



# STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

*Your Advocate for Studio City*

**November 2015**



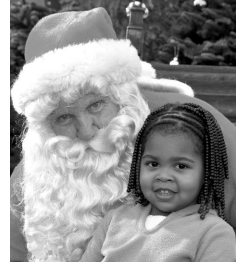
**SAVE THE DATE!**

**5th Annual  
Winter Family Festival**

**December 13, 2015 1-4 pm**

## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS AT THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

It's holiday time, and snow is in the air once again in Studio City, CA. The Studio City Residents Association's Fifth Annual Winter Family Festival and Festival of Giving will be held at Studio City Recreation Center (aka "Beeman Park") on Sunday, December 13, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Studio City Recreation Center is located at 12621 Rye Street, Studio City, CA 91604.



Last year, more than 5,000 people got into the holiday spirit and gave back to the community as well at this popular free event, which is presented to the community by the Studio City Residents Association and Studio City Recreation Center. The event, the largest to-date, saw thousands playing in more than 70 tons of snow, with slides, snowball fights and snowman making.



Guests attending the event donated more than 500 pieces of clothing, more than 250 pounds of food, as well as many boxes of books, toys and pet items to the onsite Festival of Giving, which benefitted the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, St. Charles Service Center, the LAPD North Hollywood Division Gift and Food Drive, Pet Orphans, Aviva Family & Children's Services and Iris Blossom Charities. Guests also enjoyed musical performances, samples from local restaurants, craft-making, free photos with Santa, food trucks and many other activities.

This year's event will be even more exciting with special surprises. Beneficiaries of the Festival of Giving this year include the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, the LAPD North Hollywood Division Gift and Food Drive, St. Charles Service Center, Pet Orphans, Iris Blossom Charities, Aviva Family & Children's Services, and Milk + Bookies. Donations will be accepted at the Festival or in advance from Thursday, December 10 through Saturday, December 13 from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the park's main office. Guests are encouraged to bring canned and packaged food (no glass please); new, unwrapped toys; baby diapers, bottles, blankets, formula, and other supplies; pet food and beds; new or gently used children's books (K-12); and new or gently used clothing to donate for the holidays.



Always a special treat, the event also includes A Taste of the Holidays featuring free samples from local restaurants. As of this writing, restaurant participants include Chin Chin, Gangadin, Lemonade, Local Ice, Mendocino Farms, Pizza Rev, The Grain and the Greens, Blue Can Water, The Village, The Front Yard, and Tuning Fork.



Parking for the Festival is free. There is a free shuttle to and from the event, which leaves from CBS Studio Center, 4024 Radford Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604. Supporters for the Fifth Annual Studio City Winter Family Festival include major sponsors NBCUniversal, CBS Studio Center and BLVD Hotel & Spa; presenting sponsors the Studio City Improvement Association, Harvard Westlake and Anita Hirsh, Oakwood School; event sponsors the Studio City Farmers Market, the Studio City Chamber of Commerce, the Studio City Neighborhood Council, Star Parking, Studio City Lifestyle Magazine, Alan Taylor Real Estate, Bryan Abrams Real Estate, Shaolin American Self Defense Academy, Nancy Kaye Photography, Sportsmen's Lodge, Bridges Academy and Campbell Hall.

The Winter Family Festival will be held rain or shine. For more information, visit [StudioCityResidents.org](http://StudioCityResidents.org). Like us on Facebook: Studio City Residents Association; follow us on Instagram: StudioCityRA #WinterFamilyFest

Like us on



Studio City Residents Association

Follow us on Instagram

# LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY MIKE FEUER TO ADDRESS SCRA NOVEMBER COMMUNITY MEETING



Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer will speak at the November 10, 2015 Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) Community Meeting at The Garland on his work to improve the quality of life of Los Angeles neighborhoods. SCRA members and guests are encouraged to ask Feuer about any topic, including illegal medical marijuana shops, homelessness, illegal dumping and anything else on their minds.

The Garland, formally known as Beverly Garland, is located at 4222 Vineland Avenue, Studio City. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for light refreshments. The meeting is in the Cabrillo Room, located across from the Garland Theatre.

## NEW TENNIS PROGRAMS AT BEEMAN PARK

Studio City Recreation Center (aka "Beeman Park") is offering a doubles tennis experience clinic on Tuesday mornings for those 50 and over, known as Age 50+ Tuesday Tennis. The session runs from 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. The matches are competitive enough for participants to have a good game, but generous enough to give the benefit of the doubt on those "iffy" line calls. There is a \$16 membership fee per month.



In addition, the park hosts Friday Invitational Doubles Tennis for those players at a 3.5 level or higher on Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. There is a \$24 membership fee per month.

Partners and tennis balls provided for both programs. Contact Sharon Crigler at 818-985-6236 or sharoncrigler@sbcglobal.net for more information. Beeman Park is located at 12621 Rye Street, Studio City, CA 91604.

## YOUTH TENNIS FESTIVAL IN STUDIO CITY

The Southern California Tennis Association (SCTA), a branch of the United States Tennis Association, and the Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation/Studio City Recreation Center (aka "Beeman Park") organized and sponsored the first Studio City Youth Tennis Festival in late September. The goal of the event was to encourage youth of all ages to develop an interest and enjoyment in tennis, not only as a physical sport, but also for the health benefits of the game. The Studio City Residents Association, Campbell Hall and Harvard-Westlake all lent their support by



providing labor and supplies. Many professional tennis coaches volunteered their time on the organizing committee and coached on the day of the event.

Participation was limited to ages 6-18 at all skill levels. Notwithstanding, an eager three-year-old participant wanting to try her hand quickly demonstrated her hand-eye coordination using a small lightweight racket and a beanbag.

Despite being one of the hottest days of the year, the Festival was well attended. The SCTA and Beeman Park plan to make this an annual event. Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian visited and offered his office's help to get the word out to the public for any future tennis youth festivals.

## STUDIO CITY GREENWAY GROUND BREAKING

The greenway on the north bank of the Los Angeles River between Coldwater Canyon and Whitsett Avenues had an official groundbreaking ceremony on September 25, 2015. During the event, the Fernandeano Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, represented by Rudy Ortega Jr., tribal president; Mark Villaseñor, tribal secretary; and Kimia Fatehi, cultural preservation officer, gave its blessing to the land on which the greenway is being built. State Senator Robert Hertzberg, Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, and Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Joe Edminston welcomed the improvements being made to the river bank and the greenway's role as a connecting link in the overall improvements to the Los Angeles River. They were joined by representatives for Congressman Brad Sherman, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and Councilmember Paul Krekorian.



L to R: Rudy Ortega, Mark Villaseñor

The project is expected to be completed in late 2016. For more details, visit [communityconservationsolutions.org](http://communityconservationsolutions.org) and click on L.A. River Greenway Trail.

## SCRA OFFICER ELECTIONS

Pursuant to Sec 7.2, SCRA Bylaws, the Studio City Residents Association Nominating Committee has selected the following officers: Alan Dymond, president; Bonnie Goodman, executive vice president; Bryan Abrams, treasurer; and Connie Elliot, Secretary.

**7.2 Notice of Nominations** Not later than November 15 of each year, the President of the Nominating Committee shall cause a notice to be sent to the Members of the Association, setting forth the names of the candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for officers of the Association. Such a statement shall include the procedure for nominations by petition."

**7.5 Nominations by Petition.** In addition to names proposed by the Nominating Committee, any person residing in the household that is a Regular Member may be nominated as an Officer by a written petition bearing the original signatures of at least twenty-five (25) Regular Members received at the principal office of the

(Continued, Page 3)

## (Elections, cont'd)

Association not later than December 1 of such year. If the Nominating Committee nominates only one (1) candidate for any elective office, and if no nominations by petition for such office are received, such candidate of the Nominating Committee shall be deemed elected, without the necessity of balloting."

Nominations by petition should be mailed to: SCRA Board, P.O.1374, Studio City, CA 91614 on or before December 1, 2015.

## FOCUS ON SCBA

Fall is an exciting, yet challenging time for the Studio City Beautification Association (SCBA). After the long hot summer that has crept into the fall, unexpected heavy summer rains, and the extended drought conditions, the SCBA is evaluating and renewing work at each of its project sites.



Many of the native plants have completed their season of flowers and are now dominated by muted tones of olive, gray and amber. People often consider them to be dead since they grow accustomed to the vibrant greens of exotic plants. However, this dormant look is all part of the unique elegance that comes with many of California native plants.

A pioneer in native plant installations in public spaces, the SCBA embarked on an aggressive "prune & groom" program in October to cut back dead growth and remove plants that did not make it this past summer. Pruning these natives is a very delicate and time-consuming process, as they cannot simply be mechanically trimmed and cut back; instead, each plant is hand-pruned to eliminate just enough die-off to promote growth and new blooms in the upcoming spring. This is also the time of year to take a close look at which plants are thriving in the urban environment and replace those that are not.

In addition to assessing plants in the SCBA's newer gardens that have mostly drought tolerant and native plants, the SCBA has several medians that were planted with more water needy varieties, back when water was not so much an issue. The summer heat and drought has taken a toll on these plants, as have irrigation "breaks, including drivers who lose control and run over valves, controllers and sprinkler heads. While some plants have demonstrated they can make it through these conditions, others just could not. The SCBA will be thoroughly assessing its plantings this fall to determine what plants are best for the locations and whether to use more resilient plants. Studio City residents may start seeing different looks, especially on SCBA-landscaped medians, as the SCBA takes advantage of the late fall planting window for renewal.



With all of the discussions about the coming El Nino rains this winter, the SCBA is working with landscape and horticulture experts to determine what courses of action to take. While, in general, SCBA sites are



## TO THE MARKET

*Based on the weather, it is hard to believe that fall is in full swing, but fall produce is flourishing at the Studio City Farmers Market. It is time to stock up on a huge selection of squash from all over California. Squash is perfect for soups and stew and those hard-to-beat crock pot dinners.*

*The Ultimate Meatball Company joined the Market in September and has been selling out of it delicious meatballs ever since. Their meatballs are made with grass-fed beef or organic turkey and locally sourced fresh parsley, onions and eggs, along with bold Pecorino Romano from Italy. To top them off, they are smothered in homemade marinara sauce (sold separately). The turkey meatballs are also available in a wheat-free version. The meatballs and the sauce are sold frozen, making them perfect for a no fuss last minute dinner. Stop by their booth on the north side of the street near Laurel Canyon Blvd. for a sample.*

*The owners of Nary Dairy, Lois and Allen Keller, makers of delicious cashew cheese products, has decided to hang up their hat and retire from the food business. The Market wishes them the best of luck.*

*The Market has recently made donations to the East Valley High School football program, the East Valley YMCA and iLead Charter to help fund its student run newspaper. Local non-profits interested in a donation from the Market should send an inquiry to [manager@studiocityfarmersmarket.com](mailto:manager@studiocityfarmersmarket.com).*

*The Studio City Farmers Market is presented jointly by the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Free parking is available at the CBS lot on Radford. Stop by and visit! The Market is open on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

expected to fare well, given the installation of proper soils and drainage, there may still be some unexpected issues that will need to be addressed as they happen.

Fortunately, as this wet period begins, the plants are ready for the new growth that the rains will bring. Trees were trimmed along Ventura Blvd. from Lankershim Blvd. to Longridge Avenue earlier this year, with natives pruned this fall. Weeds that hold the soil and prevent erosion will be popping up all over the place. This presents a challenge to the SCBA to keep this growth from overtaking established plants and tree wells.

## SCBA TIPS ON WATER IRRIGATION RUNOFF

When there is no rain, but water is running onto the sidewalk, driveway or street, it is probably a result of overwatering and/or

(Continued, Page 4)

## (Tips, cont'd)

over-spraying. This water has no value; it costs the homeowner because the money spent for the water is, in effect, just dumped onto city streets and not used to keep landscaping green and healthy. Here are two tips from the Studio City Beautification Association:

- For slopes and compacted soils: Space your sprinkler timing for short durations, not for one long one. Two short cycles are better than one long one. For example, run the sprinklers for 10 minutes and then schedule the second cycle to come on in about an hour or so later. The total water used will be the same amount. Check the link below for more information.
- Apply mulch: When there is no grass, two-to-three inches of mulch is recommended. The mulch prevents the soil from compacting and allows water to percolate into the soil below.
- Adjust sprinkler heads to prevent spraying areas where it is not needed, such as on concrete and other hard impermeable surfaces. Direct the spray away from streets and driveways; keep it for the landscape.

For more information and a printable flyer, visit [www.studiocityresidents.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/waterirrigationrunoff.pdf](http://www.studiocityresidents.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/waterirrigationrunoff.pdf)

## 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:** Some of our neighbors and I have petitioned the City Council on more than one occasion to have the parking on the south side of Sunshine Terrace between Eureka and Tropical Drives turned into permit parking after 8:00 p.m. each night. This has not succeeded. It has become a fairly serious problem because of the people who frequent the restaurants, etc. on Ventura Blvd. and who park on Sunshine Terrace. They return to their cars very late at night, around 1:00-2:00 a.m. and make a lot of noise, drop trash in the street and leave behind empty liquor bottles, used condoms, syringes, etc. I observed someone get into the car and dump out all of his trash into the street. I asked him to pick up the trash and was threatened and told to get back in my house. Can you please help us with this situation or at least put us in touch with someone in the city government who can help?

**SCRA:** The SCRA spoke to Courtney Hamilton, deputy to Councilmember Paul Krekorian. Hamilton is familiar with prior requests for permit parking in this area. Several years back, the City of Los Angeles implemented a moratorium on permit parking, and, according to Hamilton, the moratorium is still in effect. However, she would like to explore other possible parking measures with the neighbors that may ease the problem. She can be reached at 818-755-7676 or [courtney.hamilton@lacity.org](mailto:courtney.hamilton@lacity.org).

**Q:** I am a new resident in Studio City. Where can I get guest parking permits? My home is on Laurel Terrace.

**SCRA:** Welcome to Studio City, and welcome to the SCRA. If you

go online to LA City Parking, that site will walk you through getting a guest permits. The address is [prodpci.etims.payments.com/pbw/include/laopm/permit.htm](http://prodpci.etims.payments.com/pbw/include/laopm/permit.htm). We tried the site, and it is pretty user friendly. Please get back to us if you have any problems.

**Q:** Many of us working in the Neighborhood Council office on the CBS Studio Center lot park on Radford Avenue, Monday-Friday during business hours. This is because the Neighborhood Council only has one assigned parking space on the lot during those hours. Today there are "No Parking" signs on both sides of Radford Avenue from Ventura Blvd. north to the Los Angeles River (and even further on the east side, halfway up the Radford Artwalk). Just as Film L.A. almost never has "No Parking" signs on both sides of a street, this should not be happening on Radford Avenue. Both sides of the street should never be "No Parking" at the same time.

**SCRA:** Film L.A. responded to Courtney Hamilton at Councilmember Paul Krekorian's office: "Thank you so much for relaying the parking concerns on Radford Avenue to me. I took a look, and, indeed, there are currently two shows shooting at CBS Studios that have posted parking on Radford Avenue ("Colony" and "The Real O'Neals"). These two shows combined for about 650' of posting on the east side of Radford Avenue. I show nothing in regards to filming on the west side and also looked at the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (DOT) website and did not see anything there for parking restrictions on the west side at all.

"We have notes for major studios restricting posting to about 200-300' total at one time. This is for the Hollywood area studios such as Paramount as we have not had 'spill over' issues at CBS Radford before. Well, it looks like we now do, so I am having us place the same limit on CBS Radford. If another production cannot fit on the lot, we will direct the company to use 200-300 feet on Colfax Avenue by that CBS Gate instead. I will reach out to both productions and see if we can get them to reduce their footprints a bit to ease parking pressure until one crew is gone."

Hamilton is checking on the west side restrictions since the DOT did not issue the No Parking permits, and the signs may have been put up illegally.

**Q:** I wonder what the Studio City Residents Association is doing, or what I can do, about the proliferation of houses being demolished and huge mansions built on virtually every square foot of the property? One is just being finished on the street behind me, which is on a slight hill, so the house towers above my house. I have just spent \$900 to build a pergola to try to conceal their view inside my house.

I know you are aware of this. I believe there was something passed saying they could not take up so much footage on the property. This house is built on most of the property. What can we do?

**SCRA:** Please go to the SCRA website at [studiocityresidents.org](http://studiocityresidents.org) and click on Community and then go to Overdevelopment. Several years ago, the SCRA worked on a "floor area ratio" with our City Council office. There was huge community blowback (a lot from your area of Studio City). The RFA ordinance that you can pull up from the site is the very best that we could negotiate at the time as we were the first community to implement such an

(Continued, Page 5)

## (Ask SCRA, cont'd)

ordinance. That said, currently there is a committee in greater Los Angeles working on improving the Baseline Hillside Ordinance (also to be found at this location on our website). When the Hillside Baseline Ordinance is updated and adopted, it is our understanding that the Studio City RFA will be incorporated into the provisions of the ordinance, which will make the Studio City RFA much stronger. The SCRA is monitoring the progress of the committee and providing input. Mansionization is a very big issue throughout Los Angeles, but progress is slow.

When you see a house being torn down, contact Karo Torossian, planning deputy to Councilmember Paul Krekorian, at [karo.torossian@lacity.org](mailto:karo.torossian@lacity.org) or 213-473-7002. Give him the address and ask that he check to ensure the permit complies with the Studio City RFA. Residents are the eyes and ears for enforcement of the ordinance and can help ensure that the Planning Department has checked all the boxes. In addition, please monitor tree removal on the parkway as Councilmember Krekorian is currently leading a motion to save mature trees during construction.

## FROM YOUR BOARD

Nominations were made for appointments to the Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) Board for the offices of vice president and administrative vice president. A motion by Robin

Seidel, seconded by Beth Dymond, passed unanimously. Barry Johnson was appointed vice president and Claudia Freedle was appointed administrative vice president for 2016.

Studio City Beautification President (SCBA) resident Barry Wise advised that the SCBA board had written to Councilmember Paul Krekorian expressing opposition to the City's plan to decorate utility boxes in Studio City. The board agreed that a similar letter be sent to the councilmember expressing the SCRA's agreement that utility boxes are better left plain so as to be less visible.

The membership committee reported that the SCRA has 929 household members with renewals still coming in.

The SCRA will have a booth at the Studio City Farmers Market on November 29, 2015 and December 6, 2015 to promote the December 13, 2015 Winter Family Festival and Festival of Giving. Volunteers are needed to assist. Visitors to the Winter Family Festival are encouraged to bring items to donate to local charities, including canned and packaged food (no glass please); new, unwrapped toys; baby diapers, bottles, formula, and blankets; pet food, beds, and other supplies; new or gently used children's books (K-12); and new or gently used clothing. The Festival of Giving is an important component of the Winter Family Festival. Visit [StudioCityResidents.org](http://StudioCityResidents.org) for more information.

The SCRA letter of support was sent in support of the improvements that will be taking place at Bridges Academy on Laurel Canyon Blvd.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Alan Dymond*

*Here is an update on proposed projects in our area:*

**Beeman Park:** *There is a proposal for a new regulation gym to replace the old one at Studio City Recreation Center (aka "Beeman Park"). Councilmember Paul Krekorian assured the public they will have a voice in the process and that there will be public hearings. He formed an advisory committee and appointed a representative from the Studio City Residents Association (SCRA), neighbors and others to sit on the committee. The committee held its first public hearing on September 9, 2015 where the members reviewed a schematic layout, which was presented for comments. Suggestions by the committee were taken back to the relevant city departments. The responses will be discussed by the committee at the next public hearing at a date to be announced.*

**Harvard Westlake:** *An application has been filed with Bureau of Engineering to vacate and release two interests by the city to a private party. The Bureau will review the application and make its recommendations to the City Council. The interests held by the City are the airspace over Coldwater Canyon Avenue and the release of the City's interest in Hacienda Drive, a "paper street" that is shown on city plans. The release of the airspace over Coldwater Canyon Avenue would allow a bridge to be built over the canyon. Similarly, release of the "paper street" would allow a wall to be built at the south end of the parking structure as a support to the parking structure. The SCRA filed objections to releasing these city interests on the grounds that the City does not have the authority or power to grant this release of interest as it is primarily for benefit of a private entity.*

**Fifty-foot cell towers:** *A Notice of Public Hearing was issued by the Planning Department indicating an application for 50-foot cell towers on the roof of the Public Storage facility on Ventura Place. If ever there was a call to action, this was it; more than 23 objections were filed, and many showed up at the hearing. However, it turned out the notice from the Planning Department contained incorrect information. The antennas were not 50 feet on the roof; they were approximately six feet high and obscured behind a modified parapet of equal height and not visible. In fact, the project complies with an earlier decision by the South Valley Planning Commission. The ideas of a compressor on the premises was questioned. According to Verizon, which is building the towers, the generator is a backup for emergency use only. Should power go out and the stand-by batteries drained before the power comes back on, the generator will kick in until power is restored. The generator will operate only during business hours. These assurances were given by the applicant who represented Verizon.*

*As always, the SCRA endeavors to keep its members informed. Please direct any questions to me at [scra@studiocityreidents.org](mailto:scra@studiocityreidents.org)*

*Alan Dymond*

### 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  
Barry Johnson, Vice President  
Claudia Freedle, Admin. Vice President  
Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Bryan Abrams, Treasurer

### Board Members

Beth Dymond  
Martha Hanrahan  
Steve Hirsh  
Art Howard

Robin Seidel  
Barry Weiss  
Karen Younce  
Noah Bogner, junior member

### Immediate Past President

Art Howard

### Beautification Association

Barry Weiss, President  
Karen Younce, Admin. Vice President  
Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Bryan Abrams, Treasurer  
Diana Zogran

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

Co-Directors  
Laurie Cohn, Alan Dymond, Steve Hirsh,  
Art Howard, Patty Kirby, Chip Meehan,  
saveopenspace@SLAROS.org

### School Liaisons

Carpenter - Bonnie Goodman  
Rio Vista - Barry Weiss

### Studio City Farmers Market

(818) 655-7744  
www.studiocityfarmersmarket.com

### Newsletter

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P.O. Box 1374, Studio City, CA 91614



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# SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING

## Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015

### AGENDA

- 7:00 p.m. Reception
- 7:30 p.m. City Attorney Mike Feuer on the quality of LA's neighborhoods

### Meeting Location

**The Garland  
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 to the Cabrillo Room. PARKING WILL BE VALIDATED at the sign-in-table.*

*The SCRA thanks The Garland for continued support of the monthly SCRA Community Meetings*

