



STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

October 2010

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KREKORIAN ADDRESSES SEPTEMBER SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING

After a two-month summer hiatus, the SCRA Community Meeting resumed to a packed house in September with Councilmember Paul Krekorian as the keynote speaker.

Kicking off the meeting with his report to the community, Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis said crime is down 11 percent this year. He reported that the incident in which a body was found in a burnt car earlier in the year on Radford near the freeway has been reduced to an arson investigation, after the individual was found to be an overdose victim.

Councilmember Paul Krekorian updated SCRA members on the time line for the completion of work on the Colfax bridge. The Councilmember has made arrangements for Gary L. Moore, director of public works, to personally oversee the completion of the construction and visit the site on a monthly basis. The worst case scenario would mean work would be completed by October 2011. However, the Councilmember and the Public Works Department are working towards completing the bridge by next April. Residents are welcome to meet with Mr. Moore during his monthly visit by calling the council office at 818-755-7676.

Krekorian said the Valley is often treated as the "ugly stepsister." He is working to create visibility for CD 2 by employing digital communications tools, attending public events, creating policy blogs as well as increasing transparency and availability. Krekorian chairs the City Council's Education and Neighborhoods Committee and is in a position to shape the Neighborhood Councils. He is also on the Energy and Environment Committee that oversees the DWP and rate hikes. With the Councilmember's help, Studio City DWP customers are now classified as the "hot zone," which will reduce the rates of residents who have been incorrectly charged by the DWP.

The meeting included a lively discussion on "Mansionization" and Councilmember Krekorian's proposed Residential Floor Area (RFA) for the flatlands of Studio City. Krekorian reported those residents in favor the RFA and those who opposed it were fairly close in adopting a workable and sustainable overlay. He suggested Studio City is different, a special place with a community feel worth protecting and preserving; as a result, Krekorian offered, this plan cannot be rushed, since it will help define the character of Studio City for years to come.



VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 23

by State Senator Fran Pavley

Why are out-of-state oil companies spending millions to STOP California's clean energy laws?

Proposition 23 would "suspend" California's Clean Energy Law (AB 32). This oil industry-sponsored initiative is primarily funded by out-of-state oil companies. In fact, according to the Secretary of State, 98 percent of the funding for Proposition 23 is from oil companies, with almost 90 percent of it from outside of California. They have contributed millions of dollars to pay for hired signature gatherers and well-paid consultants to confuse the voters.

The editorial in the September 19, 2010 edition of the Daily News got it exactly right. It said, "A closer look at Proposition 23 reveals what it is: A cynical attempt by certain corporate interests to roll back California's

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TWO EXCITING SPEAKERS SLATED FOR OCTOBER SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING



The October SCRA Community meeting will feature two important local elected officials, State Senator Fran Pavley and Assemblymember Mike Feuer. Senator Fran Pavley will



address Proposition 23 – “Why are out-of-state oil companies spending millions trying to overturn California’s clean energy laws?” – and the potential impacts if this proposition passes in the upcoming November 2010 elections. Assemblymember Mike Feuer will speak about the status of mobile billboards, children’s health and other pending legislative action.

The meeting will be held on October 12, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the Beverly Garland’s Holiday Inn Theater Room. Light refreshments and an opportunity to meet community members and neighbors begin at 7:00 p.m.

SCRA ELECTIONS

In accordance with Article 7 sec 7.1 of the SCRA Bylaws, the following have been appointed members of the SCRA Nominating Committee – Alan Dymond, Steve Hirsh, Todd Royal and Tina Callas – for the purpose of receiving nominations for the following offices: President, Executive Vice President (two offices), Administrative Vice President, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary. Members of SCRA in good standing and who reside in the geographic area designated by SCRA bylaws may submit nominations specifying the office for which the proposed designation is made, together with the name and address of the member submitting the nomination. All nominations should be submitted by e-mail to SCRAboard@studiocityresidents.org or by first class prepaid mail to P.O Box. 1374, Studio City, CA 91604.

SCRA MEMBERSHIP ALERT

Check the address label on this edition of your newsletter. If it shows “6/10,” then the SCRA has not received your annual membership renewal for the June 2010 to June 2011 membership year. To renew your membership and continue receiving this monthly newsletter, visit the SCRA website www.studiocityresidents.org and renew on-line or call the SCRA office at 818-509-0230 for a renewal application. This October newsletter will be the LAST NEWSLETTER sent to all residents who have 2010 labels.

Being a member of the SCRA positions Studio City residents to be heard by local, state and federal representatives and agencies. Because of the size of the SCRA membership, one of the largest in Los Angeles, its members have input and influence in the community and with elected officials.

(Prop 23, cont’d)

environmental rules - not for the good of Californians, or even business in general, but for the benefit of their bottom line.” The Daily News as well as the Valley Industry and Commerce Association encourages voters to vote No on Prop 23.

I am the author of AB 32, signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2006. The purpose of this law is to create a market for cleaner energy and new jobs for California. By sending this market signal to the private sector, California has already received more than \$9 million dollars of investment capital for clean tech businesses, renewable energy and alternative fuels. In fact, more than 60 percent of all clean tech venture capital in the country has come to California. We have created a market and the certainty that California is open for business. The proponents of Proposition 23 call for a vague “suspension” of AB 32, which would likely dry up the capital and these new 21st century jobs and send these investment dollars to other countries.

Let’s look at AB 32, California’s Clean, Secure, Energy Law. The primary emission reduction targets required in AB 32 include manufacturing more energy efficient automobiles, buildings and appliances and creating cleaner, less polluting energy and fuels. At a recent hearing that I held in San Diego, top military leaders strongly advised that we need to dramatically reduce our dependence on foreign oil and other energy sources. It’s in our nation’s best interest. Making cars more fuel efficient cleans up our air, reduces our dependence on foreign oil and saves motorists money at the pump. In fact, this California law, AB 1493(Pavley), has now become the new Federal standard. Diversifying our energy sources by investing in home grown, clean, renewable energy and alternative fuels will also help Californians minimize the ongoing volatility of the energy and oil markets.

California’s clean energy laws have been a bright spot during this economic recession. According to the Daily News, “Proposition 23 not only won’t protect jobs, it’s likely to kill one of the few growing industries in California.”

Please join me in voting NO on Proposition 23.

Editor’s Note: Periodically, the SCRA will publish an op-ed about an issue of importance to the community. Interested parties should feel free to submit op-eds for consideration to the editor of this newsletter via email at scraboard@studiocityresidents.org.



TO THE MARKET

As the community bids farewell to summer and welcomes fall, be sure to visit the Studio City Farmers Market for all the fresh and tasty

produce that fall brings. Pomegranates are arriving along with persimmons and lots of tasty root vegetables. Winter squash, such as the popular butternut and acorn, are starting to hit the market now. Meet Studio City Farmers Market new vendor, Dirk, the LA Fungi (Fun Guy), who features at least 15 varieties of mushrooms each week - including fresh truffles! As the weather cools, the holidays are heating up; it's time to think about comfort foods, such as casseroles and soups. Halloween falls on a Sunday this year so bring the kids for trick or treat and the market's annual costume parade.

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.

Q: What can be done to clean up the Riverwalk from Whitsett Avenue to Laurel Canyon Blvd.? Not only are there homeless camped on the river close to Laurel Canyon, but the steps leading out of the walk to the parking lot are being used as a urinal.

SCRA: The SCRA contacted the Studio City Business Improvement District (BID) to find out if that organization's steam cleaner company could clean off the steps. Within a day, the SCRA received a call from the BID saying they would take care of this problem. Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis has been notified of this encampment and has forwarded the details to his Transient Officers. The SCRA sends a big thanks to all who helped in finding a solution to this problem.

On a related note, a car was observed stopping at the bridge and placing food on Laurel Canyon, which was picked up by the homeless. The SCRA recommends that a better method of helping the homeless in our community is to call Homeless Services Authority (HSA) at 213-683-3333, explain the problem and reach the HSA's Emergency Response Group. A professional will be sent to the location and provide options for food and shelter for those in need.

Q: I keep hearing about the SCRA sister organizations. Who are they?

SCRA: The SCRA has three prominent, hard-working sister organizations; Save LA River Open Space, Studio City Beautification and the Studio City Farmer's Market.

Save LA River Open Space was started more than eight years ago as a committee of the SCRA. It is now its own separate not-for-profit public benefit corporation, which may accept tax-deductible donations. These donations supplement the ongoing funding from the SCRA. Given the efforts of Save LA River Open Space, the open space at Weddington Golf & Tennis has not been developed. But the challenge is far from over. The SCRA and Save

LA River Open Space continue in the fight to keep this precious jewel as open space and the best site for access to the LA River in the San Fernando Valley, a critical element in the citywide river revitalization plans.

Studio City Beautification Association also started as a committee of the SCRA in 1983 and is now a not-for-profit public benefit corporation. The SCBA is funded by the SCRA with one annual fundraiser, which is mailed to SCRA members in November. The SCBA's capital projects to beautify the community are visible throughout Studio City.

Studio City Farmers Market is organized and managed by the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce Foundation. The Studio City Farmers Market has been rated as one of best in Los Angeles: it helps promote Studio City as a tourist destination. Studio City residents are fortunate to have farm fresh produce available and a family outing and gathering place to enjoy on Sunday mornings.

SCRA FOLLOW-UP: Last month, the SCRA was asked about an abandoned building site at 11448 Canton Drive, vacant since December 2008. As a result of a report by one of the SCRA members, as well as actions by the both the Fire Department and the City Council office, the property has been posted by the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety. The posting, the final one as required by the local ordinances, says that if there is no compliance with the Order to Comply, then the City will proceed to make the site safe. The requirements are that the site be totally fenced, all openings boarded up, debris removed and graffiti, in any, be removed. According to the notice, all corrective measures have to be completed ten days from the date of posting of the notice, which was September 8, 2010. The SCRA will follow up to see if further measures can be undertaken by the City once the site is fenced and made secure.

LOCAL ORGANIZATION HELPS MOTHERS FIND FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT

Being a mother is very rewarding, but perhaps one of the most difficult jobs around. That's why, in 1983, stay-at-home mom Mary James started MOMS Club® in Simi Valley, CA. The organization, whose name is an acronym for MOMS Offering Moms Support, has since grown to more than 2,100 chapters around the world with more than 110,000 members. The objective of the organization is twofold. The first goal is to provide support for mothers through friendship, education and community. The second goal of all MOMS Clubs around the world is to help children in the community by performing at least one service project each year.

The MOMS Club of Studio City, known as Studio City's MOMS club (SCMC), was formed in 1993 and currently has 60 members. Each month, SCMC members meet for a variety of activities to enrich their lives as mothers as well as help educate their children. Members are encouraged to attend activity days for children, including trips to museums, parks, theaters and other local kid-friendly attractions. There is also an all-members meeting where local experts are invited to speak to members about topics such as nutrition, child safety, choosing the right schools and women's

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(MOMS Club, cont'd)

health issues. In addition to these monthly activities, the SCMC organizes Halloween and Spring Fling parties annually for members and their families.

Ranked highly among members are the Club's age-specific playgroups that meet weekly to allow children a chance to play with peers and give mothers an opportunity to socialize and find camaraderie during the ever-changing child development and mothering stages. Hilary Angel, co-president of the local chapter, provided testimony for how the club provides her with support. "The Studio City MOMS Club has been a great way to meet new friends for me and my daughter in our neighborhood. Not only does Emma love her playgroup, but I have made great new 'mommy friends' and look forward to each club activity." Children are welcome at all events, except for the monthly MOMS Night Out, where the moms get a chance to leave the kids at home and spend some quality time with their friends dining out, experiencing wine tasting, bowling, taking in a movie and enjoying other fun activities.

Just like all chapters of the MOMS Club, the Studio City chapter is a non-profit charitable organization. As part of its mission to help needy children in the community, the members of SCMC hold a number of fundraisers throughout the year to benefit a charity, often with the help of Studio City businesses. The SCMC adopted LA Family Housing (LAFH) in 2009, an organization in North Hollywood that helps families transition out of homelessness and poverty. This past summer, SCMC members threw a big birthday party, complete with cake, games and gifts, for all children at the facility with June birthdays. In addition, they also held a diaper drive. Co-President of the Studio City MOMS Club, Melissa Procanik, described how members can relate to the community work done by SCMC. "As moms, we all know how expensive diapers are and how quickly we go through them. So we were happy to help out with our diaper drive for LAFH." The SCMC has a number of upcoming events for LAFH, including a pajama party and book reading event. Members will visit LAFH at bedtime to read bedtime stories to the pajama clad children and then donate the books to the LAFH library.

Prior to starting the alliance with LAFH, the MOMS Club of Studio City worked closely for a number of years with the now closed Women's Care Cottage in a multifaceted capacity, serving dinner, adopting families during the holidays and donating items such as diapers, toiletries, food and school supplies. Since its inception, the MOMS Club of Studio City has helped hundreds of children with its efforts, including support for the MOMS Club Mother-to-Mother Fund, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, the Interfaith Food Pantry and Shane's Inspiration Boundless Playgrounds.

Although the MOMS Club was originally started for stay at home mothers, the Studio City chapter has a balance of full-time moms and those that work, either part or full time. The club is open to moms with children of all ages; however, the Studio City club's most active members have children who are preschool age and younger. Prospective members are welcome to attend monthly membership meetings to learn more about the club and to meet members. Visit www.MOMSClub.org or contact the Studio City chapter at studiocitymomsclub@yahoo.com for more information.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS TRAINING RETURNS TO STUDIO CITY

Once again, the SCRA will sponsor Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) training with classes in January in Studio City. To become a CERT graduate, one must complete the 17½ hour course (Level 1) taught by professional experienced firefighters and paramedics. The course is followed by continuing education programs, including biannual refreshers. There is no charge for taking the course. Check this newsletter and the SCRA e-blast, News & Notes, which will publish the schedule when it is confirmed.

IT'S HAPPENING IN STUDIO CITY

North Hollywood Park

NW corner of Magnolia Street & Cahuenga Avenue near Amelia Earhart Statue

North Hollywood Historic Walking Tour: October 2010. A 2.5 hour walking tour of historic sites. Amelia Earhart, 1927 Library, 1896 Southern Pacific Depot, Weddington Family, El Portal Theatre and more included. To get the exact date and RSVP, please call 818-347-9665 or email TheMuseumSFV@gmail.com.

Studio City Library

12511 Moorpark Street.

Book Donations: Every Saturday, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Accepting used books in "good enough condition for resale," as well as videos, CDs, DVD's and books on tape. No textbooks please.

Library Speaker Series: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room. The Friends of the Studio City Library present Cecil Castellucci, author of contemporary novels for young adults, graphic novels, numerous short stories, plays and operas.

Monthly Book Sale: Saturday, October 30, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Varied selection of books, DVD's, videos, CD's and more. Please bring bags or boxes for purchases.

Studio City / Beeman Park

12621 Rye Street (on Rye St & Beeman)

Senior Exercise Class: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. for all seniors from 55 to 95. Join this fun class and exercise your whole body. Includes chair exercises. For more information, call the park at 818-769-4415 or Marge at 818-763-6779.

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Studio City
12355 Moorpark Street

Yard / Estate Sale & BBQ: Saturday, October 23, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Furniture, clothes, books, shoes, electronics and estate items, among others. For more information, contact the church office at 818-769-5911 or Judy Leslie at judy@lesliemail.com.

COMMUNITY CRIME REPORT

by Studio City Lead Officer Mike Lewis

Crime in Studio City is about average. Last month, the community saw a heavy concentration of Burglary from Motor Vehicles around the area of Ventura and Laurel Canyon Blvds. Please do not leave valuables in the car, especially GPS devices.

There have also been a number of cars broken into south of Ventura Blvd. in the middle of the night. One citizen reported observing a 1992-1995 black or dark blue Ford Explorer driving slowly around the neighborhood around 3:00 a.m. The next day, a neighbor's car was broken into. The Ford has a sticker depicting a person urinating. Anyone who sees this vehicle is asked to please try to safely get the license plate number and call Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis' cell at 818-634-2593. The occupants of the vehicle are not wanted, nor have they committed any crime, so the police should not be contacted.

On September 8, 2010, at approximately 3:00 a.m., Los Angeles Fire Department personnel responded to a call about a vehicle fire on Radford Street under the 101 Freeway overpass. Firefighters arrived and found a vehicle fully engulfed in flames. After extinguishing the fire, firefighters discovered human remains in the rear of the vehicle. The North Hollywood LAPD office was notified and responding officers determined there was a body in the trunk of the vehicle. They set up a crime scene and began a homicide investigation.

The office was contacted recently by the Coroner's Office, which was able to identify the victim as 50-year-old Russell Rathert of Van Nuys and determine the cause of death. Rathert had a lengthy rap sheet and had been arrested for heroin a number of times. The coroner reported the victim had died at least 24 hours prior to his being put in the car, and the cause of death was an overdose.

Please continue to watch out for your neighbors. If you see something suspicious, please call 818-634-2593. If you have witnessed a crime and it is not an emergency, please call 1-877-ASK-LAPD. If there is a crime in progress, call 911.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alan Dymond

Growing up as an evacuee during World War II in a small village in England, I returned to my London birth place after the cessation of hostilities with Germany. Many years later, having worked on construction sites in Wales, Ohio, Indiana and the Carson City oil refineries, I was seduced by the Los Angeles weather that would lead this Londoner finally to put down permanent roots, happily, in Studio City, where I have lived for the past seventeen years.

From my experiences of living and working in many places, I developed a sense and feeling of how neighborhoods function and grow into being a place where people want to live and be involved. Each of us has his or her own idea of what that ideal neighborhood or city is or should be. Talk to most New Yorkers, even those who left the Big Apple many years ago; they still have that emotional tie and truly believe there is no place quite like New York. So on a smaller scale, what is it that makes Studio City so special to us who reside here? We hear mention of the "village atmosphere," its "walkability" and many other adjectives, but, to me, it is apparent that it is the mix of people that live here that make Studio City the wonderful community it is.

I want to expand on the words "mix of people." Studio City is not just one class or one segment of United States society. We have young people starting out with an eye to raising families, retirees, and professional, business and craft people. Yes, we have our homeless, which can be an irritant, but it goes to remind us, uncomfortably at times, what we have here and how we can help. Studio City is diverse in so many ways, and it is essential that this balance be maintained. That is why housing for all levels is an essential part of maintaining the quality of life in the community we have come to love.

Over the past few years, as a result of the disastrous State Senate Bill 1818, many affordable units have been lost, leading to a greatly diminished number of retirees who used to stroll around and shop in the local markets. Remember that charming elderly lady on her three-wheeled bicycle? The properties where she lived, and where others resided, in some cases for more than 30 years, are gone. SB1818 took away the ability of the Los Angeles City Council to permit growth in a reasonable manner: we have ended up with a net loss of affordable housing and diminishment amidst our diverse community.

Similarly, circumstances and market forces are affecting single family residences here in Studio City; therefore, it is essential that a balance be struck between providing for growing families that will need more space and who are relying on their properties as an investment when the time comes to move on; yet we must not ignore or forget our neighbors. They have certain property rights that should not be impaired: they, too, have requirements and concerns that should be acknowledged. Those of us who attended Councilmember Paul Krekorian's presentation in September at the SCRA Community Meeting came away knowing that those dealing with the Residential Floor Area (RFA) dispute have to talk and reach an agreement that all can live with. To that end, the SCRA is committed to work with the Council office and all parties with the objective of achieving a fair and equitable solution acceptable to all engaged in this matter. The outcome may not be all that each wishes for but hopefully most of what is finally agreed upon can be acceptable.

The controversy over the RFA presents an excellent opportunity for all of us in Studio City to join together -- join the SCRA, give input and a little of your time. Councilmember Paul Krekorian stated it so clearly when he said what we do on the RFA and the end result will impact Studio City for many years to come. What type of neighborhood do we want?

Alan Dymond



MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEETING

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Light refreshments.
Meet your neighbors
and friends.

7:30 p.m.

Presentations from State
Senator Fran Pavley on
Prop. 23/Status of CA's
clean energy laws and
Assemblymember Mike
Feuer on mobile
billboards/children's
health/other issues.

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.



STUDIO CITY HOLIDAY PARADE ON HIATUS

The SCRA was pleased and proud to take over the reins of the Studio City Holiday Parade and bring it back to Studio City in 2009. Unfortunately, this year, given unexpected challenges to the schedules of key parade committee and production staff, we have decided to put the parade on hiatus. It is with much regret that the SCRA Board of Directors has determined that the SCRA, for this year only, will not be able to mount the holiday parade for 2010.

We have every intention of bringing our signature holiday event back to the community in 2011. The SCRA thanks all those in the community who supported the parade with sponsorships, endorsements and direct participation in 2009. We will look to you for continued support in 2011. The SCRA is forming its 2011 Studio City Holiday Parade Committee now. Volunteers are needed to help with planning, community outreach, promotional materials, parade day set-up, sponsorship development and parade route support. Contact the SCRA at 818-509-0230 or email Bonnie at SCRABoard@studiocityresidents.org.

THREE EASY WAYS TO GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Holiday Parade Volunteers Needed: If you thought last year's holiday parade was a blast, get ready for this year's event! The SCRA Board needs volunteers to join its holiday parade committee to help with planning, community outreach, promotional materials, parade day set-up and parade route support.

Social Media Volunteer Needed: The SCRA Board is looking for volunteers who can form a committee to make recommendations to the SCRA on the use of Twitter, Facebook and other forms of digital communications/social media.

Membership Committee Volunteers Needed: The SCRA membership committee is looking for volunteers with administrative skills to propose ideas and implement actions to increase SCRA membership.

Please leave a message for Beth at 818-509-0230 or email her at SCRABoard@studiocityresidents.org.