



# The Gazette.

5 CENTS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2007

YEAR 13, NUMBER 4

## Head In To Newhall – Literally.

‘San Fernando Road’ Giving Way To New Names.

Public Improvements Will Make Old Town More Pedestrian-Friendly.

By CHRIS PRICE,  
ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

As you have no doubt noticed, Main Street in Old Town Newhall now has head-in angled parking.

While the designers of the Downtown Newhall Specific Plan felt that the less common back-in parking would set Newhall apart from any other area of town, the majority of merchants, property owners and patrons felt that it simply created too much complexity, and that traffic flow through the area was not conducive to the unfamiliar maneuver.

Therefore, heeding the requests of the public, the Newhall Redevelopment Committee, together with the Old

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CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

NEW STREET SIGNS ERECTED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA REFLECT THE NAME CHANGE FROM “SAN FERNANDO ROAD” TO “MAIN STREET.”

## Local Children On Parade December 1.

Newhall To Transform Into Winter Wonderland.

By MARSHA MCLEAN,  
MAYOR OF NEWHALL  
AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES.

Prepare for the picture-perfect holiday experience. This winter season, the city of Santa Clarita will host the Old Town Newhall Children’s Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 1, at 9 a.m. Holiday songs and a snow-filled winter wonderland await participants and spectators alike.

The parade, which will begin at 8th and Main Street in Old Town Newhall, continuing down Main Street into William S. Hart Park, is a celebration of children. Local children are encouraged to participate in the holiday celebration by decorating their wagons, bikes, skateboards, scooters and animals.

Every holiday season, the city enjoys hosting activities, especially for the children.

With more than nine hundred participants in last year’s parade, we are excited to welcome Santa Clarita families to join us for the Fourth Annual Old Town Newhall Children’s Holiday Parade, being held for the first time on Main Street.

Children are invited to register with a pet, friend, group, Scout troop, dance or cheer team, or any other organization. Absolutely no adults are permitted to walk in the parade. Judges will award trophies to winning entries displaying the most holiday spirit.

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## Indian Relics Will Be Preserved.

Land Developer Donates Thousands Of Artifacts To Museum In Newhall.

By LEON WORDEN,  
GAZETTE EDITOR.

Visitors to the Saugus Train Station Museum at Hart Park in Newhall will see something new on display – or rather, something very old: more than a dozen Indian artifacts that were unearthed from a development site in the center of Santa Clarita.

On display is a mere sampling of the thousands of stone tools, beads and fragments that The Newhall Land and Farming Company has donated to the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society. All seven thousand pieces come from one section of property adjacent to Newhall Land’s RiverVillage development near the northeast corner of Bouquet Junction – an indication of just how rich our valley is in archaeological treasures.

“Although the Tataviam [Indians] lived in our valley for hundreds of years, there is still much that we have to learn about their culture. Hopefully these artifacts will shed some light,” Historical Society President Alan Pol-

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LEON WORDEN

LOCAL TRIBAL ELDER CHARLIE COOKE, A LIFELONG SANTA CLARITA RESIDENT WHO ATTENDED NEWHALL SCHOOL IN THE 1940S, GIVES SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT MARLEE LAUFFER OF NEWHALL LAND A BUNDLE OF SAGE TO WARD OFF EVIL SPIRITS.

# The Old Town Newhall Gazette.

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LEON WORDEN, Editor and Publisher.

## EDITORIAL.

# Where Is Gate-King?

The Gate-King Industrial Park on the historic Needham Ranch was going to revolutionize Newhall.

A mile-long stretch of fallow, fire-ravaged land just south of our Old Town was going to become productive. Office and light manufacturing buildings were going to be tucked neatly against the hillsides, with trees planted all around them.

The business park was going to create eight thousand new jobs for all manner of executives, skilled workers and semi-skilled workers, without bringing so much as one new resident to our valley. It was all business. No homes.

It was going to help the mom-and-pop shops in Newhall because those eight thousand workers were going to need to go into town to eat lunch and shop for their office parties.

It was going to help Newhall as a whole because the developer was going to cut a check for nearly three million dollars to pay for even more public improvements in the greater Newhall area.

It was going to generate sales-and use-tax revenues for city coffers where none is being generated today.

It was going to be a shot in the arm for the city's new Open Space Preservation District because almost half of the land, the best parts, where a stream runs through a beautiful oak grove, was going to be donated to the city as public parkland, free of charge.

It was going to help the coyotes and the deer and the bunny rabbits because it was going to fund a wildlife corridor – sort of the animal version of a Valencia paseo.

It was going to enable the city to protect and preserve the Pioneer Oil Refinery, the oldest existing refinery in the Western Hemi-

sphere, which was in operation from 1876 to 1888 and gave birth to the California oil industry.

It was going to include a trail for joggers and bike riders with interpretive signs pointing out the historical “stuff” along the way, such as the old Southern Pacific Railroad tunnel, which isn't easily accessed by foot today.

And it was all going to start right around now.

So where is it?

It's on hold.

It's still tied up in court.

It seems there are those who don't believe we've got enough water in this valley to support it.

Never mind that we're hooked up to the State Water Project. Never mind that we haven't had a water shortage since the 1970s, when we had a third as many homes as we've got today. Never mind that there seems to be plenty of water in every OTHER part of town for new construction, if those bulldozers on all of the local hillsides are an indication.

These misguided litigants would just as soon stop all growth in our valley and they're using the Gate-King Industrial Park as a test case – and Newhall is the loser for it.

It's ironic, really. Newhall is where the water is. Newhall is where the water always has been.

Newhall started out in 1876 in what would later be known as Saugus, around the K-Mart shopping center. Two years later it moved to its present Old Town location. Why? Too hard to pump the water in Saugus. There was a natural artesian spring in Newhall, so the whole town picked up and moved, lock, stock and barrel – shops and two-by-fours and train station and all.

And guess where that artesian spring was and is? Right on the Pine

Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society/SCVHISTORY.COM



**A.B. PERKINS, OUR VALLEY'S FIRST HISTORIAN, CAME TO TOWN IN 1919 TO MANAGE THE NEWLY ORGANIZED NEWHALL WATER COMPANY. WATER FLOWED LIKE, UMM – WATER.**

Street side of the Gate-King property.

In fact, that's why the Pioneer Oil Refinery was put there. They moved it from today's Eternal Valley Cemetery to Pine Street in 1876 because it needed water for cooling – and so did the folks at the oil fields six miles away in Mentryville. They sent their oil down in one pipe and another pipe brought water from a pumping station next to the refinery. (Some people believe the same line was used for oil and water, but your editor isn't convinced. There is more than one pipe there, and besides – yuck.)

Do you think it is sheer coincidence that the offices of the Newhall Water Company, now known as the Newhall County Water District, were built right along the artesian spring on Pine Street?

Again, the Needham Ranch wouldn't bring so much as one new home to our valley. To think there isn't enough water for a business park is absurd – and, for Old Town Newhall, hurtful.

Enough with the bad news. There's plenty of good news coming out of our Old Town, and if you've seen it lately, you know there is a whole lot of change going on.

The streets are entirely different from what they were a year ago. We have angle parking, and following an unpopular experiment with “backing in,” drivers head into the parking spaces now.

Under the Downtown Newhall Specific Plan that the City Council adopted, the “San Fernando Road” name goes away. We've already seen it replaced with “Main Street” in the Old Town section, and sometime in 2008, the southern end should be replaced with “Newhall Avenue” to Highway 14. The intersection at 5th Street will have to be reconfigured so that the “new” Newhall Avenue (ex-San Fernando Road) merges fluidly into the “old” Newhall Avenue.

There has been some recent discussion of what should happen with the San Fernando Road name north of our Old Town. Under the Specific Plan, the “Railroad Avenue” name would extend all the way north to Magic Mountain Parkway, where Bouquet Canyon Road begins (or ends, if you're driving south). Bouquet wouldn't change from what it is today; north of Newhall, “San Fernando” would become “Railroad.”

Ultimately the City Council will decide how and when the names

**‘It's ironic, really. Newhall is where the water is. Newhall is where the water always has been.’**

will change. In November the Newhall Redevelopment Committee voted 9-4 to deviate from the Specific Plan and endorse a new proposal by city staff to replace the whole thing with “Bouquet,” getting rid of both San Fernando Road and Railroad Avenue.

On November 13 the City Council voted 5-0 to postpone the matter until more businesses and residents could be polled.

In your editor's opinion, it would be a shame to eliminate the “Railroad Avenue” name for both historical and practical reasons. His-

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## The Gazette.

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# Tinsel Time In Newhall.

## Plenty Of Festivities On Tap For The Whole Family.

For those of you who are avid Gazette readers, you'll recall that last time I mentioned that before you know it, the holidays would be upon us. Well, they're here. And as always, Newhall will be the place to take part in some truly wonderful programs for you and your family.

This time of year always reminds me that through all of the meetings, the planning, the work and the occasional headache, what we're really all about here in Newhall is family. It's that simple.

So with that in mind, here is what Newhall has in store for this most wonderful time of year:

■ On Saturday, December 1, the Children's Holiday Parade will be back and better than ever. The parade will begin on 9th Street and run down Main Street to Newhall Avenue and into Hart Park. The parade will start promptly at 9 a.m. For parade participants, the registration can be handled that day at 8 a.m. at Lyons and Main Street. This event will be the perfect kickoff to the holiday season. I'm sure I'll see you there.



### Message From Phil Ellis, Chairman Of The Newhall Redevelopment Committee.

661/799-2700.

■ Two events are scheduled for Saturday, December 8. The Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society will hold its Holiday Open House from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Heritage

Junction (661/254-1275). Like last year, there will be a special visit from Santa Claus himself. And if you feel like singing, I encourage you to attend "Cowboys and Carols" being held at the Hart Mansion at Hart Park. Cowboys and Carols starts at 7 p.m. Call 661/254-4584 for tickets. ■ December 14 through 16, the Repertory East Playhouse will present "The 8 Reindeer Monologues." This comedy has Santa's reindeer dishing on what really happens at Christmas time. I've been told they don't hold back. You can call to reserve your tickets at 661/288-0000.

Newhall really is the place to be for the holidays. In fact, while you're in town for the events, make sure to take some time and sample the wonderful restaurants, too. It's a perfect way to spend a great day with your family and friends.

As always, I'd like to remind everyone that the Newhall Redevelopment Committee meets the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. (or the second Monday when the first Monday falls on a holiday). Meetings are held in the Century Conference Room on the first floor of City Hall, 23920 Valencia Boulevard. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Until next time, I'd like to wish all of you a very happy and healthy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

## Newhall Redevelopment Committee.

Phil Ellis, Chairman

Larry Bird

Ron Esposito

Victor Feany

John Grannis

Duane Harte

Kevin Korenthal

Carol Rock

Susan Shapiro

Bob Spierer

Dennis Verner

Randal Winter

Leon Worden



## Newhall, CONT.

FROM PAGE 1.

Town Newhall Association, recommended that the City Council direct staff to implement its "backup plan" to restripe parking spaces for head-in use.

The City Council voted unanimously to support the recommendations of these community groups and local patrons, directing staff to implement the

changes immediately. The city's contractor, TDS Engineering, got to work without delay and restriped Main Street quickly and efficiently.

Reaction thus far has been overwhelmingly positive, and new wheelchair ramps combined with handicapped-only parking spaces were added, as well. With these modifications in place, city staff can now concentrate on moving forward with more implementation goals.

As you may have read in the

last edition of the Gazette, street name changes are under way in Newhall. San Fernando Road was officially changed to "Main Street" on September 11. As a reminder, the Specific Plan calls for San Fernando Road to be renamed "Newhall Avenue" from state Highway 14 north to 5th Street, where it will connect with the current Newhall Avenue. With cooperation from Caltrans, this change should be presented for approval in early 2008.

Further efforts to improve

(LEFT) THE WAYSTATION, FORMERLY ON SAN FERNANDO ROAD, IS ON MAIN STREET NOW — BUT IT HASN'T MOVED. (ABOVE) THE STREET SIGNS IN OLD TOWN NEWHALL ARE REFLECTING THE REVITALIZATION OF THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

traffic circulation around Newhall are also in the works. Plans for a traffic circle on Newhall Avenue adjacent to Hart Park are being considered to help more commuters flow by Newhall during the peak morning and evening travel times. Several configurations of traffic

lanes and curb changes adjacent to the Jan Heidt Metrolink Station in Newhall are also being considered to reduce congestion when city transit buses stop at this critical transportation hub.

Additional landscaping conceived for the north end of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.

# Guns and Grenades at Hart Park.

**Wars Waged at Hollywood Actor's Newhall Hilltop Home.**

By **DARRYL MANZER**,  
GAZETTE CORRESPONDENT.

It was a cool and misty fall day in Newhall. ("Dark and stormy" is best left to the East Coast and bad novels.) Four young boys with a day off from Peachland Avenue Elementary School knew just what to do: Go to William S. Hart Park.

Army canteens hanging from web belts, Keds high-top sneakers, old jeans and shirts with a light jacket. It was a perfect day to "storm the castle" in one of their many days of running up and down the hills at Hart Park.



**Darryl Manzer.**

Parental supervision of their activities was right there at the park, too. David's mother worked there. She kept an eye on them and made sure they ate their lunches on time and not too early in the morning. The parents of the other three would drop by the park and make sure the injuries were limited to scraped knees and elbows.

The boys would meet in the yard of the old ranch house just inside the gate. An "attack plan" to storm the castle was made and, as always, a frontal assault up the road to the castle became the method of attack. They might get a ride from David's mom if they were lucky.

Back then and maybe even now, Hart Park was about the only place young boys in California could see a "real" castle. Sure, there was Disneyland. They knew the Sleeping Beauty castle was a fake.

The castle they were about to attack actually had someone live in it at one time. That person had left all kinds of neat stuff to look at inside, too. It even looked like a castle, and not some fairy-tale place "for girls" like the one at Disneyland.

Alan, as usual, was at the front of the attack as the boys walked up the road to the castle. The other three fell in behind him in no particular order. Alan was the logical leader, since he had the old Army helmet liner strapped to his head. They also carried their weapons at the ready: cap pistols and BB guns.

Yes, back then it wasn't unusual to



LEON WORDEN

**(ABOVE) THE "FIGHT" ALWAYS STARTED AS THE BOYS APPROACHED THE TURRET. (RIGHT, FROM TOP) HART'S BRAND CAN STILL BE FOUND ON THE PROPERTY TODAY; A PEEK INSIDE THE TURRET REVEALS AN INTERIOR LADDER; AND, BATTLE PLANS WERE FORMULATED AT THE RANCH HOUSE.**

see small boys run around with their BB guns just about anyplace – even at William S. Hart Park.

They never really decided just who the enemy was or, for that matter, just what war they were fighting for the day. The "fight" always started as the boys approached the turret, and they would fan out around it to subdue the bad guys. The bad guys always died. The boys would advance to the main house and overcome the enemy there. They had captured the castle but now the enemy was escaping down the hill below the swimming pool.

So down the hillside the boys would

run, pulling up clumps of grass with large balls of dirt attached. These became hand grenades. The enemy was captured or killed, and the boys were back at the bottom of the hill just in time for lunch. (Some days they got to go to the A&W drive-in just south of the railroad tracks outside the park.)

"Weapons" were placed in the back seat of David's mother's car. The car wasn't locked, because no car was locked in Newhall. Most times, the keys were left in the ignition on the dash.

Lunch over, the boys would go see the animals. Mr. Hart's favorite horse was still alive and loved to be petted.



There were also goats and chickens. They even got to help feed the animals.

The bison hadn't arrived at the park yet. That event was still a couple of years into the future, but it is doubtful the boys would have helped feed the bison. Maybe John would have wanted to do that.

Fast forward almost 48 years. Young boys can still run up the hill to the castle – only without weapons – and imagine the bad guys are at the turret. They can't run down the hillside as in times long past, but they can tour the castle with their parents and see the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.

# 'Community Preservation' Comes To Newhall.

**We're Cleaning  
Up This Town.**

**New Community  
Preservation Officer  
Works With Property  
Owners To Meet Code  
Requirements.**

**More Than Two Hundred  
Unlicensed Peddlers  
Cited So Far This Year.**

**By DAVID PETERSON,  
SUPERVISOR OF COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.**

Newhall is one of the most vibrant, historic and exciting communities in the city of Santa Clarita. The goal of the redevelopment effort is to enhance and improve upon the dynamic community that already exists. The city of Santa Clarita's Community Preservation Division is dedicated to helping achieve that goal.

The role of Community Preservation is to work with local residents and businesses to improve the quality of their neighborhood. This is done by



CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

**MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED FOOD VENDORS HAVE BEEN  
CITED IN 2007 FOR LACKING NECESSARY PERMITS.**

contacting property owners whose home, shop or office might require a bit of attention in order to bring it up to the standards of local code requirements. Community preservation is important because it

helps keep the community clean and safe. This helps keep property values up and crime down.

The intent of the Community Preservation Division is partnership, not punishment.

We are dedicated to assisting property owners in any way we can to help them achieve compliance. In some conditions, the city is able offer monetary assistance.

A Community Preserva-

tion Officer has been committed full-time to the Newhall Redevelopment Area. Between January and October, city staff members have addressed two hundred seventy-five individual cases in that area, or about eighteen percent of the city-wide total. Almost forty percent of the cases in the redevelopment zone are related to property maintenance – essentially making sure properties meet the high standards of appearance that the residents and businesses in Newhall expect.

In addition to working with property owners, the Community Preservation Division also coordinates with other divisions in the city as well as with other governmental agencies to combat issues such as graffiti, crime and illegal street peddlers. In fact, this year alone, city staff has cited more than two hundred street peddlers for selling food items without the proper licensing.

If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact me at your convenience. I can be reached at 661/284-1406 or via e-mail at [dpeterson@santaclarita.com](mailto:dpeterson@santaclarita.com). Together we can help keep Newhall the great place it is. I look forward to working with you.

## A Santa Clarita No-No: Sign Twirling.

**BY CURTIS WILLIAMS,  
SUPERVISING COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION OFFICER,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.**

The use of sign twirlers is an advertising phenomenon that has increased dramatically in the city of Santa Clarita. Companies hire a person to stand on the sidewalk and use a sign to advertise their business and attract the attention of drivers. Some of these twirlers have mastered advanced skills in moving signs with spins and flips.

While some businesses might find this to be an easy and entertaining way of bringing in customers, the practice is absolutely in violation of the city's Municipal Code.

Business signs in the city's right-of-way are generally illegal, and to be more specific, those

twirling signs on the sidewalk are also in violation of the city's code.

The city is charged with protecting the safety of the public, and sign twirlers are a concern for this reason. Not only are the signs distracting for drivers who should be keeping both eyes on the road, but signs also can be dropped into oncoming traffic, endangering the twirler and the drivers, as well. Furthermore, these signs are rather large so as to attract attention, and thus tend to create access problems for pedestrians using the sidewalk.

In addition to the safety concerns associated with sign twirling, complaints have come in to the city's Community Preservation Division requesting that we address the aesthetics of having signs on the sidewalk. The city of Santa Clarita has taken steps to address signage

as it relates to blight in the community. Prohibiting sign twirling in the public right of way is one such step.

The Community Preservation Division of the city of Santa Clarita enforces the city's Municipal Codes, including those regarding signage and right-of-way encroachments. Community Preservation Officers issue notices to the sign twirlers to inform them of the codes regarding advertising in the city's right-of-way.

Additionally, businesses that employ twirlers are informed that they must cease using the sign twirlers to advertise in the public right of way in Santa Clarita.

If you would like to report sign twirlers in the public right-of-way, contact the city of Santa Clarita's Community Preservation Division at 661/286-4076.



LEON WORDEN

**ILLEGAL SIGN TWIRLERS BLOCK  
VISIBILITY FOR MOTORISTS.**

# Roger Dunn Golf Shop.

By ALEX HERNANDEZ,  
ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

*Old Town Newhall is a hub for small business. National fast-food chain restaurants and retail stores are nowhere to be found. In an effort to highlight unique or new businesses, each edition of The Gazette will spotlight an Old Town Newhall establishment. This month's spotlight is on Roger Dunn Golf Shop at 24200 Main Street (formerly San Fernando Road).*

Owner David Mutschler says the store opened almost 10 years ago but had a location in Canyon Country near Whites Canyon and Soledad Canyon roads. The store is part of an independent chain along with other names such as The Golf Mart and Van's Golf Shops. In fact, the Roger Dunn Golf Shop in Old Town Newhall is one of only four outlets within Los Angeles County.

Mutschler is a longtime resident of Agua Dulce and previously worked as a general contractor. He had always wanted to start his own business and bought the local Roger Dunn franchise. He specifically chose to move the store to Newhall because of its central location and easy access from both Interstate 5 and state Highway 14. He said that from the day he opened in Newhall, business was better than in Canyon Country.

Mutschler first started golfing while in college. He was interested in the Roger Dunn Golf Shop stores because of the flexibility offered to franchise owners. He is

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(FROM LEFT) BEN EDWARDS, DAVID MUTSCHLER AND DAVE ARNOLD ARE EACH PART OF THE KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF AT THE ROGER DUNN GOLF SHOP, LOCATED IN A HISTORIC BUILDING ON MAIN STREET AT THE CORNER OF 5TH. (BELOW)

## Old Town Newhall Business Spotlight.

able to order any and all products for his store. He has the added benefit of Roger Dunn's name recognition and online marketing efforts provided by the parent company, which can be found online at [rdgolf.com](http://rdgolf.com).

After purchasing the building



on Main Street, tenant improvements were done on the ground floor to accommodate approximately three thousand square feet of retail space. An additional fifteen

hundred square feet were also worked on to provide space for an office, golf club repair shop and storage upstairs for inventory.

Mutschler's Roger Dunn Golf

Shop employs four full-time and two part-time workers to staff the store. While product can be viewed and purchased online, golf clubs, accessories and apparel are best suited for a hands-on experience in the store. The staff is both knowledgeable and personable, and all understand their store's destination appeal. Part of the staff's job also requires directing motorists from all over Los Angeles County to the store on the newly renamed Main Street.

The store has a wide selection of products and brands such as Taylor Made, Callaway, Ping, Cobra and Titleist. Roger Dunn also offers a computerized club fitting with launch monitor not found at local competitor's stores.

It is no wonder that professional players in town for the AT&T Golf Classic and other regional events make sure to stop by the Roger Dunn Golf Shop in Old Town Newhall.

Make sure to visit the Roger Dunn Golf Shop this holiday season to buy gifts for the special golf enthusiast in your life. The store is located at 24200 Main Street (formerly San Fernando Road) in downtown Newhall. It is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is 661/222-7177, or you can shop the store online at [rdgolf.com](http://rdgolf.com). The Roger Dunn Golf Shop is a member of the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Old Town Newhall Merchants Association.

## Association Promotes A Vibrant Old Town.

The Old Town Newhall Association is composed of business owners, property owners, residents and others interested in the revitalization of our historic downtown.

OTNA is defined by its mission statement:

"To revitalize and maintain Historic Old Town Newhall as a social, cultural and economic center for the Santa Clarita Valley through implementation of the Main Street Four-Point Program which includes, Design, Organization, Promotions, and Business Improvement."

OTNA is the only 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Santa Clarita with memberships in the California Downtown Association and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Main Street Center program.

The National Trust is the nation's largest full-service commercial district revitalization organization, and for more than fifty years it has helped Americans protect the irreplaceable.

A private, nonprofit organization with more than two hundred

thousand members, the National Trust is designed to improve all aspects of the downtown, producing both tangible and intangible benefits. Over the years, it has created a "Four Point Approach" that is essential to successful downtown revitalization.

The Four Point Approach is a comprehensive strategy tailored to meet local needs and opportunities. It encompasses work in four distinct areas combined to address all of the downtown's needs.

OTNA is bringing these

essential points to Downtown Newhall with its four committees:

- Design: Improves the physical and visual image of the downtown;
- Promotion: Creates excitement and encourages customer traffic;
- Business Enhancement: Increases the competitiveness of merchants; and
- Organization: Involves building consensus and cooperation among groups that play a role in the downtown.

In addition to working with businesses, organizing community

cleanup days and community forums, OTNA works with the city of Santa Clarita and other organizations on events such as the Children's Holiday Parade, the Old Town Newhall Street Art Festival, the Walk of Western Stars, and the Metrolink Toy Train and Firefighters "Spark of Love" Toy Drive.

To join other concerned citizens volunteering to preserve and revitalize Old Town Newhall, contact OTNA manager Suzie Szabo by telephone at 661/253-0730 or by e-mail at [otna@oldtownnewhall.com](mailto:otna@oldtownnewhall.com).

# Holiday Train Brings Joy To Newhall.

**Firefighters Light  
A 'Spark Of Love.'**

**Toy Drive Brightens  
Holiday Season  
For Needy Youngsters.**

By **HEATHER LEUNING,**  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

Once again this year, Santa, Mrs. Claus and a whole company of characters from the North Pole greeted excited Santa Clarita Valley kids and families aboard a train bringing toys and joy to needy children.

The 450-ton Holiday Toy Express train was scheduled to pull into the Newhall Metrolink Station on the evening of Friday, November 23, decorated with giant glittering ornaments, garland, animated displays and more than 50,000 sparkling lights as part of the Southern California firefighters' "Spark of Love" toy drive.

The Holiday Toy Express' itinerary includes stops in more than forty cities with train stations throughout Southern California between November and mid-December.

Said Santa Clarita Mayor Marsha McLean: "The Holiday Toy Express has been collecting and giving toys to under served children in our local communities for more than a decade. Our city is delighted



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every year to be a part of this worthy campaign to lend a helping hand to children in need."

This year marks the Metrolink's eleventh anniversary of the Holiday Toy Express with a bigger train, more decorations and an exciting show in an effort to collect toys for the firefighters' toy drive.

The Holiday Toy Express encourages audience members to share their holiday spirit by bringing a new, unwrapped toy and sports equipment to the show.

Each year, hundreds of toys are collected for the toy drive and

distributed locally to needy children. Last year alone, "Spark of Love" collected more than five hundred thousand toys across all five counties.

"The California firefighters' 'Spark of Love' toy drive works hard to give under served children something to smile about each holiday season, so we are incredibly honored to help an organization that does so much for the people of Southern California," City Manager Ken Pulskamp said.

Santa has come a long way since the first holiday train made its

**THE HOLIDAY TRAIN'S  
ANNUAL APPEARANCE  
IS ONE OF THE MOST  
EAGERLY ANTICIPATED  
EVENTS OF THE HOLIDAY  
SEASON IN OLD  
TOWN NEWHALL.**

way across Southern California in the winter of 1997. Ten Holiday Toy Express trains have continued to light up the night, playing to thousands of delighted families from Ventura to San Bernardino who come to see the free show, delight in the magic of Santa and his helpers, and donate a toy to a worthy cause.

For the full schedule and more information, visit Metrolink on the Web at [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com) or call 800/371-LINK (5654).



## Ride The Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley.

**Avoid The Hassle Of Parking At Santa  
Clarita's Busy Shopping Centers.**

By **ALISHA CELESTINE,**  
CITY COORDINATOR,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

Santa Clarita retail centers become crowded with shoppers every year at holiday time. What if you could avoid the hassle of parking and congestion and get to your destination faster than the last-minute, deal-searching shoppers? Well, you can.

This holiday season, take a ride aboard the city of Santa Clarita's Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley, where you can enjoy the ease of parking in one shopping center while having the ability to shop at three.

Using the Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley provides more than just convenience and gas savings. It is absolutely free, and it's a great way to

get in the holiday spirit.

The trolley is decorated in all of the glitz and sparkle of the holiday season. You never know whom you might meet on the trolley – is that Santa Claus? – or when there will be warm treats to soothe the "soles" – a chocolate-chip cookie does a shopper's body good.

The Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley comes by every twenty minutes with pickup in front of Target, Kohl's and in the circular loop near T.G.I.F. in the Westfield Valencia Town Center. Seating is on a first-come basis.

Hours of operation are as follows: December 1-16 on Thursdays and Fridays from 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 9:30 p.m.; December 17-19 from 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; December 20-23 from noon to 9:30 p.m.; and December 24 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information about the Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley or for a complete schedule, visit [santaclarita.com](http://santaclarita.com) or call 661/295-6300.

## Parade, CONT.

FROM PAGE 1.

Festivities will continue after the parade at the snow-filled William S. Hart Park.

Here, children and guests can enjoy the sounds of local holiday carolers and visit with Santa and his wife. Pictures may be taken with Santa, but guests must provide their own camera.

Children and guests are also invited to sign greeting cards at the finish line of the parade for the men and women who are serving overseas in the military.

The city will send the decorated greetings to our troops

before the end of the holiday season.

Parking for the event is available at the Metrolink Train Station at Market Street and Railroad Avenue, or in the parking lot at 5th and Main Street, as well as on the street.

The city of Santa Clarita's Newhall Redevelopment Committee began hosting the Holiday Parade event in an effort to boost community activity and involvement in the Old Town Newhall area.

For more information about the Old Town Newhall Children's Holiday Celebration and Parade or to register, contact City Events Coordinator Donna Avila at 661/ 286-4145 or visit [santaclarita.com/arts](http://santaclarita.com/arts) on the Internet.

# School Board Members 'Set The Tone.'

## Newhall Voters Give Incumbents Four More Years.

By PATTI RASMUSSEN,  
GAZETTE CORRESPONDENT.

The role of a school board member is to represent the community during a four-year term of office. Board members set district policy, monitor business and instructional programs and hold the staff accountable for the conduct of district affairs.

In November, school board elections were held for seats in the William S. Hart Union High School District and the Newhall School District. The three other school districts, Castaic, Saugus and Sulphur Springs, did not hold elections because no one stepped forward to challenge the incumbents.

In Newhall, two incumbents, Michael Shapiro and Suzan Solomon, ran against challenger Christy Smith. Another challenger, Donald Rimac, filed papers but dropped out of the race after ballots were printed. Of the thirty-three thousand registered voters in the Newhall District, approximately ten percent determined who would sit in those seats.

Incumbents were voted back into office (although both Smith and Rimac drew a respectable amount of votes). Some say small turnouts, incumbent victories and the absence of challengers demonstrate that the community is happy with the way things are going in the district.

And things have been going pretty well. Of the ten schools in Newhall, all have won or have been asked to apply for California Distinguished School awards. Four are national Blue Ribbon Schools. Test scores have been far above average. In fact, for two years running, Newhall has had the highest Academic Performance Index score of all districts in the SCV. The schools with a high number of English language learners are adapting programs and policies to assist with the

Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society/SCVHISTORY.COM



**THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY OF NEWHALL SCHOOL, GRADES 1-8, POSED FOR THIS PHOTO IN 1884 (ABOVE). MUCH HAS CHANGED BETWEEN THAT TIME AND 2007, WHEN MIKE SHAPIRO AND SUZAN SOLOMON (BELOW) WERE RE-ELECTED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD. INITIALLY, ALL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS WERE MEN.**

needs of those students.

Superintendent Marc Winger said school board members set the tone for the entire district.

"Interaction with the board president and the superintendent, along with upper management, is crucial to how the community perceives the whole district," Winger said. "When they hold high expectations for everyone in the organization, it sends a message that we expect results. That is the most important role school board members can play."

While undergoing some building renovations, personnel at the Newhall District offices found records containing the names of board members dating back to the 1920s. These names hold keys to our past – such as Tom Frew III, the town blacksmith. But the Newhall District and its dedicated school board members go back even further.

In 1878, fifty-three school-age children lived in or near Newhall. The following year, an "official" school was built on the corner of Ninth and Walnut Streets and a district was born. One of the district's first board members was businessman



George Campton.

Pat Willet, spokesperson for the William S. Hart Union High School District, ran and was elected three times for a seat on the Newhall School Board in the 1980s. In a sign of the times, Willet said she spent approximately \$7.15 on her campaign, mostly for Xerox copies.

"I always felt a lot of decisions about education were being made in a vacuum," Willet said of her foray into politics. "I was very active at my school (Newhall Elementary), and when elected I spent a lot of time in the classrooms at all the school sites. I wanted to see the



level of education that was going on and I wanted to ask questions.

"I got in trouble a couple of times and I hurt people's feelings, but later those same people became wonderful supporters and friends."

During Willet's days on the school board, the district tackled a variety of issues including controversial boundary changes, intense teacher negotiations and desegregation in the schools. But Willet is quick to point out some of the positive strides school board members were able to achieve, including a gifted program, the

retention of the music program and the construction of new schools.

"I think it was a good run. We handled a lot of controversial things and came through them. We were always focused on the educational quality that we gave to our students. That was important," she said.

Today the Newhall District houses more than seven thousand students on ten elementary school campuses. School board members not only approve budgets of \$43 million but are well versed in special-education requirements; educating a more diverse population, including an increase of English language learners; and handling declining enrollment.

Solomon, who recently returned from an educational summit in Sacramento, said schools are focusing on closing the student achievement gap and will have to deal with a \$10 billion state deficit and a \$400 million decrease in Proposition 98 revenues, which guarantee public school funding.

"Every decision I make as a school board member reflects a lot of research and the ability to listen to the voices in the community," Solomon said. "We need more people to get involved in education and we need to generate more community leaders for the future."

It takes a lot more money and time these days to run for a seat on the school board, but Willet said she would encourage people to get involved.

"As a board member you run the risk of half the people in the community hating you at any given moment, but you also have the ability to make a positive impact on thousands of children," she said. "You need to be a big-picture person and focus on education, recognize the administrators as professionals and your role as a school board member as a policy maker."

Solomon and Shapiro will be sworn into office during the December board meeting at the Newhall School District offices. Continuing service on the board are Steve Tannehill, Bob Jensen and Mike McGrath.

# History Is Alive And Happening.

By PAT SALETORÉ,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY HIS-  
TORICAL SOCIETY.

What is happening at the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society? This might seem like an odd question. The Historical Society is, by its nature, about things that already happened, right? This is true, but only to a point. Our history, as the history of any place, already happened. But keeping that history is an active job.

If you missed our Heritage Haunt, you need to make plans to see it next year. It was an absolute blast. People think of museums as static places where geeks go to soak up information. Well, learning about history doesn't have to feel like a high school lecture. Heritage Haunt played host to Halloween revelers throughout most of October. Small tidbits of history were soaked in its fabric, but class was raucous with the sounds of laughter and merry screaming – not to mention the sounds of ghosts and ghouls.

I'll bet you assume the visitors were all kids. You would be wrong. I saw more than one otherwise sedate-looking adult run screaming from that chain-saw.

Our locomotive, the Mogul 1629, is one of only two remaining in existence of that

type. It served its time on the rails hauling freight, traveling through our town, but also was a movie star.

Like many of our society's famous movie stars, the Mogul fell on hard times. It was involved in that disastrous fire at Melody Ranch in 1962 and

spent years in decline.

Now, thanks to the work of Paul Lawrence, who did the preparation, and a crew of students from The Master's College, who painted it on Make a Difference Day, the Mogul is again ready for its close-up.

It absolutely sparkles.

If you notice a glare from Heritage Junction as pass go by on San Fernando Road, that would be the Mogul. Come in and visit our vintage show-stopper.

What, you ask, is coming up at the Historical Society?



**GHOSTS AND GOBLINS TRANSFORMED HERITAGE JUNCTION HISTORIC PARK INTO "HERITAGE HAUNT" FOR HALLOWEEN.**

**'People think of museums as static places where geeks go to soak up information. Well, learning about history doesn't have to feel like a high school lecture.'**

Here's a preview:

December 7: Friday Night Flickers presents "The General" with Buster Keaton.

December 8: Christmas Open House; all of our buildings will be open.

January 12: Lecture on how the train station operated, back in the day.

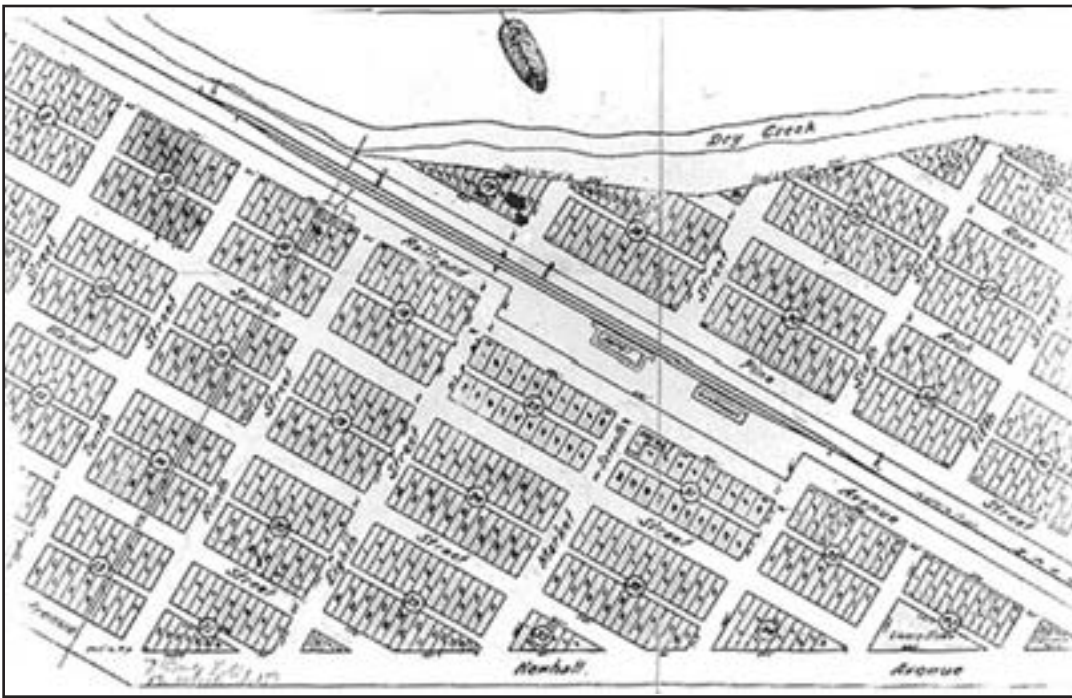
Looking for adventure? There is plenty to do at Heritage Junction. Grab a hammer or a paintbrush and come on down.

At present we are getting ready for the election of board members. Are you interested? Not quite that adventurous? I am hoping to conduct docent training in February. We need to continue cataloguing more of our collections. Call me at 661/254-1275 for information and try us on for size.

The Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society is more than old buildings and moldering books. It is a celebration of the road this town has taken.

Our history is at the heart of everything in Santa Clarita. Everything that happens in this town is built on what has happened before. It defines why our community is what it has become.





(ABOVE) THIS PLAT MAP SHOWS THE NAMES OF THE STREETS IN NEWHALL IN 1839. WHEN THE TOWNSFOLK PICKED UP STICKS IN 1878 AND MOVED TO NEWHALL'S PRESENT LOCATION, THEY NATURALLY CALLED THE STREET IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION "RAILROAD AVENUE." (RIGHT) THE DOWNTOWN NEWHALL SPECIFIC PLAN CALLS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF THE NAME "SAN FERNANDO ROAD" WITHIN THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA. UNDER THE PLAN, IT IS TO BE REPLACED ON THE SOUTH WITH THE NAME "NEWHALL AVENUE" AND ON THE NORTH WITH THE NAME "RAILROAD AVENUE." THE OLD TOWN SECTION HAS BEEN RENAMED "MAIN STREET."

## Editorial, CONT.

FROM PAGE 2.

Historically, Railroad Avenue was the Santa Clarita Valley's Genesis street. All businesses were located there in 1878 after the town moved from K-Mart. The townsfolk put the train station there and naturally called the street in front of it "Railroad."

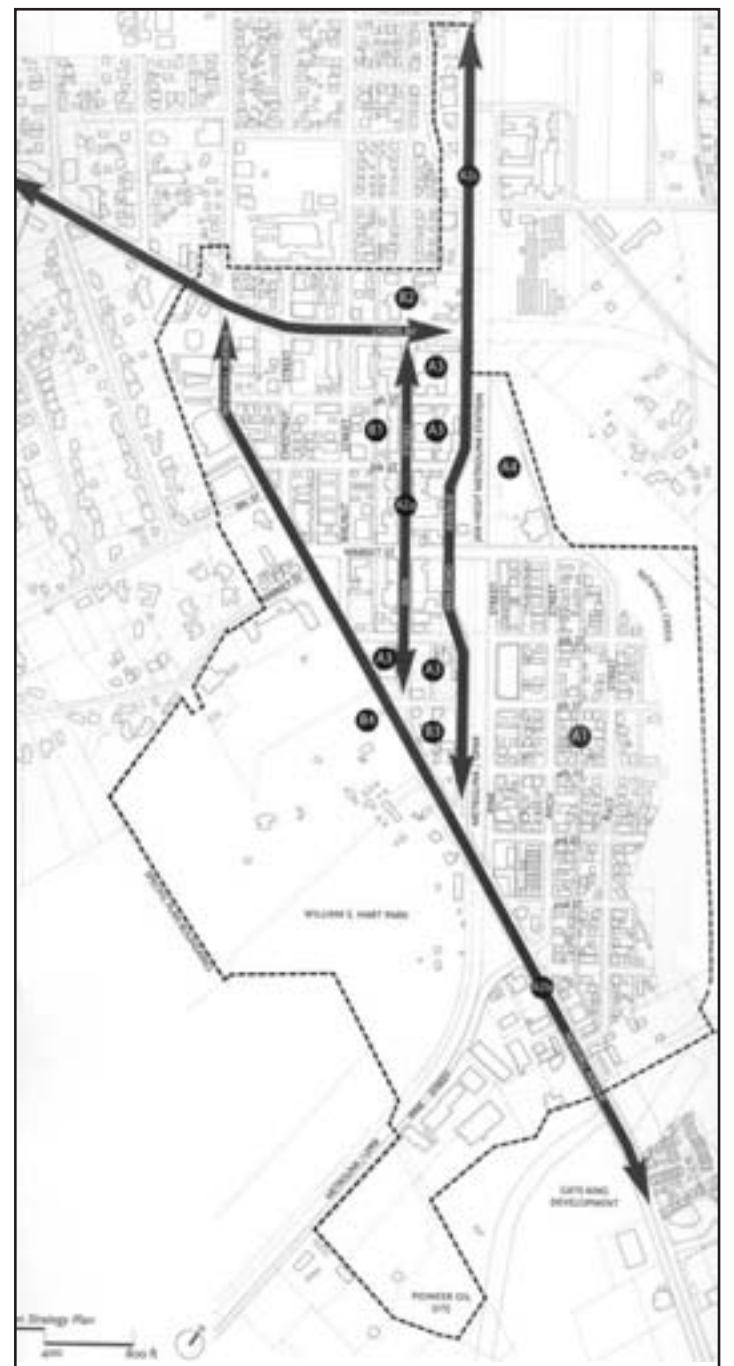
And from a practical stand-

point, every Old Town planner the city has hired has said it's important for visitors to know where the Old Town is – and isn't. Names are big way for both locals and tourists to know where they are. We've got Newhall names in Newhall, Saugus names in Saugus, Valencia names in Valencia, Canyon Country names in Canyon Country, and so forth.

The strongest names in Old Town Newhall that create a "sense of place," telling you where you are, are Newhall Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Market Street and a few others. If

someone says "Railroad Avenue," you think "Newhall." Or maybe you think "train station." That's OK, too. That's where it is.

One idea might be to bring the name "Bouquet" south to the natural delineation between Newhall and Saugus, i.e., the Wiley-Princessa bridge, where the old Hi Chic diner used to be. That way, the Saugus Café, the Saugus Industrial Center (ex-Thatcher Glass), Pueblo Building Materials and the Circle J tract would have a Saugus street name. After all, they're in Saugus.



Funny thing about Bouquet Canyon: It was originally Cañon del Buque, the old Californio word for "ship." It never meant flowers. Today it's spelled "Bouquet" and it means you're in Saugus.

## Downtown, CONT.

FROM PAGE 3.

downtown near 11th Street, and paving for both the former Moore's sub shop and Union 76 Gas station, have been put on hold to concentrate on advancing plans for the Specific Plan's inspired streetscape project.

The streetscape project is the next big-ticket item that visitors to downtown Newhall can expect. This major project will not be under construction until next summer, but when it is, it

will transform the "look" of Main Street and create a feel that will make you forget that "San Fernando Road" ever existed in the city – and by then, it might not even be a street name within the city any longer.

The streetscape will include substantially more landscaping, a new storm drain with clean "stormwater-friendly" catch basins, and antique-looking street lights with underground wiring. Every intersection in the downtown area will be smaller, with large, pedestrian-friendly areas on each corner. New street furniture such decorative benches will welcome those who wish to sit and people-watch while

drinking coffee and eating pastries. New stone-paved crosswalks will add to the ambiance, and all of these factors put together will make Old Town Newhall feel like a warm, inviting community to visit and spend time exploring.

Check out the oldtown-newhall.com Web site or more information and opportunities to participate in the public meetings that will be scheduled to discuss the details of this project.

Aside from the street reconfigurations and parking changes, it is the one public project that will have the most impact on the overall "feel" of the new Old Town Newhall.



**FOUR MONTHS OF BACKING INTO PARKING SPACES GAVE WAY IN OCTOBER TO HEAD-IN ANGLE PARKING ALONG MAIN STREET.**

# Mosey On Back In Time At Melody Ranch.

## Mark Your Calendar Early For The West's Best Festival.

BY HEATHER LEUNING,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

You don't have to leave Santa Clarita to enjoy some of the best special events in California; these events will come to you.

In just four months, you can join thousands of spectators as they shine up those spurs, dust off those ten-gallon hats and step back in time to enjoy the award-winning Cowboy Festival.

This year, the best performers in Western entertainment will help celebrate the city of Santa Clarita's Fifteenth Annual Cowboy Festival from April 24 to 27 with several events throughout the Santa Clarita Valley, including an intimate concert at the William

S. Hart Museum, the unveiling of a few new bronze plaques on the Walk of Western Stars, a Western-inspired fashion show, and a themed dinner train.

The main festival takes place at the Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio, a real working movie ranch formerly owned by Gene Autry. Through the years, Melody Ranch has been the location for thousands of productions, but was most recently home to HBO's acclaimed drama, "Deadwood."

At Melody Ranch, the lines blur between modern day and a bygone era as patrons walk through an authentic Western movie set, dine on cowboy cuisine and enjoy performances from some of today's most respected cowboy musicians including Don Edwards, the Sons of the San Joaquin and the Quebe Sisters Band.

Additional 2008 headliners include Waddie Mitchell,

**Our Festival poster will be released soon and we're proud to say it will feature the artwork of actor and Western watercolorist, Buck Taylor.**

**Tickets are scheduled to go on sale Monday, January 7, 2008. We look forward to seeing you in 2008!**

**For more information please visit  
[www.cowboyfestival.org](http://www.cowboyfestival.org) or call (661) 286-4021**

Belinda Gail and Curly Musgrave, Cowbop, Gary McMahen, John Moore Band, Eli Barsi, Pat Richardson, Sons and Brothers Band, and the String Devils.

And if you have always wanted to try your hand as a cowpoke, the festival will once again feature a hands-on living history exhibit for children and adults.

Santa Clarita's annual

Cowboy Festival in Newhall is consistently recognized as one of the best in the world, taking visitors back in time to enjoy the sights, sounds and cuisine of the American West.

Since 1994, the city has continually brought to life the music, magic and spirit of the Old West for the thousands who visit the festival each year. The festivals, Western music, cowboy poetry, authentic cowboy gear and food, tours of for-

mer movie ranches, and Western art auctions are always well attended. Join the city of Santa Clarita for five days of cowboy culture and excitement.

Some events sell out, so buy your tickets early to avoid being left out of this Santa Clarita tradition. A special two-day weekend pass is available, and the city offers a limited number of "Friends of the Festival" packages, which include admission to Melody Ranch for the whole weekend, preferred seating at all Melody Ranch Stage shows, all-weekend access to the Melody Ranch VIP Hacienda with catered food and beverages, and much more.

*For more information about the 2008 Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival, including tickets, event times, prices, venues and more, visit [cowboyfestival.org](http://cowboyfestival.org) or call the Cowboy Festival Ticket Hotline at 800/305-0755.*

## 2007-2008 Winter Calendar Of Events.

### December 2007

**Dec. 1** - Children's Holiday Parade - Main Street and Hart Park

**Dec. 1-2, 7-9, 14-16, 18-22** - "A Christmas Story" - Canyon Theatre Guild

**Dec. 1-2, 7-8** - Agatha Christie's "The Unexpected Guest" - Repertory East Playhouse

**Dec. 7** - Friday Night Flickers - "The General" - Saugus Train Station/Hart Park

**Dec. 8** - Holiday Open House - Heritage Junction

**Dec. 8** - Cowboys and Carols - Hart Mansion at

Hart Park

**Dec 14-16** - "The Eight Reindeer Monologues" - Repertory East Playhouse

**Dec. 31** - Carnival of Venice - Repertory East Playhouse

### January 2008

**Jan. 12** - SCV Historical Society Lecture - "The Operations of the Saugus Train Station" - Heritage Junction

**Jan. 19-20, 26-27** - "Winnie The Pooh" - Canyon Theatre Guild



## Artifacts, CONT.

FROM PAGE 1.

lack told a crowd of 75 people during a November 15 ceremony at the train station.

While his proud father, Rudy Ortega Sr. (aka Chief Little Bear)

TOP FOUR PHOTOS: LEON WORDEN; BOTTOM PHOTO: SCOTT GROLLER



**CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: RUDY ORTEGA JR., AKA STANDING BEAR, SPEAKS FOR THE FERNANDEÑO-TATAVIAM BAND OF MISSION INDIANS AT THE NOVEMBER 15 HANDOVER OF ARTIFACTS. COREY HORPOLE, LEFT, AND STEVE ZIMMER, RIGHT, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF NEWHALL LAND, LOOK OVER SOME OF THE ARTIFACTS THEY DONATED TO THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY. HORPOLE WAS THE MANAGER OF THE 1,089-HOME RIVER VILLAGE PROJECT DURING THE ENTITLEMENT PROCESS. TRIBAL ELDER RUDY ORTEGA SR., GLENN ADAMICK OF NEWHALL LAND, AND A YOUNG VISITOR ADMIRE THE DONATED ARTIFACTS. CHARLIE COOKE BLESSES RUDY ORTEGA JR. WITH BURNING SAGE DURING THE NOVEMBER 15 CEREMONY AT HERITAGE JUNCTION. RUDY ORTEGA SR., AKA LITTLE BEAR, IS CHIEF OF THE FERNANDEÑO-TATAVIAM BAND OF MISSION INDIANS.**

snapped pictures, Rudy Ortega Jr. of the Fernandeno-Tataviam Tribal Council blessed the occasion with song and burning sage, aided by tribal elder Charlie Cooke of Castaic. The younger Ortega, aka Standing Bear, acknowledged the role of Newhall Land, the Historical Society and the city of Santa Clarita in helping preserve the relics of his extended family's history.

"Newhall Land takes great pride in our stewardship of the land, which we have been doing for over a hundred years," said Steve

Zimmer, the company's executive vice president. Newhall Land was organized in 1883 following the death of Henry Mayo Newhall, who purchased much of the valley in the 1870s.

The Tataviam were here far earlier, arriving about 450 A.D., around the time the bow and arrow replaced the spear as the favored hunting implement. Even they weren't the first, though; various archeological sites in the Santa Clarita Valley date back at least 3,500 years. It is not known exactly who lived here before the Tatavi-



am. Man first arrived in Southern California between 18,000 and 25,000 years ago, when ice formed a land bridge across the Bering Strait.

Among the donated artifacts are two dozen spear and arrow points; ninety-five groundstone tools used for grinding seeds, nuts and bulbs; and fifty-seven hammerstones used for pulping heavy foods such as agave (century plant) – all demonstrating that hunting and gathering were important subsistence activities to the indigenous peoples.

Trade items and the lack thereof among the artifacts provide clues about trading activity. While shell beads from the west are often found at local archaeological sites, none was found at this site, suggesting that its inhabitants didn't trade with the coastal Chumash.

On the other hand, beads and pendants of steatite and soapstone from the east are present, suggesting trade at least with the contemporary peoples of Agua Dulce.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.

# Cowboys and Carols

The Friends of Hart Park Proudly Present

## "Cowboys and Carols"

In honor of William S. Hart's 143rd Birthday

Saturday December 8, 2007



Join us for a Magical Evening at the William S. Hart Museum. We are presenting for your evenings pleasure "Bluegrass Music" and "Christmas Carols" performed by the **Darrington Family Band**. Tour the Mansion where Cowboy Legend William S. Hart lived, and where he entertained some of the biggest "Hollywood Stars of Yesteryear".

Come join us and see the Hart Mansion decorated in all it's Holiday Splendor.

*Refreshments will be served following the evenings performance.*

**Festivities will begin at 7:00 P.M.**

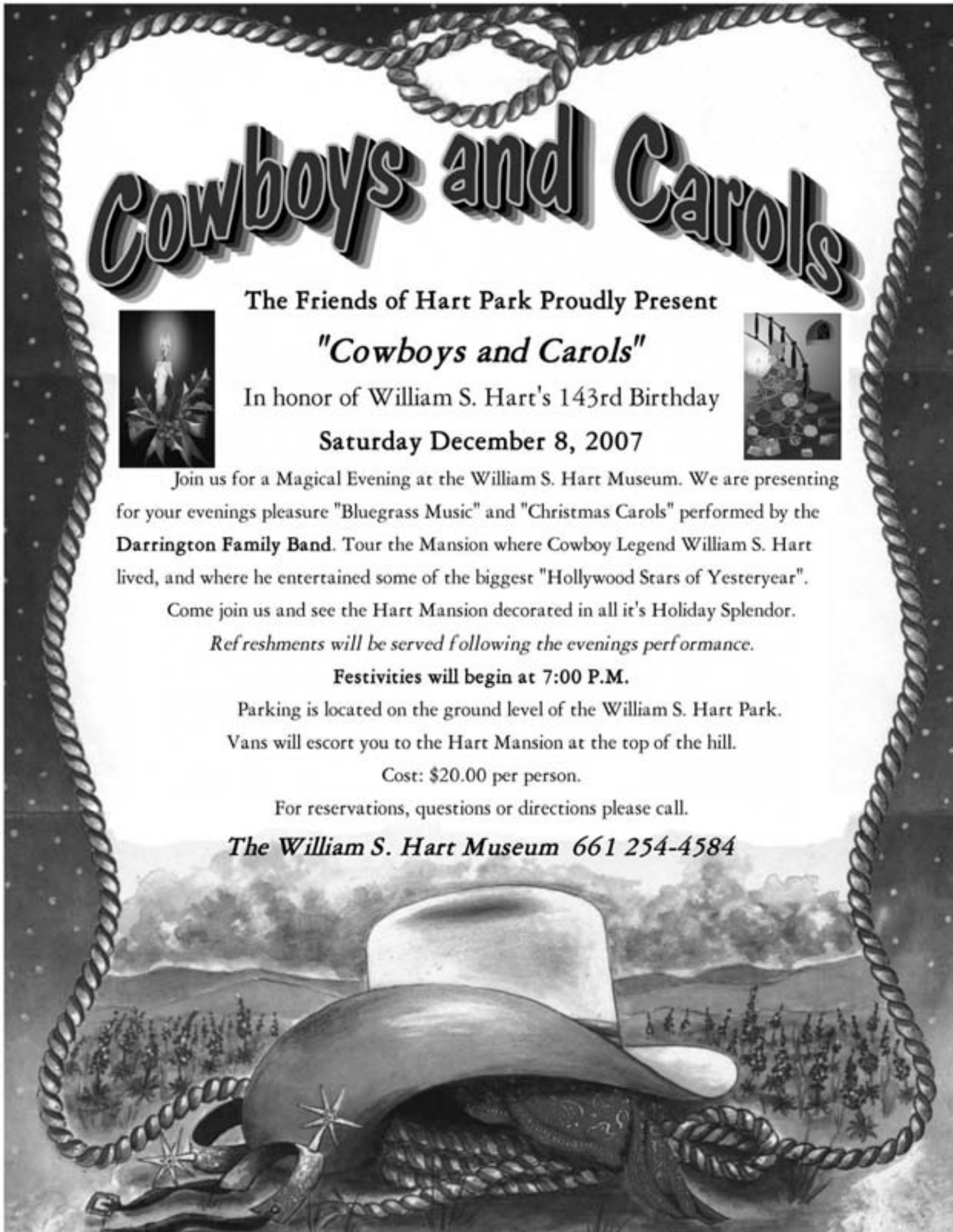
Parking is located on the ground level of the William S. Hart Park.

Vans will escort you to the Hart Mansion at the top of the hill.

Cost: \$20.00 per person.

For reservations, questions or directions please call.

***The William S. Hart Museum 661 254-4584***



VISITORS TO HERITAGE JUNCTION AT HART PARK IN NEWHALL WILL SEE A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF THE 7,000 ARTIFACTS, INCLUDING THOSE PICTURED FAR RIGHT. TONY NEWHALL, A DESCENDANT OF TOWN FOUNDER HENRY MAYO NEWHALL, AND CYNTHIA NEAL-HARRIS (RIGHT), A PAST PRESIDENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WERE AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS AT THE NOVEMBER 15 UNVEILING, ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 75 PEOPLE. BELOW, RUDY ORTEGA JR., REPRESENTING THE FERNANDEÑO-TATAVIAM BAND OF MISSION INDIANS, AND STEVE ZIMMER, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF NEWHALL LAND, WERE AMONG THE EVENT'S PARTICIPANTS.

LEON WORDEN



**Material**  
steatite

**Description**  
Large finished steatite disc; biconically drilled; edges chipped and smoothed.

**Material**  
steatite

**Description**  
Shaped and drilled pendant fragment.



**Item**  
3

**Material**  
chert

**Description**  
Serrated Rose Spring corner-notched arrow point. This point type is widespread throughout Southern California.

**Item**  
5

**Material**  
Quartzite

**Description**  
Pestle. This would have been used in the processing of acorns.

## Exhibit,

CONT.

FROM PAGE 12.

Agua Dulce and its unique geological formation, Vasquez Rocks, were the hub of major trade routes between east and west, and north and south.

As important as the artifacts

are, an even more sensitive find was made during pre-development surveys of the RiverVillage property: an ancient Indian village on the banks of the Santa Clara River. Zimmer said the village is being “preserved in perpetuity” – i.e., it is being left undisturbed, underground, hopefully safe from trespassers.

Pat Saletore, executive director of the Historical Society, said

her troops will carefully sort through the artifacts, which have already been itemized by a professional archaeologist, and then develop a plan for sharing “duplicates” with other historically minded entities including the Placerita Canyon Nature Center, Vasquez Rocks Natural Area and Nature Center, and the Autry National Center (formerly the Autry Museum of Western Heritage).

## Manzer, CONT.

FROM PAGE 4.

same neat stuff those four boys say so many years ago.

Today there is also a steam train engine and almost a whole town of old buildings called "Heritage Junction." Those boys of yesteryear would have loved to "capture" that town during whatever war they were fighting on those cool autumn days.

There is a lot to see at the park and still a lot to do. Mr. Hart built a castle in Newhall. That castle has fired the imaginations of just about everyone who has ever seen it. You should go see it if you've not done so and, if you have, return again and again. It is that good.

As for the four small boys ... David now lives in Quartz Hill. Alan became the Marine he always wanted to be and served more than 20 years. John lives in Nashville and

works as a music producer.

An album he co-produced for the singer, Vince Gill, was nominated in 2007 for Album of the Year at the annual Country Music Association Awards.

And the fourth boy? He lives in the flatlands of Tidewater, Virginia. There are small and huge forts (Fort Norfolk and Fortress Monroe), battlefields (Yorktown and Great Bridge), and huge homes and even plantations. There are few hills as high as the one at Hart Park, but none with a castle on top of those hills.

I miss that park and that castle. Next trip there, I've got to see it. All I've got to do is get on the plane in Norfolk and fly west.

Hope to see y'all the next time I'm there.

*Darryl Manzer went to school in Newhall - when he wasn't tearing around Hart Park - while living in the Pico Canyon oil town of Mentryville in the 1960s. Retired from the U.S. Navy, he lives in Virginia.*



PHOTOS BY LEON WORDEN



**(FAR LEFT, TOP) THE BAD GUYS WOULD ESCAPE PAST THE SWIMMING POOL, WHICH IS BEREFT OF WATER TODAY. (FAR LEFT, BOTTOM) THE RANCH HOUSE HOLDS MANY FOND MEMORIES. (ABOVE AND LEFT) A HERD OF AMERICAN BISON, NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH BUFFALO, WAS DONATED TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR HART PARK IN 1962 BY WALT DISNEY, WHO USED THEM IN FILMS AND TELEVISION SERIES AT HIS GOLDEN OAK RANCH IN PLACERITA CANYON. THERE ARE NO BLOOD RELATIVES OF THE ORIGINALS AT HART PARK TODAY; ANIMALS HAVE BEEN TRADED OUT OVER THE YEARS TO PREVENT INBREEDING.**




 MAIN ST

See  
*What's New*  
 in Old Town  
*Newhall*



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**


 Sporting Goods

Looking to the perfect gift for the sports fanatic in your life? Then there's no better place to shop this holiday season than Old Town Newhall. You can kick it over to Planet Soccer or Soccer & More, glide into Billy's Boardshop, ride over to Valencia Bicycles and Newhall Bicycle Company, or swing on over to Roger Dunn for the person on your list who just can't stay off the greens. Old Town Newhall - see what's new!

[www.mynewmainstreet.com](http://www.mynewmainstreet.com)