



# STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

November 2013

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Winter Family Festival Page 1

SCRA Opposes Harvard-Westlake Expansion Page 3

Medical Marijuana Dispensaries Page 5

## Celebrate the Holidays with a Festival for the Entire Family!

Studio City Residents Association and Studio City Recreation Center present

# Winter Family Festival

Studio City Recreation Center

**BEEMAN PARK**  
Studio City

PLUS  
A Taste of the Holidays

**FREE PARKING AT CBS**  
4024 RADFORD AVENUE WITH  
**FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE**

**December 8, 2013 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

- Music from local schools and community groups
- Radio Disney Festival of Giving (food/toys/other items to donate)
- Arts and crafts
- Free photos with Santa
- Radio Disney Road Crew
- Face painting
- A Taste of the Holidays featuring sampling by local restaurants

**AND TONS OF SNOW!!**

### Featuring



Please bring canned and packaged food,\* new unwrapped toys, pet food and toys, and new/gently used books to donate for the holiday. Check the festival web site for updates on additional items to donate and additional beneficiaries.

\*no glass please

Benefits the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, St. Charles Service Center, the LAPD North Hollywood Division Gift and Food Drive, Pet Orphans, BookEnds and other non-profit organizations.

Visit [www.studiocityresidents.org/festival](http://www.studiocityresidents.org/festival)



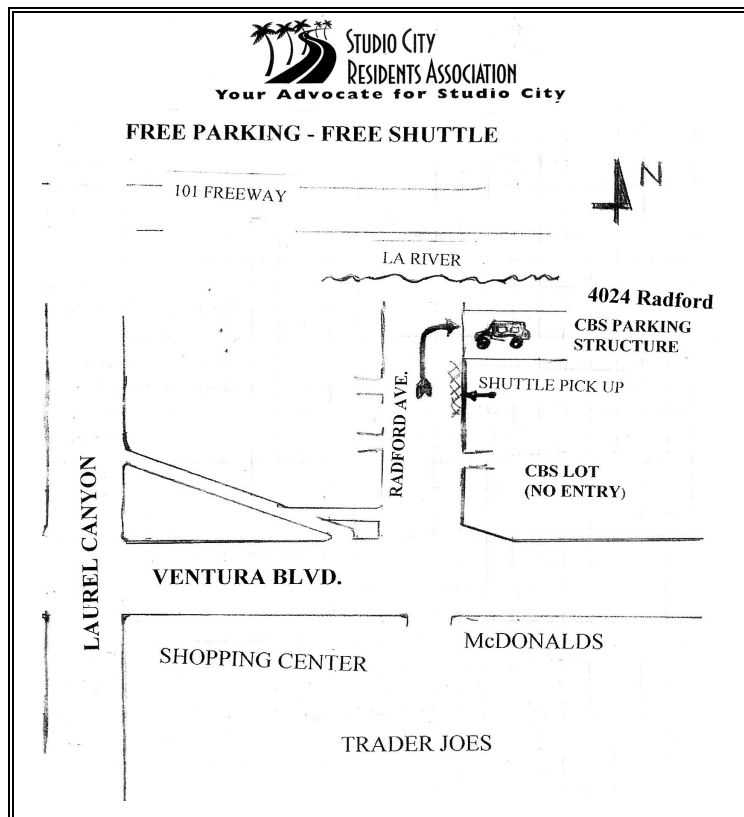
MENDOCINO FARMS sandwich market

Lifestyle



## EASY PARKING FOR THE DECEMBER 8 WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

Coming to the December 8 Winter Family Festival at Studio City Recreation Center, aka "Beeman Park," but don't know where you will park? Thanks to CBS Studio Center and a private donor, parking is free at the CBS Studio Center in the Radford parking garage, located at 4024 Radford Ave., Studio City, CA 91604. Plus, you can take a free shuttle from the parking lot to Beeman Park and back. The shuttles run from noon - 5 p.m. Questions? Call the SCRA office at 818-509-0230.



## BEAUTIFUL STUDIO CITY

### Radford Artwalk

The Radford Artwalk is now mobile Internet-enabled. Use your cell phone to scan the code on the sign, and enjoy a virtual tour by artist, Karl Johnson. Johnson has recorded his thoughts about each of his sculptures. [www.radfordartwalk.com](http://www.radfordartwalk.com).

### Eastside Median

It's fall planting season for California natives. In the next two months, the Studio City Beautification Association (SCBA) will complete the irrigation system and then plant the eastside median between Lankershim Blvd. and Vineland Avenue on Ventura Blvd. This is a major new gateway to Studio City. By improving this median, the SCRA will make Studio City look all the better cared-for.

### Damaged "Welcome" Monument at Laurel Canyon

Studio City resident and accomplished graphic designer Richard Walsh (Universal Studios, the Grove and Americana)

has again jumped in, this time to help the SCBA replace the accident-damaged "Studio City Welcomes You" monument on Laurel Canyon Blvd. at the 101 Freeway. Walsh has provided the monument fabricator with design specifications and a color palette. The fabricator has been able to salvage five of the ten "Studio City" letters that sit above the monument, reducing the cost immensely. A shiny new monument will be installed in the next few months.

### SCBA Booth at the Winter Family Festival

Please stop by and visit the SCBA booth at this year's Winter Family Festival on December 8, 2103 at Studio City Recreation Center. The SCBA is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that manages professional crews. We are always happy to talk about the organization, our accomplishments and upcoming projects.

## EMPOWERING WOMEN IN STUDIO CITY

The Sportsmen's Lodge was the site for one of the 2013 Women's Self-Defense workshops held in October of this year. The event, hosted by the office of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian and Shield Self-Defense, drew a huge turnout of local women of all ages. The two-hour workshop featured highlights of some basic self-defense techniques that are part of Shield's regular six-week training program.



Keeping safe and feeling secure were of paramount concern to all those in attendance, as evidenced by the continual flow of questions being raised. Shield instructor, Nelson Nio, and his assistant, Rachel, demonstrated various techniques that one can employ

when faced with different attack scenarios (e.g., being grabbed from behind, being pinned to the ground, being choked, etc.) Nio encouraged all of the attendees to get up, follow along and feel the control that comes with performing some of the techniques. He stressed that practice and training are key to being able to react instinctively and avoid freezing up in terror when faced with a dangerous situation.

In the end, the most important take-away of the workshop was that women need to overcome their fears, get mad, know how to defend themselves and fight back.

The SCRA thanks Assemblymember Nazarian's office for hosting this workshop and presenting all attendees with a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the session.

For more information about Shield Self-Defense, and/or to sign up for training, go to [www.shielddefense.com](http://www.shielddefense.com).

# ASK THE SCRA

*One of the functions of the SCRA is to empower its members, who are the eyes and ears of the community. The SCRA can assist by providing opportunities to make all of Studio City a better place to live. Please send questions to [scraboard@studiocityresidents.org](mailto:scraboard@studiocityresidents.org).*

**Q:** Hikers continue to refuse to pay to park in the Santa Monica Mountains lot at Fryman Road and Laurel Canyon Blvd. even though doing so supports the park they so love to frequent. Street parking in the neighborhood is a growing problem; however, this complaint is about the drivers who park on the west side of Laurel Canyon Blvd. between Laurel Terrace Dr. and Fryman Road, more specifically the number of people who make a risky U-turn from the curb across Laurel Canyon Blvd and across oncoming southbound traffic, instead of driving south 100 yards to safely turn around on Fryman Road. On several occasions, as I head south towards home, I have nearly broadsided a car as it pulls out from the curb and across the street in front of me, heading north. Can we have a patrol officer monitor this situation, or, better yet, have some signage posted in that area to limit parking? It is a real hazard!

**SCRA:** The SCRA asked the LAPD if the U-turns were legal on Laurel Canyon Blvd. We received a reply from Traffic Safety Officer Steven Rausch, who said, "You cannot make a U-turn from the curb. The only turn you can make from the right-hand curb would be a right turn. At this location, there is a two-way left turn lane. A driver needs to pull into that lane first and then negotiate a U-turn safely. If he or she fails to do so, then the correct violation is 21460.5(c)vc. For those drivers who make a U-turn from the curb and then over the two-way left turn lane, that is a violation." The SCRA asked its member to contact Officer Steven Rausch (818) 644-8147, or email [25826@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:25826@lapd.lacity.org) to request increased traffic patrols in the area to try to curb the problem.

**Q:** It's been a few years now, but I've made no progress getting two-hour permitted parking on Mound View Avenue. I've spoken to some LA parking officers who said I need to get petitions circulated. They said they would mail me some and never do. I know this had been done before in the triangle area when residents complained about spillover from Ventura Blvd. We have spillover, too, including people who go to Carpenter, hikers for Fryman, employees who work on Ventura Blvd., etc. The association has done this before. Can someone please pull some strings or make some calls so Studio City residents can park in front of their own homes?

**SCRA:** During the recession, the SCRA was told that the City did not have the resources to create permit parking areas. The SCRA checked with the City Council office and was told the moratorium is still in effect.

That said, neighbors do need petitions signed, and the area needs to be of a certain size. The Department of Transportation must do a survey of the cars parked on the

street (they need to record a certain number of out-of-area licenses). Then, if all goes well, permit signs would be installed.

This is an expensive process and one that neighbors will need to shepherd through to the end. Also, there is the added inconvenience of residents needing to buy permits to park and accommodate the vehicles driven by gardeners and domestic help.

## FROM YOUR SCRA BOARD

The Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) board voted to oppose the proposed development to expand the Harvard-Westlake campus to the west side of Coldwater Canyon Blvd. The board's main concern, among many others discussed, was the loss of open space and the extreme negative impact on the wildlife corridors. The board voted to contribute \$300 for a food donation to the Winter Family Festival and the Radio Disney Festival of Giving. As in the past, board member Barry Weiss volunteered to make the purchases and deliver the food on the day of the event. Board members Martha Hanrahan and Karen Younce reported a successful SCRA membership drive that resulted in 1090 households. They reminded the board that, assuming two per household, membership would amount to 2,180 members.

## STATE SENATOR ALEX PADILLA TO ADDRESS NOVEMBER SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING



State Senator Alex Padilla will speak at the upcoming November 12, 2013 Studio City Residents Association Community Meeting about the proposed Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2014 that may be on the ballot in 2014, the proposed Sacramento Delta twin tunnels and the bullet train. A Q & A session will follow.

Senator Padilla was first elected to serve in the California Senate in 2006. On December 6, 2010, Padilla was sworn in to serve a second four-year term representing the 20th Senate District. He won nearly 70 percent of the vote in a district that has only 54 percent Democratic registration, confirming his broad appeal. Since being elected to the Senate, Padilla has established himself as a tenacious and effective legislator. He has won legislative approval for 93 bills, 80 of which have been signed into law by the Governor.

The meeting will be held at Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn Theatre Room at 7:30 p.m.

Light refreshments and an opportunity to meet community members and neighbors begin at 7:00 p.m.



## HOME FOR THE BIRDS

The Studio City Beautification Association (SCBA) has received notice that the "Sanctuary" site at the junction of Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Oakdell Rd. has been recognized and qualified as a wildlife habitat. This abandoned city property was adopted by the SCBA through the City's "Adopt a Median" program. It was landscaped with a

view to qualify as a wildlife habitat and had to have several elements for the benefit of wildlife, including food, water, nesting and shelter, which were incorporated and installed in accordance with the original design. For the benefit of humans who walk to and from Willacre Park, or just to get to the bus stop on Laurel Canyon Blvd., there is another plaque that lists all the plants growing there. Mother Nature is cooperating by growing the plants over and around the hardscape that will act to soften and enhance the natural look.

## HILLSIDE FEDERATION UPDATE

The Hillside Federation heard a report on the proposed two-tower project at 8150 Sunset Blvd., (southwest corner of Crescent Heights and Sunset Blvd), which is presently zoned C4-1D, land use designation: neighborhood office commercial. The application states 80,000 square feet of commercial buildings will be demolished and replaced with 333,872 square feet of buildings, including a mixed commercial-residential project with 249 apartment units; approximately 111,000 square feet of commercial uses, including a 25,000 square foot grocery store and a 22,000 square foot restaurant; plus approximately 50,000 square feet of retail uses; 8,000 square feet of fitness uses; and a 5,000 square foot bank. The Hillside Federation has asked for an Environmental Impact Report to address its concerns. For more information please go to: [www.cityplanning.lacity.org/eir/nops/Env-2013-2552-eir](http://www.cityplanning.lacity.org/eir/nops/Env-2013-2552-eir).

The planned repair of Laurel Canyon Blvd., on the west side, north of Hollywood Blvd., south of Mt. Olympus, is now underway. The work includes the removal of thousands of cubic feet of dirt, which slid down onto Laurel Canyon Blvd. several years ago during unseasonably heavy rain storms. The work, which is slated to run from late October 2013 to summer 2014, will have a major impact on both north and southbound traffic into and out of Hollywood.

## WELCOME TO THE SCRA BOARD: KAREN YOUNCE

Karen Younce, originally from New Jersey, moved to Studio City 12 years ago with her



husband, Kevin. After a successful 30-year career in the music industry in both New York and Los Angeles, Younce now spends time volunteering for Studio City. She recently accepted an appointment to the SCRA board of directors and was also appointed by the SCRA board to serve as a director on the Studio City Farmers Market Board. Younce also spends time in the SCRA office using her extensive computer skills and assisting on the recent membership drive and other tasks.

## SCRA OFFICERS NAMED

The Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) nominating committee has nominated the following as officers for the year 2014: president-Alan Dymond, executive vice president-Bonnie Goodman, treasurer-Bryan Abrams, and secretary-Connie Elliot. An alternate candidate for any of the above positions may be submitted by petition to the SCRA on or before December 1, 2013. The proposed candidate must be a regular SCRA member in good standing, and the petition must be signed by no less than 25 SCRA members in good standing. The office of administrative vice president is a board appointment. For the year 2014, the board has appointed Claudia Freedle, and thanked her for her continuing services over the past years.

## STUDIO CITY CAMERA EXCHANGE

When the Studio City Camera Exchange closed down many years ago, the president of the Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) at that time was able to salvage the store sign in an agreement with



the owner and arrange for it to be stored at the Museum of Neon Art. Recently, the museum advised the SCRA that circumstances had changed due to physical arrangements at the museum and asked if alternate arrangements for the sign could be made. The museum was still interested in the sign, but there was a possibility that it would have to be stored at an outside location. The SCRA, the Studio City Beautification Association and other interested parties reviewed suggested locations to relocate the sign; however, none appeared appropriate, or there were other constraints. The SCRA board, therefore, decided to release the sign permanently to the museum so it could find a proper location for the sign. For more information on the museum, visit [www.neonmona.org](http://www.neonmona.org)

## STUDIO CITY IS ON THE MAP

The Radford Art walk [www.radfordartwalk.com](http://www.radfordartwalk.com) was chosen by LA Commons [www.lacommons.org](http://www.lacommons.org) to participate in a Found LA tour in October. On one Sunday, Found LA

(Continued, Page 5)



organized tours all along the revitalized Los Angeles River. The Studio City Beautification (SCBA) guided about 12 individuals from all around Los Angeles along the art walk and adjoining points of interest.

LA Commons is dedicated to hidden Los Angeles. It helps Los Angeles' diverse neighborhoods give voice to their unique stories through community-based arts programs that express the cultural and historical essence of the communities. Its Trekking LA program introduces tourists to arts projects, authentic food, music and the culture of communities in Los Angeles. The SCBA was proud to be included in the tour schedule.

## PROPOSITION D- MEDICAL MARIJUANA COMPLIANCE

Proposition D will allow medical marijuana dispensaries to remain open under the terms of the ordinance, provided the dispensary complies with specified criteria. At a recent meeting, the Studio City Residents Association learned that some dispensaries in Studio City/North Hollywood/Sherman Oaks areas are not in compliance; therefore, the City Attorney's Office is starting the process of closing these non-compliant dispensaries. However, in accord with Proposition D, some of these shops will be able to remain open in the Studio City area as long as they are not near a school and are in compliance with other listed criteria. If a dispensary is registered and re-registered as stated in the law, but will have to relocate to be compliant, it will qualify to be allowed to stay in business at a new location. Some dispensaries are advertising that they will deliver; however, this is not allowed under Prop D. The City Attorney's office has asked to be notified of any dispensary advertising a delivery service by contacting the city attorney's office at [Tamar.Galatzan@lacity.org](mailto:Tamar.Galatzan@lacity.org).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Alan Dymond

*As reported in "From Your Board," the Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) voted not to support the proposed Harvard-Westlake expansion to the western side of Coldwater Canyon Blvd. The SCRA received emails and phone calls from both its members and the media, asking for the SCRA's position prior to the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). The SCRA advised all that it was waiting for the DEIR so there would be a common document to work from and wished to avoid speculation and conjecture on what was proposed.*

*The DEIR is now available for review. The keywords of the DEIR are "Environmental Impact, e.g., what is the potential impact of the proposed project on the surrounding environments? That is the overriding question. Those who live in the canyons know how sound travels. Plus, there is light pollution, which not only impacts the immediate neighbors but also impacts wildlife that transverses or lives in the area. Traffic impact is a self-evident concern valley wide, not just locally. Then there is loss of open space. The SCRA has always worked to keep open space throughout the Santa Monica Mountains and other local areas. The SCRA joins the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in opposing the project for the loss of open space and the loss of a wildlife corridor that will occur.*

*Community organizations in Studio City, including the SCRA, Studio City Improvement Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce, sent a joint letter to CVS' corporate headquarters asking that CVS do something about the outside of the store at Laurel Canyon and Ventura Blvds. CVS responded and, as of this writing, workers are starting to paint. The SCRA thanks CVS for listening to the community. As an aside, the SCRA learned through the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) that CVS is considering remodeling this store. The SCNC Land Use committee recommended the store retain its Art Deco look. The SCRA agreed with this position and wrote to the CVS architect offering its support. Art Deco is found throughout Studio City, including the present Bookstar façade and the relatively new entry sign the City erected at the Studio City parking structure. This design theme is repeated by the "Welcome to Studio City" signs installed by the SCRA and the SCBA on Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Ventura Blvd. by Ralphs and the soon-to-be-installed sign at the west end of Studio City by Longridge Ave.*

*Was there an indirect impact of the government shutdown on Studio City, apart from the reported economic impact? I would say "yes." At the SCRA community meeting in October, Councilmember Krekorian said he was accompanying the mayor on a trip at the end of October to Washington, D.C., to inquire about federal involvement in the Los Angeles River Revitalization Project and federal funds for the acquisition of Weddington Golf and Tennis. However, we learned the councilmember was not able to attend the Washington, D.C., summit, which may never have materialized given the government shutdown. However, recently, the SCRA learned the mayor said he is still planning to make the trip. We will continue to monitor progress.*

*Alan Dymond*



# SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING

## Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013

### AGENDA

- 7:00 p.m.** Refreshments
- 7:30 p.m.** Presentation by State Senator Alex Padilla on the proposed Safe, Clean & Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2014 and more. Q+A to follow.

### Meeting Location

**Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn Theatre  
4222 Vineland Avenue, Studio City**

*When entering the hotel driveway, turn left and go through the parking turnstile. Drive to the end and turn right. Go to the large back lot. The handicap entrance is from this lot. Walk to the southwest corner of the lot, and signs will direct you to the Beverly Garland Theatre. **PARKING WILL BE VALIDATED** at the sign-in-table.*

*The SCRA thanks Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn for continued support of the monthly SCRA Community Meetings*



#### SCRA Committees

Burbank Airport, Chair: Chris Barnes  
Crime and Safety  
Los Angeles River Committee  
Membership  
Planning and Land Use

#### Officers

Alan Dymond, President  
Bonnie Goodman, Exec. Vice President  
Claudia Freedle, Admin. Vice President  
Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Bryan Abrams, Treasurer

#### Board Members

Beth Dymond  
Martha Hanrahan  
Steve Hirsh  
Art Howard  
Barry Johnson

Robin Seidel  
Barry Weiss  
Karen Younce  
Junior member Jason Goodman

#### Immediate Past President

Art Howard

#### Beautification Association

Bill Harmond, President  
Francesca Corra, Vice President  
Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Bryan Abrams, Treasurer

#### Save L.A. River Studio City Open Space

Co-Directors  
Laurie Cohn, Alan Dymond, Steve Hirsh,  
Art Howard, Patty Kirby, Aaron  
Mendelsohn, Barbara Robbin  
saveopenspace@SLAROS.org

#### School Liaisons

Carpenter - Bonnie Goodman  
Rio Vista - Barbara Robbin  
Walter Reed - Bonnie Kalaf

#### Studio City Farmers Market

(818) 655-7744  
www.studiocityfarmersmarket.com

#### Newsletter

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