



**NEWSLETTER
December 2009**

www.mhnconline.org

VETERANS CELEBRATED

The Sixth Annual San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade was held in Mission Hills on November 11. It was a great success as thousands of residents lined the street to pay tribute to America's heroes—the veterans of our Armed Forces. High ranking military officers, elected officials and other dignitaries watched from a special reviewing stand. The parade route proceeded along Laurel Canyon from San Fernando Mission Blvd to the Ritchie Valens Recreation Center and Park where revelers participated in a carnival that rounded out the day's celebration. More than 60 veterans groups participated in the parade including one equestrian team, five marching high school bands, the San Diego-based Navy Band Southwest, the 1st Marine Division Band from Camp Pendleton and the Air National Guard Band of the Southwest (562 Air Force Band). All of the wartime eras from WWII to Iraqi Freedom and all branches of service were represented by active duty or reserve military personnel. The WWII era flying Condor squadron from Van Nuys decorated the sky in honor of the veterans. Special thanks to City Councilman Richard Alarcón and Dan Rosales Jr., Supervisor-Planning, for organizing this amazing day recognizing our brave veterans. Thank you all for your service.

Community Members Trained For Emergency Response

The Public Safety Committee of the MHNC recently sponsored an LAFD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. 42 members of our community graduated this seven week course and now have the knowledge and skills to respond to any natural or manmade disaster that effects Mission Hills. The efforts of the CERT members may one day save a life and we are thankful for their participation. Police and fire officials suggest that we all be prepared to cope with disasters in all the ways that we can.



Special thanks to LAFD Firefighter Mason, John Samuelson, David Guzman, Manny Figueras, Betty Ley, Pamela Goldfinger and to Bishop Alemany High School for their contributions to this training. In case of a major emergency in Mission Hills, keep your eyes open for CERT members, they are the folks wearing green hard hats and vests. You can find information about future CERT training and useful emergency information at www.cert-la.com.



Take Action for a Better Neighborhood

Are you concerned about the establishment of Sober Living Homes in Mission Hills? There's a way you can make your voice heard. An ordinance has been drafted by Councilman Greg Smith that would require Sober Living Homes to obtain a Conditional Use Permit. We urge you to call Councilman Alarcon's office at 818-756-8409 or by completing the email form on the contact page at his website <http://cd7.lacity.org> to tell him you want this ordinance passed right away. Your call will determine whether it gets passed or ignored. Act now!

Proof that Action Works

Kudos to our neighbor and chair of the neighborhood council Finance committee, John Samuelson for keeping our neighborhood "family friendly." John noticed a couple of billboards that had language that was not appropriate for children and contacted the city councilman to insist that something be done. Within days the billboards were changed. Good job John and thank you for taking action and proving that our voices have power.

A Face Lift along Devonshire Blvd.

Thanks to a pledge of \$6,000 received by the Beautification and Cultural Affairs Committee, Devonshire Street between Arleta Ave and Woodman Blvd may get a face lift next year. The project, known as the East San Fernando Valley Nature Parkway will install native plants along that strip to create a beautiful and serene area adjacent to the pedestrian and bike path leading to Devonwood LA City Park. The project is dependent on receiving a matching funds grant from LA's Public Works Department. Special thanks go to the Mission Hills Neighborhood Council for the pledge and to Tejo Landscape Services on Arleta at Paxton Street. Stay tuned to find out if matching funds are granted. For volunteer opportunities or questions please contact Chair and Project Manager Yolanda Anguiano at (818) 504-3911.

**THE BOARD MEMBERS
OF THE MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
WISH ALL THE RESIDENTS
OF MISSION HILLS A VERY
HAPPY, HEALTHY AND
SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.**

Skateboarding Comes to Mission Hills

In an effort to provide safe activities for our children, the Public Safety Committee has arranged for access to a mobile skate park in Mission Hills. The park, which will be available once a month is sponsored by the MHNC and will be operated by MH volunteers. We are still looking for a good location so if you have suggestions please contact Joseph Chicas, chair of the Public Safety Committee at 818-433-5479 or by going to the MHNC website at www.mhnconline.org.

New Board Members

Jerrilyn Paley
Chair, Land Use Committee

Julia Neiman
Chair, Outreach Committee

Upcoming MHNC Committee Meetings

All board and committee meetings are held at the Mission Community Police Station, 11121 Sepulveda Blvd. Please check the MHNC website and the January 2010 newsletter for the dates of meetings in January and February.

Have your voice heard! Do you have comments? Would you like to volunteer? Do you have a story to tell? Need help? Visit the MHNC website at www.mhnconline.org and sign up for the MHNC eNewsletter and to receive timely updates or email us at mhnc@mhnconline.org. And attend the meetings which are held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

A special thank you to *Sky Signs* for the great job they did printing our new banner and for their help with our new logo and printing this newsletter. Sky Signs is located at 15340 San Fernando Mission Blvd. 818-898-3802. Watch for a feature story about Sky Signs next month.