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## Sheriff Lee Baca:

- \* **Education Based Incarceration**
- \* **Immigration Reform**
- \* **Counter Terrorism Challenges**

COMMUNITY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 - 7:15 PM  
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL  
RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca will be our guest speaker on Wednesday evening, September 18, 2013. He grew up in East Los Angeles, attended Benjamin Franklin High School, attended East Los Angeles College, and entered the United States Marine Corps Reserves.

Sheriff Baca started his public service career in 1965 and rose through the ranks. In 1981, he was appointed a Captain and was selected to command the Norwalk Station.

Sheriff Baca is a strong believer in education and earned his Doctorate from the University of Southern California in 1993. He also help lead the merger of the Sheriff's Department with the Marshal's Department. Sheriff Baca was first elected as the County's Chief Law Enforcement Officer in 1998.

The Sheriff's Department is the largest in the United States with a budget of \$2.5 billion. The Department has nearly 18,000 sworn and professional staff. The Sheriff's Department also manages the nation's largest local jail system housing 20,000 inmates.

Sheriff Baca will discuss the unique challenges that face the Department, both as a law enforcement agency and as an operator of an extensive jail system located throughout the County. The challenges in the jails are unique because of the problem with gangs, drug abuse offenders and individuals with mental illnesses that make their incarceration even more difficult.

Jules Feir announces that Mazzarino's Italian Restaurant will be the Restaurant of the Month.

This landmark was established in 1946 located on Riverside Drive and Coldwater Canyon and is owned by Liz Versten. It is a true old fashion and charming real Italian restaurant that is no doubt one of the best Italian restaurants in town. Some of their special dishes are Veal chops, Chicken parmigiana, cioppino and most dinner entrees include soup or salad and, of course, their famous garlic cheese bread. They also make a great gourmet pizza.

New additions to the menu are gluten free dishes such as pizza, brown rice penne pasta and the very popular BBQ chicken with red onions and jalapenos. In addition, they offer a light fare menu. And, make sure to finish off your dinner with one of their fabulous dessert items – their cannoli is terrific!

We thank Liz for her continued community support and look forward to enjoying a sampling of the delicious food during the Social Hour starting at 6:15 p.m.

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Marshall Long, who oversees our Land Use Committees, reports on the Il Villaggio Toscano (IVT) development. The IVT project is just north of the Galleria on the west side of Sepulveda Boulevard. The project violates the City Specific Plan for the area.

At the time this Newsletter is being prepared, the PLUM Committee of the City Council had approved the IVT project. This follows the typical pattern of the Council Members who follow the lead of the Councilman of the District. Our Councilman, Tom LaBonge, supported a density of 325 units for the project. We presume that by the time the Newsletter is published the City Council will have passed the project at that illegal density.

As we said in our statements to the PLUM Committee, the IVT project is located on a difficult site. The major issues are traffic, noise and air pollution. The traffic is at a standstill in the area surrounding the project at rush hour and 4,650 additional cars per day (1.7 million per year) will be added under the new density. As our advocate noted lobbyist Steve Afriat said in his testimony - he appreciates the addition of the planted medians so that he can look at them through his car window when is he is at a dead stop in traffic.

The noise levels impacting the apartments, all of which are of above the sound wall, is 50% louder than that which now impacts the west end of the runways at LAX. The city Noise Element of General Plan forbids the construction of units in this noise level zone. Buildings will have to be completely cocooned with sound rated windows and doors if they are to meet the interior standards. These will not be able to be opened under the law.

The air pollution is so toxic at 35 feet from the freeway that 1 foot thick filters will be required to reduce the air pollution in the units. As a result, the air systems will have to be left running whenever the units are occupied to provide filtered air. These filters have not been proven effective against the fine particles, which could cause autism and cancer. It will also be difficult for residents to carry these filters around with them if they choose to use the swimming pool!!!!

It is disappointing that Councilman LaBonge chose to benefit the developer and has not chosen to look into these issues in any depth. As a result, SOHA is considering litigation to protect the health and welfare of the residents of Sherman Oaks.

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Bob Anderson reports that during the last few months some important steps have been taken to reduce helicopter noise in Sherman Oaks. In June Congressman Adam Schiff held a Field Hearing on helicopter noise at the Autry Museum. Congressmen Adam Schiff and Tony Cardenas along with County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky asked questions to a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) panel, a community stakeholder panel and a helicopter pilot panel.

Congressman Schiff pointedly stated that voluntary actions have produced little relief. He questioned the FAA about why they only look at the negative economic impacts on pilots, but not on residents and communities.

SOHA's Bob Anderson is a founding member and President of the Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition (LAAHNC). LAAHNC members comprised the entire community stakeholder panel with Bob Anderson, Richard Root, Gerry Hans and Wayne Williams, each from a different area of Los Angeles.

LAAHNC members are meeting with local elected officials on how to best implement an automated helicopter noise complaint system across all of Los Angeles County. Pilots support such a system because it will identify the helicopters making the noise. LAAHNC supports such a system because it will collect specific noise complaint data (with dates, times, locations and names) and plot it on a map to identify noise "hot spots."

Recently, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a precedent-setting ruling that noise complaints – if substantiated by names and dates – can be used by the FAA instead of noise levels as the basis for enacting noise restrictions. In other words, a noise complaint system could help us by proving data needed to establish noise-reducing regulations in Los Angeles County.

In September, the LAAHNC is planning a working meeting with pilots, the FAA, and elected officials concerning six noise-reducing actions in the FAA's report. If you have any input for this meeting, any questions or would like further information on stopping helicopter noise, please contact SOHA's Bob Anderson at [BobHillsideOrdinance@roadrunner.com](mailto:BobHillsideOrdinance@roadrunner.com).

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If you visit the Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks Park you will notice four new pieces of adult fitness equipment. This equipment was donated in a 50/50 partnership between Councilman Tom LaBonge and an anonymous contributor. These new pieces are adjustable and can be made more physically challenging. This new installation will hopefully decrease the lines that have formed for the original ten pieces donated and installed in January 2013.

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The key component of four of the irrigation systems on the medians of Woodman Avenue and Chandler Boulevard have recently been stolen. Thieves are targeting the parts for their value as scrap metal. Councilman Tom LaBonge is aware of this and working to get them replaced as soon as possible. As always, if anyone sees anything that looks unusual, please call 911 immediately.

\* \* \*

Councilman Tom LaBonge and the Bureau of Street Services have announced their newest program "Ventura Boulevard: Operation Street-Lift." This is a comprehensive program to fix Ventura Boulevard between I-405 and Van Nuys Boulevard. The repairs to Ventura Boulevard include three components: tree trimming, concrete bus pads and street resurfacing. In all, 219 trees have been trimmed across Ventura Boulevard and 35 new trees will be planted. The concrete bus pads at all Metro bus stops have been replaced, extending the life of the streets where they will see the heaviest use.

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Make your calendar that the annual Sherman Oaks Street Fair is on Sunday, October 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Even more enjoyable now walking on the newly repaved Ventura Boulevard.

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Do we have your email address? Periodically, we send out Email Alerts concerning items of importance or interest to the Sherman Oaks community. We also let you know about additions to our monthly meetings. If you have not been receiving these emails (and obviously you need to be a Member), please send your email address to [soha914@gmail.com](mailto:soha914@gmail.com).

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If you missed our last Meeting that featured Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey, go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search officialSOHAvideo to see portions of the Meeting.

Very truly yours,  


Richard H. Close, President