting Spark of Love

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In some states plans may be available to persons under age 65 who are eligible for Medicare by reason of disability or End-Stage Renal Disease.

Not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the federal Medicare program.

This is a solicitation of insurance. A licensed insurance agent/producer may contact you.

THESE PLANS HAVE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS. FOR COSTS AND COMPLETE DETAILS (INCLUDING OUTLINES OF COVERAGE), CALL A LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT/PRODUCER AT THE NUMBER SHOWN.
Virtual Meeting on Headwaters Area of the L.A. River

The County of Los Angeles Public Works Department and members of the local community will hold a virtual community conversation about operational improvements and potential projects at the Headwaters of the L.A. River near the Canoga Park and Winnetka neighborhoods.

The online meeting will be held November 16 at 6 pm. For more information visit tinyurl.com/348zuhvh or call (626) 458-4322.

Guest Editorial: Santa Susana Cancer Risk

(Continued from page 4)

Fishback situation might shed some light on the motives for delays in cleaning up SSFL.

One in a 2015 Citizen Journal article, by a land surveyor, “Somebody wants his property.” And the other in a 2012 Daily News article, by a consultant for Fishback, “Similar sites have been turned into airports or other museums so that the public could visit.”

Perhaps an uninterested party might lead the process to sort out all the various aspects of the contamination of these areas adjacent to Bell Canyon, Simi, Woolsey Canyon and even behind Calabasas/Hidden Hills.

Or it might be under the purview of a California legislator, via The Joint Oversight Hearing: Department of Toxic Substances Control. However, while Senator Stern has served on the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality ever since he was elected in 2016, he has no visibility in these matters. There is no Assembly member from the San Fernando Valley or adjacent Ventura County who has addressed the complexity of the issues based on sitting on the Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee. And certainly not the congressman.

While the overreach of the government in the affairs of private property owners is not my first choice; clearly, they might be able to address the delays, convoluted actions, and resolution complexities of the issues. Until then numerous parents of children with cancer have gotten together and questioned the hows and whys of Santa Susan Field Labs, if only one aspect.

Lorraine Mabbett

Moving Your Business?
You Need to File a New DBA
Call Valley News Group for information 818.313.9545
Final Redistricting Map Keeps Woodland Hills Whole

(Continued from page 1)

It also separated the Warner Center between two districts and moved Pierce College into the northern district. These changes, along with the extremely high number of constituents, found themselves put into new districts, prompted outcries from residents, Neighborhood Councils and various Councilmembers including Blumenfield, Krekorian, Martinez and Raman.

While the City Council kept most of the district lines drawn by the commission and honored some of its core principles (i.e. only having one cross mountain district), it made major changes to the lines in the Valley.

In the West Valley, the Council’s final map retains the same five communities currently represented by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield in one district including Woodland Hills/Warner Center, Canoga Park, Winnetka, and Tarzana (CD3). While Reseda representation is currently split between Councilmember John Lee, in the new map, Reseda will be shared by Blumenfield and Councilmember Nithya Raman. Lee will continue to represent Northridge and areas north of CD3. Raman will not only represent part of Reseda, but also Encino and parts of Studio City that will be new for her (about 40% of the new CD4).

Because both West Valley districts represented by Blumenfield and Lee grew in population more than most areas of the city, both had to shrink in order to maintain a population roughly equal to other council districts.

Mountain Lion Roaming Liberty Canyon

(Continued from page 1)

November 9 caught the animal on a security camera at 12:45 am on Provident Road (which turns into Jim Bowie at the curve). All the yards where the animal was spotted back up to open space.

According to Ana Cholo of the National Park Service, “He has no collar so we’re not tracking him. We don’t track them all. He could be a young adult on his own.”

Liberty Canyon is one of the areas where mountain lions are known to roam. The wildlife bridge being built over the 101 Freeway was designed to help local wild animals, most specifically mountain lions, cross safely from one side to the other to hunt and breed.

Cholo said that if residents have a concern - what does that mean?

“It means we live in mountain lion country,” she said. Residents should use caution and keep small pets and children inside during evening hours. Mountain lions rarely attack humans, though the community is on alert after a cougar went after a child in Montenegro this past August. According to California Fish & Game that was the first attack in 25 years, though mountains lions regularly have gone after pets and livestock.
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the City of Calabasas for the issuance of a lien on property for work performed on the above specified project. The lien is for work and materials furnished in connection with the construction and/or repair of a project described as: Sodium Chloride, 20450 Calabasas Road, Calabasas, CA 91302.

If you have any questions or concerns related to the lien, please contact the City of Calabasas at 818-238-7100.

Notice of this lien may be obtained at the County Clerk's Office located at 800 N. Harbor Blvd., W. Covina, CA 91790.
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