



S. Clarita stars in own video

History, progress in 1st decade noted

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5, 1997

By Teresa Jimenez
Daily News Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — The 18-minute video celebrating the city's 10th birthday is part documentary and part bragging session, filled with observations from City Council members on Santa Clarita's beginning and recent achievements.

With a folksy country-western tune playing in the background, a voice on the video tells viewers how vision, history and tradition have come together to create a quality of life that surpasses other communities.

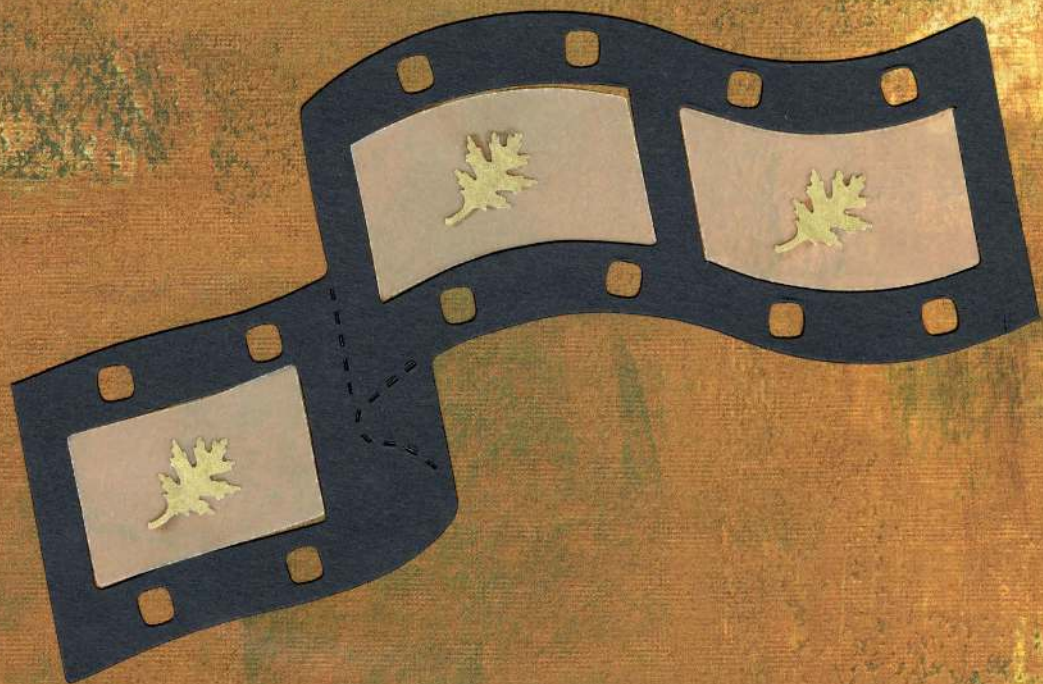
Then Councilman Carl Boyer remembers how the first community meeting was held in a classroom of the old Saugus schoolhouse. And City Manager George Carvalho remembers the challenge of getting a new city off the ground.

"It was really fun starting from scratch and coming up with the money to do things," he says on the video.

This, the voice says, is why Santa Clarita has big-city business but small-town charm.

"This is sort of a 'take pride in your community' video," said Gail

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Video follows 10-year journey from cityhood

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Ortiz, public information officer for the city. "We're letting people know there's a reason to celebrate, a reason to be happy you work and play in Santa Clarita."

The \$15,000 video, put together by Valencia Production and Post, isn't designed to promote the city to anyone except the people who live here, Ortiz said. It serves as a reminder that cityhood has helped keep money in the city, allowed more parks to be developed and helped draw more businesses to the area, she said.

The video will be aired on public access television channel 20 during the month. But presentations will be made to groups ranging from the local Rotary Club and PTA to homeowners associations and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as any other organizations that request one, Ortiz

said.

For who don't know that Santa Clarita was named by California Business Journal as one of the top cities in California to do business or that it is often named one of the safest cities for its size, they will after watching the tape.

They'll also discover that the city has expanded its park space, taken on a redevelopment project and preserved open space while offering a variety of activities for the families who live here.

"We want to make it a place where people come. We want to make it a place where people feel safe," Mayor Clyde Smyth says in the video. "Welcome to Santa Clarita."

Cable channel 20 will air the city video at 9:30 p.m. Aug. 14 and Aug. 21 and at 7 p.m. Aug. 18 and Aug. 25. To request a presentation, call Ortiz at (805) 255-4314.



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98



**Art workshop offered
by SCV city officials**

Signal 2-98
The ins and outs of the National State County Partnership Granting Program will be detailed at a free workshop from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 5, in the Century Room on the first floor of City Hall, 23920 Valencia Blvd. The workshop is sponsored by the city of Santa Clarita Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. The NSCP grant program provides up to \$10,000 for eligible Los Angeles County arts organizations. Workshop attendees will learn about the application process and also have the opportunity to network with other arts organizations and representatives from the area. To reserve a seat at the workshop or for more information, call the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Grants Manager at (213) 974-1343 or city Cultural Arts Coordinator Sean Morgan at 286-4034.



BEGONIAS Lane

19



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PARK



Santa Clarita **Big Little Town

Santa Clarita: big little town

By Patricia Farrell Aidem
Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — If the spirit of California — its promises, tragedies, breakthroughs, discoveries and colorful history — could be concentrated in one small town, it could be Santa Clarita.

Home to American Indians, settled by missionaries, awarded in Spanish land grants, crossed by the railroad, mapped for its oil reserves and the backdrop in hundreds of movies, the Santa Clarita Valley has a rich past of its own, one that mirrors that of the state.

Nineteenth century settlers cheered with the state's first gold discovery in Newhall's Placerita Canyon in 1842, long before California's "gold country" spurred statehood.

The fledgling community wept in 1928, when the St. Francis Dam collapsed above Saugus, wiping out families, farmland and confidence

in a system that brought Southern California its most precious resource: water from the north. With more than 450 dead, the collapse marked the second-worst tragedy in the state's history, following only the San Francisco Earthquake.

And that icon of California, the freeway, guaranteed the Santa Clarita Valley's future as a bustling city on the fringe of Los Angeles.

"That was kind of the point where we knew our little town wasn't going to blow away," said historian Philip Scorza, host of a public access TV show titled "Points of Interest."

Now known as the Santa Clarita Valley, named for the river dubbed Santa Clara in 1769 by Father Juan Crespi, the region is one of the fastest-growing in California.

Few remnants remain. The Catholic mission outpost is gone, the oak trees that were the lifeblood of Indian villages are disappearing.

See HISTORY / Page 2

State Honors City for Quality of Life '19

Santa Clarita is one of 10 California cities honored by the state Department of Health Services' "Healthy Cities" program, which recognizes municipalities that strive to improve the quality of life for residents.

Santa Clarita was praised for strong promotion of seat-belt usage, improvements to the natural environment, participation in air-quality programs and the addition of a recreational park accessible to the handicapped.

Santa Clarita is one of the program's charter cities, so called because they were the first to participate, city officials said.

—JEFF PRUGH

Railroad, freeway brought life to valley

HISTORY / From Page 1

The future of Santa Clarita is development — more subdivisions, more malls, more industrial centers and more highways.

"Our development progressed very little for the first 60 years of this century," Scorza said. "Nothing really happened in the valley, the population stayed smallish until the '60s. Then the freeway came through, and everything changed."

"Progress" began in 1875, with the purchase of Rancho San Francisco — the Santa Clarita Valley — by auctioneer Henry Mayo Newhall. Over the decades, what became The Newhall Land and Farming Co. managed farms and ranches in the region, selling off some parcels.

Newhall descendants continued to manage the company in the 20th century and when it was announced that the Golden State Freeway would be built through the rancho, plans for the "new town" of Valencia

were set. The first subdivisions appeared in the mid-60s and newcomers bolstered the valley's population to about 70,000 in 1980. Development fever spread across the valley, which today boasts about 180,000 residents.

Meanwhile, the neighboring communities of Saugus, Canyon Country and Newhall continued to grow, each maintaining its own character. In 1987, reacting to unchecked growth in the area, residents overwhelmingly voted for

cityhood, becoming the largest city ever to incorporate in California.

Still, Santa Clarita maintains a small-town character, boosters insist. But times have changed since the last turn of the century, when one postman traveled the entire area each day, roaming from ranches in Castaic to Saugus to Newhall, traveling dirt roads to homes set far apart on open land, Scorza said.

"I often wonder about people who were here before the '60s," he said. "I wonder what they must feel."



Santa
Clarita
City

Small
Business
Resource
Guide

Founded
in
1998

Small business guide debuted on Thursday

Resource book to be unveiled at SCVCC's membership meeting

BY JACK KATZANEK
Signal Business Editor

The Small Business Resource Guide, a practical handbook with information on how to get a commercial start in the Santa Clarita Valley, will be debuted at the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce's quarterly membership meeting Thursday, according to a city spokeswoman.

The guide, which was produced by the

SCVCC and the city of Santa Clarita, is designed to give new and existing businesses direction to negotiate the area's business climate, according to Stacy Miller, an analyst with the city's Economic Development Department.

The resource guide grew out of the chamber's Year of the Small Business efforts, a joint declaration for 1998 by the city and the SCVCC.

While not listing any potential vendors, the guide has information that includes contacts for starting up and expanding a business, as well as resources for funding, training, licensing and foreign trade, Miller said.

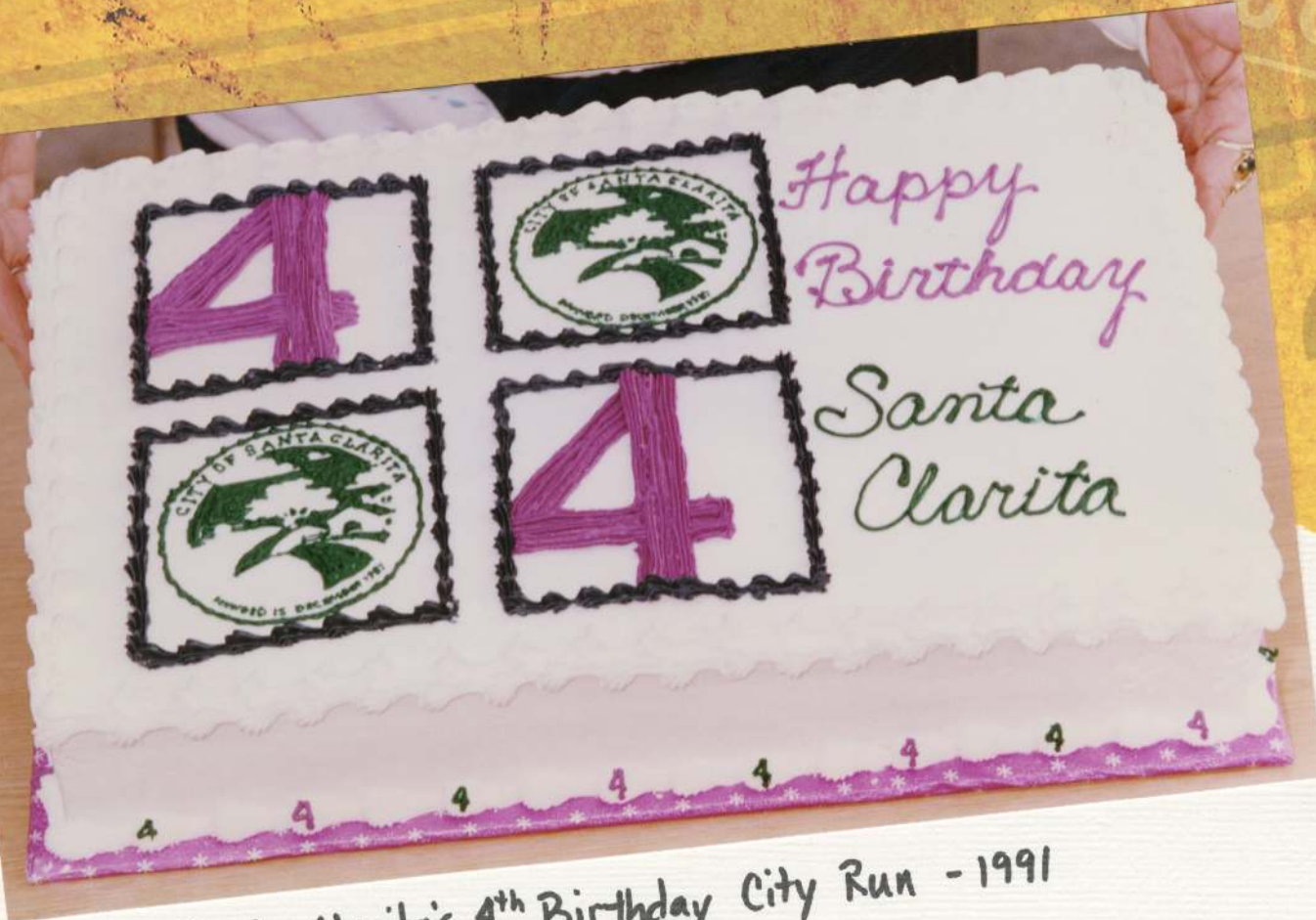
Bob Kellar, who chairs the chamber's Year of the Small Business Committee, and Mayor Jan Heidt, will jointly unveil the

product.

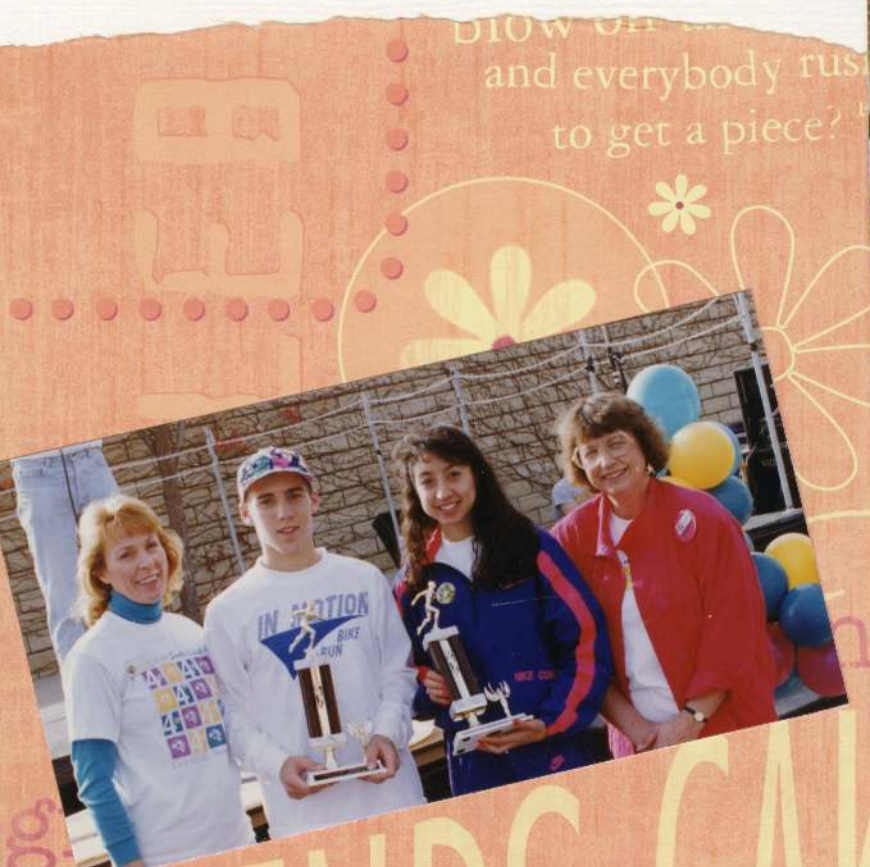
"The goal of the guide is to provide residents with a where-to-go on starting a new business in Santa Clarita," Kellar said. "We are proud to say the finished product has ended up serving an even broader base, as it includes resources that can assist virtually every business in our community."

The meeting is scheduled to start at 11:45 a.m. at the Ranch House Inn, and the admission fee is \$15. The guest speaker will be small business consultant Kent Burnes, who will speak on "Shaping Up For the New Millennium."

Anyone looking for a copy of the guide or more information should contact Miller at 287-4166.



Santa Clarita's 4th Birthday City Run - 1991



Blowing up is optional
FRIENDS CAKE WISHES CANDLES



a little
extra icing
makes a
birthday

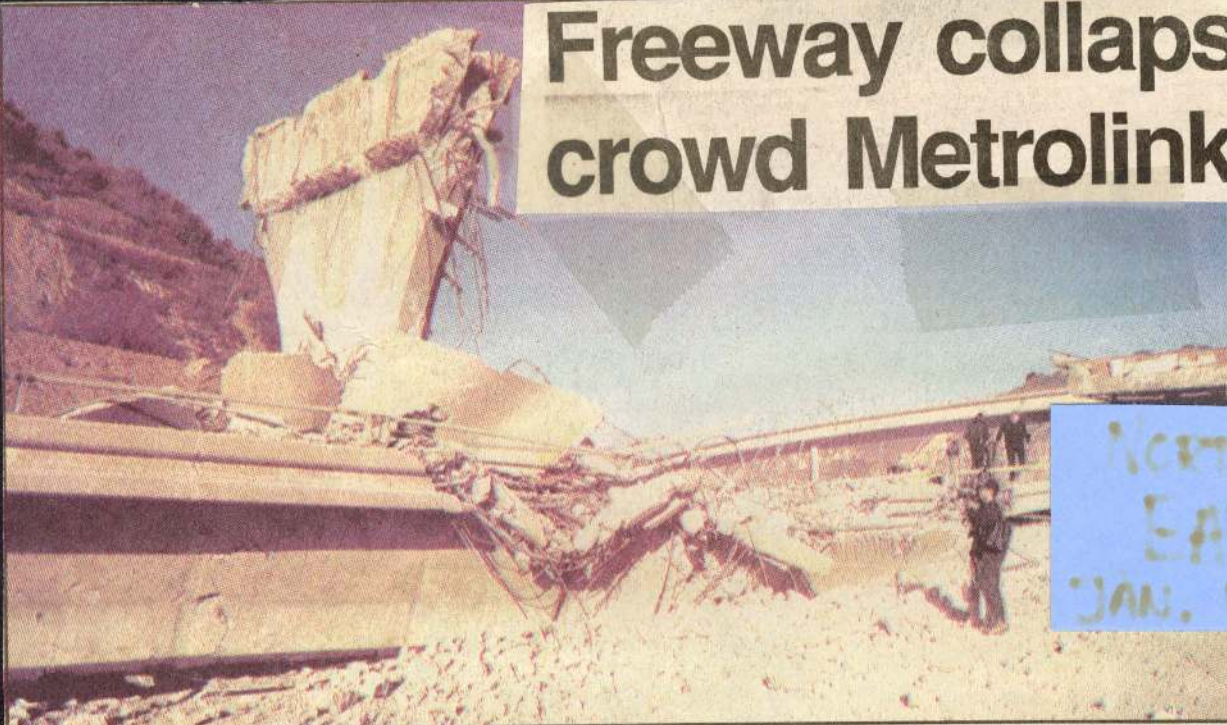


RACE



Santa Clarita's 4th Birthday City Run - 1991.

Freeway collapses crowd Metrolink 1-19-94



RICH SHVEYDA/The Signal

The section of Highway 14 which collapsed onto Interstate 5 during Monday's earthquake. The structure is to be broken into small blocks for trucks to haul away.

Motorist survives freeway plunge 1-21-94



Rescue workers prepare to extricate Tony Moufarrege after he drove his van off a severed freeway Thursday.

RICH SHVEYDA/The Signal

President told SCV being overlooked 1-20-94

By SUSAN GOLDSMITH
Signal Staff Writer

BURBANK — A visibly angered Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich asked President Clinton and his team of top federal officials Wednesday to look beyond the San Fernando Valley to earthquake-battered Santa Clarita, which he said has been shaken by a tremor of indifference ever since Monday's earthquake.

"Over one-half million people are impacted and need your assistance," Antonovich told the president. "Santa Clarita Valley, which has over 200,000 people, is landlocked. The Antelope Valley, which has over 200,000 people, is also landlocked. The freeway is down and they need transportation."

The president toured parts of the San Fernando Valley Wednesday during the one-day visit, with Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Santa Clarita, as one of his guides. Following the tour, Clinton conducted a three-hour town hall meeting at the Burbank Airport with federal, state and local officials, including Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, Gov. Pete Wilson and California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

Clinton and his staff announced they'd immediately release \$45

million for freeway repairs and debris removal, \$239 million in Small Business Administration money, up to \$100 million to fund rental assistance vouchers as well as \$34 million in Community Development block grants. Clinton also promised to ask Congress to reduce the 25 percent state matching requirement for federal assistance to 10 percent.

"I think you have a very strong case for waiver, but before we can do that we need a realistic assessment" of the cost, Clinton said. "I think Congress will do the right thing."

And, Clinton said, "This is a national problem . . . This is something we plan on staying with to the very end."

Gov. Pete Wilson told Clinton the earthquake damage will be the costliest in the state's history with preliminary estimates putting the total at \$30 billion.

"The people of this community have been through enormous tests in the last few years," Wilson said. "These disasters do seem to bring out the very best in people . . . They're shaking but their spirit is not broken."

Although the money will be immediately released, including some \$777,000 for the Santa Clarita Valley in Housing and Urban Development grants, Antonovich said his

See CLINTON, page A4

Clinton

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district is being lost in the earthquake shuffle.

"The Santa Clarita Valley is devastated and it's important the president realize this is a regional problem," said Antonovich. "It's important we get solutions and not political rhetoric."

McKeon said he made Clinton well aware the earthquake destruc-

tion was severe in the northern portion of Los Angeles County.

"I told him, 'Look, this is my district,'" said McKeon, who is scheduled to meet with Transportation Secretary Federico Pena today. "I went to each of these people individually who can help us."

And, he added, "Just getting the president here is important. It shows his concern."

In reference to Clinton and his team of officials, McKeon said,

"These guys, as I've seen them, are doers."

Concerned the meeting did little to bring attention to the northern portion of Los Angeles, Antonovich said, "It was a dog and pony show for the city of Los Angeles, which, in my opinion, jeopardizes the services needed and required by the citizens in the Santa Clarita Valley, Antelope Valley, the city of San Fernando, Santa Monica, Glendale and Burbank, who've all been devastated by the earthquake."

By MARK SABBATINI
Signal Staff Writer

NEWHALL — A 42-year-old man was hospitalized Thursday afternoon after driving a catering van off a severed Antelope Valley Freeway connector ramp that collapsed during Monday's earthquake, officials said.

Tony Moufarrege, of Sun Valley, drove off the southbound ramp at approximately 1 p.m., landing upside down on a tractor below that was used in repairing the freeway, said Mark Savage, a Los Angeles County Fire Department inspector. He said Moufarrege was airlifted to Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital.

Moufarrege was said to be in fair condition with minor injuries late Thursday.

"He was conscious and talking," Savage said. "He was extremely lucky, seeing as he dropped 40 feet and landed upside down."

The van had been serving food to workers near the damaged transition, said Officer Pablo Torres of the California Highway Patrol.

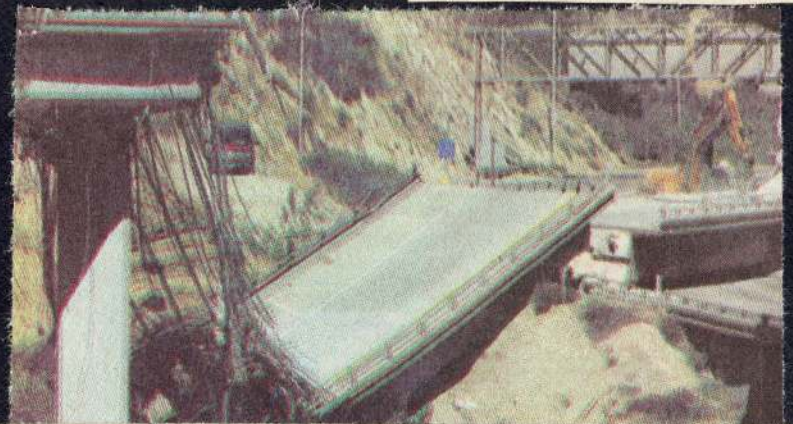
"For some unknown reason, the vehicle went off in the wrong direction," he said.

The catering vehicle also carried a refrigerator, a stereo and other personal belongings, Savage said.

Firefighters used to "Jaws of Life" to extricate Moufarrege from the vehicle, he added.

The accident is the second since the overpass collapsed during Monday's magnitude 6.6 earthquake. Los Angeles Police Department Officer Clarence W. Dean, 46, died after driving his motorcycle off the ramp 45 minutes after the quake.

The freeway is closed at the Placerita Canyon Road off-ramp, and officials said repairs to the freeways will take at least a year.



SHAUN DYER/The Signal

The transition from the southbound Antelope Valley Freeway to northbound Interstate 5 was a quake casualty.

1-20-94

AFTERSHOCKS PUNCH

SCV



Workers continue to remove parts of the collapsed Antelope Valley Freeway connector ramp Friday. Detours around the severed junction are expected to be in place next week.

GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

I-5 detour could open sometime next week

By MARK SABRATINI
Signal Staff Writer

1-22-94

SANTA CLARITA — A series of detours around the severed junction of Interstate 5 and the Antelope Valley Freeway that may be able to handle between half to two-thirds of normal traffic flow is expected to open next week, officials said Friday.

Traffic on I-5 will be rerouted onto The Old Road to go around a stretch of the freeway that collapsed during Monday's magnitude 6.6 earthquake, said Joe Shaw, a Caltrans spokesman. Commuters on the A.V. Freeway (state Highway 14) are being diverted to Sierra Highway, with all four lanes of the road converted for southbound use, and to the northbound truck lanes.

Shaw said Caltrans workers hope to have the I-5 detour completed by Tuesday, but weather could pose a problem.

"There's a 40 percent chance of rain this weekend, so we may not be ready," he said.

Shaw said he does not know how long the completion of the detour could be delayed if weather is unfavorable.

Aftershocks from the earthquake could also pose a problem, Shaw said. But he said a series of small jolts Friday did not affect work, despite a small landslide that blocked The Old Road.

Monday's earthquake caused a several hundred foot long section of the southbound Highway 14 connector ramp to I-5 to collapse, falling about 75 feet onto the I-5 freeway below. In addition, a portion of I-5 collapsed onto The Old Road about one mile north of the junction.

The tremor left commuters from the Santa Clarita and Antelope valleys with Sierra Highway as the sole north/south route to Los Angeles. Motorists have spent up to four hours during the week waiting to get through the bottlenecked road.

Caltrans officials have estimated

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Roads

Continued from page A1

that repairs to the freeways will take at least a year.

Completing the detour to I-5 is the most important task, since the detour for Highway 14 has essentially been established, Shaw said. He said traffic will be diverted to The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Weldon Canyon Road, but remain on I-5 the rest of the drive — including the section where Highway 14 fell on the freeway.

"Most of the areas where the bridge fell down on the freeway

have been cleared or are close to being cleared at this time," he said.

About 50 people are removing 15,000 yards of concrete and steel at Gavin Canyon to construct the detour between I-5 and The Old Road, according to CalTrans officials. The work is about 60 percent completed.

Improvements are also being made to The Old Road, as 75 workers resurface, stripe and place signs on the street. That work is 20 percent completed.

The current main alternative for those traveling on the I-5 require northbound motorists to take the Highway 14 truck lanes to San Fernando Road to Magic Mountain

Parkway, and southbound motorists to exit at Valencia Boulevard and take surface streets to Sierra Highway.

Other alternatives for motorists who normally take I-5 or Highway 14 include Highway 126 to either Highway 23 in Fillmore, or Highway 101 in Ventura, and Highway 14 to Angeles Forest Highway in Palmdale.

Shaw is also urging commuters to the Metrolink rail service, which is running extra cars on all trains and has expanded the number of pickup stations and trains running. Information on Metrolink schedules can be obtained by calling (800) 371-LINK.

Officials ¹⁻²⁵⁻⁹⁴ shoot for Thursday

By **MARK SABBATINI**
Signal Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — The scheduled opening of the detour around a bridge on Interstate 5 that collapsed during last week's earthquake has been postponed from today until at least Thursday, officials said.

The delay resulted when Caltrans workers planning to blow up the remainder of the Gavin Canyon Bridge to protect traffic passing below discovered key utility lines running under the interchange, said Russell Snyder, a Caltrans spokesman. He said officials brought in 20,000 yards of dirt to cover the utilities, which included fiber-optics lines to Los Angeles International Airport, plus key local gas and oil lines.

"They had to create an earthen buffer to protect the lines when the concrete fell down," he said. "They made the dirt 15 feet thick in some spots."

Crews are now hauling away the demolished concrete and steel, and hope to have a detour on The Old Road finished in time for Thursday morning's commute, Snyder said. He said rain forecast for Monday night might delay the opening further, but believes it will not be a factor.

DELAY I-5 DETOUR

"Under normal circumstances we wouldn't have workers out there in the rain, but these are extraordinary circumstances," he said.

A magnitude 6.6 earthquake Jan. 17 caused parts of the overcrossing to collapse onto The Old Road, more than 200 feet below. Caltrans and other officials estimate it will take at least a year to repair the bridge and other freeways damaged in the quake, including a portion of the Antelope Valley Freeway (Highway 14) that collapsed onto I-5.

Traffic on I-5 will be diverted onto an improved stretch of The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Weldon Canyon Road. Officials estimate the detour will be able to handle half to two-thirds of normal traffic flow.

Traffic on Highway 14 has been diverted southbound onto Sierra Highway and northbound onto the Highway 14 truck lanes.

Jerry Baxter, a Caltrans director, said he hopes to have the southbound truck lanes on the freeway open at the end of the week to further relieve traffic flow, which has resulted in delays of up to four hours.

Caltrans officials said Monday morning's traffic was relatively light compared to last week, due to commuters carpooling, using public transportation and staggering their traveling hours.

Highway 14 detour

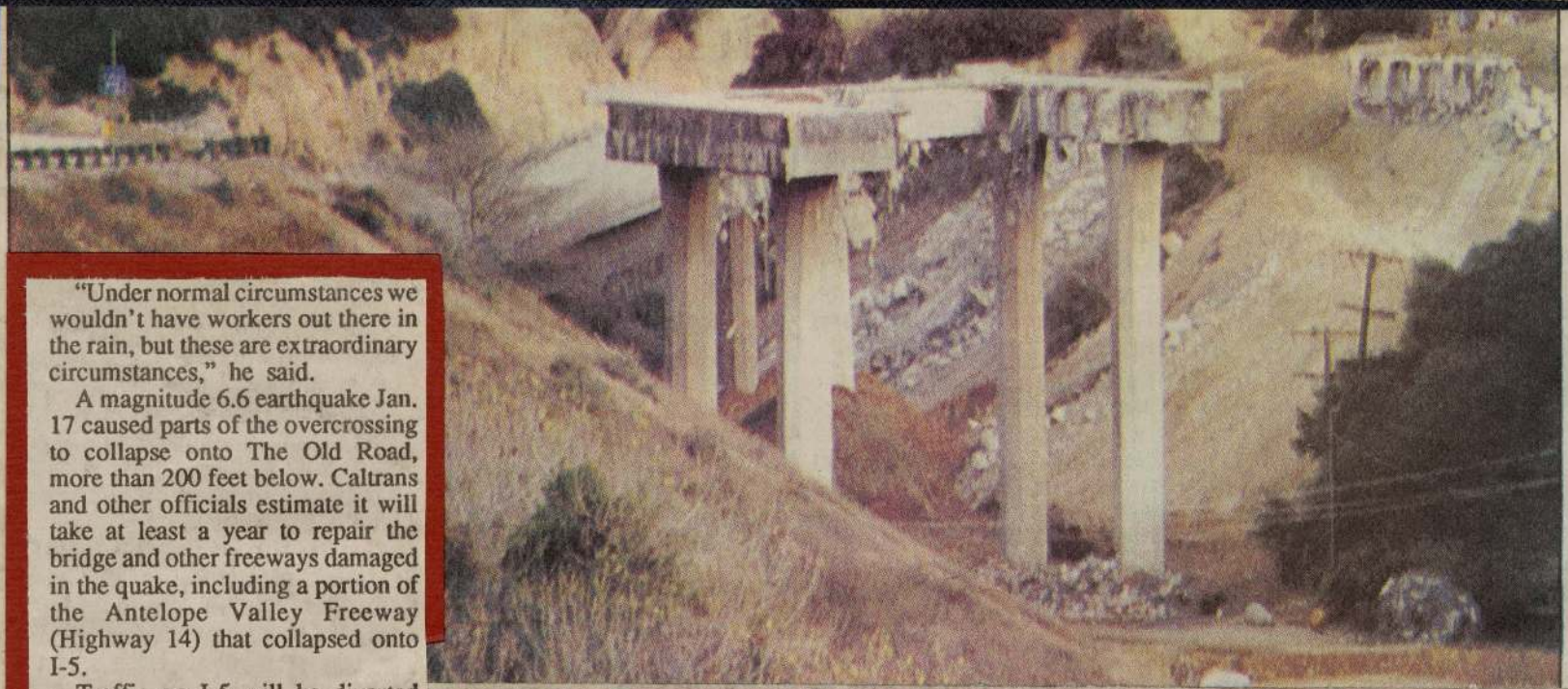
Highway 14 is closed south of Placerita Cyn. Rd. The detour follows Sierra Highway to The Old Road, Foothill Boulevard and San Fernando Road in the San Fernando Valley, where commuters can take Sepulveda Boulevard to the Roxford St. entrance to I-5.



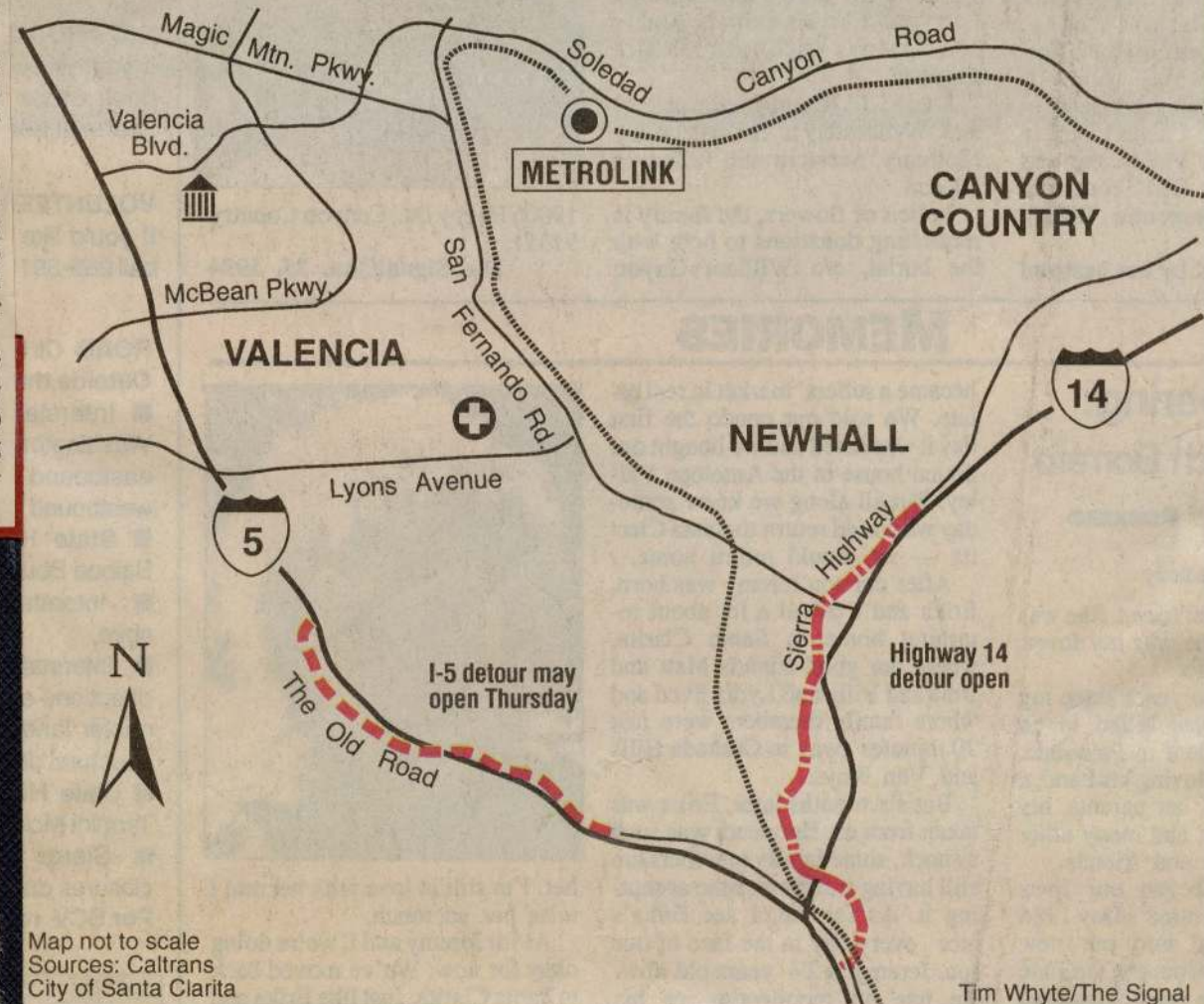
Red Cross shelter
Newhall Park (1 of 4)



City Hall
Emergency center

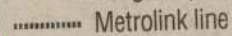


COMMUTING TIPS



Metrolink station

Soledad Canyon Rd., east of Saugus Speedway



Metrolink line

Interstate 5 detour

The Old Road, perhaps as soon as Wednesday, will serve as a detour around quake-damaged stretches of I-5. The detour will feature two lanes in each direction with a center divider. Southbound traffic will leave the freeway at Calgrove Boulevard and rejoin it at the Weldon Summit truck stop. Northbound traffic will exit the freeway at the truck stop and re-enter at Calgrove.

Map not to scale
Sources: Caltrans
City of Santa Clarita

Tim Whyte/The Signal

COUNCIL MEETS UNDER TENT

By **SUSAN GOLDSMITH**
Signal Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — Sitting in a rain-soaked tent in the City Hall parking lot, the City Council met for the first time since last Monday's earthquake and voted to remove two barriers from area streets to improve access and promised to help a family whose destroyed home is precariously perched on a hillside.

"We're dealing with special emergency needs to get them done within our legal

framework," said Mayor George Pederson. "We'll be meeting more frequently as the need arises and as the decisions come up. It's a fluid situation and it changes daily."

City Manager George Caravalho told the council that City Hall would be closed for the next 60 days while repairs are done to the building, which was heavily damaged during the earthquake. City officials expect the building to be fully operational in two months. While work is being done to the building, it will be closed to the public, he said.

This week, Caravalho said, the city is expecting to receive \$5 to \$10 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in immediate disaster funding for road and building repairs. Although final estimates are not available, officials believe damage to the city will exceed \$100 million.

Patty and Stuart Cronan of Valencia pleaded with the council for help in demolishing their Via Onda home, which was completely destroyed by the temblor. Now living in a tent with their five children on a

neighbor's lawn, Mrs. Cronan said city officials have said their home is a danger to surrounding neighborhoods and then recanted, saying it was not a threat.

"The only way I can describe it to you is a house of cards. . . ."

City officials acknowledged the Cronans may have fallen through the cracks because of all of the emergencies last week. It promised to help the family proceed with the demolition today.

At issue during the discussion was whether the city is responsible for demol-

ishing the home. City Attorney Carl Newton told the council the city is responsible only for homes that pose a danger to the public. The demolition of homes that do not pose a threat to the public, Newton said, are the property owner's responsibility under the law.

In other business, the council voted to remove two city road barriers on the Calgrove/Valley intersection and another on Maple Street both in Newhall to improve access for residents and emergency personnel.



EARTHQUAKE





Inside scoop
CAROL ROCK

Out of the rubble rise many heroes

After the dust settles (and they say it will, eventually) it will be hard to pick one hero(ine) from the hundreds on the streets of Santa Clarita. One name I've heard over and over is Adele MacPherson, the city's emergency preparedness coordinator. Formerly from the Red Cross, Adele came on board the city staff (at the bidding of City Manager George Carnalho who made our preparedness one of his priorities) where she started the S.E.C.U.R.E. program to get us ready for the inevitable. When you see her on the street after things calm down, thank her. We're so lucky to have her!

The city's occasionally excitable volunteer coordinator Priscilla Nielsen has used willing citizens to do everything under the sun, whether it was selling Metrolink tickets or distributing drinking water (which you should use, they tell us now, for at least another two weeks). Priscilla would like you all to know that she is eternally grateful for everything — but if you have a few spare hours, she's looking for people to ride along with building inspectors and people to go into the finance department for numerical filing. Call her at 286-4102 to sign up.

As you should, we at The Mighty Signal tip our hats to the city's collective efforts and super-organized support in these troubled times.

Now, if your house is in order, your roof stable and your family somewhat calm, this is a good time to give someone else a hand. The Red Cross, which is operating four shelters in town (that may stay open another two to five weeks), can use some folks to relieve the workers that have been at it for over a week. According to volunteer coordinator Anne Mosher here from Oakland (bless all of you out-of-towners), they always need help loading equipment or supplies in their central location or serving meals at the shelters. So far, over 630 volunteers from Santa Clarita are working in this disaster effort. Call them at 259-1805 or visit their offices in the Kmart Center so they can take advantage of your special skills. Anne also reminded me to tell you that sometimes the biggest need people have is to have someone to talk to or give them a hug.

94

City officials work out of tent, trailers

By MARK SABBATINI
Signal Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — City officials have moved into less distinguished — but considerably safer — housing for at least the next two months, operating from two mobile trailers and a tent in the parking lot of the devastated City Hall.

Last week's earthquake made City Hall uninhabitable and virtually all of the offices, plus additional emergency services, had to be relocated, said Gail Foy, city spokeswoman. She guided the media on a tour of the facilities during a press conference Wednesday, where the latest local damage figures were released.

Foy said city employees and volunteers are trying to adjust from the chaos of the quake's initial

aftermath and gear up for what is certain to be a challenging few months.

"We're trying to evolve from an emergency operations center to a satellite City Hall," she said.

Everything involving expensive equipment, from payroll to the city's disaster hotline, were crammed into the trailers, while utilities officials and others fielded questions under the "Big Top" outside.

The city is trying to help private businesses and offices at City Hall find a location to operate from until repairs are completed, Foy added.

Residents can obtain building permits and Metrolink passes from offices in the trailer. Information on FEMA, when water will be restored to homes, shelters and other
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Speaking of hugs, at the SCV Senior Center on Market Street, Carolyn Shultz says they could use some folks to give the seniors there some companionship, listen if they want to talk or help clean up the facilities.

Silent victims of the earthquake are many pets, who fled in fear of the shaking and may not be able to get home. Laurene Weste and Margo White have been spending sleepless nights trying to reunite pets with their owners. The Castaic Shelter (257-3100) is holding all animals found since last Monday and are not euthanizing any healthy animals turned in. If your pet is missing, GO to the shelter, don't call, it's easier to ID them in person. Even if the shelter is closed for adoptions or registration, we've been told they will let you check on your animal's status.

When Hart Park was closed and waterless thanks to a broken water line, animal keeper Margo went in to care for her furred and feathered charges. Finding no water, she called Laurene, who called Jim Jinks, head of the Newhall Water Company. Jinks said she could have water if she would just come get it. Another call, this one to Andre Veluzat, owner of many movie company water trucks. Andre connected with Jinks, and with the animals of Hart Park, including the dozen or so buffalo at the foot of the hills, making sure they were watered. Isn't it amazing what a network of well-placed friends will do?

And to help out local relief efforts, the SCV Canyons Preservation League has dedicated their fundraiser Wednesday night to the SCV branch of the Red Cross. For only \$35, you can enjoy a buffet dinner and a show at the Laugh Factory on Sunset Blvd. hosted by Frazer Smith of KLSX radio. Even though its over the hill, it's a worthy cause — why not get a bunch of people going and carpool? Tickets and information available by calling 294-2500.

At any rate, for all you do, this Miller's for you — Irwindale tap water donated by the brewery — which, by the way, it takes five bottles of to make one pot of coffee. We're surviving, Santa Clarita — here's looking at you!

Carol Rock's society column appears Tuesdays.

City

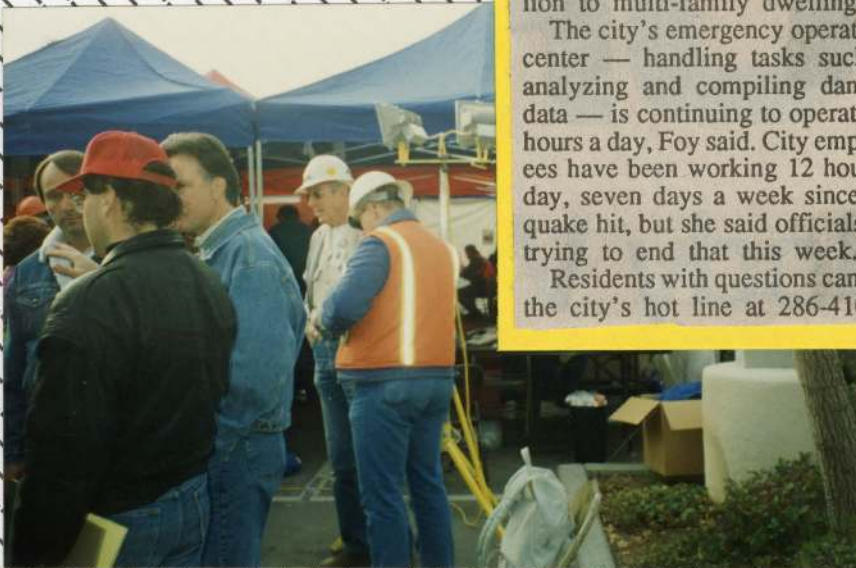
Continued from page A1
earthquake-related issues can be answered by staff in the tent.

The busiest activity continues to be building inspections, with 30 to 40 teams of inspectors from the region performing 800 inspections daily, Foy said. She said damage is estimated at more than \$162 million to date and it will be weeks before a

final tally is known.

"We don't have a breakdown by community," she said. "It's obvious Valencia was hit a lot harder than anybody."

A total of 3,113 private buildings — such as homes and churches — and 583 public buildings sustained damage, according to the latest figures. Damages include \$11.2 million to roads, \$3.6 million to bridges, \$76 million to public and private schools, \$23.5 million to



single family homes and \$8.8 million to multi-family dwellings.

The city's emergency operations center — handling tasks such as analyzing and compiling damage data — is continuing to operate 24 hours a day, Foy said. City employees have been working 12 hours a day, seven days a week since the quake hit, but she said officials are trying to end that this week.

Residents with questions can call the city's hot line at 286-4105.

City's true colors shine through

It's been more than a week but it seems just like yesterday when the 6.6 temblor rocked our area.

The aftershocks have kept all of us on edge, and has thrown some over the edge. It's a tough time.

But it's also a time to recognize those who have worked diligently to try to provide residents with much-needed help.

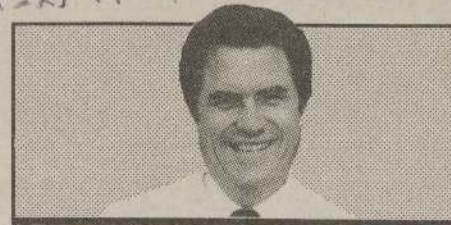
I have repeatedly criticized city officials for making sophomoric decisions and ineptly implementing novice measures.

If the city had a nickel for every mistake it's made, it would be on easy street. Then again, so would I.

But not this time. This city has gone far above the call to aid local residents.

The emergency center officials set up in the City Hall parking lot is exemplary. Not only does it provide essential service, but it gives comfort to those who have been there as well.

Officials set it up an hour after the quake hit and was ready to roll, pardon the pun. The center has representatives from the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station,



Steve Whitmore

the Los Angeles County Fire Department, the State's Environmental Protection Agency, Southern California Gas Co. and Southern California Edison.

The hot lines have provided quick access to emergency information. The numbers deserve repeating. They are: 286-4105, 4106, 4107, 4108, 4109, 4110, 4111, and 4112.

Use those phone lines for any questions regarding the earthquake. They are there for you to use.

The center has a computer center that tracks building inspections and repair work being done throughout the city. The center hands out water and other emergency necessities.

But it's much more than a

place to go to get help. By its mere existence, it helps ease our ragged minds. It lets us know there leaders do care. And that's half the battle.

Some people go there to just talk, share the nightmare. That's fine. Talk it to death.

Some people are upset with the service, saying it's not fast, complete or good enough. We can always do better and city officials would be the first to acknowledge that.

But the city did it. In a time such as this, confusion adds to the fear. We need people we can lean on, people who will lead us out of the confusion. We need a steadying force. I know this sounds like a lot of hyperbole, but I think it's true.

It's like that old saying: "You discover a man's true colors in a time of crisis."

Well, I for one think the city's colors are true. Thanks.

Steve Whitmore is The Signal's city editor. His commentary appears Tuesdays. He can be reached at 259-1234, ext. 235.

City officials relocate offices to Saugus

By **SUSAN GOLDSMITH**
Signal Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — Until repair work is done on earthquake-damaged City Hall, the city will move its headquarters to Saugus and pay only operational costs for use of the building, officials said.

"The city needs a place to roost for the time being and we're going to oblige them," said Joe Sadera, plant manager for Cytec Engineered Materials Inc. The company

will share its 75,000-square-foot building with the city for the next two months while City Hall is fixed.

By Monday, city officials expect to be in their new home and ready for business. The new building is at 21444 Golden Triangle Rd.

Sadara said the company will ask the city to pay only for utilities and other operational costs while in the new building.

During last Monday's earthquake, City Hall sustained \$4 million in damage. Since Jan. 19, the

city has operated in tents and trailers in City Hall's parking lot.

"We want to get not just the city organized but the entire city of Santa Clarita back to normal," said Ken Pulskamp, the city's assistant manager. "This is a big step forward in that direction. We're moving from the emergency phase to recovery."

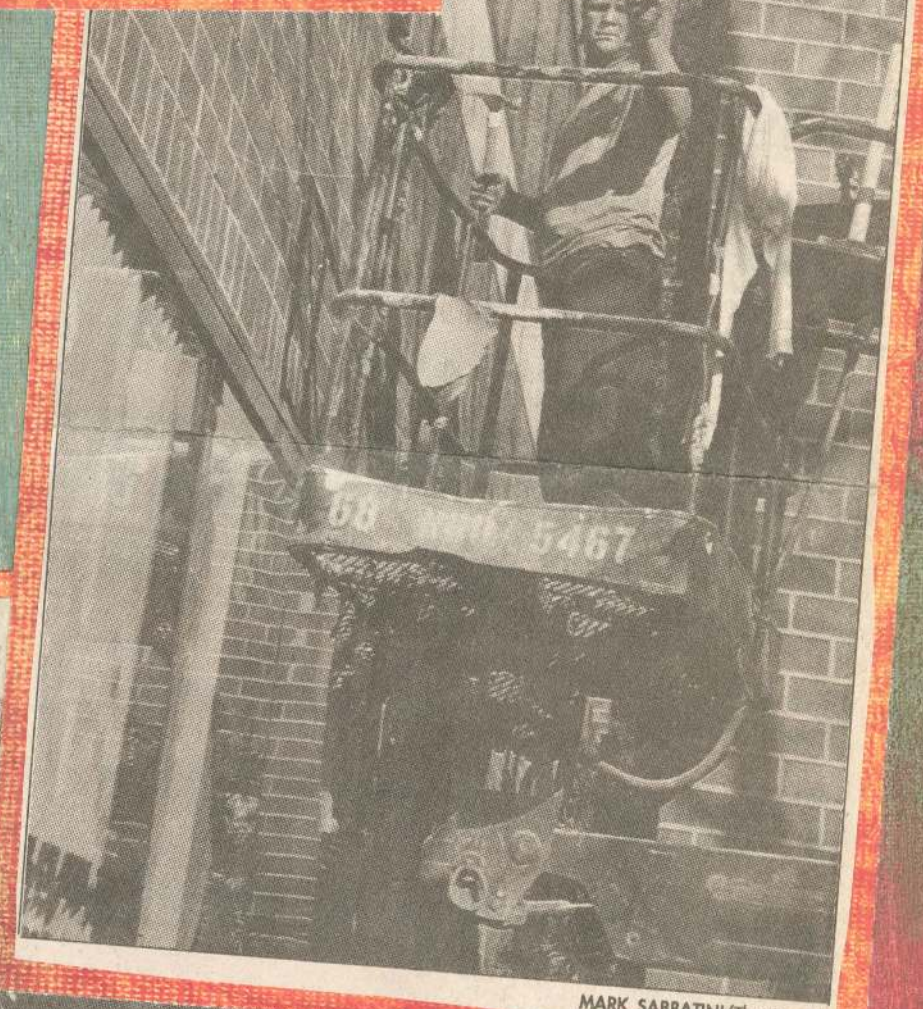
During the two months needed for the repair work, contractors will be replacing bolts and joints in the City Hall building and shoring up

the structure as well. Pulskamp said the building will also need to be seismically reinforced again.

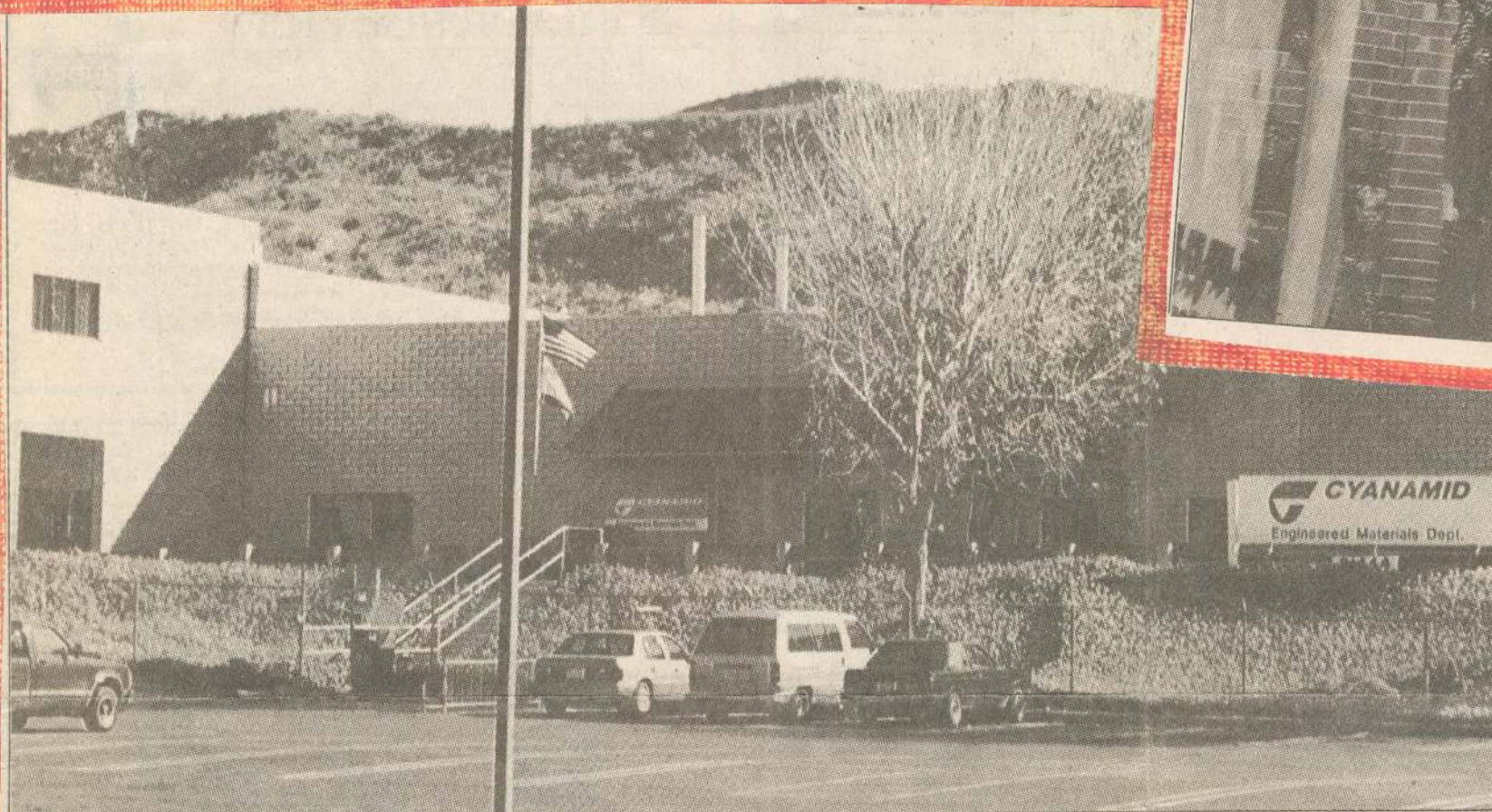
"They'll be taking out every bolt and replacing them," said Pulskamp.

The city purchased the building in 1987 for \$11 million. There are 22 tenants in City Hall who collectively pay \$158,000 a month in rent. None of the tenants, said Pulskamp, will move to the temporary headquarters along with the city.

Community
Development
& Planning
Improving
Schedules



MARK SABBATINI/The Signal



GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

City officials will temporarily relocate their offices to facilities owned by Cytec Engineered Materials Inc. in

Saugus (above). A worker examines some of the damage to City Hall Wednesday (right).

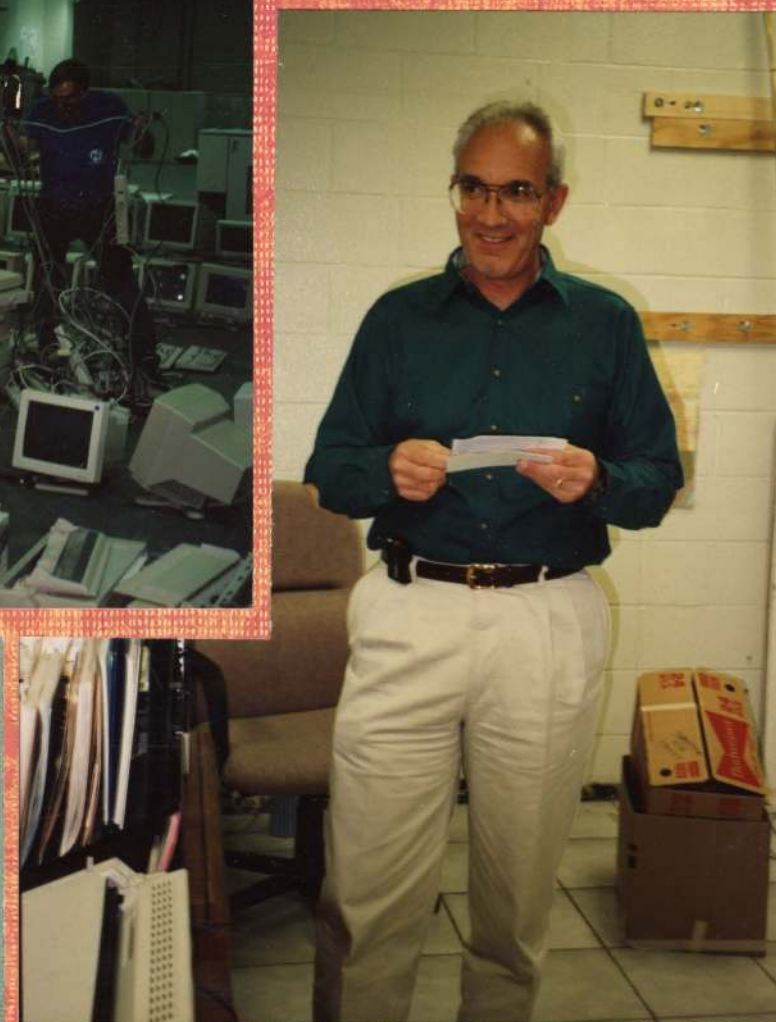
1-30-94

CITY HALL

RELOCATION



Transporting & setting up
all computers in temp.
City Hall



DIRECTOR OF PARK, REC & COMM SERVICE:
RICK PUTNAM

The City of Santa Clarita

2/4/94

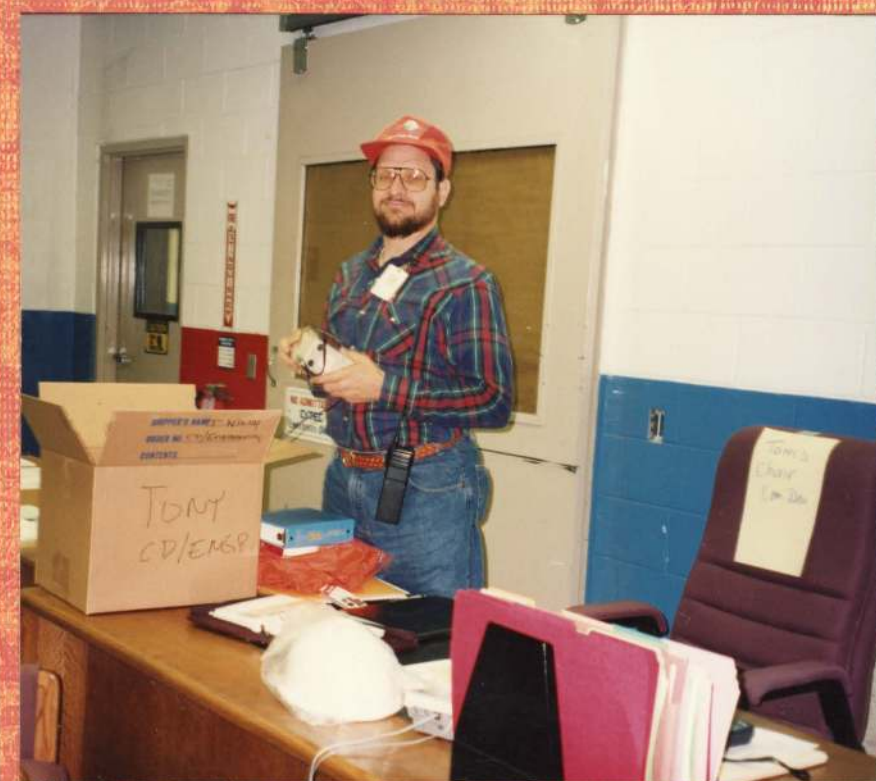
wishes to extend a **Great Big Thank You** to the Community for pulling together during this disaster.

We wish to apologize for any inconvenience caused as a result of the damage to our City Hall building and our location too. Please come visit us at our temporary new City Hall:

21444 Golden Triangle Road, Santa Clarita

Please note: Our Building and Safety Division and the Emergency Operation Center will remain in the parking lot of the old City Hall building at 23920 Valencia Blvd., Valencia.

(805) 259-2489



ENGINEERING DIRECTOR: TONY NISICH

Merchants distribute altruism

By CAROLE A. BROOKS
Signal Staff Writer

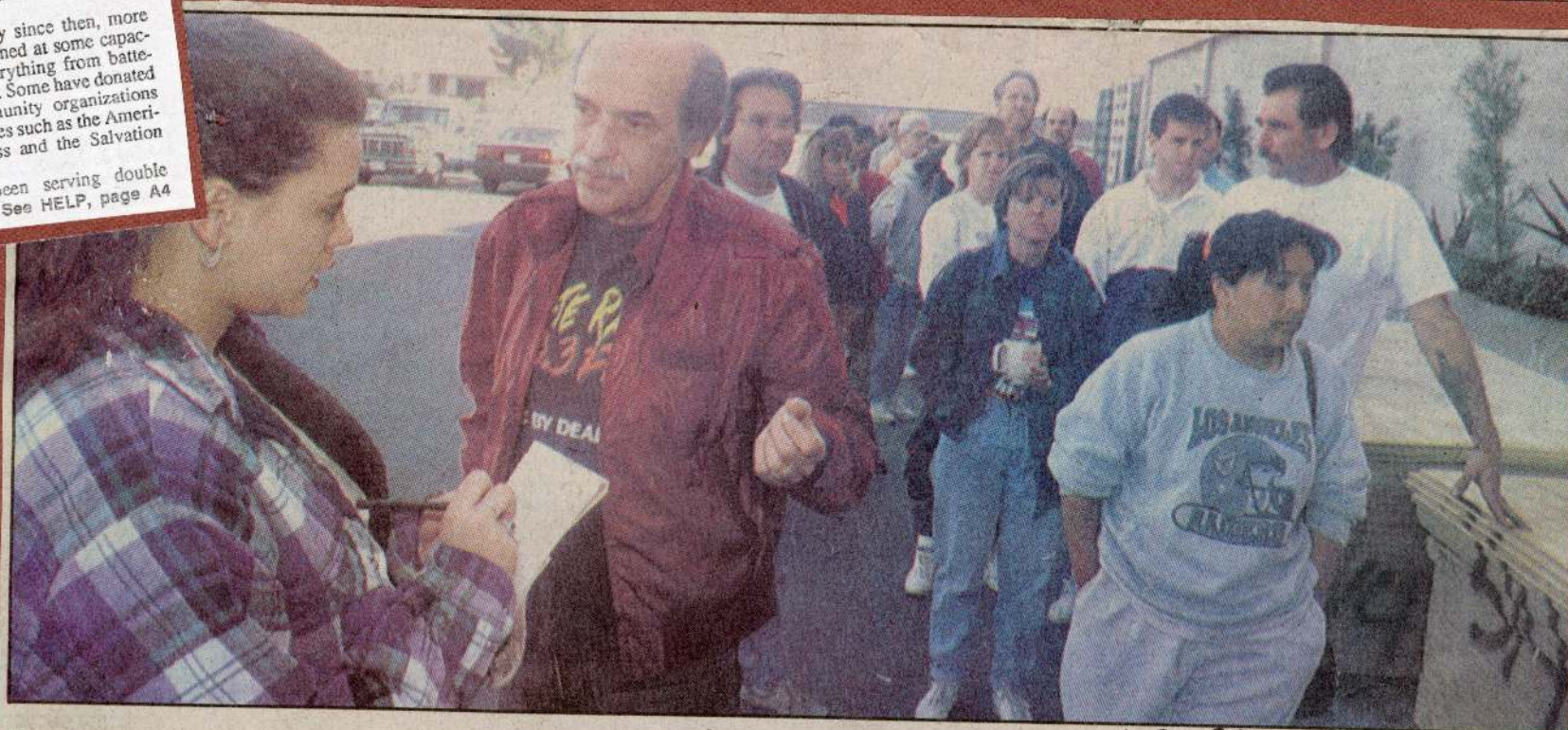
SANTA CLARITA — While most Santa Clarita Valley residents walked around in some kind of zombie daze Monday morning, a handful of stores hustled and opened for business, although not quite as usual.

And each day since then, more stores have opened at some capacity, selling everything from batteries to bicycles. Some have donated food to community organizations and aid charities such as the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

They've been serving double
See HELP, page A4

LENDING

SCV HAND



Residents line up at the Do It Center on Valencia Boulevard to get supplies. The inside of the store was a shambles, as

most of the items were thrown onto the floor. The situation was similar at most stores in the Santa Clarita Valley.

1-20-94

JOHN DEMOS/The Signal

Help

Continued from page A1

duty — scrambling down cluttered aisles to find items and working long hours to get stores back in order.

While most stores have been selling essentials at regular prices, some have reportedly jacked up prices — some residents have griped that a pack of four AA batteries regularly priced at \$2 is sold at some places for upward to \$8. However, those reports are unconfirmed.

Other stores have cut prices to help residents get by. And still others gave away items free Monday.

Long's Drugs was in the latter category. Department Manager Dave Rabotnik at the Valencia store said on Monday that the store handed out free water, milk, baby formula, diapers, medicine, bread and batteries.

"We gave out those things people needed to get by," he said. "We especially concentrated on families with young children, making sure they had what they needed."

Although the handouts ended when the sun went down Monday, the store is still helping out —

they're selling water for 50 cents a gallon. The limit is 2 gallons a family.

"We're selling it at below our cost," he said Wednesday. "And right now we're running low. We're expecting another shipment tonight. We've been calling all our stores and warehouses, asking them to bring in more."

Wednesday was the first day most stores were open for the public to walk inside and shop almost in a normal fashion. For the two days before that, residents had to queue in slow-moving lines and could only purchase items from a limited selection.

At the Hughes supermarket in Granary Square, people rushed down dirty aisles buying from limited quantities of food and household items. Grocery stores reaked of liquor and bad fish. Bread shelves were bare. Frozen-food aisles were depleted. Some sections were still tied off, with merchandise still flat on the floor.

But the stores continue to help the community. Grocery stores have been donating food to emergency Red Cross shelters throughout the valley. Some have also provided local organizations and churches with food to help their

clients.

While grocery stores have been doling out food, other places have been providing other essentials — camping equipment for aftershock-shy folks, batteries, flashlights and charcoal.

The California Do-It Center was open 6 a.m. Monday and has been helping people get items ever since. Unlike Home Depot, which had a limited supply of merchandise available and only accepted cash, the Do-It Center would retrieve anything a customer needed Monday and Tuesday, and allowed the public to pay with cash, checks or credit.

On Wednesday, most of the store was open to customers, loading up on flex-lines for hot water heaters, batteries, flashlights, Coleman stoves and plywood.

"We really wanted to help people," said Laura Shanders, manager at the Do-It Center store. "That's what we're here for. This store is part of the community and most of us live here."

The store will receive a huge shipment of bottled water today — an item the home improvement store usually doesn't sell. And the Do-It Center will sell the water at cost — 69 cents a gallon.



Resident Julianna Cserekyei collects water from a fire hydrant.

GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

1-19-94

RESIDENTS COUNT LOSSES



Locals on rebound; shops open

By MARK SABBATINI
Signal Staff Writer

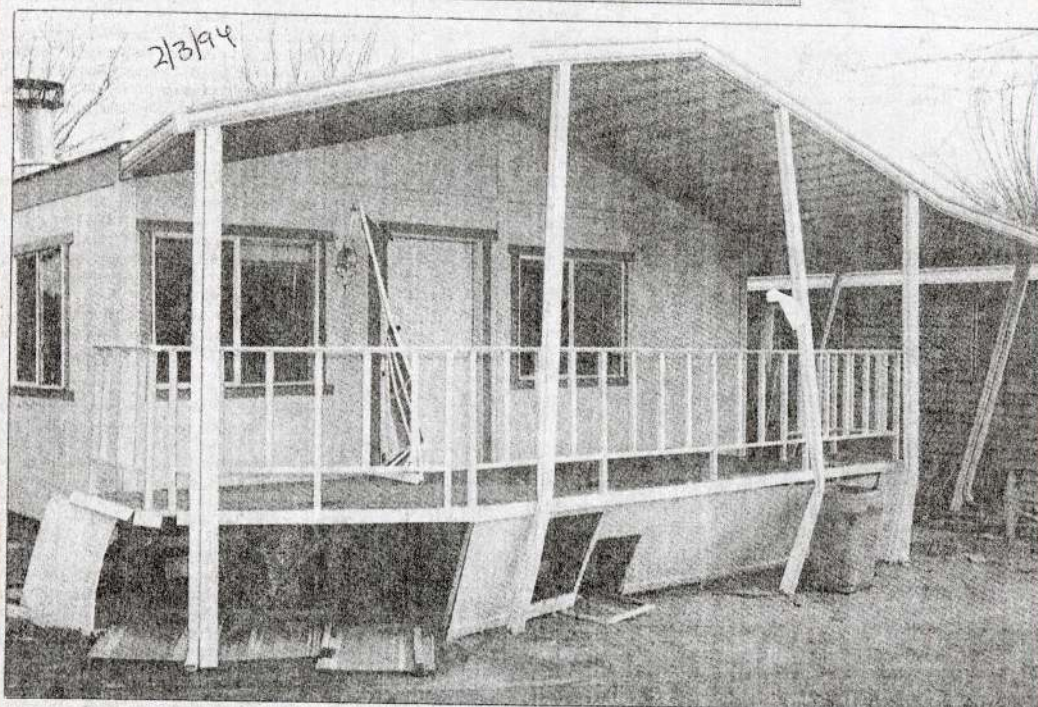
SANTA CLARITA — On Tuesday, residents picked up the pieces. Some of the shock of Monday's magnitude 6.6 earthquake seemed to fade as power was restored to most of the Santa Clarita Valley and businesses began reopening. But chaos remained in many areas as numerous fires broke out when the power was turned on and traffic was jammed along damaged roads that officials said could take more than a year to repair.

"We're going to be out here a long time," said Tom Cooper, a CalTrans senior bridge engineer working at the site where State Highway 14 collapsed onto Interstate 5.

Estimates of damage from the quake ran as high as \$7 billion for Southern California. City and fire officials placed local damage in the "tens of millions," with preliminary figures indicating at least 48 homes and businesses were destroyed and 1,829 damaged by fire and structural damage.

A total of 38 people have died as a result of the earthquake as of Tuesday night, including two killed

QUAKE AFTERMATH



The side panels of a Mulberry mobile home buckle under the weight of the house after it was shifted off its foundation during the Jan. 17 earthquake. Many park residents suffered similar damage.

GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

Some residents still without utilities

1-19-94

Power surges through faulty wiring starts fires



MARK SABBATINI/The Signal
Firefighters prepare their equipment as smoke billows out of a home in the Granada Villa Mobile Park on Soledad Canyon Road Tuesday.

Quake relief knows no racial barriers

Watts residents
reach out to SCV

By **SUSAN GOLDSMITH**
Signal Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — The riot-torn streets of South-Central Los Angeles once seemed far away from this wealthy, suburban enclave known for its safe streets.

But since the Jan. 17 earthquake, these two communities have come together in surprising ways.

Parents in Watts, a community center in South-Central L.A., has sent five building inspectors, truckloads of free food, clothing and diapers, along with bushels of inspiration to earthquake-battered Santa Clarita.

"Hold your head up. You're not carrying this all by yourselves," "Sweet" Alice Harris, executive director of Parents of Watts, told the City Council last week. "When one city hurts, we all hurt. Hurt has no color."

Because her community has been ripped apart by riots and crime, Harris said Watts has something to offer Santa Clarita.

"We live in a war zone. They're shooting all the time. We've been there," said Harris. "This city's never had a crisis. But we have and we don't want to see a good city ruined."

City officials were warmed by the display of good will and welcomed the team from Watts with hugs.

"I was very impressed," said Mayor George Pederson. "From all I saw of 'Sweet' Alice, she's a breath of fresh air."

This new twist on the philanthropic model of rich communi-
See WATTS, page A14



SHAUN DYER/The Signal

Vicki Voznik (left), of BSI Consultants, Inc., and "Sweet" Alice Harris and Dwayne Hatten, both from Parents of Watts, a community-based organization in South-Central Los Angeles, have been helping with local quake relief.

1994

NORTHRIDGE
EARTHQUAKE
COVERAGE

Feb. 4, 1994
The Signal

Watts

Continued from page A1

ties helping poorer neighborhoods, underscores how interdependent we all are, Pederson said.

"We are all here together. It should not make one bit of difference whether we're black or white, Democrat or Republican."

Parents of Watts learned about Santa Clarita last year when a Los Angeles-based engineering firm got involved volunteering at the community center. Many of the engineers with the firm are from Santa Clarita, including Gene Ginther, who played Santa Claus at the Watts community center last Christmas.

"I think this was terrific," said Ginther. "There

was a real need here and they stepped up to the plate."

Vicki Voznik, a BSI community relations representative, has been donating her time to the Watts center as well. She was inspired by the kindness.

"I think this is really an outpouring of love I've never witnessed before," said Voznik.

When Harris put out the call for volunteers to bring goods to Santa Clarita, Dwayne Hatten answered.

"A lot of people are hurting in Santa Clarita. They need someone to come out and give them a hug," said Hatten, a counselor with Parents of Watts.

Harris says she understands what the earth-

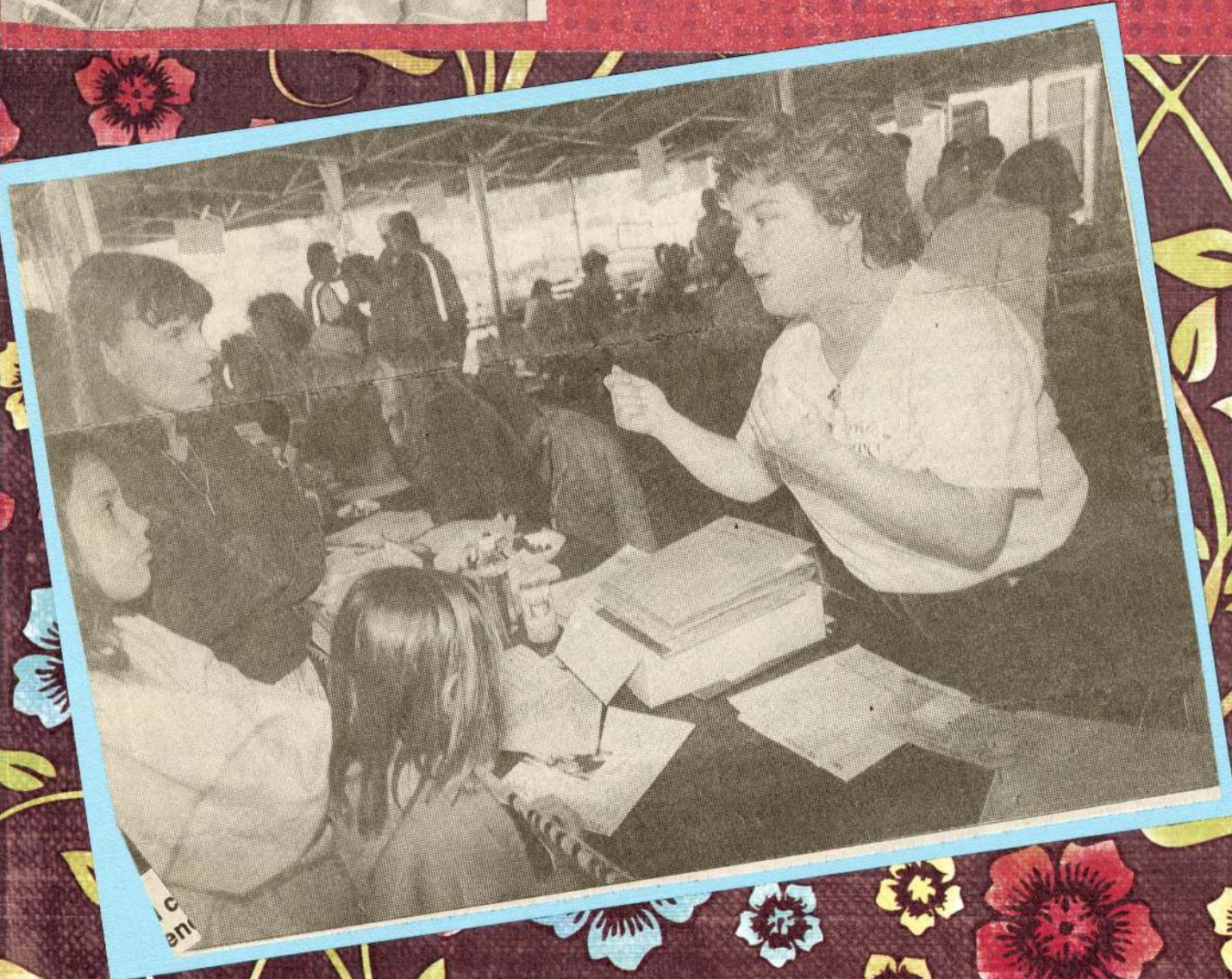
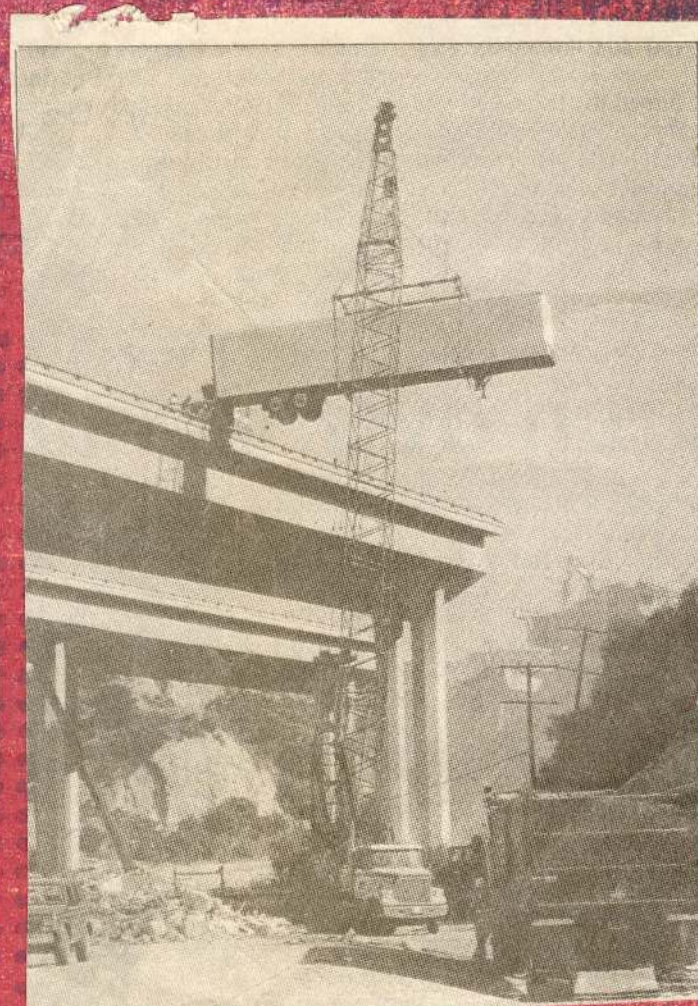
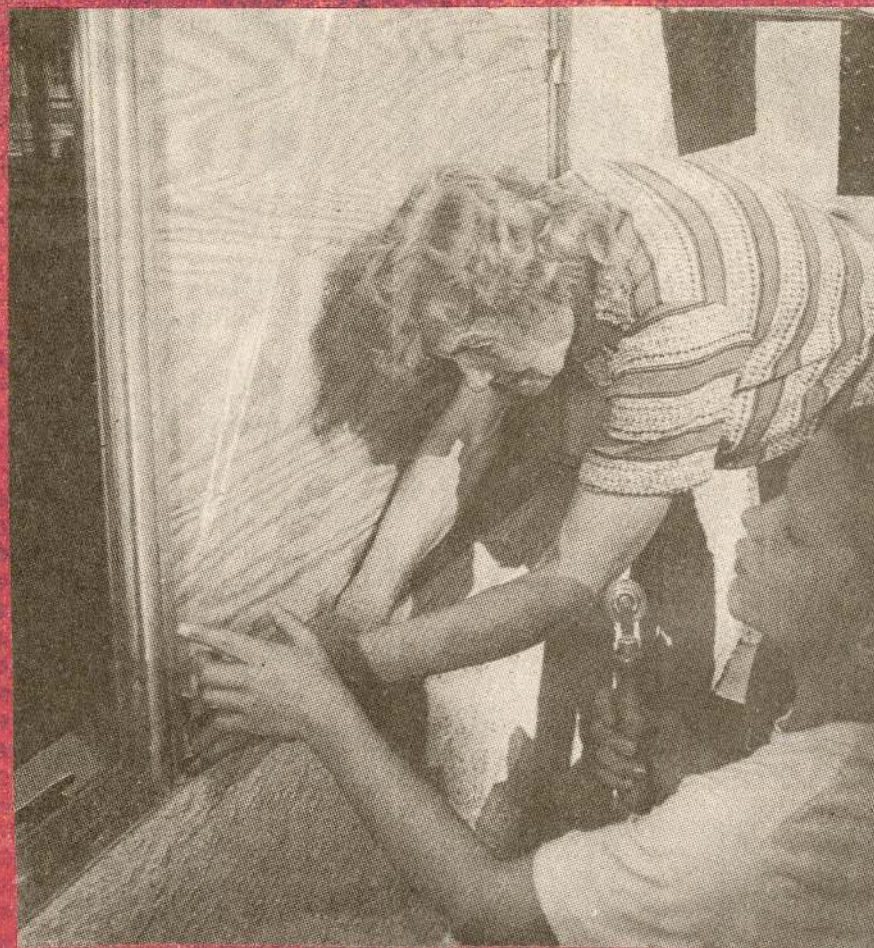
quake has meant to people's lives in the Santa Clarita Valley.

"The earthquake has taken what people have worked for. It's like a burglary," she said.

Gail Foy, spokeswoman for the city of Santa Clarita, said, "We were glad to have them and glad to have the help. There's a community still reeling from the riots and they came to help us."

In some ways, the earthquake may have helped bring these two communities, once separated by freeways, race and economic standing, closer, said Harris.

"The people up here have been overwhelmingly nice to us," said Harris. "If it had not been for the earthquake, we wouldn't have met these good people up here."



Cleanup continues

Clockwise from top left: Salvation Army workers unload tarps, food, water, clothing and other donated items trucked in from Fresno at a Red Cross relief shelter at Newhall Park; workers tape plastic over broken and boarded-up windows Friday at City Hall; Priscilla Nielsen (right), a disaster services worker for the city, explains to Newhall resident Eileen Stewart how to get her home inspected for quake damage; a trailer is taken off a section of Interstate 5 isolated when parts of an overpass collapsed. The section was demolished Sunday; Newhall resident Effie Bird, with the help of John Foster, 8, seals the windows of her Walnut Street apartment with plastic.

Signal photos by:
Rich Shveyda
Gary Thornhill

NORTHRIDGE EARTHQUAKE
Jan. 21, 1994
The Signal



A split in the road

GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

A fissure caused by Monday's 6.6-magnitude earthquake separates Avenue Stanford in the Valencia Industrial Center. The 6-inch wide crack also runs through the Aquafine Corp. building (background), leaving the structure divided in two.



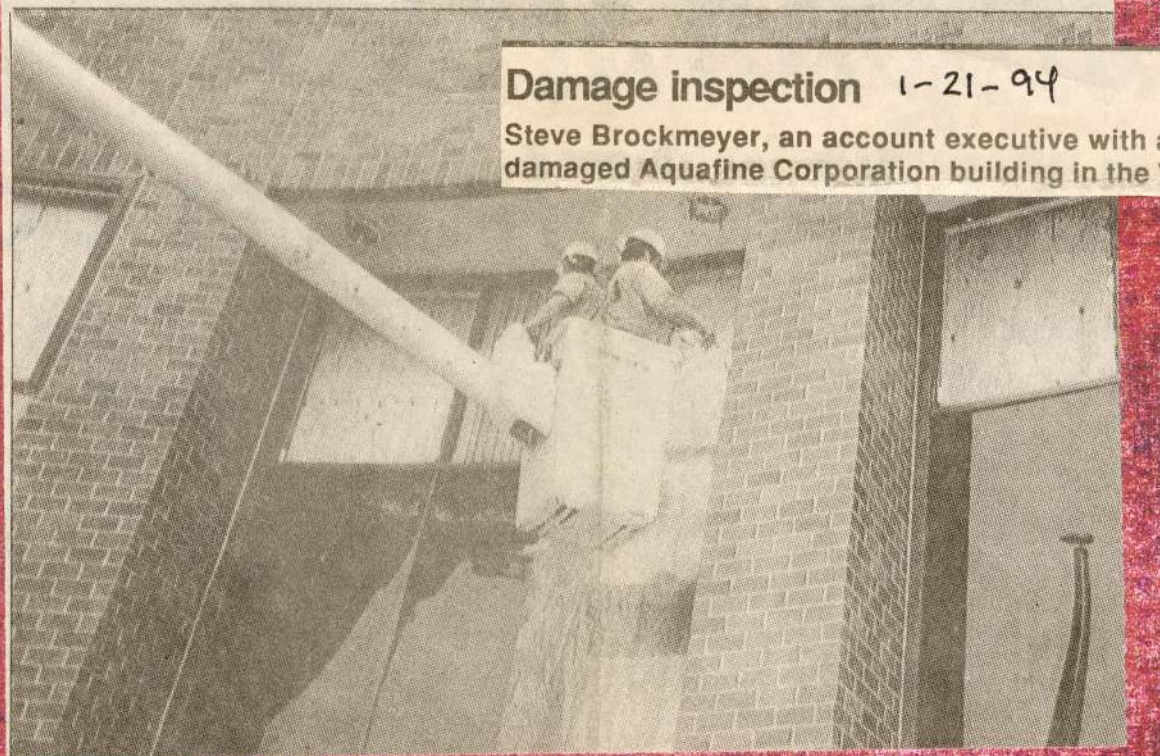
GARY THORNHILL/The Signal

24, 1994

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

Damage inspection 1-21-94

Steve Brockmeyer, an account executive with an insurance company, inspects the damaged Aquafine Corporation building in the Valencia Industrial Center Thursday.



IMMEDIATE RECOVERY

1994



Emergency Operating Center

Red Cross

Ham Radio



City's emergency center ready to help

By SUSAN GOLDSMITH
Signal Staff Writer

1-23-94

SANTA CLARITA — Less than an hour after Monday's 6.6-magnitude earthquake struck, city officials had set up an emergency operation center at City Hall.

Although the center had no power or phone

lines, officials and volunteers were getting the place ready for the emergencies they knew would soon follow.

When the phone lines were connected and the electricity was back up shortly after, the center was up and running and ready to act as a command post.

But when the ground started trembling again,

city workers, still shaky from the early morning earthquake dove under the tables, according to Gail Foy, the city's spokeswoman.

"We were spending more time under the desks than working," said Foy. "(City manager) George Carvalho made the decision to move us out to the parking lot even though the building

See EOC, page A10

EOC

Continued from page A1
was deemed safe."

Now, the fully operational emergency center is set up with representatives from the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, the state's Environmental Protection Agency, Southern California Gas Co. and Southern California Edison, as well as city staff working a phone bank.

Residents are calling the phone bank requesting building inspections, while others are calling the EOC to report hazardous material spills. The EOC can be reached at 286-4105 and 286-4107 through 4112.

"People can come to the EOC if they have questions. We want to help people through this," said Foy.

Warm food is being dropped off for EOC workers throughout the day by American Red Cross volunteers and the center is being staffed 24 hours a day, said Foy.

"Everybody has an area of expertise they're handling such as procurement, shelter, fire and building safety," said Foy.

A computer system has been set up at the center to track building inspections and the repair work being done throughout the city.

Through the EOC, residents can hook up with one of 30 available building inspection teams. Foy said several building inspectors from throughout the Los Angeles area have come up to Santa Clarita to help out.

Residents interested in volunteering at the EOC should call the phone bank or show up at the center at 23920 Valencia Blvd., officials said.

Communications



Home Inspections

Jan



Red Cross Shelter



Supplying water 1-23-94

RICH SHVEYDA/The Signal

Michael Marks, a city employee, gives directions to Lupe Munguia after giving her drinking water at Newhall Park Thursday. Drinking water is also available at Canyon Country Park, Santa Clarita Park, Val Verde Park, Old Orchard School, Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Ranch House Inn, College of the Canyons, Hasley Canyon Mobile Park, and Six Flags Magic Mountain.

Earthquake 1994



1,000 residents calling shelters home

By **CAROLE A. BROOKS**
Signal Staff Writer

1-20-94



CAROL ROCK/The Signal

This shelter, at the Boys and Girls Club in Newhall, is one of many open in the Santa Clarita Valley in the wake of Monday's earthquake.

SANTA CLARITA — At night, hundreds of blue cots lined up in high school gymnasiums and a clubhouse hold people seeking some place to find food and water, and above all, feel safe.

About 1,000 residents from all over the valley have gone to three American Red Cross shelters. There, they find food donated by local grocery stores and fast-food restaurants. Nurses and doctors are on hand to provide first aid for cuts, bruises and headaches. And cot neighbors provide the greatest service of all — providing an audience for the countless stories about what happened at 4:31 a.m. Jan. 17.

"I just don't want to be alone during the aftershocks," said Shelley Loudon, an Agua Dulce resident who arrived at the shelter at Canyon High School's gymnasium late Monday afternoon. "I'm physically disabled and I don't want to be alone because of that. Besides, there are people to talk with here. And we need to talk about it."

Shelter officials said they plan to keep the shelters open as long as needed. In other words, as long as there are people seeking their services, the bunks, food and water will be available.

They said they will not turn anyone away. Instead, if more people seek Red Cross help than the three current shelters can provide for, the agency will open more shelters.

Loudon said she wants to stay as long as she was able, delaying the inevitable cleanup of her mobile home.

"I'm not looking forward to it," she said. "That's one of the reasons why I came here. I couldn't start picking things up and having to run out of the house every time I felt a shake."

While Loudon's mobile home suffered no structural damage, Ron Chegwidon of Saugus wasn't so lucky. His mobile home was destroyed when it fell off its foundation.

"It's on the ground," he said from a bunk at the Canyon High shelter. "We heard they were signing for federal aid here. You got to go

somewhere and I don't have money. I'm on social security disability."

Federal aid representatives are not yet at the shelters, officials said, but are expected to arrive later this week.

"All the Red Cross is able to do is staff the shelters with local volunteers," said Nancy Albrecht, a disaster coordinator with the Santa Clarita Valley chapter of the American Red Cross. "We'll give you a place to stay and food to eat. That's all we're doing right now. When we get outside help in, then we'll be setting up the service center to apply for federal aid. It usually takes a few days."

People in the shelter said they had secure roofs over their heads at home, but sought the shelter for other basic needs — food and water.

"We have food, but no way to cook it," said Rosie Castaneda of Canyon Country, who came to the Canyon High shelter with 15 other people. "We shut off our gas and we can't get it back on. If we had water, we still have no place to boil it."

Staying at an emergency shelter was a first for many who spent the

night and next day at them.

"We were evacuated from our home," said Andrea Murray, who came to the shelter with relatives, including Nina Austin and Willie Lee Louisville. The family lives in tract homes in Canyon Country. "At first we went to Sierra Vista Junior High School (a former shelter location), but then they had a gas leak and they told us to come here."

They said staying in the shelter was better than trying to spend the night in their homes, where the rattling of walls from aftershocks made them nervous.

Across town, in the shelter housed in the Santa Clarita Valley Boys and Girls Club headquarters in Newhall, several dozen residents of the Orchard Arms Village Senior Center awaited word about when they could return to their apartments, ruled structurally unsound after the earthquake.

"We feel very safe here and extremely welcome," said Pearl Campbell, a resident of Orchard Arms.

The shelters are open 24 hours and have plenty of food and drink-

ing water available.

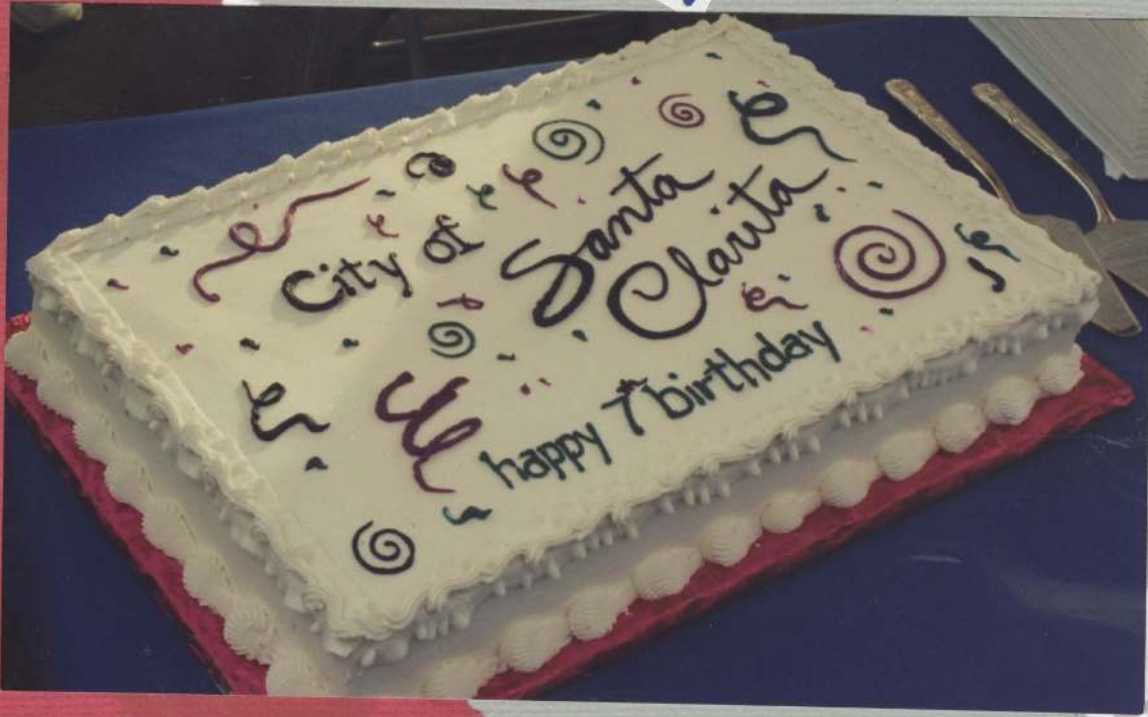
The shelters are located at: Canyon High School's gymnasium, 19300 Nadal; Saugus High School's gymnasium, 21900 Centurion Way; and the Santa Clarita Valley Boys and Girls Club clubhouse, in Newhall Park in the 25000 block of Newhall Avenue.



Emergency Shelter
Set up at Newhall
Park and the Boys
+ Girls Club.
Distribution of
donated water



7th Birthday Run and Pancake Breakfast 1994



10K

CING

1

10K FUN RUN



7th
Birthday Run
1994

MARATHON
RACE • RUN • PERFORMANCE



DAY 5K • 10



FINISH



THE BIG
SEE YOU AT THE FIN

RUNNING WITH THE PACK

132

WALK • 10K • B

FINISH



MARATHON

happy 8th birthday

City of *Santa Clarita*

Flapjack Forum

Join the Santa Clarita City Council, City Department heads and local nonprofit organizations for breakfast and great conversation!

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
City Hall Parking Lot

Cost:

\$1 per child
\$2 per adult
\$5 per family

For more information, call
805 255-4314

Don't miss the fun and festivities when the City of Santa Clarita celebrates its 8th birthday this year.

**Saturday,
December 9**

**5K Run/Walk-8 a.m.
City Hall Parking Lot**

Join us at City Hall at 8 a.m. when the Mayor fires the starting gun for the 8th birthday Run/Walk.

An awards program will follow the race.

All participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Priority registration is only \$8!

SPONSORS:

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eight City To Host 8th Birthday Festivities!

The City of Santa Clarita will host two events to help celebrate the City's 8th Birthday. On Saturday, December 9, 1995, the city council, city department heads and participating local service organizations will host the "Flapjack Forum," which will provide area residents an opportunity to meet with city council members and discuss issues of interest. The Flapjack Forum will be held in the City Hall Parking Lot, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Cost

is \$5 per family or \$2 per adult and \$1 per child.

Also on December 9th, the City will host the 8th Birthday Run-Walk, beginning at 8 a.m. at the City Hall Parking lot. Prizes, raffles and t-shirts are available for participants. Cost is \$8 in advance and \$15 the day of the event.

For more information regarding the Flapjack Forum or the City's 8th Birthday Run-Walk, contact the Public Information Office at 805-255-4314.

eight 1,000 attend city's 8th birthday breakfast

BIRTHDAY / From Page 1

said officials estimated more than 1,000 people attended the city's birthday celebration.

"It's gone real smooth," Ortiz said. "It's a great way for people to come out and talk to the council in an informal atmosphere."

The first women's finisher was Julie Harris with a time of 48 minutes and 32 seconds. Second was Theresa Uhrig with a time of 18:54, and third was Tiffany Furuya with a time of 19:31.

First-place finisher in the men's competition was Rene Paragas with a time of 15:49. Second was Jed Colvin with a time of 16:10 and third was Elair Garcia with a time of 16:29.

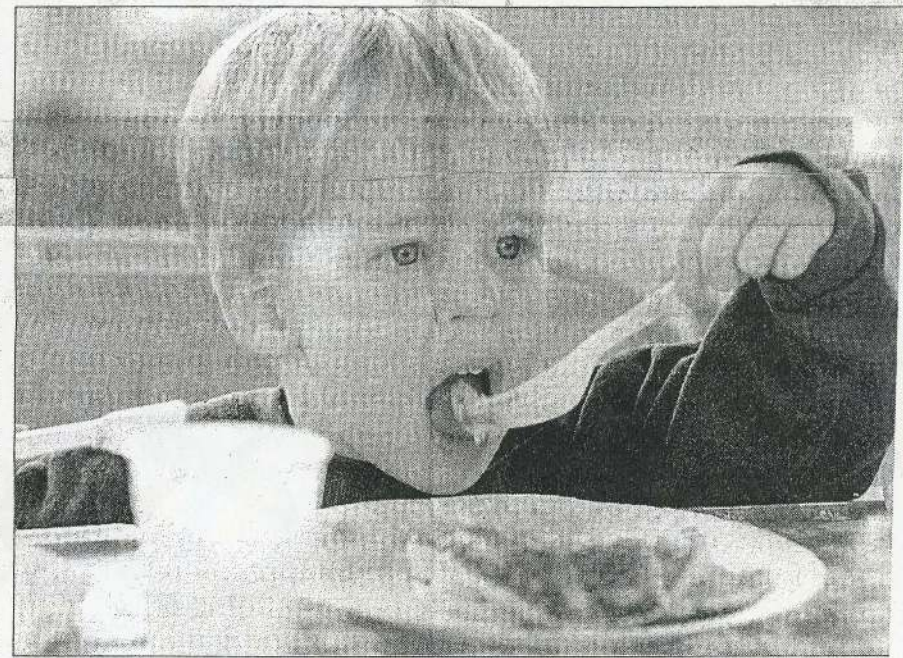
The large number of participants took city officials by surprise. They weren't expecting the number of last-minute registrations and ran out of T-shirts for participants, Ortiz said, adding that more T-shirts have been ordered and will be delivered to runners and walkers.

As new-age music was piped through large speakers, people gathered around the finish line to greet runners and walkers. Others, enjoying clear, blue skies and crisp temperatures, feasted at tables under a tent.

Nancy and Russ Briley attended the event with their two daughters, one of whom was running in the race. Jessica Briley took third place in the girls 13-and-under category.

"It's great," said Nancy Briley, while waiting for her daughter to receive her award. "It's nice to see everybody come out and support the city."

"We enjoy the community," added Russ Briley. "It's a family community and a great place to



Matthew Colley, 3, enjoys pancakes at the city's "flapjack forum," attended by about 1,000 residents.

Darcy said the event is ideal because it allows council members to meet people they probably wouldn't get a chance to talk to, otherwise.

"A lot of times people won't call you," Darcy said. "When you see them like today . . . it shows them you are a real person, and you are not just a phone number or a person on the other end of the (telephone) line."

Councilman Carl Boyer agreed with Darcy. He said he met a few

him an earful of their concerns.

For example, he said, one man complained bitterly about a sobriety checkpoint Thanksgiving night, on San Fernando Road. The resident said traffic was backed up to Sierra Highway with cars waiting to pass through the checkpoint.

"Apparently it really slowed a lot of people," Boyer said. "He asked me to look into having the checkpoints later, when there's a better chance of catching more people. I'll be looking into that."

committee that discussed the forming of the city, said he is pleased at Santa Clarita's progress on its eighth birthday.

"We have delivered a tremendous amount of (additional) services without increasing taxes," said. "Our taxes are lower than other communities in unincorporated Los Angeles County. A provide so much more."

For those who lingered after the 5K walk and run, there was a blue and white birthday cake



Day at the dentist



Dentist

**SANTA CLARITA
Dental Health Clinic
1995**

CLEANING

At the United Methodist Church, Dr. Kay Yoo of USC's dental school shows Tina Ramirez, 11, how to bite down on X-ray film.

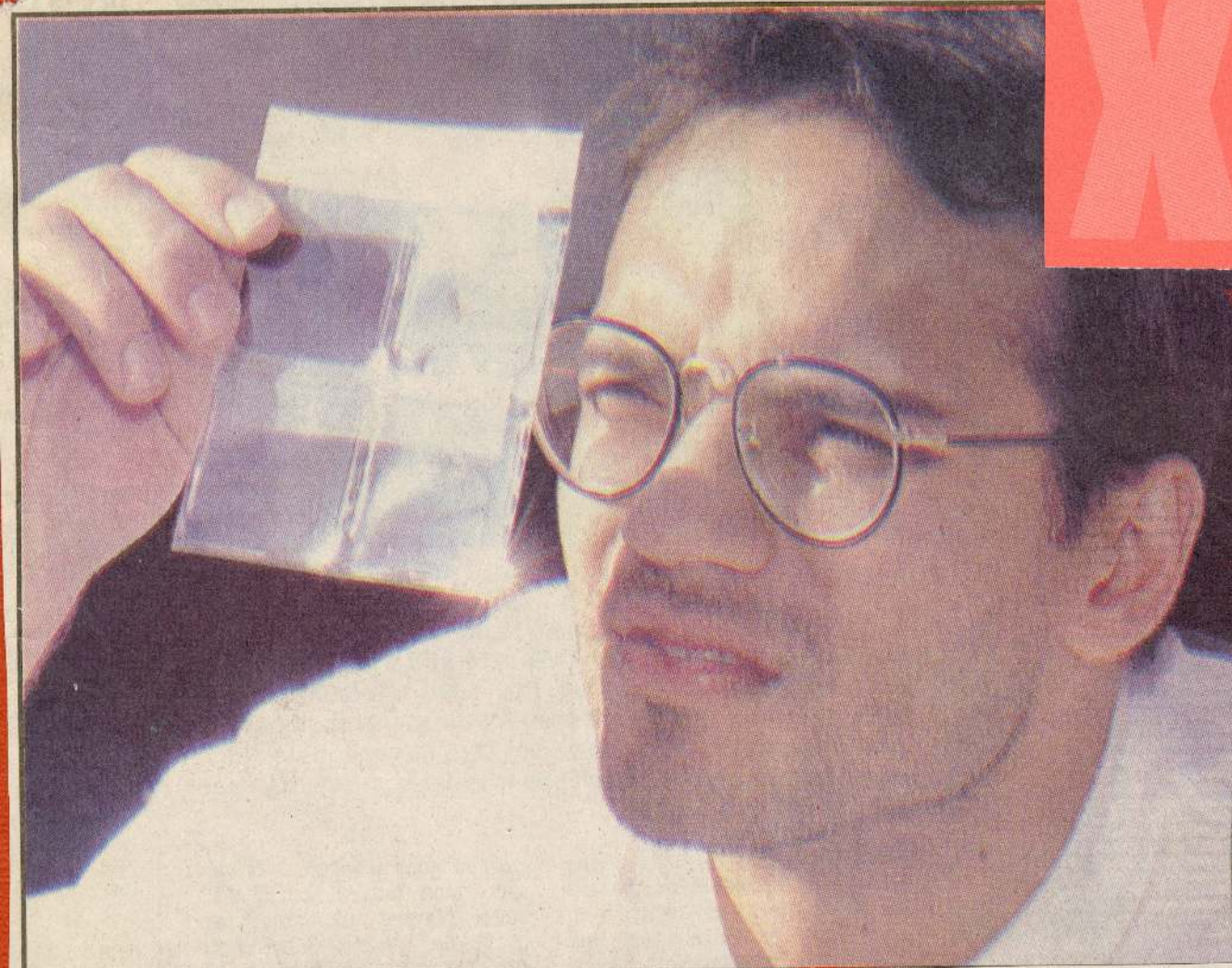
John Lazar/Special to the Daily News

Nice teeth!



Dr. Vincent Chao of the USC School of Dentistry gives 7-year-old Gustavo Madrid, left, an oral hygiene treatment. Preliminary dental examinations were performed Friday on 120 pupils of the Saugus Union and Sulphur Springs school districts. The dental work, which is free of charge to the youngsters, is part of a program sponsored by the Santa Clarita-based Foundation for Children's Dental Health. Under the \$20,000 program, students from the USC School of Dentistry will fill cavities, clean teeth and perform extractions. Follow-up care will begin today and will continue through Friday at the Santa Clarita United Methodist Church, 26640 Bouquet Canyon Road, Saugus. For information, call (805) 297-3783.

X-rays



Photos by KEVIN KARZIN/The Signal

Gregg Gechoff, a third-year dental student at USC, checks the X-rays of one of 120 school-aged children who attended a dental clinic that is sponsored in part by the city of Santa Clarita and other organizations throughout the SCV. The mobile dental clinic of USC, under the direction of Randall Niederkoeh, DDS, travels to about 18 cities in the U.S. and two cities in Mexico each year. At right, Manuel Garcia, a sixth-grader at Old Orchard Elementary School gets his teeth X-rayed during his checkup.

Dental clinic brings smiles to needy kids

By CAROL CHAMBERS
Signal Staff Writer 12-2-95

SANTA CLARITA — The tooth fairy may have a little less work this month, thanks to a volunteer group that provides dental care to impoverished youngsters.

Some 120 Santa Clarita Valley children from low-income families began treatment Friday through the Founda-

tion for Children's Dental Health, a free clinic established in 1993.

For many, it was the first time they had ever been to a dentist, according to Mary Carvalho, president and founder.

"We found out a few years ago that in our community there are no dental services for poor children," Carvalho said. "Now we have these clinics, and we do oral health education where we go into classrooms and show kids how

to brush their teeth and what to eat."

Also, the foundation has a network of dentists willing to treat emergency cases, either free or at a reduced fee, she said. The children were selected based on financial and medical need.

Friday, the young patients were examined and given dental X-rays. Today and for the next week, they will receive cleaning, oral hygiene instruction, fill-

See DENTIST, page A3

Dentist

Continued from page A1

ings, stainless steel crowns, sealant and — if necessary — extractions.

"We don't do root canals, but we'll find doctors who will do them because out of this many kids, about six will need them," said Dr. Randy Niederkoeh, director of the USC Mobile Dental Clinic, which is providing treatment.

Niederkoeh said the mobile

clinic goes to about 20 locations every year using senior dental students and hygienists.

"This is for the kids who get lost in the cracks. A lot of the kids we see don't even have toothbrushes," he said.

On average, the cost of treatment would be about \$1,000 per child were it not for the clinic. Niederkoeh estimated that the week-long clinic will cost the foundation from \$18,000 to \$20,000, but is worth more five times that amount.

Smile!

holidays

1995



HOLIDAY
GREETINGS



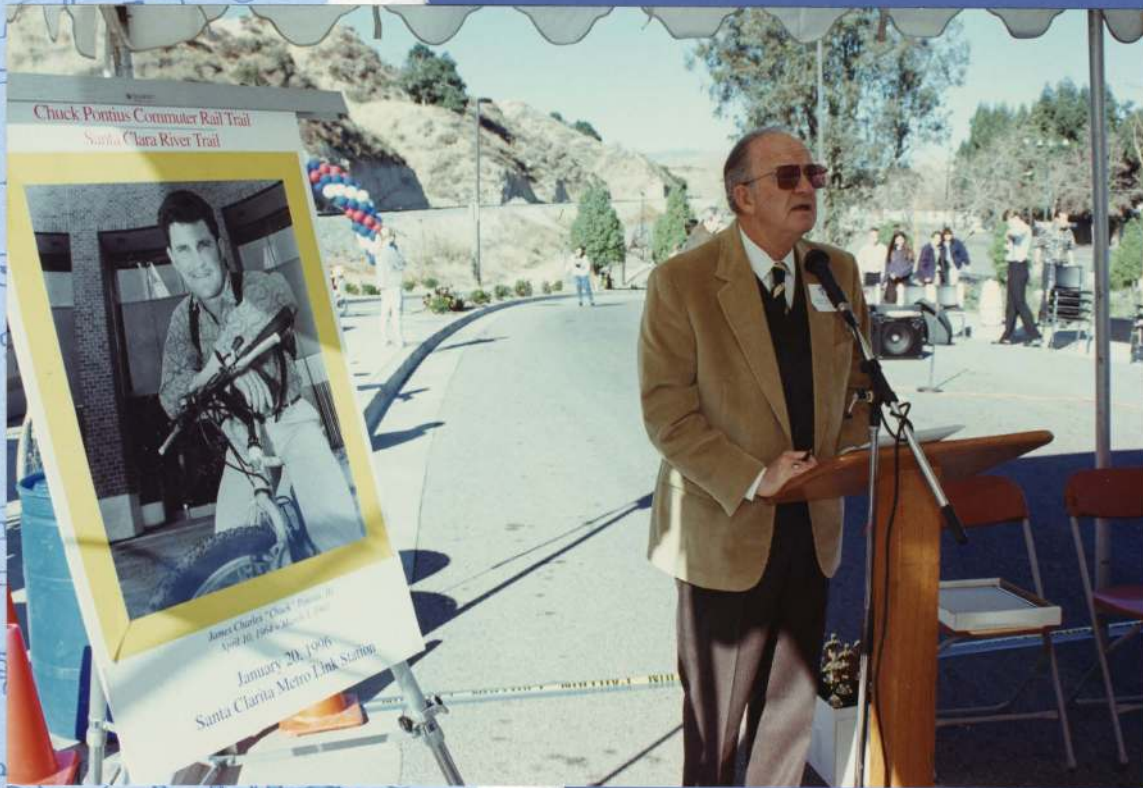
*From the
City of
Santa Clarita*



*Holiday
Greetings
1995*

METRO

Chuck Pontius
Commuter Rail
Trail



All This & Pancakes Too!

Join the Santa Clarita City Council for a "Flapjack Forum" breakfast on:

Saturday, December 14, 1996 7:00 am - 9:00 am
City Hall Parking lot 23920 Valencia Blvd.

ON SALE AT THIS EVENT!

The "Dear Santa Letter Collection"

Proceeds benefit sponsoring non-profit organizations
The book is \$13 plus tax (\$4 goes to non profits)

The Flapjack Forum offers residents an opportunity to meet informally with the City Council to discuss local topics of interest

Cost is \$5/Family or \$2/Adult and \$1/child
All proceeds benefit local non-profit organizations

Also on that day ...

Celebrate the City's 9th Birthday

with the 5k Birthday Run-Walk - Saturday December 14 beginning at 8:00 am in the City Hall Parking lot. Cost is \$9 per person in advance.
Awards will be presented, plus raffles!

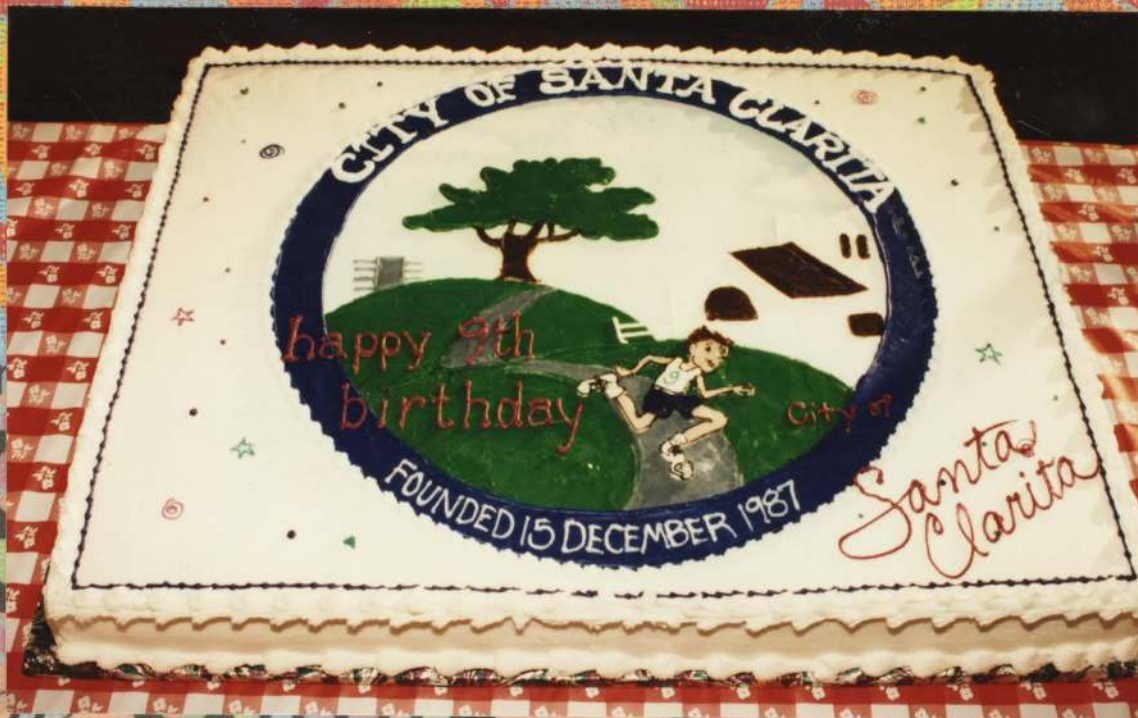


SPONSORS INCLUDE: 25 Score, Western Bagel Too, Miami Tan, Trader Joe's, Hometown Buffet, Automobile Club of Southern California, Ralph's Grocery Company, Valencia Dodge/Isuzu/Chrysler/Jeep, Creative Image Studio, Signal Newspaper.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, CALL:

The City of Santa Clarita Recreation Division - 805-255-4910



City schedules birthday celebration

SANTA CLARITA — The city turns nine Sunday, and city officials are gearing up to celebrate with a series of weekend events. The celebration kicks off Saturday morning at 7 a.m., with the City Council hosting a Flapjack Forum at the City Hall parking lot, 23920 Valencia Blvd. The pancake breakfast will cost \$5 per family or \$2 per adult, \$1 per child.

Immediately following the breakfast, the city will hold its traditional 5-K Birthday Run, beginning at 8 a.m.

Up to 500 people are expected to run or walk the 5-kilometer course, which will begin at City Hall and wind through the city's bike trails, returning to the starting point.

Residents who have not already done so can register for the run on site for \$15.

The city will conclude its birthday celebration with a "State of the City Breakfast" Monday at the College of the Canyons cafeteria, located at 26455 N. Rockwell Canyon Road. Breakfast begins at 7 a.m., at a cost of \$10 per person.



Santa Clarita celebrates its 9th birthday

1987/16

Event offers time for reflection

By Sherry Joe Crosby
Daily News Staff Writer

SANTA CLARITA — Nine years of cityhood has given Santa Clarita residents local government, better streets and improved parks, but the fledgling city still faces serious challenges as it struggles to build more roads for a growing valley, municipal pioneers said.

As the city of Santa Clarita celebrated its ninth birthday Saturday with a pancake breakfast, a cake-cutting ceremony and a 5K run, some of its founders reflected on the advantages accrued since its establishment Dec. 15, 1987.

"It helped define who we are as a city," said Councilwoman Jill Klajic, who served as a volunteer coordinator for the City Formation Committee that put the issue of cityhood on the November 1987 ballot. "Everyone is with us as a city, and it brings us a visible identity."

Since its foundation, the city has planted 5,000 trees, landscaped five miles of medians, created 10 miles of pedestrian paths and spent about \$1 million on traffic improvements, city spokeswoman Gail Ortiz said.

"The list is very impressive," said Allan Cameron, a 22-year Canyon Country resident who served on a subcommittee of the City Formation Committee.

One of the most significant benefits residents enjoy is easy access to government services and control over local tax dollars, founders said.

"We were able to attend City Council meetings and make testimony," said Vera Johnson, a 31-year Canyon Country resident who served as secretary on the City Formation Committee. "It was easy access to five City Council members. We were in control of our future."

Before the city was established,







*Source: Santa Clarita ranked number one as the least expensive city in LA County to operate a business, based upon city business tax, licence and utility fees. *Kosmont Cost of Doing Business Survey, 1997.*; Kosmont & Associates.

Santa Clarita ranked number one in the state in retail growth performance from among the thirty-four California retail markets with retail sales in excess of \$1 billion. *1996 California Retail Survey*; California Retail Survey.



Why has Paul Mitchell

Systems, one of the

most recognized

hair care product lines in the world

chosen Santa Clarita to do business?

With its stable business environment

and vast labor pool, as well as it's

central LA County location,

Santa Clarita continually ranks

number one in California for

*businesses to expand and relocate to.**

no city taxes

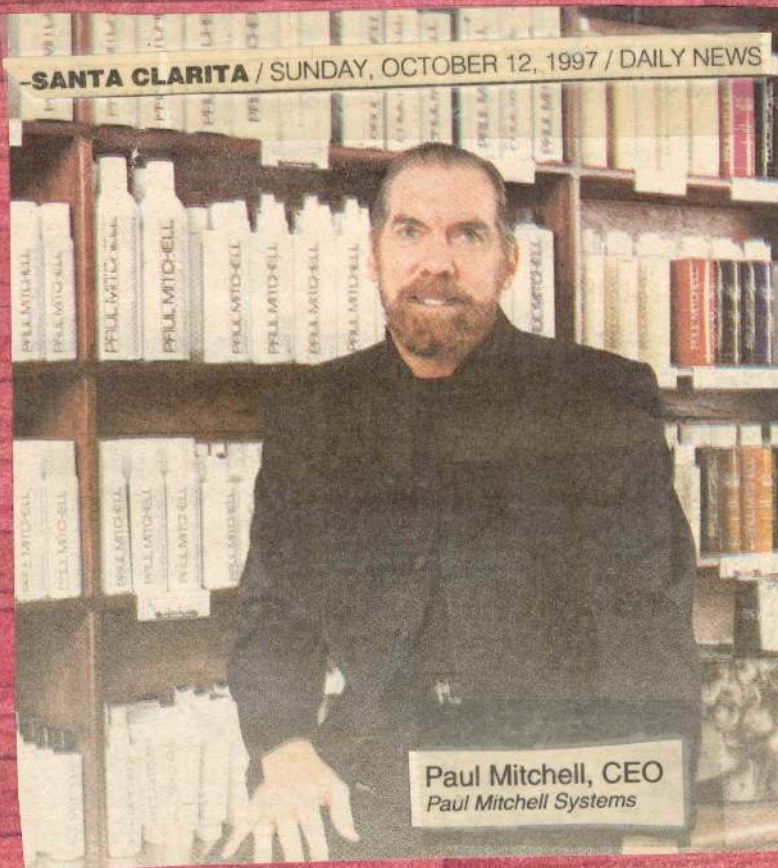
Affordable industrial and retail space is

readily available in a community that is

growing strong. With no city business

tax, relocation to Santa Clarita makes

good financial sense.

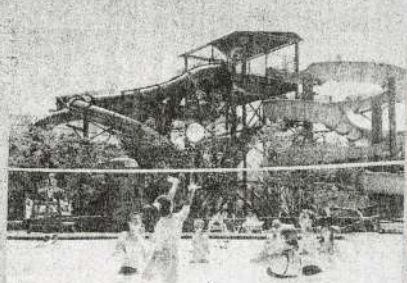
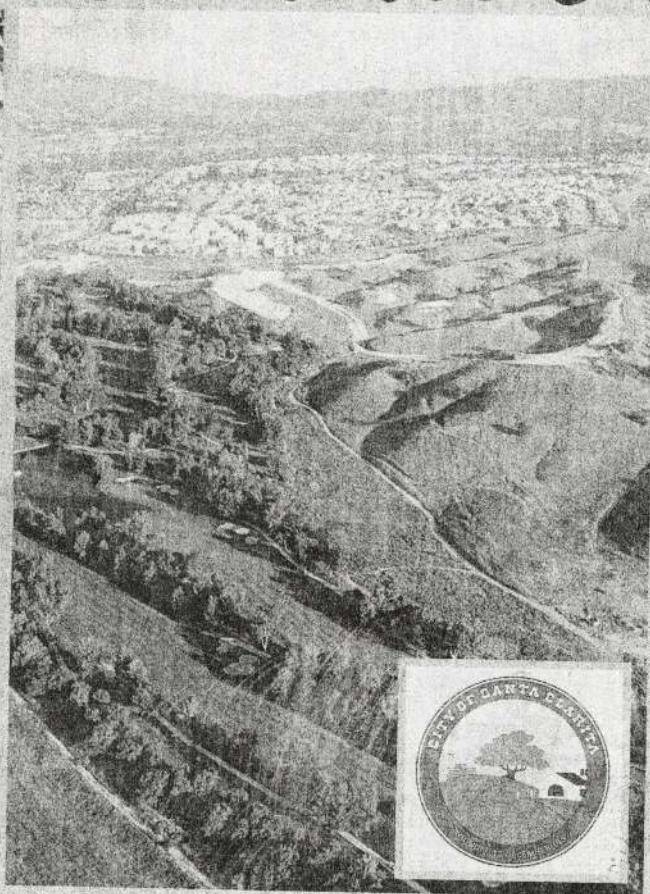


SANTA CLARITA

For more information on why Santa Clarita is a great place to live *and* work, contact Michael Haviland, Economic Development Manager for the City of Santa Clarita's Economic Development Division at (805) 255-4369.

Daily News

Santa Clarita's 10th Anniversary



Boom town of the '90s

10-12-97

By Cord Cooper

It began 10 years ago as an obscure umbrella for four communities - Canyon Country, Valencia, Saugus and Newhall. Today it's Southern California's fastest-growing incorporated area. The nation's third-safest city. Home to worlds as diverse as "Melrose Place" and the American family, Magic Mountain and CalArts, Hurricane Harbor and more than 500 other businesses.

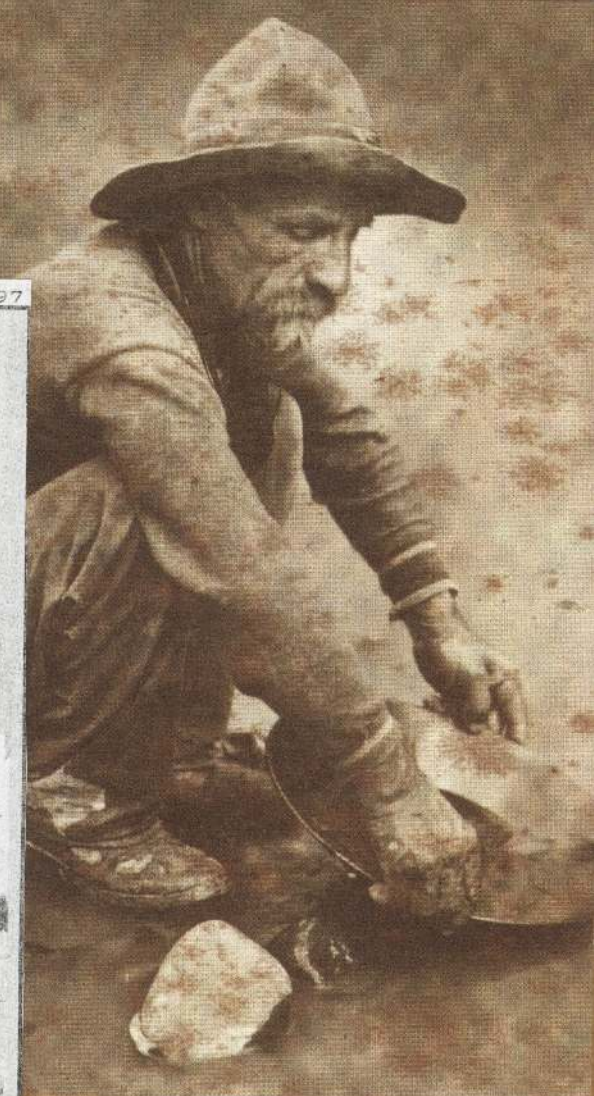
In between are award-winning elementary and middle schools, state-of-the-art high schools, the expanding Valencia Town Center and dozens of neighborhoods designed for a variety of budgets and tastes, from townhomes in the \$80,000s to million-dollar residences perched along Sand Canyon.

The city's success is built on the concept of community. The

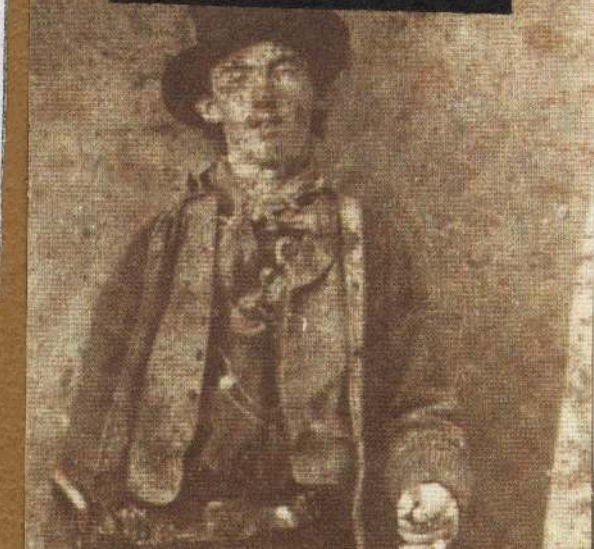
result? In many ways, a model city for the '90s, where a number of programs have provided opportunities for youths at risk, decay has been overcome through revitalization programs and highway congestion avoided through the proactive involvement of ordinary citizens.

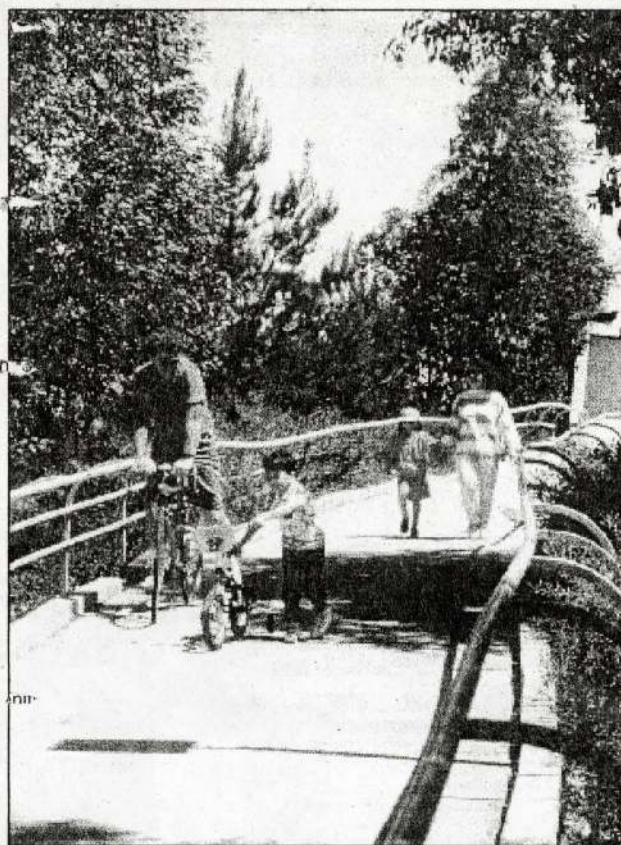
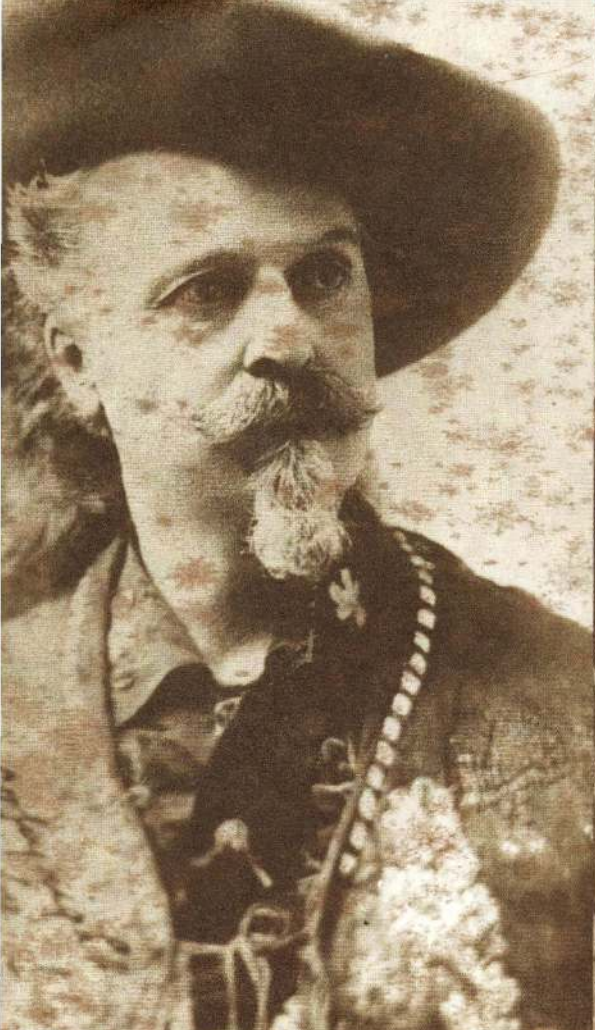
The community of 142,000 has made business development a priority, welcoming operations ranging from entertainment production companies to major hotel chains, producing the highest retail growth rate in the state, according to The Wall Street Journal.

As Santa Clarita looks to its second decade and a new millennium, we celebrate the diversity and growth of a remarkable community.



1997





In 1997, Santa Clarita was cited by the FBI as the third-safest city of its size in the nation. Pictured is part of the 14-mile paseo system winding through Valencia. 10-12-97

City tops in community safety

What makes a community a safe place to live? Ask a thousand different people, and you'll get a thousand and one different answers.

In 1997, Santa Clarita was cited in an analysis of FBI statistics as the third-safest city of its size in the nation, and throughout its 10 years as a city Santa Clarita has consistently ranked among the top five.

The creation of a "safe community" isn't something that happens overnight, nor is it something easily maintained. So what is it that makes a community a safe place to live?

For Santa Clarita, the key has been to achieve a strong balance between proactive law enforcement and programs that create, sustain and reinforce the concept of community safety, all supported by a strong foundation of community involvement.

The biggest factor separating Santa Clarita from other cities is the overwhelming involvement of the community. Santa Clarita was formed by residents who envisioned a community where they had more control over their destiny, control over how their tax dollars were spent and the ability to create a community of their choosing.

Residents have a real sense of

civic pride, and openly accept the shared responsibility for maintaining the community they've created.

The concept of civic pride and shared responsibility not only predated cityhood but was the overriding factor in incorporation. When the vision of cityhood became a reality, that sense of pride and responsibility only grew stronger.

Today the residents of Santa Clarita play a direct role in enhancing the safety of their community. The development of a safe community is a process that begins at the grass-roots level and makes it possible for local law enforcement to enjoy a high degree of success.

Safety involves more than just arresting criminals. It starts by addressing "red flags" that are usually indicators of worse things to come. In Santa Clarita, one of the red flags was the increasing presence of graffiti.

Seemingly immune to an issue that had confronted communities across the nation, by the late 1980s Santa Clarita residents began to notice a marked increase in graffiti in the community. Still more than a year away from incorporation, a group of local residents addressed the growing concern.

The result was the Santa Clarita

Valley Pride Committee, a volunteer group that identified and developed a grass-roots solution to the problem. The committee continues to address issues relating to graffiti and works hand in hand with both the city and Sheriff's Department to maintain a well-rounded program. Not only was graffiti reduced by more than 40 percent in one year, but it was done at very little cost to the community.

Community safety is also about emergency preparedness. One of the goals of the newly incorporated city was to develop an emergency-preparedness program that would teach residents how to prepare for disaster. The goal resulted in the creation of the Santa Clarita Educated Communities United in Response to Emergencies (SECURE) Program.

The SECURE Program provides residents free education and training on how to prepare for and function during the first 72 hours of an emergency. What makes SECURE unique is that the program is administered by volunteers throughout the community.

As more people become trained, the trainees in turn

See SAFETY / Page 17

SANTA CLARITA

City celebrates 10 years of landmark accomplishments

It's been 10 years of landmark accomplishments for the young city of Santa Clarita, celebrating its first decade of cityhood this year. When the communities of Newhall, Saugus, Canyon Country and Valencia joined together to become a city, it became the largest area in California to incorporate. To celebrate, the city of Santa Clarita is culminating a six-month-long series of events with a birthday party in December.

What seemed to appeal most to this young population when deciding upon cityhood was the ability to keep locally generated tax dollars within the city. Residents cite the ability to spend locally generated revenue on things like new parks, increased sheriff's services, landscaped medians, bike trails and other amenities as a major benefit.

"With cityhood, we can go down to city hall where we know the elected officials and they know us by name," said Jim Ventress, of

the Santa Clarita Valley Boys and Girls Club.

"The citizens of Santa Clarita now have the ability to make decisions for their futures. People who live and work here can really plan for the future of this community and their best interests," said Bob Kellar, a local Realtor.

Santa Clarita is a success story. In all four corners of the city, new development, established neighborhoods and small locally owned businesses co-exist to create one of the most sought-after communities to live and work in Southern California.

Since the city incorporated, locally generated tax dollars have enabled city officials to provide a host of new projects, programs and amenities to its residents. Three new parks have been constructed, including: the 17-acre Canyon Country park; the 5-acre Begonias Lane neighborhood park and most recently the 8-acre Creekview Park

in Newhall.

Residents enjoy 12-plus miles of well-maintained, landscaped, off-street bike paths and river viewing areas, located adjacent to the Santa Clara River.

For those who don't have easy access to a park, the city brings the park to individual neighborhoods with the Parkmobile. One phone call to the city will bring a mobile park to individual communities, providing supervised recreation for kids of all ages.

Low-cost and free recreation programs offered quarterly have increased 600 percent since cityhood. Some of these include exercise classes, country-western dancing, youth sports, aquatics, dog obedience programs and more.

In the area of preserving the environment, the city gets high marks. Since incorporating, the city's curbside recycling, yard trimmings collection, oil recycling,

Christmas tree and telephone book recycling have resulted in a 48 percent diversion of trash from local landfills.

Local leaders have successfully collaborated their efforts to prevent the siting of a 190-million-ton landfill in Elsmere Canyon, located just one mile outside the city limits, preserving a beautiful piece of the Angeles National Forest.

Santa Clarita has purchased several parcels on the outskirts of the city to serve as a greenbelt. Other land purchases will help keep open spaces in the public domain.

Policies that restrict development of hillsides and ridge lines and protect oak trees will ensure the continued beauty of the Santa Clarita Valley.

One of Santa Clarita's top priorities has been the safety of its residents. Recently named the nation's third-safest city in an analysis of FBI crime statistics, Santa

Clarita's proactive approach to local law enforcement maintained a low crime rate.

"We don't have the fear of crime here in Santa Clarita that other cities have due largely to the involvement of parents, teachers, school district officials and local government representatives," said Congressman Buck McKeon.

Successful collaboration with other government agencies, along with long-term planning, has resulted in the completion of a number of capital projects. Some of these include the widening of San Fernando Road, completion of the Whites Canyon bridge, increased freeway access to the Canyon Country area, the opening of Plum Canyon and Decoro roads, the widening of Soledad Canyon Road to six lanes and several "quick-fix" traffic improvements that resulted in five-to-20-minute reductions in local commutes. 10-12-97

SECURE program provides training for emergencies

SAFETY / From Page 16

become the next group of volunteers. SECURE has provided training to more than 20,000 local residents to date and was instrumental in getting the community back on its feet during the Northridge Earthquake.

Citizen involvement across the board has helped responsible agencies maintain community safety. It is this support that has helped the Sheriff Department enjoy a high level of success.

In Santa Clarita, residents have the additional benefit of a law-enforcement agency comprised of deputies that live in the community they serve. Sheriff's Deputies that live within the city have a heightened sensitivity toward addressing the "little things" that make Santa Clarita a special community.

The services provided by the Santa Clarita Sheriff's Department extend beyond those normally associated with a law-enforcement agency. Each year the city looks for additional techniques to allow deputies to become more effective.

These include the funding of Sheriff's COBRA Teams and Community Resource Deputies at each of the community's high schools, regular surveillance of establishments that retail alcohol and the creation of the Santa Clarita Anti-Gang Task Force.

Programs such as the Anti-Gang Task Force (which brings together residents from business, law enforcement and the school system) and the COBRA Team (focusing specifically on gang and graffiti activity) are examples of how public agencies and residents can achieve the goal of a safe and healthy community.

Investing in our youth and their future is one of the biggest efforts currently under way in Santa Clarita. The most important legacy any community leaves behind is the opportunity it creates for its youth.

First boxing show at center packs plenty of punch(es)

BY CHRIS DICKERSON
Signal Staff Writer

It wasn't Holyfield vs. Tyson — it was better. At least from the point of view of the young fighters who took part in this year's first boxing show at the City of Santa Clarita Community Center Sunday afternoon, and the almost 300 people who showed up to cheer them.

The boxing program, sponsored jointly by the City of Santa Clarita and the USA Boxing Federation, is four years old, holding two shows a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The boxers range in age from 10 to 25, and many have taken free boxing lessons since they were nine, as members of the Santa Clarita Boxing Program.

On Sunday, 15 bouts were scheduled throughout the afternoon, each consisting of three rounds at three minutes each. Both boxers received a trophy for participating (though the winner's

was slightly taller than the losers).

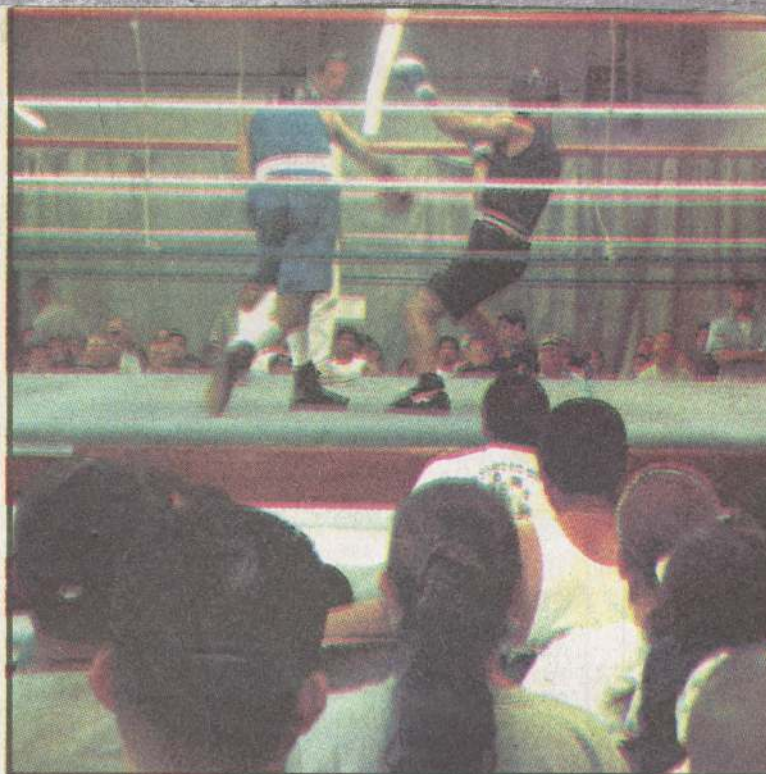
Santa Clarita was well represented by resident boxers, John Ruiz, 19, Arturo Huamosta, 18, Daniel Mata, 25, Patrick Franz, 18, and Mike Kennefic, 22, in rounds seven, eight, nine, 10 and 12 respectively. Ruiz and Kennefic took the big trophies, with Huamosta, Mata and Franz being awarded the smaller ones in their bouts.

Coordinator of the Santa Clarita Boxing Program, David Smith, said the club would like to hold more matches during the year "to keep the kids active."

And while Smith said, "It's the professionals who give boxing a bad name," he believes the kids get nothing but good things from practicing the sport.

"What they learn is safety first and self-esteem, sportsmanship and confidence, and the artistry of it," Smith said, adding that, as taught in his native England, "Boxing is like fencing, only you

See **BOXING** page A5



Boxers Raymondo Rodriguez (right) and Orlando Urbina trade blows during Sunday's boxing show at the City of Santa Clarita Community Center.

SCOTT ROBY/The Signal



SCOTT ROBY/The Signal

Approximately 300 people showed up to watch Sunday's boxing show at the City of Santa Clarita Community Center.

Boxing

Continued from page A1

don't have a sword in your hand. And what the boys learn from sparring is respect for their opponent."

Smith sees an even more constructive lesson for young men

from boxing programs.

"The most important thing they learn is controlled aggression," Smith said.

"There's nothing better. You might come in here angry, hating life, but I guarantee you, after two hours of a boxing program workout, you'll have it all out of your system."



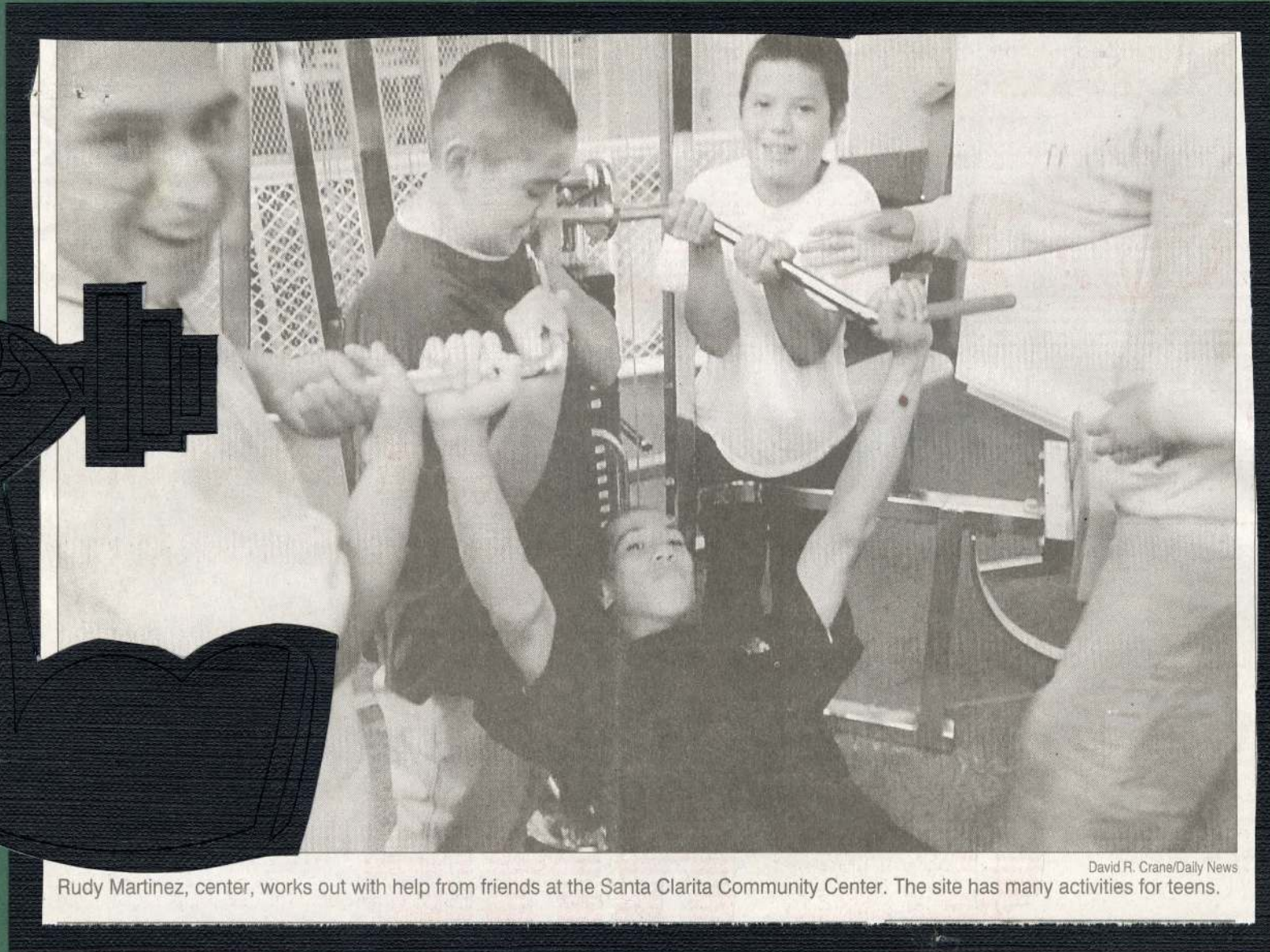


*egg annual
strawagging*

Newhall Park - 1998



SANTA CLARITA



COMMUNITY CENTER

City's community center offers safe haven for teen-agers

By Teresa Jimenez

Daily News Staff Writer

10.05.98

NEWHALL — Armando Olea found out about the Santa Clarita Community Center's teen group after a friend turned down his offer to hang out in the neighborhood and dragged him to a weekly meeting instead.

Olea, 15, said he'd heard about the group. But his friend seemed to spend a lot of time over there, and he figured he had better things to do.

"He said, Why don't you come with me? I told him that it takes up too much of his free time," Olea said. "But I went that one time, and then I started going more

and more. Now I go every day after school."

Olea and more than a dozen other teen-agers have discovered that the group is actually pretty fun. And, they admit, it beats hanging around at the mall or in the street.

"We don't go around making trouble," said Mauricio Infante, 15. "If we do stuff in the community, they reward us with activities. We go to museums and stuff."

The teen group, which is going through a leadership change now that older teens have left, is designed to let kids do the organizing, said Veronica Navarro, a program specialist at the center.

Though city parks staff members guide them through some of the more difficult planning, the teens meet

every Thursday afternoon to decide their field trips and the necessary fund-raisers, said Rudy Martinez, 16, who has been with the group for three years.

"They're not the most organized group, but they get it done," Navarro said. "Most of the time they come up with their own ideas."

The latest trip that has the whole group excited is a Halloween party on the Queen Mary in Long Beach.

The group already held a carwash to raise money for the trip, and a coming dance will help raise more.

In fact, the group has gone on quite a few trips, ranging from Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm to the

See CENTER / Page 4



Recreation opportunities at the Santa Clarita center include billiards and field trips.



Rudy Martinez, 16, takes a call.

Teens plan their own trips at site

CENTER / From Page 1

Museum of Tolerance.

"I like the trips and the people who come here," Olea said. "The trips are fun because of the people you go with."

Other members enjoy the community service.

"It's somewhere you can hang out with friends and do good things for the community," said Christina Zavala, 13. "We help clean up people's houses. We went to lay out dirt for a trail that needed to be fixed."

Staff members at the center try to push the teens even more by encouraging them to do well in school, Navarro said. And there's nothing like a tempting reward to nudge them in the right direction.

"I don't really like school," said Junior Leyva, 13. But he's thinking about working at it a little more. "If I get good grades, they take you in a limousine and you go to dinner."

"Aside from just being here, we try to mentor them," Navarro said. "We bring the police in to talk to them. We tell them, hey, you can choose to be out there if you want. Just know

the consequences."

Almost all the teen group members go to the center every day after school. It's their place to box, gossip with friends or play pool. They like it so much that their frequent visits sometimes make parents suspicious, Navarro said.

"Some parents will call just to make sure their kid is here," Navarro said. "They'll say, OK, I just wanted to make sure they weren't lying to me."

For more information about the teen program or to find out about other activities available, call the center at (805) 286-4151.

21st Century

Century holds promise for Santa Clarita Valley

As 1999 comes to a close, we can reflect on the progress made in the Santa Clarita Valley over the last century.

Trains, old-fashioned trails and stagecoach passes gave way to Metrolink, the Golden State Freeway and local highways. Discoveries of oil and gas brought jobs to the valley in the early 1900s while bustling business parks brought even more employment in the latter half. The entertainment industry, always a part of our economy, expanded to include film studios and post-production companies.

Our master-planned "new town" of Valencia emerged in 1965 as a balanced community of homes, employment, shopping and recreation and brought Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, California Institute of the Arts, College of the Canyons and Magic Mountain; retail and entertainment opportunities exploded with Town Center Drive and new shopping and theaters on the east side of town; local services were expanded through the creation of the city of Santa Clarita; and redevelopment began on the historic downtown of



Thomas L. Lee
Daily News
1-1-99

Newhall, founded in the 1870s. These are just a few of our valley's accomplishments.

The next century is full of promise. 2000 and the years ahead will bring positive changes to our valley,

some that are foreseeable and many beyond our imagination as technology advances. Just as the 20th century brought us new infrastructure, so will the 21st. Many new roads are planned throughout the valley, as well as freeway improvements to I-5 and the Antelope Valley Freeway. New Metrolink stations and routes will be added. Several new schools are on the drawing boards with construction expected to start soon.

A new Tournament Players Club

See LEE / Page 2

Future looks bright for Santa Clarita

LEE/ From Page 1

Golf Course in Valencia will complement the soon-to-open Robinson Ranch Golf Course in Canyon Country. The city of Santa Clarita's Central Park will begin operations in 2000 and additional parks are planned throughout the valley. River trails will expand and connect our increasingly abundant recreation choices. More than 6,000 acres of open space in the new community of Newhall Ranch

will soon be available to the public.

The last century brought convenient services to the valley; the next will expand those options. A performing arts center will be built at College of the Canyons while the Santa Clarita Valley Repertory and Canyon Theatre Guild will kick off the downtown Newhall revitalization. New stores will join the merchants at Valencia Town Center and the property surrounding Magic Mountain may see

additional retail and restaurants. A university center concept of higher education may take root at College of the Canyons and our community will be "connected" via state-of-the-art technology. Commuting out of our valley — a common complaint of the late 1900s — may be a thing of the past as more Santa Clarita jobs are established. Valencia, home to about 35,000 jobs, is expected to add more than 65,000 jobs to the valley's base in the next 25 years. The 21st century

will bring exciting changes to the Santa Clarita Valley. However, some things will stay the same. The community is blessed with caring, dedicated residents who volunteer with local organizations, support our schools, are vigilant against crime, raise strong families and contribute to our wonderful quality of life. There will be many changes, but our fundamental asset — the people of the Santa Clarita Valley — will stay constant.



STEVE McCRANK/The Signal

City Councilwoman Jo Anne Darcy spins the money wheel at Valencia National Bank's booth during a Chamber of Commerce mixer at the Home and Business Expo Friday night.

Business Expo sets up shop for weekend

By JACK KATZANEK
Signal Business Editor

10-18-97
The Santa Clarita Valley is made up of almost 200,000 people who find goods and services at more than 8,000 locations.

One way to get to know the sum total of the area is by looking at a few of its components. Almost 200 of these components are on display this weekend at the Santa Clarita Valley's Home and Business

Expo.

The two-day event is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at the intersection of McBean Parkway and Del Monte Drive. It continues Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As many as 20,000 people are expected to file through the turnstiles before the event is over.

This is the 13th year for Business Expo, which has

See EXPO, page A9

Expo

Continued from page A1

grown steadily with the area's business community. Two oversized tents, one featuring business and commercial displays and the adjacent Volunteer Tent, are almost a walking tour through the SCV's business community.

Home and Business Expo got an informal official opening Friday night at "A Taste of Expo," a mixer for chamber members and guests that featured samples from 21 area restaurants. This was about 50 percent more eating options than last year.

Admission to the event is \$1, and children under 12 are admitted free. Parking is free and can be accessed from Del Monte Drive.

There is a full complement of

140 commercial exhibits in the main tent, offering information on everything from finance to furnishings. For the many newcomers in the area, it's an opportunity to learn what is available and who is ready to provide it, but longtime residents might also be surprised to find out what's out there.

The Volunteer Tent, sponsored by the City of Santa Clarita, features about 40 nonprofit agencies that, when viewed as a whole, indicate the richness of life available in the SCV.

Activities are scheduled this weekend that appeal to all ages and include music and crafts, gymnastics, dancing and karate.

Today's activities kick off with the American Heart Association's Heart Walk, a five-kilometer walk through the city's paseos, that starts at 8 a.m.

13th ANNUAL

All New Santa Clarita Valley

HOME and BUSINESS EXPO



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- Healthy Lifestyles
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8/20/07

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*Shop Local and Help Keep
Local Tax Dollars Local!*



Youth summit to focus on

crime, jobs, racism and solutions

By MIKE KLINGBEIL
Signal staff writer

3-21-93

SANTA CLARITA — The needs of Santa Clarita's youth will be discussed next week at an unprecedented summit in which community leaders and public officials will tackle unemployment, crime and racism.

"Kids say the number-one issue is racism," said Cecilia Burda, recreation superintendent for the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

Issues targeted for debate at the public forum Thursday will include racism, unemployment, recreational facilities available to youths, gang violence and graffiti, organizers said Friday.

The Youth Summit, scheduled to begin 6:30 p.m. in the Placerita Junior High

"Kids say the number-one issue is racism."

— Cecilia Burda
City official

School multi-purpose room, is the brainchild of City Manager George Carvalho.

Carvalho, who could not be reached for comment Friday, came up with the idea of a youth summit after a successful city economic conference held several weeks ago, according to city officials.

The city contacted community leaders, educators and business representatives who employ youths and asked them to partici-

Summit Steering Committee, said youths are also starving for recreational facilities.

Economic hardship and boredom are often the two key motivators for criminal activity, particularly gang activity,

The public will have an opportunity to explore the social conditions some teens and children live under that may put them at risk for wayward behavior, Burda said.

The scope of the youth culture study is expected to expand for a follow-up Youth Summit scheduled May 20.

Burda said solutions will be explored, setting the stage for possible job-recruiting campaigns and education programs focusing on job training.

Gary Vien will represent Six Flags Magic Mountain, the area's largest employer of young people.

When Vien, director of administration at the theme park, speaks at the Youth Summit he will discuss ways in which teen-agers can best prepare themselves for jobs at Magic Mountain and other businesses.

"I will tell them what employers look for in youth when coming to apply, making them more employable," Vien said.

Likening the Youth Summit's objectives to the Hart high school district's "Vision 2000" blueprint for the future, Superintendent Walter Swanson said the local socioeconomic and ethnic landscape has changed drastically during the past few years.

"There are so many changes taking place that it can create new problems for youth," Swanson said. "Now is the time we can do some planning."

pate on the steering committee.

The seven-member committee will lead debates, seminars and mini-workshops in which citizens will list what they feel are the most pressing local youth issues.

Options will be presented near the end of the three-hour summit for curing the social and economic ills crippling the younger segment of the Santa Clarita Valley population, Burda said.

Parents said amid a sea of wealth in the predominantly middle-class Santa Clarita Valley exist pockets of severe poverty.

"Many youths want a job so they can help their families," said Maria Fulkerson, chair of the Saugus High-based Community Parents Network and a member of the Santa Clarita Valley Gang Task Force.

Fulkerson, who will serve on the Youth

Love, Peace
& Happiness





Central Park Ground Breaking



City Events ~ Grand opening 2/00

a day at the park

Phase I



at the park at the park at the park at the park at the park

play is hard work



Phase I



fun in the sun fun in the sun fun in the sun fun in t

2/00 City Events - Grand Opening



SCV

You and your family
are invited to
the Grand Opening of the **new**
Canyon Country
Jo Anne Darcy Library

a new chapter

Saturday,
November 17, 2001

10 a.m. - noon
with events
until 5 p.m.

Activities, Entertainment,
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(Shangri-La across from the Edwards Cinema)

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City of Santa Clarita and County of Los Angeles



*Canyon Country Library
Is On Its Way!* SEN MAG 6/00

Grading at the future location of the new Canyon Country Library has begun and is moving steadily towards its expected completion date. The northwest corner of Soledad Canyon Road and Shangri-La Drive will, by early 2001, become a 17,000-square-foot sandstone structure featuring a courtyard, amphitheater and Community Room.

The next phase in this project will be placement of underground utilities followed by street improvements to both Shangri-La and Soledad Canyon Road. City funds will be allocated to the project as these developmental milestones are achieved.

A few years in the making, the new Canyon Country Library promises to be an outstanding cooperative achievement by the City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County.

For more information on the Canyon Country Library project, contact the city of Santa Clarita's Management Analyst, Ken Striplin at 661 / 255-4909.



By Eric Thayer
Signal Staff Writer

It's definitely the beginning of a new chapter for Canyon Country.

City and county officials, along with about 100 community members, gathered Saturday morning to officially open the Canyon Country Jo Anne Darcy Library.

The library, dedicated to the longtime councilwoman and community leader, was built thanks to a partnership between the city of Santa Clarita, the county of Los Angeles and other private interests, including the Friends of the Libraries, of which Darcy was the founding member and first president.

"Thirty-five years and I've given all I could," Darcy told the audience. "Today, when I look at all of you, and this library, I know it was all worth it."

The new library is about three times the size of the previous facility, and houses about 81,000 books, magazines and other items for checkout.

"I think it's a great library, I love the kids' section," Marlee Roth-Stone said.

Roth-Stone brought her 8-year-old twins, Aaron and Brandon Stone, to the opening event.

"We look forward to spending a lot of time here," she said.

During the dedication ceremony, Fifth District Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich — for whom Darcy served as a field deputy — stressed the importance of reading and having quality libraries locally.

"What we have here is a first-class facility for a first-class community," he said.

Margaret Donnellan Todd, librarian for Los Angeles County, said "libraries are the heart of democracy" and commended the city of Santa Clarita, in addition to county officials and private enterprise, for the effort it took to bring

signed 11/18/01

DARCY LIBRARY TURNS NEW PAGE IN SCV

One for the Books

Library

Continued from page A1

the library to Canyon Country.

"It's really fitting that this community has made libraries a priority," Todd said.

The library was the site of a special dedication ceremony Friday night when the Randy Wicks Wall was unveiled.

The wall was dedicated to the late Signal cartoonist, and features about half a dozen original prints of his work.

Signal Managing Editor Tim Whyte spoke of Wicks at the unveiling event, and reflected on how he would have reacted to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"He would have made us cry, he would have made us reflect on our own emotions, then I think when we were ready for it, he

would have made us laugh again," Whyte said. "That's what Randy did."

Showcasing the work is important for future generations, some of whom were not able to see Wicks' work during his time at The Signal or know him as an individual, Whyte said.

"Randy's work is outstanding — he was a good friend who had a good heart," he said.

Attended by a much smaller crowd, Friday night's event recognized both Wicks and Darcy for their contributions to the community, which will now be immortalized at the new library.

The 17,000-square-foot structure was built based on the needs of the community, city officials said, with the council allocating \$5.1 million in general fund revenues in 1999 toward the facility, bookshelves and office equipment.

A lease between the city and the county was also negotiated for the library, based on City Council approval.

The library got its designation after Weste recommended it be named in honor of longtime Councilwoman and community activist Darcy.

Darcy, the only remaining original council member from the city's incorporation in 1987, has served as mayor four times and has served as officer, founder and/or chair of 38 service and philanthropic organizations throughout the Santa Clarita Valley.

"This will serve as a legacy for Jo Anne Darcy," Weste said.

"I think of her as mom, because she had such a vision for this valley," Linda Lambourne, of U.S. Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon's office said. "She guided this city through its growing pains with great wisdom."



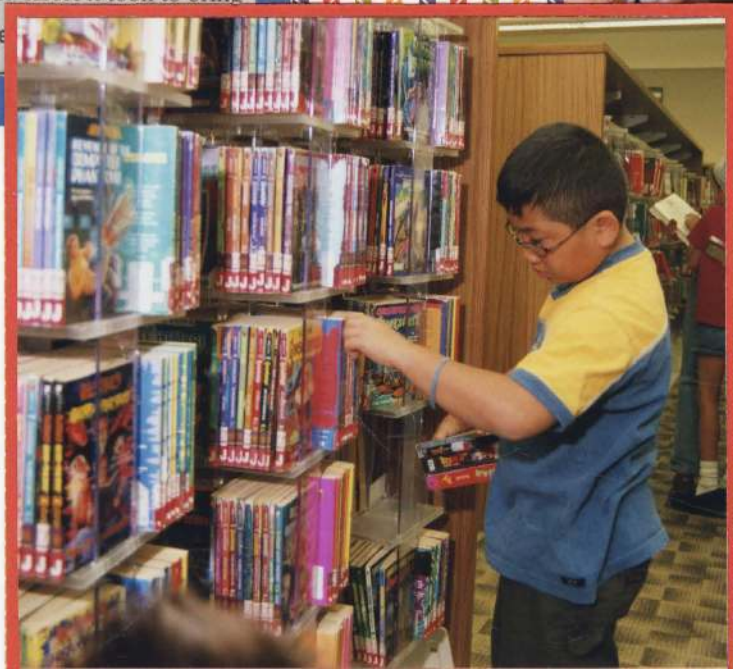
Canyon Country
Jo Anne Darcy Library
Santa Clarita, California

Dedicated: November 17, 2001

Mayor	Laurene Weste
Mayor Pro-Tem	Frank Ferry
Councilmember	Jo Anne Darcy
Councilmember	Bob Kellar
Councilmember	Cameron Smyth
City Manager	George A. Carvalho



Michael D. Antonovich, Supervisor
5th District, County of Los Angeles



By Matthew Gilbert

Since it opened on November 1, 2001, the Canyon Country Jo Anne Darcy Library has written itself into the hearts of Santa Clarita residents. The 17,000 square foot facility — of which 5,000 square feet is used by College of the Canyons for a satellite center — replaced a 5,050 square foot facility that had been used for more than 15 years.

With a collection more than four times the original size and increased accessibility to information, this Los Angeles County library has established itself as a tremendous community resource.

"Our programming and community outreach have increased and this is reflected in our circulation statistics," said Geri Mathews, the facility's community library manager. "Although our service hours remained the same, our circulation has increased more than 100 percent. An average month's total prior to the move was approximately 16,000. For March of this year, the numbers were 32,600. The walk-in count in March 2001 was 13,333 and, in March 2002, the total was 22,400."

The new location offers 70,389 books, 109 newspaper and magazine subscriptions, 6,623 audio recordings and 4,246 video recordings — including the DVDs. Telephone books from around California and a local history collection is also available. The library also offers a children's area with a homework center, a periodical reading area and a young adult section. It has a two-person reference desk, a four-station circulation desk, a copy center, a "Friends of the Library" store, and a 157-person capacity meeting room.

Whereas the previous library offered one Internet/word processing station, the new location has 11. The facility's reference information capacity has doubled, plus there is an additional professional librarian and more part-time employees.

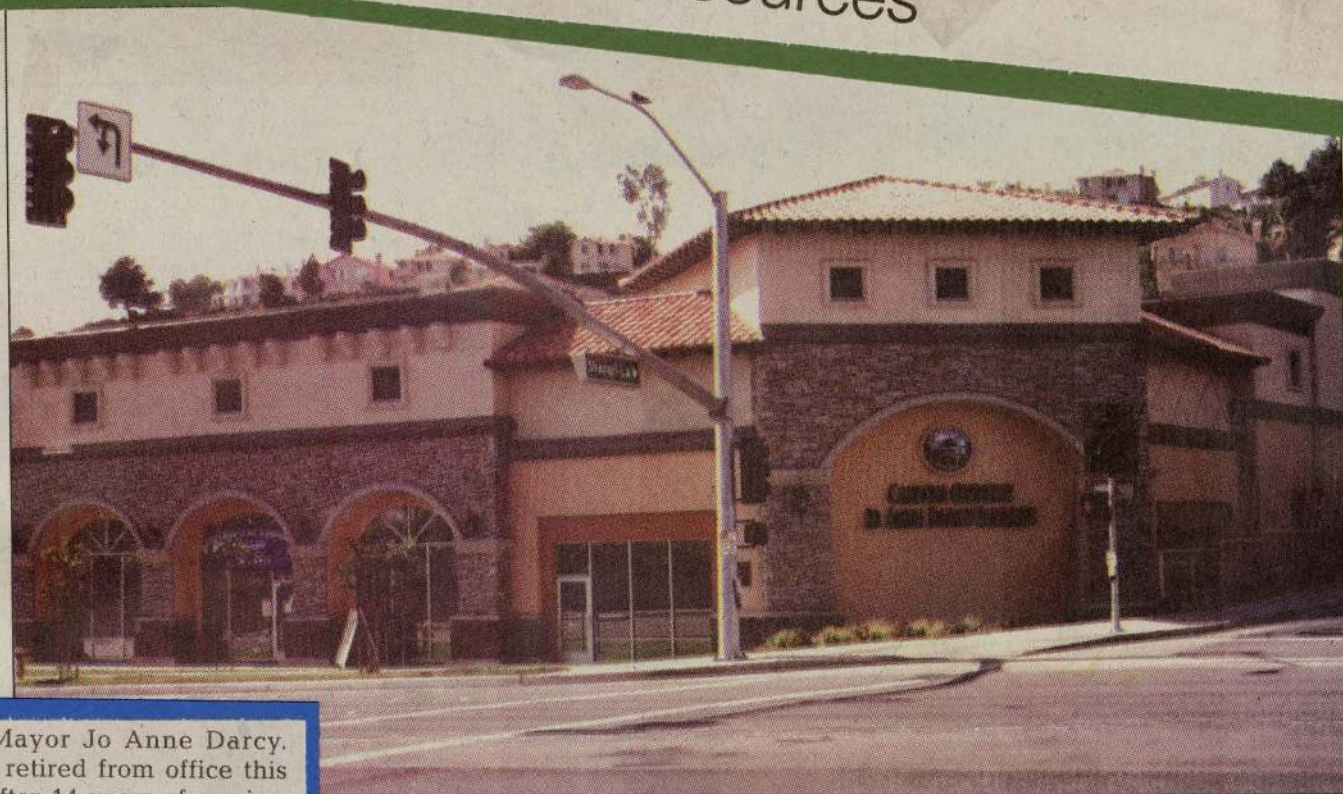
"The staff is very nice, the patrons are very nice, this is a nice community and we are very happy with this new building," said library employee Carmen Nieves, who commutes from Littlerock.

The facility was named for former Santa Clarita City Councilwoman and

Library opens new chapter in SCV history

Expanded facility offers more resources

SC SUN June/July 2002



four-time Mayor Jo Anne Darcy. Darcy, who retired from office this past April after 14 years of service, was involved with more than 40 local community groups and service organizations. Santa Clarita residents, to whom Darcy has dedicated a significant portion of her life, are thankful for the new library that bears her name.

"It's nice and it's new and it's pretty convenient for us," said Saugus resident Mark Johnson, who visits the library with his children — five-year-old Molly and eight-year-old Sam — several times a month. Johnson, who commutes to Pasadena, has taken an interest in the audio book collection while his kids favor the location's numerous children's books.

The library is located in a retail complex at 18601 Soledad Canyon Road in Canyon Country. Built for \$5.1 million, which the City of Santa Clarita allocated from general-fund revenues in 1999, the library was the result of a partnership between the City, TCP Management and the County of Los Angeles.

For more information, one may call the library at 661-251-2720, or visit the County of Los Angeles Library Web site at www.colapublib.org.



A big draw for the valley

Cowboy fest this week

By Carol Rock
Staff Writer

DN 3-23-03

CANYON COUNTRY — On next Sunday's menu for the Santa Clarita Cowboy Poetry and Music festival is "art with a view" at a new event, the Artists Quick Draw, set for 10 a.m. at Robinson Ranch.

The Quick Draw will test the speed and skill of nine artists who will create Western masterpieces while guests enjoy a Southwestern brunch. At the end of an hour, the artists will put down their pens and brushes for an auction of their works.

Event coordinator Andree Walper was inspired by a similar event in Los Olivos, an artisan community near Santa Maria.

"Western art is a portion of the Cowboy Festival that we had not explored until this year," Walper said. "We wanted to try and expand the Festival out into the community, so we selected Robinson Ranch in Canyon Country for its decidedly Western style and spectacular view. I'm excited about the lineup of outstanding artists.

"It's also a way to get some fabulous art, maybe even below gallery prices" she said.

When organizers were looking for someone to draw the essence of Santa Clarita's Western heritage for the first festival in 1994, they found Don Vernon, a Canyon Country artist who was familiar with the territory and quick with a paintbrush.

"They had seen my work locally and asked me if I could come up with a poster," he said. Vernon will return to the 10th anniversary festival for the Quick Draw.

Vernon takes his inspiration from his youthful days in Oklahoma. Although he has been an artist for more than 30 years, it took a move to California in 1976 to get him "in the saddle" of Western art. Now he's known for his Western renderings and has been featured at the Cattlemen's Association show in Paso Robles for the last 13 years, as well as making time to show his work at home.

He said he was honored to be included in the first batch of rapid-fire artists.

"This is a fun thing to do," he said. "I've been working with some designs of Vasquez Rocks."

Buck Taylor, a Western artist of both the visual and performing kind, is looking forward to returning to the streets of festival central at Melody Ranch, where he filmed "Gunsmoke" for seven years. His feature film work includes "Tombstone," "Wild Wild West" and the recent "Gods and Generals."

He will join other Western entertainers when his bronze saddle is unveiled Friday afternoon on downtown Newhall's Walk of Western Stars and is

See QUICK / Page 4



DICK MEIER/For The Signal

Artist Jim McCarthy works on a black and white rendering of a fast-shooting cowboy at the Artists' Quick Draw.

QUICK / From Page 1

planning on spending the weekend at his old stomping ground, where he will sell his artwork at the festival before and after the Quick Draw event.

Taylor, who is coming in from Ft. Worth, Texas, works primarily in watercolors to capture the romance and reality of the American West. He also received the Western Heritage Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum for his contributions to preserving the country's Western heritage.

Artist Reine River, who lives in Acton, has been billed "California's Premier Contemporary Cowgirl Artist" and exhibits her creations all over the U.S. and overseas. She also dabbles in cowboy poetry to augment her prints and photographs. River and fellow quick-draw artist Joe Ortiz are members of the Santa Clarita Artists Association.

Other featured artists include Susan Kliever from Sedona, Ariz., an award-winning sculptor who is painting for this event; Margo Peterson and Karen Foster-Wells, both members of Women Artists of the West; festival vendor Anne Huthason-Sherman; and Jim McCarthy.

In addition to the artists and brunch, entertainment will be provided by Curly Musgrave, the Western Music Association 2002 Male Performer of the Year. Tickets for the event are \$20 each and are available by calling (661) 286-4021.

Cowboy Festival to feature artists

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY / SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2003 / DAILY NEWS



“Western art is a portion of the Cowboy Festival that we had not explored until this year. We wanted to try and expand the Festival out into the community, so we selected Robinson Ranch in Canyon Country for its decidedly Western style and spectacular view.”

— Event coordinator Andree Walper

Western artist Don Vernon, above displaying one of his paintings, “Where the Wagons Passed,” will participate in the Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival, which begins Wednesday in Santa Clarita. At left.

~ 10th Anniversary with Don Edwards ~

SIGNAL 2-20-03



COWBOY POETRY

& MUSIC FESTIVAL

March 26 - March 30, 2003

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Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio*

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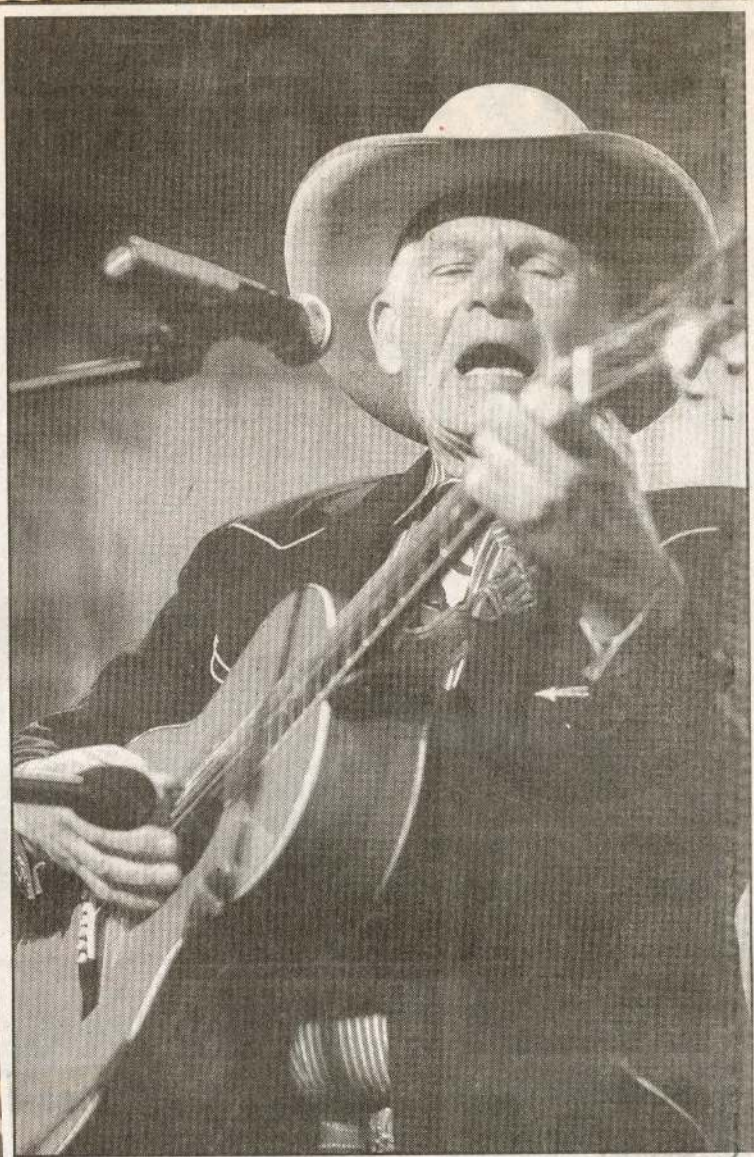
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PUBLICATION DATE
SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD

RODEO

**THE ORIGINAL
EXTREME SPORT**





ALEX COLLINS/The Signal

Entertainer Don Edwards serenaded those in attendance at the Walk of Western Stars gala dinner with patriotic songs.

Rodeo Fan

Walk of Western Stars Dinner

The annual Walk of Western Stars event, sponsored by the City of Santa Clarita and the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce will highlight the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival at the Hyatt Hotel on Friday, March 28 at 7 p.m. This year's honorees include renowned actor Bruce Dern, actor and artist Buck Taylor, grammy-award winners Riders in the Sky and a posthumous award for Hopalong Cassidy (William Boyd). A prelude to the dinner at the Hyatt, the sidewalk event on Friday, March 28 at 3 p.m. at Market and San Fernando Road, will feature each of the stars (Hoppy's wife will be accepting on his behalf) in downtown Newhall. Everyone is invited to the free unveiling of the terrazo tile and bronze saddles in the streets of downtown Newhall at 3 p.m. with refreshments at El Trocadero following the unveiling. Tickets for the dinner on Friday evening are \$100 each, 286-4021.

Artists' Quick Draw at Robinson Ranch

The City of Santa Clarita is pleased to present its first ever Artists' Quick Draw, co-sponsored by B&R Gallery as part of the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival. The Artists' Quick Draw will be held on Sunday March 30 at 10 a.m. at Robinson Ranch, 27734 Sand Canyon Road in Canyon Country. The Artists' Quick Draw will feature nine renowned western artists who will create a work of art while guests enjoy brunch and observe the artists at work. The art will be auctioned off at the brunch, after being professionally framed. Featured artists include Don Vernon, the Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival's first poster artist; Buck Taylor, a celebrated artist and actor appeared on "Gunsmoke" "Tombstone"; local artists Reine River, Joe Ortiz and Jim McCarthy, and from Sedona, Ariz. Susan Kliever. Also appearing will be Anne Hutchason-Sherman, Kelly Donovan, Karen Foster-Wells and Margo Peterson. Curly Musgrave, the Western Music Association's "Male Performer of the Year" for 2002, will provide entertainment. Tickets: \$20 per person. Info: City of Santa Clarita at 286-4021.

March 18, 2003 THE SIGNAL A7

Cowboy Couture Western Fashions

The City of Santa Clarita is adding a touch of high-end fashion to its 10th Annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival with "Cowboy Couture," a western fashion show to be held on Wednesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at the Canyon Theatre, 24242 San Fernando Road in Old Town Newhall. Cowboy Couture kicks off this year's Festival - the City's 10th annual. Hosting the fashion show this year is Don Fleming. Performing at the Cowboy Couture event will be Belinda Gail, Western Music Association female performer of the year. Tickets for the Cowboy Couture event are \$35 and include hors d'oeuvres and wine and a special commemorative gift. Info: City of Santa Clarita at 286-4021.

Sunday

April 8, 2003

LIFESTYLE

Draw! Quick!

■ First 'Artists' Quick Draw' finds attentive audience.

By Margie Anne Clark
Signal Staff Writer

The City of Santa Clarita's first ever "Artists' Quick Draw" event, held in conjunction with the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival drew rave reviews and more than 100 guests who attended the morning brunch at Robinsons Ranch on March 30.

Co-sponsored by B&R Gallery Artists' Quick Draw feature renowned western artists who created works of fine art as guests were invited to watch the art in progress. Guests also enjoyed brunch while



the artists put the finishing touches on their work. Artists were given about an hour to finish their pieces as spectators watched. The artwork was later auctioned off after being professionally framed. All of the auction items were sold, with final bids ranging from \$175 - \$550.

Local western artist Joe Ortiz, whose paintings were on display during the weekend event at Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio, said he was honored to be an artist at the Quick Draw event.

"I was in the company of many artists whom I admire and it was exciting to be included in such an exclusive event," Ortiz said, adding that having a time limit added to the excitement of the morning.

"Although the time limit does put the artist under a greater amount of pressure, it is pure in its effect of not allowing analytical thought," Ortiz said. "The result is pure passionate expression of vision and feelings."

A versatile artist, Ortiz is best known for bringing landscapes and cowboys to life. He works in a variety of mediums from oils to watercolors. He received training from such art masters as Glen Vilppu, Neil Boyle and Timothy J. Clark. He has attended Brandis Art Institute where he earned an Associates in Art; California Institute of the Arts and California State University, Northridge art programs, as well as various art workshops. Most of his training has been in life drawing.

In addition to his work as a professional artist, Ortiz works professionally in story boarding and animation as a sculptor, illustrator, figure finisher for theme park animation and effects.

Ortiz, who works in oils, acrylics and watercolors, created a piece called "By the River." He said his watercolor was inspired by the natural beauty of the Santa Clara River.

"The main feature of the painting was a large yucca plant, which grows native to the area," Ortiz said. "I was inspired by the manner in which the yucca stood like a solitary figure, claiming its own land area."

Other featured artists included Don Vernon, the Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival's first poster artist. During the event, guests enjoyed watching Vernon create a western landscape of chiseled mountains in rich tones of sunset gold.

Vernon is best known for his visual art paintings of western, wildlife, Indian, landscapes, caricatures and cartoon artwork. Vernon's work has been collected by celebrities and created for Mattel, Universal Studios and LA Dodgers. His work includes drawings and sketches, oil and acrylic paintings on canvas, graphics and illustrations. Some of his work is featured in galleries and some of them in private collections, including Burt Reynolds, Tippi Hedron, Susan and Kent McCray, the late Doug McClure and the Spencer Robley collection.

In addition to Ortiz and Vernon, local artists Reine River and Jim McCarthy, displayed their creative talents. When he isn't too busy with his duties with the Parks and Recreation, McCarthy is an avid sketch artist. McCarthy's black and white rendering of a fast-shooting cowboy was a big hit among the guests. McCarthy's wife, city councilwoman, Laurene Weste, said she was excited about the event.

"This was a great opportunity to watch pure talent create their art in a fabulous setting and this was just a really special cultural event to have here in Santa Clarita," Weste said. "How often do you have a chance to watch art being created and then be able to purchase it — that was the best part," she said, adding, "This was a wonderful concept and something that will grow in the years to come."

Weste said she hopes the event will encourage a movement to bring more art to the down-town arts



Photos: DICK MEIER/For The Signal
(Above) Artist Joe Ortiz creates for the crowd at the first "Artists' Quick Draw" event held at Robinson Ranch in Canyon Country. (Right) Artist Susan Kliever sketches model Carl Walper.

against the ever-encroaching growth of progress."

Ortiz said he enjoyed the interaction of the artists and the spectators.

"I know from personal experience of how exciting it is to watch art being created," Ortiz said. "It is not a question of painting a pretty picture but rather to ask yourself whether you understand the language the artist is speaking," he said adding that art is communication.

"Every artist has something to say. To watch art being created it like watching poetry and in a sense an abstract creation of life," Ortiz said.

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Weste said she hopes the event will encourage a movement to bring more art to the down-town arts



district of Newhall.

"It would be exciting to see a consignment in Old Town Newhall where the artists can play their work," Weste said. "This would be a special ambiance for the city of Santa Clarita."

River is an accomplished artist who has exhibited in the United States and overseas work is presently being collected by private collectors and major corporations throughout the world. Her formal education is in with an MFA, from Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, California. She has lectured, taught and exhibited in Universities in California, and in Los Angeles, California.

River's bright red painting went for the bid of \$550.

"For many years I traveled all over the so I started to photograph rodeo cowboys and both behind the scene and in action," River said. "I soon found myself cantering towards the venue, the American ranch family, and the open spaces in which they lived, which leads me to my own back forty. Californian contemporary, American cowgirl — a very independent, free spirited, and

See ART, F

horsewoman."

Artist Susan Kliever has been a painter since the age of 10. She turned to sculpting in 1987 after working in an art casting foundry for 10 years. Kliever was the winner of a competition to create a monument of Sedona Schnebly. The ten-foot tall bronze figure was installed in front of the Sedona Library in 1994. Her life-size fountain portraying the Sinagua people and a fountain of a Hopi Water Maiden are also to be found in Sedona.

"My work aims to show the common thread that underlies all human experience," Kliever said. "I hope it brings us to a greater understanding between all peoples."

Kliever often uses her Navajo friends and grandchildren as models to capture that special intimacy which is the hallmark of her work. Her depiction of the ways of Native Americans in everyday life, from the past as well as the present, has attracted major collectors from all over the world.

Also appearing was Anne Hutchason-Sherman, Kelly Donovan, Karen Foster-Wells and Margo Peterson.

Foster-Wells, began painting outdoors on the California coast 50 years ago. As a professional artist, her career has spanned 38 years, balancing illustration to support her family with plein air painting to restore her soul, and the last 15 years, to help preserve the landscape she holds so dear. Born in Pasadena, California, she was the youngest artist ever to be juried into the Laguna Art Festival in 1966, and had her first major solo exhibit at the Museum of Natural History in Santa Barbara in 1979. Since then, she has participated in hundreds of group shows for conservation, and illustrated for such diverse clients as General Motors, and the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Her work has

has appeared in Sunset Magazine, American Artist Magazine and in television videos for the Nipomo Dunes Mobile Coastal Preserve and California Heartland. Her paintings reflect her love for horses, ranching and California's central coast landscape.

Peterson paints primarily in the Western genre. Her "Feminine West" series blends the delightful myth with the harsh reality of the Frontier. Her work is exhibited in galleries throughout the West and Canada. She attended a private high school in Burbank, across from the Disney Studios.

After receiving her degree in Fine Art in 1961, Peterson traveled with her husband and continued her art studies. She studied under the late Edward Runci for several years, also attended seminars with the Cowboy Artists of America in West Yellowstone, Montana.

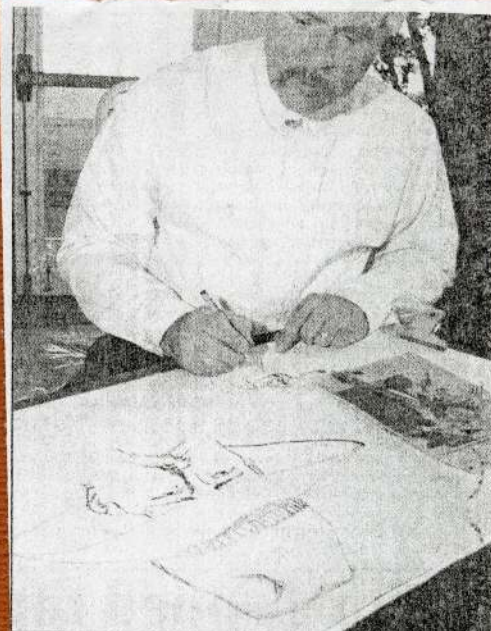
"Artists' Quick Draw" event coordinator, Andree Walper, economic development assistant for the city of Santa Clarita, said the event provided a nice opportunity for guests to acquire unique western art, while watching the work in progress.

"This was a great opportunity for guests to purchase a western piece of art work, created by celebrated artists, at below gallery prices," said Walper, adding that the work of some of the featured artists sell for up to \$10,000.

"I was very excited by the quality of the work of the artists and it was fun to watch their work in progress," Walper said. "We're definitely going to do this again next year."

Dave Joseph, co-owner of B&R Art said he was pleased to be a co-sponsor for the event.

"It was just a wonderful time and it was great to see the artists in action," Joseph said. "It was a fun event with a great ambiance and everyone had a great time."



Photos: DICK MEIER/For The Signal
Artist Jim McCarthy works on a black and white rendering of a fast-shooting cowboy at the Artists' Quick Draw.

Phil Lantis, cultural affairs supervisor for the city of Santa Clarita said he hopes to see the event expand.

"We were really happy with the quality of work and we really appreciate the artists taking a chance and doing a good job," Lantis said. "The event turned the visual arts into a performing art." Providing the entertainment for the brunch was Curly Musgrave, the Western Music Association's Male Performer of the Year for 2002. Auctioneer for the day was Bill Johnson of William Johnson's Auctioneers. Sixty percent of the proceeds from the

auctioned items went to the artists, with 40 percent of the proceeds going to the city of Santa Clarita to cover costs for the event.

With the success of this year's first ever "Artists Quick Draw," Ortiz said he is looking forward to participating in next year's event.

"It is wonderful that the festival now offers this special event to celebrate the western art that is truly a part of the area's history," Ortiz said. "I can hardly wait to do the Quick Draw event next year and I know that this is just the seedling to a great oak tree event."



DAILY NEWS / WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2003

FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY

Rick Crowder performs as Sourdough Slim during a songwriting workshop for Meadows Elementary students in Valencia.

Tom Mendoza/Staff Photographer

2003



Cowboy

In

School

program



COWGIRL

Go western, young woman,

for Cowboy festival



Katharine, 4, and her mother, Marlee Lauffer, model some will be modeling at the Cowboy Couture fashion show on March 26.

Hans Gutknecht
Staff Photographer

3-17-03

Style show leading off cowboy festival

FASHION / From Page 1

Rogers," she said. "I loved the Westerns and even named my kids Cody and Cassidy. This type of clothing is the kind of stuff I always wanted to dress up in."

Hoban's designs capture the vintage look of the 1950s, with liberal use of fringe and embroidery, along with vibrant cowboy and cowgirl prints. Outfits run toward the expensive side, with skirts starting at \$350 and going up to \$700.

Andree Walper, who works in the city's Economic Development office the rest of the year, is coordinating the fashion show.

"This is an aspect of the cowboy way of life that had not been highlighted in the past, and it helps some of our vendors at the festival," Walper said. "The cowboy lifestyle is as much what you wear as much as what you do."

Fashions modeled at Cowboy Couture are not on sale at the event, but may be available at the designer's spot at Melody Ranch.

"It's fun," she said. "And it gives people ideas about what to wear. Cowboy clothes are not necessarily what you think they are. There is a wide range of clothing that you can match with a cowboy hat and boots to wear to the festival. It's not all jeans and a shirt. There's a lot more to it—there's actual fashion to cowboy clothes."

Alanna Rose Blair, who did some print and runway modeling before becoming box office manager for the Canyon Theatre Guild, was involved last year

"This is an aspect of the cowboy way of life that had not been highlighted in the past, and it helps some of our vendors at the festival."

— Andree Walper
Coordinator
of the fashion show

when she was giving the coordinator a tour of the facility.

"When she came in to look at the stage, I got so excited I asked if I could jump on," Blair said. "It was really neat. We were all modeling at least three different designers; it was neat to have the contrast of different designers and ideas."

When asked if modeling cowboy clothing was like other fashions she's worn, Blair laughed.

"The other is much more uncomfortable," she said. "This stuff is made for wearing."

Tickets for the Cowboy Couture event are \$35 and include hors d'oeuvres, wine and a special commemorative gift. For tickets, call the city at 661-326-4021.

Second-annual event to spotlight latest fashion designs

By Carol Rock
Staff Writer

VALENCIA — What to wear, what to wear. That's the question on the minds of some planning to attend the Santa Clarita Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival.

There's not much demand for cowboy gear the rest of the year, and Western wear stores lean toward function over frills.

To settle those nagging fashion questions, the city will present the second annual Cowboy Couture, a fashion show featuring denim and diamonds as well as chaps, vests and high-end outfits fancy enough to stop horses in their

tracks. The show kicks off the festival at 7 p.m. March 26 at the Canyon Theatre Guild in downtown Newhall.

Well-known Western fashion designers such as Amy Hoban, Marikka Nakk, Anna Konya, Pamela Brandt, Sherry Holt and Kristin Collins of Wahmaker/Scully will be featured. Some designers will be bringing their collections in from Arizona and New Mexico.

Performing at the event will be Belinda Gail, Western Music Association female performer of the year. Runway music will be "cowboy eclectic," ranging from honky-tonk to Elvis to

Aerosmith's "Walk This Way," as well as including some traditional Western artists.

More than 40 models will strut their stuff on the stage, including Mrs. California Tami Hulcher; Cheri Fleming; Marlee Lauffer and her daughter, Katharine; Joanne Rodriguez; Shelly Hahn; stuntman Rick New; Councilwoman Marsha McLean; and Mayor Cameron Smyth.

Designer Amy Hoban said that making Western wear takes her back to her childhood.

"I grew up watching 'Annie Oakley' and Dale Evans and Roy

See FASHION / Page 2

Patty News 3-17-03

The Signal March 30, 2003



ALEX COLLINS/The Signal

Karen Quest of San Francisco shows off her rope tricks at the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival Saturday at Melody Ranch in Newhall. The event continues through today.

RODEO

Stars

Continued from page A1

"The Great Gatsby," and more than 50 television appearances in his 40-year career as a method actor. He said the highlight of his career was the opportunity he had to work with John Wayne. He starred with Wayne in the film "The Cowboy" and has the distinction of being one of the few actors in film history ever to "kill" the legendary western star on the silver screen.

"We all came out here to become actors, but no matter how good we are or how great some people in this industry will become, we will never be legends... they are the legends, they are bigger than life and we look up to them. To this day the greatest memory I have was the opportunity to shake John Wayne's hand," Dern said.

Dern, whose work brought him to Newhall to film the 1962 series "Stoney Burke" expressed his thanks for being honored with the award.

"I've never had anything like this before so I'm greatly appreciative," Dern said. "When Buck and I started out here doing 'Stoney Burke' in 1962, there really was no Santa Clarita, nor was there a dream of Santa Clarita, and it was all we could do to find Newhall," Dern joked. "But you've got a wonderful town and the fact that you would do something like this really is fabulous."

Presenting the award to Taylor was past Walk of Stars honoree, Sam Elliott, who attended the ceremony with his wife Katherine Ross, star of his 1991 television movie, "Conagher." Elliott made his debut on the silver screen in the 1969 film "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid."

"It's an honor for me to be here to present the award to Buck whom I've known for 25 years and worked with in more than a half dozen films," Elliott said. "I've watched him grow as an actor and

an artist and he's true cowboy."

In accepting his award, Taylor, who starred as gunsmith Newly O'Brien in "Gunsmoke" from 1967-75, said he was honored to be

See HONORED, page A4

Walk of Stars class honored by friends

By Margie Anne Clark
Signal Staff Writer

Renowned actor Bruce Dern, along with actor/artist Buck Taylor and the Grammy award-winning group Riders in the Sky, were honored at the city of Santa Clarita's 16th annual Walk of Western Stars Gala Dinner and Awards ceremony held at the Hyatt Valencia Friday. A posthumous award was presented to William Boyd of Hopalong Cassidy fame. The event was held

as a star-studded kickoff to the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival which continues today at Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio in Newhall.

Patriotism and pride in the American way of life — exemplified in the life of a cowboy — highlighted the evening as the honorees accepted their awards.

Dern has appeared in more than 80 films, including "Last Man Standing," "Hang 'em High," and

See STARS, page A3

ALEX COLLINS/The Signal

Karen Quest of San Francisco shows off her rope tricks at the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival Saturday at Melody Ranch in Newhall. The event continues through today.

Ya' all come back

Festival conjures up the Old West

■ 10th annual Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival full of different entertainment.

By Christine Bitter
Signal Staff Writer 2003

Crowds browsed and gossiped-up performers caroused on the grounds of The Melody Ranch Saturday for the 10th annual Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival.

The main street of the ranch is an authentic representation of the original, and is well remembered as the backdrop for the shootout scene in the Gary Cooper classic "High Noon."

The street's town buildings are converted into shops and show spaces where musicians, singers, poets and storytellers entertain vis-

itors.

Spotted along the dusty street and its boarded walks were performers displaying their art — a lone harmonica, and ironsmiths demonstrating their trade.

"Trick-roping itself is a rodeo art," said Jim Townsley of Chatsworth from his 4-foot stilts. "And they used to have contests in rodeos."

Through their art and imagination, participants in the festival conjure up the historic mise en scene of the Old West and American Frontier heralded by film, radio and television from the

See FESTIVAL, page A4

Festival

Continued from page A1

late 1800s through the 1970s.

Scattered among the dirty drifters, lawmen adorned with copper stars, and itchy-fingered gunslingers may be a western regular from the past.

Woodland Hills resident Walker Edmiston, in disguise as Judge Roy Bean, a legend of the Old West best known for holding court sessions in his Texas saloon, has an extensive list of credits, from "Gunsmoke" to "Stagecoach" to "Have Gun, Will Travel."

"I've played riflemen, bad men, gunslingers, sheriffs ..."

Amid groups of brightly dressed cantina showgirls and low-brimmed cattle rustlers in long coats, was a 1930s-style cowboy all in black, with a characteristic black hat.

"Hopalong Cassidy was a real American," said Joe Sullivan of Cicero, Ind. "He wanted everyone around to grow up happy and successful."

The main street was surrounded by tents where visitors could adorn themselves like the rest and be a part of the movie magic of the ranch.

"At first we didn't know what to expect," said Ruby Degner of Arroyo Grande. "All the musi-

1995



SCVELAP JACK



FORUM



HYATT HOTEL



KEVIN KARZIN/The Signal

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Hyatt-Valencia Hotel attracted (left to right): Tom Dierckman, senior vice president for The Newhall Land and Farming Co.; Cheryl Phelps, Hyatt's vice president of marketing; Santa Clarita Mayor Clyde Smyth; Gary Cusumano, Newhall president, and Councilwoman Jo Anne Darcy.

3-21-
97

Hotel takes step toward reality

3-21-97

By JACK KATZANEK
Signal Business Editor

SANTA CLARITA — A long-time dream took a step toward fruition Thursday when ground was broken for the Hyatt Valencia Hotel and Santa Clarita Conference Center.

The six-story hotel, which is expected to open its doors in about a year, will be the Santa Clarita Valley's first full-service accommodations facility, and another piece in The Newhall Land and Farming Co.'s ambitious Town Center plan.

"We expect this to be a full-service, first-class conference facility," said Gary Cusumano, Ne-

whall Land's president. "It's designed to hold numerous events that many of us have had to go over the hill for."

Cusumano called the project, at the intersection of Magic Mountain and McBean parkways, an example of cooperation between public and private sectors. The city of Santa Clarita received federal funding to construct storm drains along McBean Parkway, and this addition makes the hotel and convention center possible, officials said.

Santa Clarita Mayor Clyde Smyth said this has been something the city has sought since 1984, when residents said they wanted a conference center and a quality hotel. The facility is expected to

generate \$30 million in sales tax revenues during the next 25 years.

"The city is here for one reason only, and that's to provide services," Smyth said. "This will generate the revenue that will allow us to do that."

The hotel is expected to be completed in early 1998, although probably not in time for the Nissan Open, which is scheduled for next February at the adjacent Valencia Country Club.

Hyatt, which entered into an agreement with Newhall Land earlier this year after plans to have Hilton operate the facility fell through, operates 104 hotels in the United States and 23 in California.

ExPo

Expo Exhibits Offer Answers for Emergencies, Natural Disasters

By Michael R. Farkash
SIGNAL STAFF WRITER

Fires. Floods. Earthquakes. How to reconcile those potential disasters with peace of mind? The answers were all

being delivered Saturday at Saugus Speedway at the city of Santa Clarita's 14th annual Emergency Expo.
At first glance, the battery of fire engines, sheriff's patrol cars and motorcycles at the Expo suggested that a full-fledged emergency was in place. But the vehicles were part of the exhibits, and nearby booths were run by people there to provide information about medical and natural emergencies.
Donna Nuzzi, the city's See EXPO, page A6



Firefighter Larry Hoerner of Fire Station 73 shows Luciano Benjamin, 5, of Canyon Country how to use the radio in the fire engine at the 14th annual Emergency Expo at Saugus Speedway on Saturday.
EDDIE SADIWA/The Signal
signal 4/17/05



Expo

Continued from page A1
emergency services supervisor said in a statement that "The Emergency Expo is a 'one-stop shop' for answering questions regarding safe practices in an emergency situation."
"What's great about the Emergency Expo is the wealth of knowledge that is accessible to educate our community on emergency preparation, anywhere from backyard swimming safety to preparing for a devastating natural disaster," Nuzzi said.

This year's Emergency Expo featured pet safety, first aid demonstrations and bicycle

The Santa Clarita Valley Newhall Optimist Club arranged for fingerprinting for youngsters.

At the city's Building and Safety booth, John Robinson, senior building inspector for the city, noted that among public questions were queries about patio covers.

Also at the booth were building inspectors Bob Monkhouse and Nick Buchanan.

Building and Safety Week is set for May 8-14. "It will be in a booth in the Town Center Mall," said Robinson. He said that prior to this year, it's always been at City Hall.

At the expo Nuzzi was helping at the Santa Clarita C.E.R.T. booth — C.E.R.T.

stands for Community Emergency Response Training.

This association of trained volunteers help with local emergencies. They are trained in first aid, disaster psychology and leadership skills.

"The training is for people to learn to work on first response emergencies," said Maria Christopher of Valencia, who is employed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Kathy Martin, a registered nurse who works at the Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, said the six-week training is held in Lancaster, and that people are trained in logistics and how to treat medical emergencies.

"We try to do the greatest good for the greatest number," said Martin.

At the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Department booth, Rick Wells, a motor deputy, explained features of department motorcycles to the curi-

ous. Recruitment information, safe driving advice and motorized scooter tips were among information provided.

One of the largest barrages of questions were posed by those curious about the Mothers Against Drunk Driving

FOR



Firefighters from Fire Station 126 demonstrate how to tear open a car in order to safely remove any passengers that may be trapped inside after a car crash at the Emergency Expo on Saturday.
EDDIE SADIWA/The Signal



Disasters

emergencies, natural

Santa Clarita well prepared for Y2K

■ City doesn't anticipate major computer problems; residents urged not to overtax municipal services.

JASON SONG
Our Times

The upcoming millennium's largest potential danger is not a computer problem but a people problem, said representatives of key city services, including hospital, police, City Hall, water, electric and phone services.

The possible Y2K problem — a computer's inability to differentiate between the year

2000 and 1900 that could cause crashes — had been solved through extensive trials, the representatives said.

"We've tested and retested and retested again," said Ron Tropicich, a manager for Pacific Bell. "At this point, Y2K is not a technological issue, it's a management issue."

And even if there is an unanticipated computer glitch, Santa Clarita will have a chance to

study it before it reaches Southern California. The new year will begin first in Auckland, New Zealand, and work its way east. When the new year hits Santa Clarita, officials will have had more than 12 hours to see potential glitches.

"If there is a problem, we should be able to anticipate it and hopefully correct it by the time it gets here," said Donna Nuzzi, the emergency coordinator for the city.

SEE Y2K PAGE A5

FYI

◆ PLACES TO CALL

Although officials are confident there will be no problems when the 2000 rolls in, they say the flu bug and loud parties are bound to strike, and larger problems like power outages are not out of the question. Residents can call the following numbers to report problems:

- Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station: 255-1121 to report non-emergency problems and 911 for life-threatening situations.
- Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital: 253-8000
- Pacific Bell: 611 for repairs on home lines or 811 for repairs on business lines
- Santa Clarita City Hall: 259-2489
- Southern California Edison: (800) 655-4555

DECEMBER 30, 1999 - JANUARY 5, 2000

Y2K

CONTINUED FROM A1

But officials cannot anticipate people problems. For example, phone company representative are worried curious people could inadvertently tie up the phone system.

"If everyone picks up the phone after they've finished screaming to see if there's dial tone, they won't hear anything," Tropicich said.

Although phone users hear a dial tone "99.9%" of the time, customers are not actually guaranteed to hear a dial tone every time they pick up the phone because "the system isn't designed to accommodate everyone at once," Tropicich said.

"If you don't hear a dial tone, don't panic, there are probably too many people on the system at once," he added. "You should just try again a few minutes later."

But some systems will fail

New Year's Day because it is simply unavoidable, said Don Piwnica, a technical advisor for Southern California Edison. Although the power company has been testing its systems since 1995, there are still inevitable power failures due to fallen power poles, wire failures, or transformer problems every day, Piwnica said.

Although the chances of this happening are very low, the anticipated high winds and usual firecrackers, the potential for mishap is higher on New Year's Eve, Piwnica said.

"The biggest concern is an overreaction to things that are not Y2K related," Piwnica said. "If the power goes out, just treat it like any normal power outage."

The local hospital and sheriff's station will bulk up their staffs in preparation for any potential problems and to deal with the usual mishaps associated with overzealous partyers.

The Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station will have 22 extra deputies on patrol, said

Capt. Don Rodriguez. Furthermore, if any major problems should occur, the station can request extra manpower from its counterparts throughout the Los Angeles area.

Still, Rodriguez anticipated the largest problems would be loud parties, not crime.

"We'll probably spend a lot of time trying to keep noise down to a quiet roar," Rodriguez said. "If anything, we anticipate stations asking us for deputies, not the other way around."

And, while Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital was concerned enough about Y2K to stockpile medical supplies and suspend vacation time for key staff members until after the holiday season, spokeswoman Janice Newbold said she was more concerned with drunk drivers and the flu epidemic than computer crashes.

"We are 100% ready," she said. "The first day of the millennium should be like any other day."

A Dozen Years... Dozens of Accomplishments!

Happy 12th Birthday City of Santa Clarita

In just 12 years of Cityhood, the dream of local government, economic prosperity and a high quality of life has been realized. Founded by a small group of residents with a desire for control of their destiny, the City of Santa Clarita has achieved the goals of its founders.

Santa Clarita's City Council and City staff represent you! Your desires for a safe community with a high priority on youth and open space are a reality! Beautifully landscaped medians, well-appointed parks, proactive law enforcement and a bias for action contribute to this award-winning City's appeal.

On the City's 12th birthday, we thank YCU for your support and participation. The residents and business community of Santa Clarita truly set our city apart and help make Santa Clarita one of the premier cities in California. Here are just a few of your city's major achievements over the last 12 years:



- (1) The 5-acre Begonias Lane Park • (2) The 40-acre Central Park (Opening in March, 2000)
- (3) New Landscaped Medians City-wide • (4) Site for the Soon-to-be Built New Canyon Country Library
- (5) Santa Clarita Transit Bus System • (6) The Skate Park and Sports Complex
- (7) The Santa Clarita Metrolink Station • (8) The Jan Heidt Metrolink Station in Newhall (Opening in March, 2000)



For More Information about Your City, Call: (661) 255-4314

Come Celebrate the
City of Santa Clarita's

12th BIRTHDAY



A Dozen Years ... Dozens of Accomplishments!

You are invited to help celebrate the City of Santa Clarita's 12th Birthday!

OPEN HOUSE AT CITY HALL:

Tuesday December 14, 1999 ~ 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Scout troops, residents, business people ...everyone! Come to City Hall, 23920 Valencia Blvd. and enjoy a tour of City departments. Displays, refreshments and special information will be available.

MAYORAL INAUGURATION & COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday December 14, 1999 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Join the City Council and City Officials for the swearing in of the new Mayor for 2000 in Council Chambers at City Hall. Refreshments will be served. The regular City Council meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.



For more information, contact the Public Information Office at: (661) 255-4314

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