



Brush Clearance Inspections Begin May 1

See Page 15



Blockfest is Blockbuster Success See page 3

"Princess Jasmine" Brings Disney to Soraya



See Page 7

North Valley News

Volume 1, Number 27

April 20, 2023

Serving Porter Ranch, Northridge, Granada Hills & Chatsworth

News in Brief

Community Shredding Day in Porter Ranch

The third annual Porter Valley Community Shred Day will be held this Saturday, April 22, from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring up to six boxes per household of residential shredding. Help protect yourself from identity theft by bringing documents that contain your personal information such as old bank statements, tax returns, bills, receipts, credit card statements and old medical records. There will be no plastic, x-rays, CD's, tapes, binders or blueprints accepted. Cardboard boxes cannot be left at the event. The shredding event will be held at 11710 Doral Avenue in Porter Ranch. For more information email jessicamiller@gmail.com.

Ex Con Held in Northridge Shooting

An ex con has been charged with murder after shooting a man painting over gang graffiti at a strip center in Northridge. Jamal Jackson is accused of fatally shooting Juan Lopez Suarez and injuring other workers last Saturday in the 1900 block of Parthenia Street. Surveillance footage showed Jackson exiting his vehicle, approaching the victims on foot and firing at them multiple times. Two of the victims underwent surgery, another was treated and released. There was no apparent motive for the crime and Jackson has not been identified as a gang member. He will be arraigned May 23 in a San Fernando courtroom.

LAPD Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

The 29th S.O.L.I.D. all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast will be held Saturday, April 22, from 8 to 11 am in conjunction with an LAPD Devonshire Station Open House at 10250 Etiwanda St., Northridge. The breakfast is \$10 per person (kids three and under free). There will be LAPD displays, a Sierra Canyon rock wall and more. Tickets are available at soliddevonshire.org.

DEA Hosts "Drug Take Back" Day April 22

The Drug Enforcement Agency is hosting their "Drug Take Back" day on Saturday, April 22, from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring your unwanted, unused or expired drugs. DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs. Drop off locations on Saturday include Simi Valley Police Department, 3901 Alamo St, Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills, 5601 DeSoto Avenue, Kaiser Permanente Panorama City, 13652 Cantara Street, San Fernando Police Department, 910 1st Street. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. For more information visit dea.gov/takebackday.

Mayor Karen Bass Gives State of the City- We Ask Her About the Valley

Mayor Karen Bass gave her State of the City address Tuesday, 127 days into her administration.

She pointed to the changes that have occurred during her term, saying that she cannot declare that the state of the city is where it needs to be, but, "Together we have brought change."

Bass addressed safety and homelessness as residents' major concerns.

She lauded her "Inside Safe" program, initiated after she declared a state of emergency about the homeless on her very first day in office.

She identified 1,000 people moved off the streets through Inside Safe, and *Valley News Group* asked how many of those were from the valley.

"The new Inside Safe initiative has been a pilot program during these first few months of the administration and has not yet been deployed Citywide. Through the pilot, Inside Safe has been activated at Victory and Vineland in the East Valley and along the LA River (including parts of the West Valley and Sepulveda Basin)."

Her plan to house 17,000 during her first year includes a \$250 million investment in her newly released budget to scale Inside Safe citywide, with some funds designated to purchasing hotels and motels across Los Angeles. "Inside Safe is a citywide initiative to address unhoused Angelenos in all parts of the City, including the San Fernando Valley. We have plans to address more Valley locations, including the North Valley," Bass told the paper.

"We are working to secure long-term interim housing



Mayor Bass gives her State of the City address at City Hall.

resources distributed throughout the City. These housing resources will be a combination of nightly leases, long-term agreements and purchases."

Bass urged local landlords to participate in housing the homeless, and said, "We need

Inside Safe has been activated at Victory and Vineland and along the L.A. River including parts of the West Valley and Sepulveda Basin.

Angelenos to welcome housing on their communities."

Acknowledging that mental illness is a large component of homelessness, Bass said she will use funds from opioid and tobacco settlement to pay for substance abuse treatment.

Valley residents and business owners are increasingly concerned

about security - protection from homeless and home invasion robberies. Bass said her number one job is to "Keep L.A. Safe." To that end her goal is to launch a recruitment campaign for LAPD new officers, hire civilians to handle non-emergency cases and hire more 911 operators.

She also addressed concerns about wildfires and pledged to be "prepared for fire season" by budgeting funds to hire hundreds of new firefighters.

Bass talked about the "new L.A. we are building together."

"It's about the state of your neighborhood, your household, your mind. Do you look over your shoulder walking after dark? Do you have pride in your local parks? Do you have peace of mind because you can actually pay the rent? When the answer is 'yes' then we can say the state of the city is strong."

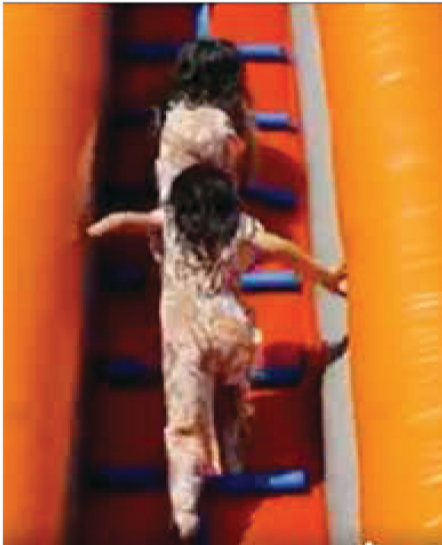
Blockfest Was a Blockbuster Success!



The annual Blockfest street festival hosted by the Chatsworth Porter Ranch Camber and Councilman John Lee brought over 10,000 people to share in the day-long event.

Food, drink, music and even wrestling were on the schedule, as well as a WE CON festival, celebrating the social influence of comics and pop culture.

Julio Galvez, owner of We Can Be Heroes comic book store, told *North Valley News*, "I had so many people come up to me and say, 'Thank you for such an incredible day.' Another person had never seen pro wrestling before, became an instant fan, and is ready for more live PCW Ultra action. There were also a lot of people who had purchased their very first comic book ever! That is what We Con is all about! That is what We Can Be Heroes Comics is all about. There are so many people to thank - Councilman John Lee, Kiwanis, Galpin Ford, Strain, Renay Gonzalez law firm, Los Toros, Handbrewed Brewery, and so many more... let's not forget the 125 vendors, I'm proud of the Chatsworth Chamber! We are ready for 2024 We already have sign ups for it."



Where Membership Matters

- ✓ Touch Base Tuesdays
- ✓ Link Luncheons
- ✓ Chamber Board Meetings
- ✓ Ribbon Cuttings & Networking

Join Today! Call 818.341.2428

Have you considered Private Wildfire Protection?

Now you can take proactive steps to protect your home by hiring your own personal and private wildfire protection service

- ✓ Personal protection increases the chances of saving your home during an active wildfire
- ✓ Trained staff are on call 24/7
- ✓ Services provided by trained wildfire mitigation specialists

FIREBREAK PROTECTION SYSTEMS, INC.

805-584-6800
www.firebreakpro.com