



# The Gazette.

Your Guide to the Old Town Newhall Arts and Entertainment District.

5 CENTS

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2009

YEAR 15, NUMBER 1

## Cowboy Artist Draws on His Inspiration.

Creator of 2009 Cowboy Festival Poster Finds Subjects In and Around His Sand Canyon Home.

By Patti Rasmussen,  
GAZETTE CORRESPONDENT.

His inspiration came quite simply. Having brought his then 5-year-old daughter, Brittany, to the Cowboy Festival in Santa Clarita, local artist Morgan Weistling watched as she spun and danced to the street musicians' songs. Once back home in his studio, he brought out the oils and painted her in "The Dance." Weistling then submitted the painting to the city of Santa Clarita for consideration as poster art for the next festival. That was in 2001. Eight years later the City came to him.

Get All the Latest Info on  
the 2009 Cowboy Festival:  
See Page 4

The original oil painting of his daughter enjoying the cowboy music is now on display at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City where it received the distinction of First Place in the prestigious Prix de West Art Showcase. City officials met with Weistling and now Brittany's young image will grace all art associated with the 15th annual Cowboy Festival to be held April 22-26, 2009, at Melody Ranch in Placerita Canyon.

"I don't know how many posters (the city) can say were inspired by the festival," Weistling said. "But Brittany loved  
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PATTI RASMUSSEN

Surrounded by cowboy props, canvas and paint, Morgan Weistling creates his award-winning works of art in his home studio.



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## Center Strives to Keep Kids Healthy.

By HOPE HORNER,  
COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

The City of Santa Clarita's Community Center, located at 22421 Market Street in Old Town Newhall, continues to further its mission of "serving, supporting and responding to the community."

The center, in collaboration with Communities for Healthy Kids, a program of the Institute for Local Government, is working to enroll eligible children in no- or low-cost health insurance. Coverage is available for these children through Medi-Cal, the Healthy Families Program, or the Healthy Kids Program.

The Community Center hosted two successful enrollment events in 2008. Flyers were distributed to local schools, recreation facilities, public parks and libraries to publicize the events. The flyers directed applicants to contact the Community Center to learn

about no- or low-cost health insurance options for children and to schedule appointments to enroll.

Center staff members prescreened and informed the applicants of the specific requirements and the necessary documents to bring to the enrollment event. The event gave visitors the opportunity to learn more about no or low cost health insurance options that are available in Santa Clarita Valley.

What are the health insurance options?

\* Medi-Cal offers no cost health insurance for families who qualify. It provides comprehensive medical, dental, and vision benefits for children from birth to twenty-one years of age. The income levels for eligible families with children vary based upon the number and age of children in the family. The maximum income level for a family of four for Medi-Cal is about \$21,000.

\* The Healthy Families Program is low-cost coverage for children and teens that provides medical, dental and vision benefits

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## The Old Town Newhall Gazette.

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LEON WORDEN, Editor and Publisher.



## From The Mailbag.

### Chain-Link Fence Is Uninviting.

Dear Editor:

After visiting Old Town Ventura, I think the planning committee (for Old Town Newhall) should look at removing the old chain-link fence that is in front of Hart Park and add a large fountain on the corner of Newhall Avenue and Main Street. This would make this area more inviting.

Robert Hazard,  
Newhall.

### Forever Loving the SCV.

Dear Editor:

I grew up in Sand Canyon and Newhall, and my heart will always be in the Santa Clarita Valley.

Wendy Comey,  
Spring Valley, California.

## Newhall Redevelopment Committee Seeking New Members.

The City of Santa Clarita is encouraging community members 18 years of age or older to apply for one of seven available positions on the Newhall Redevelopment Committee.

Those interested in applying must do so by Monday, March 2 at 5:00 p.m.

The Committee is made up of 13 members with an interest in redevelopment issues within Newhall.

Members are involved in a number of important issues and advise the Santa

Clarita Redevelopment Agency on the revitalization projects that are proposed within the Newhall area. The Committee also assists with the implementation of the Downtown Newhall Specific Plan, designed to help transform Old Town Newhall into a thriving, mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented Arts & Entertainment District.

Those interested in becoming members of the Newhall Redevelopment Committee must fill out an application, avail-

## Ten Bucks to a Better Future.

### From the Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center.

The SCV Senior Center's annual campaign, "Ten Bucks to a Better Future," which runs from December 1 to February 28 each year, asks all Santa Clarita Valley residents to contribute \$10 yearly for the SCV Senior Center to assure that services will be available to meet the community's future needs as the Baby Boomer population ages and needs assistance. The Annual Campaign is designed to fill in the gaps, so to speak, from other major fundraisers such as the annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner that benefits the Respite Daycare program and the annual Wine Auction that benefits the Home-Delivered Meals program.

The Annual Campaign is promoted with the help of Santa Clarita publications, and this year is off to a good start – thanks to our generous

citizens. This year, as of January 12, 2009, the total raised toward our \$35,000 goal was just over \$15,650. We offer a hearty "Thank You!" to all who have contributed to-date – including publications that continue to draw attention to the campaign, and remind all other Santa Clarita residents that we are still \$20,000 from our goal. You can help! Here's what your bucks can do today:

- \$5 buys a senior's transportation to and from the Center for five days.
- \$10 buys one senior's lunch at the Center for a week.
- \$15 buys one senior's Home-Delivered Meals for a week.
- \$20 buys one day in daycare including lunch for one senior.
- \$50 buys one shower grab bar and pays for installation in the home of a frail elder.
- \$100 buys one day of emergency Personal Care service.

The SCV Committee on Aging/Senior Center is a broad-based charitable nonprofit 501 (C) (3) organization that serves the needs of over 35,000 seniors and adults in Northern L.A. County. The Center is a multipurpose community resource dedicated to independence, dignity, and quality of life for our seniors, disabled, and everyone on the aging continuum. We provide congregate and home-delivered meals, paratransit services, Handyworker services, support services, and community resource management, as well as a vast array of recreational and educational opportunities for adults 18 and over.

*For questions about services or how you can help meet our growing needs, please call Maria Linares, at the SCV Senior Center, 661/259-9444 for further details. The Center is located at 22900 Market Street, Santa Clarita, CA 91321-3608.*

TELL OTHER GAZETTE READERS WHAT YOU THINK.  
LETTERS@OLDTOWNNEWHALL.COM



## The Gazette.

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*The Old Town Newhall Gazette is published by Old Town Newhall USA, an SCV Communications Group company.*

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able at the City Clerks Office at City Hall or online at santa-clarita.com, along with three letters of recommendation. All applications and letters must be submitted to the City Clerk's office by the deadline date in order to be considered.

*For additional information on the Newhall Redevelopment Committee please contact Alex Hernandez, Administrative Analyst for the City's Redevelopment Division, at 661/286-4030.*

# Exciting Time to Serve on Redevelopment Committee.

By PHILIP C. ELLIS,  
CHAIRMAN, NEWHALL  
REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

It is with great optimism that I write this message to begin 2009. I firmly believe this will be a banner year for the Redevelopment Agency and Newhall Redevelopment Committee (NRC).

Several exciting projects, such as the streetscape for Main Street and a new library, have been taking shape for some time and construction will start soon. Along with these efforts, the NRC will continue its work to move forward with the implementation of the Downtown Newhall Specific Plan.

This month, I would like to focus on the exciting and fulfilling experience the NRC provides. The NRC is comprised of thirteen dedicated volunteers and represents a cross-section of residents, business owners, property owners and other professionals. The group reviews, advises, and makes recommendations to the Redevelopment Agency on issues affecting



Message From  
The Chairman.

the Newhall project area.  
In an effort to increase public participation and involvement, the Redevelopment Agency appointed staggered terms for NRC members. This provides an opportunity for others to apply for appointment to the NRC or serve on the various sub-committees established by the NRC.

The Redevelopment Agency has recently opened recruitment to serve on the NRC. I invite any and all interested persons to visit the city's website ([www.santaclarita.com](http://www.santaclarita.com)) and get more information. If interested in applying, submit an application along with three letters of recommendation to the city clerk's office by Monday, March 2.

**'Several exciting projects, such as the streetscape for Main Street and a new library, have been taking shape for some time and construction will start soon.'**

If you are interested in serving in a less formal capacity, several subcommittees are available to assist Newhall's revitalization efforts. Those committees include Finance/Housing, Lyons Avenue, Marketing, Historic Preservation and the Peddler Committee. The committees meet as needed to address specific issues and offer recommendations for city staff, the NRC, and the Redevelopment Agency.

The Newhall Redevelopment Committee meets the first Monday of each month. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Century Room at City Hall. I invite you to attend to hear updates on projects happening in Newhall.

# 'High School Musical' Rocks the Canyon Theatre Stage.

By PATTI FINLEY,  
PRESIDENT, CANYON THEATRE GUILD.

The Disney Channel's smash hit musical will explode in-to life on the stage at the Canyon Theatre Guild beginning January 24, 2009. Its fun, it's fast, and it's filled with music!

It's the first day after winter break at East High and all of the kids are back in their cliques recounting their vacations and looking forward to the New Year. Basketball team captain, Troy Bolton discovers that Gabriella, a girl he met singing karaoke on his ski trip, has just enrolled at East High and they're in the same home room. The eccentric drama teacher, Ms. Darbus is casting for a school musical and excitement runs high. Drama Diva Sharpay and her twin brother, Ryan are confident they will be cast in the leading roles – again. But they and everyone else in the school are surprised when Troy and Gabriella get called back for the leading roles.

Troy's father, Coach Bolton doesn't want his son in a play and neither do the other team members. Gabriella's Science Team is equally unenthusiastic about her involvement in the play. The Jocks and the Brainiacs devise a plan to trick Troy and Gabriella into forgetting about the musical, and committing to their respective upcoming competitions.

The Thespians hopefully strut their stuff at the auditions but they're no match for Sharpay who convinces Ms. Darbus to schedule the auditions at a time that conflicts with the Science Decathlon and the Championship Basketball Game.



The Canyon Theatre Guild is bringing the smash Disney hit, "High School Musical," to the stage in Old Town Newhall.

This high-energy, family-friendly musical will be presented every Saturday evening at 8:00 PM, with Sunday matinees at 1:00 through February 22. There will also be Saturday matinees on February 7, 14, and 21st. The Canyon Theatre Guild's Old Town Newhall Playhouse is located at 24242 Main Street. Tickets are priced at \$10 to \$12 and \$15 and are available by calling the box office at 661/799-2702.

## Upcoming Auditions at the Canyon Theatre:

**January 24, 10 a.m. to Noon** – Leslie Berra & TimBen Boydston will audition performers for "That 70's Cabaret," a one-night, cabaret-style fundraiser. For information or audition appointment call Leslie at (661) 296-4530 or email her at [L.Berra@ca.rr.com](mailto:L.Berra@ca.rr.com).

**January 26 & 27, 7:30 to 10 p.m.** – Director Ingrid Boydston will be holding auditions for Ken Ludwig's comedy "Leading Ladies." There are roles for 3 women and 4 men ages 23 - 103. Auditions will be reading from the script.

**February 2 & 3, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** – Director Michael Davies will hold auditions for a musical adaptation of "Treasure Island." This is a large cast musical featuring 1 boy, 11 principal men, 1 woman, and a chorus of men and women. Come prepared to sing with your own accompaniment CD (no vocals on the track), dance, and read from the script.

## Workshop Special Offer – This Semester Only!

The CTG's After School Workshops (ACT 3 and ACT 4) are offering a special discount to families with more than one child participating in the program: The tuition for the first child will be \$250, the second child registered from the same family will be half-price (\$125). Call NOW to take advantage of this offer: 661/799-2702. Check the CTG website for complete workshop information: [www.canyontheatre.org](http://www.canyontheatre.org).

# City Announces Lineup for 16th Annual Cowboy Festival.



Above: Sons of the San Joaquin are among the scheduled performers at the 16th annual Cowboy Festival. The talent lineup also includes, colckwise from top right: Hot Club of Cowtown, Baxter Black, Riders in the Sky and Don Edwards.

## From the City of Santa Clarita Arts & Events Office.

The City of Santa Clarita is proud to announce the dates of the major performances, lineups and attractions for the 2009 Cowboy Festival, taking place April 22-26, 2009, at Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio and other venues around the scenic Santa Clarita Valley.

Beginning Wednesday, April 22, Grammy Award winning Riders

in the Sky, whose music is featured in the Disney movie "Toy Story," will perform at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at the College of the Canyons. A variety of attractions are scheduled for April 23 and 24, including an evening of music by Don Edwards at the William S. Hart mansion, an authentic lunch served at the Rancho Camulos Museum and a Chuckwagon Dinner Show at Heritage Junction.

On Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26, the Cowboy Festival rides through the Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio where a number of performances and hands-on attractions will be available for guests to enjoy. A great line-up of Western stars is slated for the Melody Ranch Stage, starting with the hilarious cowboy poet, Baxter Black. Festival favorites Don Edwards and the Sons of the San Joaquin will perform both days and the swing band, Hot Club of Cowtown, will showcase its swinging sound on Sunday, April 26. The Festival will also feature artist Mor-

gan Weistling and his award-winning masterpiece, "The Dance," which serves as the 2009 Festival's poster and icon.

Award-winning crooner R. W. Hampton returns to Melody Ranch, as well as singing cowgirl Joni Harms, Dave Stamey, the Booher Brothers, Sourdough Slim and Syd Masters and the Swing Riders. Cowboy poets Randy Rieman, Gary Robertson, Joe Herrington and cowgirl Diane Tribbitt will spin tales of the old and new West throughout the weekend at the Ranch.

Main Street shows slated for April 25 and 26 include saloon pianist Dave Bourne, banjoist Gordy Oligher, magician Whit Haydn and more. The California Cowboys, Messick Family, Horse Crazy, and Adrian Brannon will perform and master horseman Benny Martinez will showcase his cowboy skills.

Tickets for the 2009 Cowboy Festival are currently on sale at [cowboyleftival.org](http://cowboyleftival.org) or by phone at (661) 284-1410, where patrons can pur-



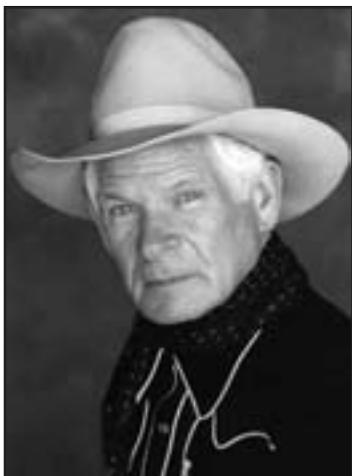
chase admission suited to their Festival needs. The current packages include a Daily Admission Ticket to Melody Ranch, costing \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids age three to eleven. Little cowpokes under three can visit the festival for a day free of charge.

The Two-Day Weekend Pass is available at \$30 for adults and \$15 for kids twelve and under, and the Friends of the Festival Package is available for \$150 to a limited number of guests who would like to be more closely involved in the Festival this year.

Festival patrons are not permitted to park their horses, coaches or shiny caravans at Melody Ranch, but a shuttle is provided at 13th Street and Arch Street in Newhall

for a relaxing ride to the Ranch.

For more information on the 16th Annual Cowboy Festival attractions, parking, maps and tickets, call 661/286-4021 or visit [cowboyleftival.org](http://cowboyleftival.org).



# Right On Time for the Cowboy Festival.

## New Releases From the Western Jubilee Recording Company.



### Don Edwards: "Heaven On Horseback."

As you would expect from Don Edwards, "Heaven on Horseback" draws inspiration from the unexpected. Offering selections from Cowboy to Kristofferson, Traditional to Original and Old Hymns to Hank Williams.

Six-time Cowboy Hall of Famer Don Edwards performs with the style and grace that has made him simply, America's Cowboy Balladeer.

Don Edwards, as seen with Robert Redford in "The Horse Whisperer," now brings you "Heaven on Horseback" — fourteen songs of faith beautifully backed by Rich O'Brien, the West's best guitar, and special appearances by Norman and Nancy Blake.

### Sons and Brothers: "Measure of a Man."

In "Measure of a Man" the Wolking family of Westcliffe, Colorado, presents 12 selections by 12 wonderfully diverse songwriters.

Songs of mountains and range, string band music with powerful vocals and a Western attitude known throughout the Rocky Mountain region, Sons

and Brothers simply play West-Grass Music.

The band has traveled, with great acclaim, to concerts and festivals in numerous states over the past eight years, as well as to Scotland, England and Wales.

According to Dave Higgs, columnist for Bluegrass Now magazine, "It's not only Sons and Brothers powerful paint-peeling vocals that make them one of the most strikingly original band in Bluegrass, but it's their sound ... an arresting brand of Bluegrass, flavored by the wide open spaces, grandeur and panoramic majesty of the West."

### Sons of the San Joaquin LIVE on DVD.

Joe, Jack and Lon Hannah are the Sons of the San Joaquin. Their air tight family harmonies have become the barometer for all Western harmony groups. This is their first Live recording in their more than 20 year history.

The Live concert from the Western Jubilee Warehouse Theater in Colorado Springs is available on both CD and DVD. The Sons are backed by the West's best guitar, Rich O'Brien and Texas fiddle king,

Steve Story.

The concert performance displays a cross section of the Sons repertoire featuring material of the Sons of the Pioneers and Jack Hannah's award winning Western compositions. The intimate setting of the Warehouse Theater, an 1887 Santa Fe Freight House, captures the magic of the Sons both individually and collectively.

The DVD includes over 40 minutes of very special bonus

features: Meet the Sons tells the story of the Hannah family history including Joe and Jack's careers in professional baseball.

The Sons visit with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans is important never-been-seen-before footage of conversation and songs with the King of the Cowboys and Queen of the West.

Jack Hannah's acclaimed writing, "From Whence Came

The Cowboy," is also included in the magnificent Sons video production filmed in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Live CD and DVD shows why the Sons have received awards from the Cowboy Hall of Fame, inducted onto the Walk of Western Stars and entered into the Western Music Associations, Hall of Fame. "Sons of the San Joaquin Live" is a must-have in your Western Music collection.



Sample our quality Western recordings at  
[www.westernjubilee.com](http://www.westernjubilee.com) or E-mail  
[onthetrail@westernjubilee.com](mailto:onthetrail@westernjubilee.com).

Return this form to receive a **FREE**  
**Western Jubilee Recording Company catalog.**

SOURCE: OLD TOWN NEWHALL GAZETTE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** Western Jubilee Recording Company LLC  
Post Office Box 9187  
Colorado Springs, CO 80932-0187

# Old Town Newhall Events

## JANUARY

### 22 – Tequila Tasting Seminar

El Trocadero Restaurant – 24274 Main Street, 6-8 p.m.

Sample several top shelf tequilas while enjoying food from the restaurant. Admission charged. For more information call 661/284-6615.

### 22, 29 - Old Town Newhall Farmers' Market

Market Street - Open 3 to 7 pm, Thursdays  
Come sample and buy fresh, locally-grown produce and home-cooked specialty foods. You can also pick up fresh flowers, handcrafted jewelry and other one-of-a-kind crafts and wares. For more information call 661/286-4037.

### 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 – “A Street Car Named Desire”

Repertory East Playhouse (REP) - 24266 Main Street

Join the REP as they celebrate their 5th season with the Santa Clarita Premiere of the Pulitzer Prize winning classic by one of America's finest playwrights, Tennessee Williams. The play runs on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. For more information call 661/288-0000 or visit [www.repeastplayhouse.org](http://www.repeastplayhouse.org).

### 24, 25, 31 – “High School Musical”

Canyon Theatre Guild – 24242 Main Street  
Break out the kids – its time to “Get Your Head in the Game” and go back to school! Additional performances may be added. For more information call 661/799-2702 or visit [www.canyontheatre.org](http://www.canyontheatre.org).

### 30 – FEB 1 – “The Music Man”

Hart High School Auditorium – 24824 Newhall Avenue

Enjoy over 200 talented kids and teens in one

of the all-time favorite musicals, “The Music Man.” Join Harold Hill, Marian, and all of the families of River City as you stomp your feet to familiar tunes such as “76 Trombones,” “Trouble,” and “Shipooopi.” For more information call 661/299-5264 or visit [www.escapetheatre.org](http://www.escapetheatre.org).

## FEBRUARY

### 2 – We Shall Overcome

Newhall Library – 22704 9th Street, 6:30 pm  
The library's monthly family program will present a lively and interactive musical journey through African-American history, featuring international recording artist Makinto. For more information call 661/259-0750.

### 5 - Huckleberry Film Festival

Repertory East Playhouse – 24266 Main Street, 6:30-8:30 pm.

Come and see all of the films and animations that the students have made this semester under the guidance of industry professionals like Movies By Kids. For more information call 661/288-2312 or visit [www.HuckleberryCreativeLearning.org](http://www.HuckleberryCreativeLearning.org).

### 5, 12, 19, 26 - Old Town Newhall Farmers' Market

Market Street - Open 3 to 7 pm, Thursdays  
Come sample and buy fresh, locally-grown produce and home-cooked specialty foods. You can also pick up fresh flowers, handcrafted jewelry and other one-of-a-kind crafts and wares.

### 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 – “A Street Car Named Desire”

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Join the REP as they celebrate their 5th season with the Santa Clarita Premiere of the Pulitzer Prize winning classic by one of America's finest playwrights, Tennessee Williams. The play runs on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. For more information call 661/288-0000 or visit [www.repeastplayhouse.org](http://www.repeastplayhouse.org).

### 7, 8, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 – “High School Musical”

Canyon Theatre Guild – 24242 Main Street  
Break out the kids – its time to “Get Your Head in the Game” and go back to school! Additional performances may be added. For more information call 661/799-2702 or visit [www.canyontheatre.org](http://www.canyontheatre.org).

### 12 – Abe Lincoln Birthday Party

Newhall Library – 22704 9th Street, 3:30 pm  
The library is hosting a party to celebrate Abe Lincoln's 200th birthday – complete with cake, party favors, trivia games and prizes. For more information call 661/259-0750.

### 20 – Senior Center Dance

SCV Senior Center - 22900 Market Street, 7:30-10:30 pm

Swing, fox trot, or waltz your way to the Senior Center every third Friday of the month. Live music is provided by N'Motion. More information: 661/259-9444 or [www.scvsc.org](http://www.scvsc.org).

### 28 – The Life and Death of James Dean – Panel Discussion and Film Screening

Saugus Train Station - Heritage Junction at Hart Park – 24151 Newhall Avenue, 2 pm  
Chris Epting, author of ‘James Dean Died Here’ and Tony Newhall, former publisher of the Signal, will lead a panel discussion on the life

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

# Old Town Newhall Events

## Events, CONT.

FROM PAGE 6.

and death of James Dean. The discussion will be followed by a screening of James Dean's classic film "Rebel Without a Cause." For more information call 661/254-1275 or visit [www.scvhs.org](http://www.scvhs.org).

### MARCH

#### 5, 12, 19, 26 - Old Town Newhall Farmers' Market

Market Street - Open 3 to 7 pm, Thursdays

Come visit to sample and buy fresh, locally-grown produce and home-cooked specialty foods. You can also pick up fresh flowers, handcrafted jewelry and other one-of-a-kind crafts and wares.

#### 9 - Voices from the Earth

Newhall Library - 22704 9th Street, 6:30 pm

The odyssey of Cesar Chavez in comedy, drama, and music featuring Ray DeLaPaz and Gabriel Tenorio. For more information call 661/259-0750.

#### 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 - "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

Repertory East Playhouse (REP) - 24266 Main Street

Not the original - but an original by Dale Wasserman that won the Critics Circle Award for

Outstanding Revival. For more information call 661/288-0000 or visit [www.repeastplayhouse.org](http://www.repeastplayhouse.org).

#### 20 - Senior Center Dance

SCV Senior Center - 22900 Market Street, 7:30-10:30 pm

Swing, fox trot, or waltz your way to the Senior Center every third Friday of the month. Live music is provided by N'Motion. For more information call 661/259-9444 or visit [www.scvsc.org](http://www.scvsc.org).

#### 21 - World Music and Jazz

Hart Mansion at Hart Park - 24151 Newhall Avenue, 7 pm

Experience the original world music and jazz of Joe LoPiccolo in William S. Hart's enchanting living room. Join us for an evening of charming music, wonderful company and warm ambiance. For ticket reservations, please call the Hart Museum at 661/254-4584.

*Information is subject to change. Submit event information to Alex Hernandez at 661/286-4030 or [ahernandez@santa-clarita.com](mailto:ahernandez@santa-clarita.com).*

#### ART EXHIBIT VENUES Canyon Theatre Guild Hallway Gallery - 24242 Main Street

The artwork in this space changes as the shows and productions change. Stop by regularly to view creations from local artists.

**Capelli Salon** - 24253 Main Street

Abstract, edgy, and contemporary art fills the walls of this salon. Stop by to view original artwork from local artists.

#### Hart Mansion at Hart Park - 24151 Newhall Avenue

The 22-room mansion houses William S. Hart's collection of western art, Native American artifacts, and early Hollywood memorabilia. The Hart mansion is open to the public.

#### Old Town Newhall Murals - Various Locations along Main Street

The City's Arts and Events Office commissioned three murals in Old Town Newhall. Each artist painted the 18ft by 9ft 6in murals on wood panels in their studio's and transferred the works of art for display.

#### California Vaquero - El Trocadero Restaurant - 24274 Main Street

This work tells the story of the original cowboys who settled the ranch lands in central and southern California. Some describe the painting by artist, Nicole Ponsler of Point Arena, as a composition reflecting the immensity and wild nature of the job of the Vaqueros.

#### The Southern Hotel - Workboot Warehouse - 24275 Main Street

This mural depicts the former

Southern Hotel that once stood at this location. The hotel was a local point of historic interest and is honored by artist Frank Rock.

#### Walk of Western Stars - The Source Building - 24254 Main Street

This collaboration by artists Victoria Sulski and Peter Bartczak pays tribute to film, theater, and radio stars.

#### Saugus Train Station Museum - Heritage Junction inside Hart Park - 24151 Newhall Avenue

Historical artifacts, original artwork, and artisan crafts are on display in this restored train station. The Saugus Train Station is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 pm.

#### Walk of Western Stars - Various locations along Main Street, Newhall Avenue, and Market Street

Stroll the sidewalks of Old Town Newhall to find such Western legends as John Wayne, Gene Autry, and Roy Rogers honored through the Walk of Western Stars. The walk was established in 1981 to honor western film, television and radio industry icons who have contributed to America's heritage since the early 1900's - and many who worked on projects in Newhall.



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

# Animals Getting Better Shelter.

A new and improved animal pen enclosure is coming to William S. Hart Regional County Park in February.

Since February 2008, the animals at Hart Park have been off of display due to the construction of the new enclosure. The new, 7,300-square-foot facility will house the animals for the public to enjoy.

At a cost of \$1.9 million, the improvements will provide added security for the animals, overhead roofing to provide shade during the hot summer, new shelters for inclement weather, and better viewing for the patrons.

The facility has been made possible by 5th District Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, with funding provided under Proposition 62, Proposition 40 per-capita and the VLF Gap Loan Trust Fund.

-- Norman Phillips,  
Superintendent, William S. Hart Park.



## The Growth Of A Promise, Part II: From A Pallet Of Bricks To Big Brick Buildings.

*Last year marked the fortieth anniversary of one of our town's oldest charities the Boys Club of Newhall-Saugus, now the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley. This is the second part of a series.*

By CAROLINA KELLY.  
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.

The initial benefit for the Boys Club, as it was then called, was a community luau held at River's End recreational park in Soledad Canyon. Chairman George Pederson helped dig a pit to roast the traditional luau pig, while Rev. Sam Dixon of Val Verde cooked gourmet side dishes for the one-hundred attendees.

The colorful affair raised nearly \$1,000. However, the time and effort expended in the venture made the Boys Club board face facts: The all-male organization needed a woman's touch.

With the help of Signal editors Ruth and Scott Newhall, in 1970 a luncheon was organized at the couple's Piru Mansion.

Twelve community matrons carpooled to the home to be regaled with food and inspi-

ration. Then they were challenged to organize a Women's Auxiliary of the Newhall-Saugus Boys Club.

Before leaving the mansion, a group was formed and Old Orchard I resident Jacque Morse became the president. Jacque would be aided in the quest to fill the Boys Club coffers by her vice president in charge of fundraising: Newhall resident Linda Pedersen.

The small but determined group of women became the club's fundraising front line, decorating and organizing everything from dances to luaus, with a Lake Tahoe Casino Night thrown in for good measure.

The auxiliary's value to the club was such that in 1971, the officers became its first female board members.

The women's influence on the board, coupled with a scarcity of organized recreation in the valley, made it inevitable that the club would expand its membership to include girls. Although not fully sanctioned by Boys Clubs of America, the umbrella organization didn't object when the club added the name "girls" to the title.

This new designation meant added

growth in club membership. At the same time, budgetary constraints meant that the dream of a large central facility had to be abandoned for more cost-effective "satellites" utilizing the physical facilities of neighborhood schools. Emblem, Skyblue Mesa, Honby, and Valley View elementary schools became the flagships for the club's after-school programming.

(The 1980s would later mark such milestones as the construction of a three thousand square foot modular building at Emblem in 1980; the long-awaited opening of a club in Val Verde in 1981; and the establishment of a three thousand square foot facility at Sierra Vista Junior High in 1981. The Haunted Jailhouse, a collaboration between the Boys and Girls Club, the city of Santa Clarita, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and other agencies added another programming element in 1989. The even doubled as a fundraiser.)

Satellite programs not only served the valley's far-flung communities, but also helped bring recreational opportunities to children who did not have access to transportation, either private or public. As the recreational

programs doubled, the need to fund them tripled.

With the annual \$8,000 pledge from The Newhall Land and Farming Company coming to an end, the club needed a quick, reliable source of "big money," something more than luaus and dances could supply.

In 1972, a two-pronged attack was launched under new executive director Bob Ross and directors Herb Oberman and Larry Margolis.

The first – securing United Way support – was aided by a grass-roots letter-writing campaign and visits to the downtown L.A. agency by board members such as Newhall Land's Tom Lee, the Saugus school district's Jim Foster, and the women on the board.

Margolis and Oberman asked Signal general manager Tony Newhall to lead the second prong of attack: an innovative fundraising phenomenon dubbed "The Auction of Thrills."

*Check the next Old Town Newhall Gazette for more about the SCV Boys and Girls Club.*

# Health Fair Coming To Community Center.

## Henry Mayo Offers Free Screenings.

Healthcare is always a priority, but during tough economic times, it's not always easy to fit in the budget or find time in busy schedules. During Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital's "Care for Your Heart" Community Health Fair, attendees have an opportunity to participate in free health screenings and receive valuable healthcare tips and information.

The Henry Mayo "Care for Your Heart" Health Fair is held quarterly to help attendees learn just how healthy their heart is and what they can do to reduce their risk of developing coronary heart disease. Scheduled for Friday, February 13, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Santa Clarita Community Center in Newhall, the health fair offers attendees free heart health education materials, smoking cessation information, and a series of health screenings, including:

- Blood Pressure Monitoring
- Height and Weight Analysis
- Body Fat Analysis
- Oxygen Saturation and Carbon Monoxide Measurement
- Cholesterol Test (12-hour fasting recommended)
- Glucose Test
- Heart Health Summary
- Healthy Diet Tips

In addition to the screenings, Henry Mayo staff will be on hand to answer questions, and participants will receive a health summary and health passport to record their results.

The Santa Clarita Community Center is located on 22421 Market Street in Newhall. The health fair is open to the community; admission and health screenings are free.

For more information about the next "Care for Your Heart" Community Health Fair, please call 661-253-8408.



## Old Town Newhall Business Directory

**Entertainment, Arts & Culture**

**Canyon Theatre Guild**  
An experience not to be missed. Be sure to catch a production of Santa Clarita's only live theatre.  
24242 Main Street  
661-799-2702 www.canyonteatre.org

**Heritage Junction Historic Park**  
A distinct link to Santa Clarita's nostalgic history with guided tours of historic sites.  
24121 Newhall Avenue  
661-254-1275 www.sccrh.org

**Loose Goose Wine Society**  
Wine connoisseur or novice, this sophisticated wine lounge offers domestic & international wines for every palate.  
22508 Market Street  
661-799-9455

**Repertory East Playhouse**  
Be a part of the "81" at the REP: Old Town Newhall's premier professional theater.  
24266 Main Street  
661-255-0000 www.rep-east-playhouse.org

**The Ufo Bar & Lounge**  
Enjoy a night on the town at Old Town's hottest Bar and Lounge.  
22505 8th Street  
661-255-7833 www.voodubar.com

**William S. Hart Ranch and Museum**  
Tour the Spanish Colonial Revival mansion famed mansion that honors the life and career of silent film star William S. Hart or stroll the park grounds and gift shop.  
24121 Newhall Avenue  
661-254-4584 www.hartmuseum.org

**Restaurants**

**Egg Plantation**  
One of Old Town Newhall's premier restaurants and home to 101 cocktails.  
24415 Walnut Street  
661-255-8222 www.eggplantation.com

**El Mas Cafe**  
Authentic Mexican cuisine that tantalizes your taste buds.  
24355 Main Street  
661-253-0609

**El Pariente**  
Serving delectable Mexican dishes, this restaurant is a truly authentic experience.  
24375 Main Street  
661-799-4599

**El Trocadero Mesquite Steakhouse**  
Authentic Sonoran-inspired cuisine in a chic and relaxing atmosphere.  
24274 Main Street  
661-254-4645 www.eltrocadero steakhouse.com

**Jazmin's Bakery/Panaderia**  
Offering authentic international pastries and baked goods for all occasions.  
24330 Main Street  
661-799-2585

**Jazmin's Restaurant**  
Fun and friendly Mexican dining in a casual atmosphere.  
24328 Main Street  
661-253-8744

**Maria's Italian-American Deli**  
Magnifico! A truly authentic Italian dining experience.  
22508 Lyons Avenue  
661-259-0801

**Thai Pepper**  
Offering an array of traditional and contemporary Thai cuisine.  
24407 Main Street  
661-255-9275 http://home.pocbell.net/thai-pp

**Way Station Coffee Shop**  
One of Old Town Newhall's most famous home-style restaurants.  
24377 Main Street  
661-255-0222

**Dr. David Tanner, DDS**  
Family dentistry  
22800 Lyons Avenue  
661-254-1884 www.dttannerdds.com

**Dr. Howard Stowitts, DDS**  
Family dentistry  
24229 Main Street  
661-259-2150

**Dr. Sofia Ballazar, DDS**  
Family dentistry  
2462 Main Street  
661-290-2825

**Evelyn Escoto**  
Bookkeeper & notary public  
24300 Main Street  
661-254-0857

**Gloria's Salon**  
Salon and hair styling  
22505 8th Street  
661-254-4303

**Lerma's Hair Styling**  
Traditional Barber Shop  
22511 8th St  
661-253-0962

**Minnie Max Cleaners and Tuxedos**  
Dry cleaning services and Tuxedo rentals.  
24157 Main Street  
661-255-2445

**Newhall Ice Company**  
An Old Town historical icon, Newhall's original ice company.  
22502 5th Street  
661-259-0893

**Old Town Newhall Association**  
Association dedicated to the restoration of Old Town Newhall.  
24336 Main Street  
661-253-0730 www.ottn.info

**Philates Teck**  
Classes for fitness and athletic equipment.  
22800 Lyons Avenue, Suite 120  
661-263-4782

**Tan Medical Group**  
Medical and health services  
24327 Main Street  
661-259-6900

**U/O2 Nutrition & Fitness**  
A unique 4-in-one workout facility.  
OPENING OCTOBER 2008

**Shops 'n' Style**  
Offering the latest techniques and classes surrounding the ancient art of Togg.  
24421 Walnut Street  
661-253-7777 www.yoggyoggyonline.com

**Retail**

**Ribe's Pawnshop**  
Pawn jewelry to tools. Also offers traditional and antique items on consignment.  
24336 Main Street  
661-255-6609 www.ribepawn.com

**Billy's Boardshop**  
Surf, Skate, Snow, Water, you'll find all your board shop essentials and more.  
22500 Lyons Avenue  
661-254-0727 www.bhsboardsports.com

**Cookbooks Plus**  
Offers traditional and unique recipes and cookbooks for delicious home-cooked meals.  
24339 Main Street  
661-256-4455 www.cookbooksplus.com

**Downtown Dollar Store**  
Offering traditional and unique novelties for \$1.  
24259 Main Street  
661-222-2210

**EmbroidMe**  
Offers private embroidery services and screen printing of clothing items & promotional products.  
22590 Lyons Avenue, Unit B  
661-254-4032 www.embroidme-newhall.com

**Fresh**  
Stay hip with fresh styles just off the runway.  
24419 Walnut Street  
661-259-4866 www.shopatfresh.com

**In Vogue Salon**  
Offers all the amenities of a full-service salon.  
24423 Walnut Street  
661-254-2044

**Lissette's Flowers**  
Beautiful floral arrangements for all occasions.  
24328 Main Street  
661-287-9589

**Newhall Bicycle Company**  
The hub of all bike shops, everything you need for all your cycling needs.  
24343 Railroad Avenue  
661-284-6687 www.newhallbikeshop.com

**Newhall Paint Store**  
The perfect combination of colors for your home or office.  
24401 Main Street  
661-259-3454 www.newhallpaintstore.com

**Newhall Sundries**  
Pharmacy and incidentals.  
24265 Main Street  
661-799-9890

**Planet Soccer**  
Shoot and score! You'll find everything under the sun for soccer.  
24331 Main Street  
661-253-9800

**Propinquities**  
Offering the latest fashions and trends in home decor.  
24419 Walnut Street  
661-253-0229

**Railroad Cafe**  
Coming soon to the Corner of Railroad Avenue and Market Street.

**Roger Dunn**  
A one-stop shop for all your golfing needs.  
24200 Main Street  
661-222-7177 www.worldofgolfshops.com

**Soccer and More**  
Soccer and sporting equipment for the sports enthusiast.  
24355 Main Street  
661-287-9740

**Tresieras Supermarket**  
Small the aroma of fresh produce and meat at this full-service market.  
24316 Main Street  
661-255-8345 www.tresieras.com

**Valencia Bicycles**  
In search of a new bicycle? Visit Valencia bicycles for a new bike or for repairs.  
24353 Main Street  
661-259-6601

**Work Boot Warehouse**  
Quality work shoes and boots for work or play.  
24275 Main Street  
661-259-1978 www.workbootwarehouse.com

**Services**

**Bell Home Care Staffing**  
Home care for all your needs.  
24325 Main Street, Suite 100  
661-799-8588

**Capelli Salon**  
Create a salon style all your own.  
24258 Main Street  
661-254-1234 www.nyspa.com/capelli\_salon

**Carberry Building**  
Commercial Business Office  
24325 Main Street  
661-253-4470



City of SANTA CLARITA

Come see what's new in Santa Clarita's Premier Arts and Entertainment District.



## Downtown Newhall Business Spotlight:

# El Trocadero Steakhouse.



TED DAYTON

Owner Raul Bojorquez serves up refreshing and original beverages at El Trocadero's full-service bar.

### Family-Run Restaurant Celebrates Ten Years in Old Town Newhall.

By ALEX HERNANDEZ,  
ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST,  
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.

Old Town Newhall is a hub for small business. National chain fast-food restaurants and big-box retailers are nowhere to be found. In an effort to highlight unique or new businesses, each edition of The Gazette spotlights an Old Town Newhall establishment. This month's spotlight is on El Trocadero Mesquite Steakhouse, located in the heart of Newhall at the corner of Main Street and Market Street.

El Trocadero Mesquite Steakhouse opened its doors in December 1998 and recently celebrated its ten-year anniversary.

Owner Raul Bojorquez, along with wife Dora and family, wanted to be in Old Town Newhall because of redevelopment plans for the area. Raul helped run the family's original restaurant in Nogales, Mexi-

co, and kept to authentic Sonoran cuisine when opening the restaurant in Newhall.

El Trocadero occupies nearly 3,500 square feet with a covered front patio on Main Street and a shaded outdoor seating area in the rear. The steakhouse's unique flavor is attributed to the mesquite grill used to prepare a selection of steak, poultry and fish entrees.

The restaurant has upwards of fifteen employees, and the cooks use original family recipes. El Trocadero's specialty is its green sauce, along with enchiladas and original margaritas.

El Trocadero is busiest when the two downtown theatres, the Repertory East Playhouse and the Canyon Theatre Guild, have shows or productions. Bojorquez is thankful for the annual Street Art Festival and the many customers and new faces that enter his restaurant for Newhall's annual events.

Raul makes the restaurant and rear outdoor patio available to rent for private

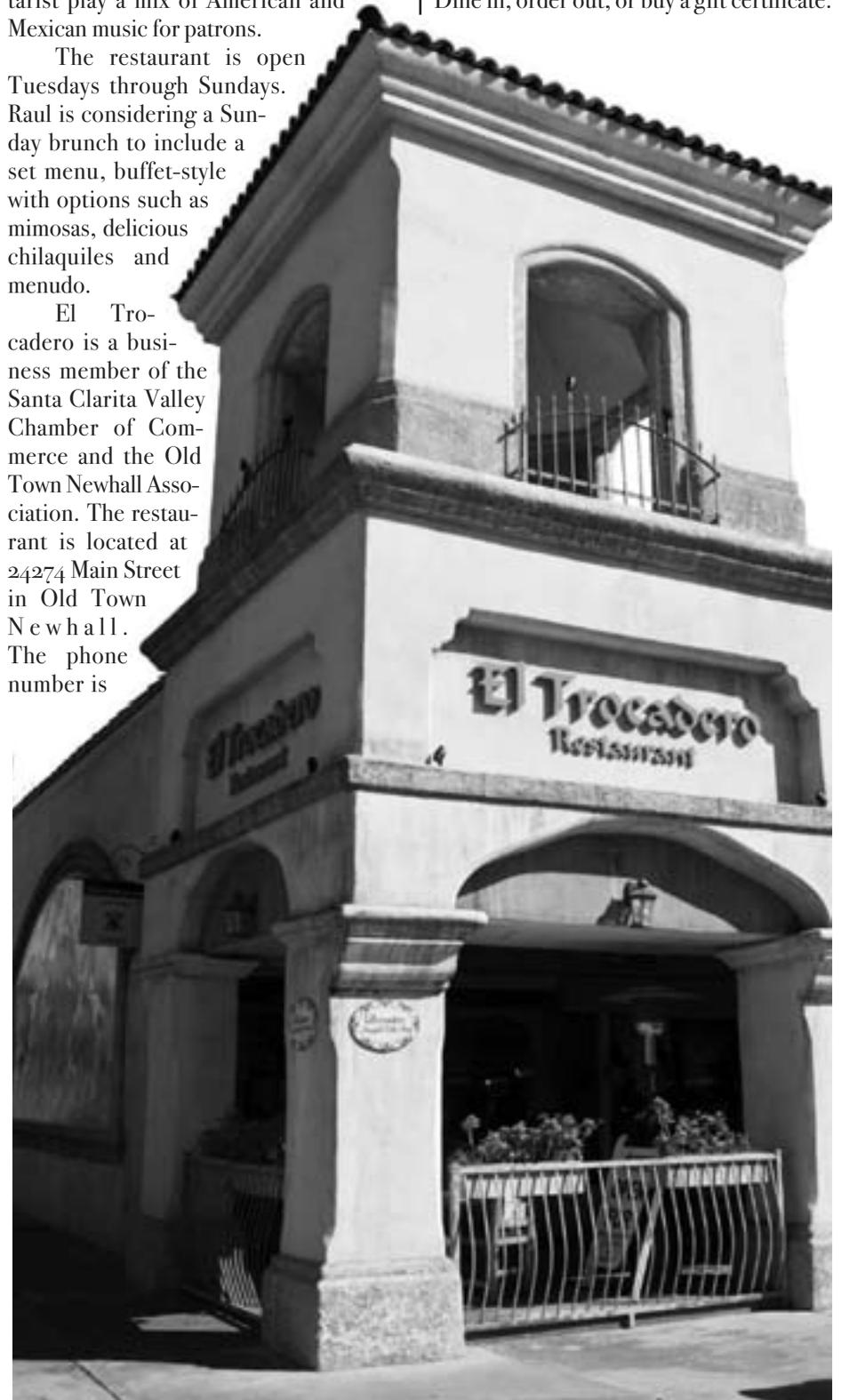
parties. He also regularly schedules live entertainment on Saturdays at the restaurant. Stop by and you may hear a solo guitarist play a mix of American and Mexican music for patrons.

The restaurant is open Tuesdays through Sundays. Raul is considering a Sunday brunch to include a set menu, buffet-style with options such as mimosas, delicious chilaquiles and menudo.

El Trocadero is a business member of the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Old Town Newhall Association. The restaurant is located at 24274 Main Street in Old Town Newhall. The phone number is

661/284-6615.

Menus can be viewed from their website at [www.eltrocaderosteakhouse.com](http://www.eltrocaderosteakhouse.com). Dine in, order out, or buy a gift certificate.



# Presidential Tribute Tops Hart Park Seasonal Offerings.

## News From The Hart.

By **AYESHA SALETORÉ**,  
ADMINISTRATOR,  
WILLIAM S. HART MUSEUM.

### Special Exhibit: The Mount Rushmore of Hart.

When William S. Hart bequeathed his mansion for the benefit of the American public, he also donated the contents of his retirement home including his collection of Western artwork, native American artifacts, film memorabilia and personal effects.

As a patriotic American, Hart's collection also included artifacts pertaining to the history of the United States of America. Visit the Hart Museum during February and view displays of artifacts from the Hart Collection pertaining to Presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt.

Come see artifacts representing four of our nation's Presidents idolized on Mount Rushmore.

### Volunteering is Good for the Hart.

Did you know there are studies showing that volunteering leads to better health? Not only is volunteering good for your heart, but it is also good for the Hart!

William S. Hart Volunteers are the core of the William S. Hart Museum. Day in and day out, volunteers lead tours of the Hart Museum, assist in the Museum's Educational Outreach Program, or facilitate the Friends of Hart Park Gift Store.

If you are interested in volunteering with the William S. Hart Museum, give us a call or stop by to see us. You can also take a look below at the different options you have as a Hart Volunteer. For more information about joining the Hart Team, please



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LEON WORDEN

Visitors to the William S. Hart mansion and museum during February will have an opportunity to view artifacts relating to the presidents memorialized on Mount Rushmore.

contact Kristyn Van Wy by phone at 661/254-4584 or via email at [kvanwy@nhm.org](mailto:kvanwy@nhm.org).

### Museum Tours

Volunteers lead members of the public through the Museum in order to teach them about silent film star William S. Hart and the legacy he left us. Volunteers enable our guests to experience history and culture through the Museum's collection of Western artwork, Native American artifacts, film costumes and props, as well as Hart's personal effects.

The Museum is open for guided tours Wednesday through Sunday. This is a great option for people with an interest in history, who enjoy speaking with people, or who want to develop or enhance public speaking skills.

### Educational Outreach Program

Hart Museum offers educational outreach programs to local schools in order to compliment history curriculum for third and fourth grade students. We offer three programs in which students

are able to learn more about history through interaction and hands on objects. Our three programs include "Acorns, Sea, and Sage," "Tules to Town," and "Santa Clarita History."

The Museum offers outreach programming to local schools on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. Outreaches are a great experience for people pursuing education degrees or enjoy working with children.

### Trading Post (Gift Store)

Interested in commerce?

Sharpen your skills as you volunteer in the Friends of Hart Park's Gift Store. Volunteers in the Trading Post are able to interact with the public by providing them with information on William S. Hart, but also about the Park and Museum's grounds, programming, and opportunities.

Volunteers also facilitate sales of Trading Post merchandise including Western and native American jewelry, Hart films and books, and various novelties among other products. The Trading Post is open Tuesday through Sunday.

# The Last Day of James Dean: Did He Stop in the SCV?

By Alan Pollack, MD  
PRESIDENT, SANTA CLARITA  
VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Apple pie and milk. It had been reported in the past to be possibly the last meal for legendary actor James Dean at a Tip's Restaurant in the Santa Clarita Valley on September 30, 1955, just hours before his young life came to an end in a tragic auto accident near Paso Robles.

Dean began his movie career in 1954, and had just completed his third movie, "Giant," when he met his untimely end. In spite of his short career, he remains one of the most popular actors in Hollywood history.

James Dean was born February 8, 1931, in Marion, Indiana. He attended high school in Fairmount, Indiana. After graduating in 1949 he moved out to California where he majored in pre-law at Santa Monica College, then drama at UCLA – much to the chagrin of his father. He began pursuing his acting career full time in 1951.

From 1951 to 1954 he appeared in various television programs with limited success, but it was his role as a North African house boy in the theater production of "Bachir" in 1954 that got him attention from Hollywood movie makers.

In 1954, Dean was cast in the first of the three films that brought him into the realm of Hollywood immortality. Elia Kazan, director of "East of Eden" (based on John Steinbeck's 1952 novel), was looking for a Brando-like actor to play the role of the rebel son of a disapproving father (played by Raymond Massey). Dean, still relatively unknown, was recommended for



This photo, published in a 1960 edition of *Christophorus*, a German-language publication of Porsche, shows a confident Dean (at the wheel) and Wütherich as they leave Hollywood at 2 p.m. Friday, September 30, 1955, headed for a race Sunday in Salinas. The caption reads: "The last photo of James Dean: As they drive off he raises the hand of the mechanic sitting next to him, Rolf Wütherich, and yells, 'We will win!' In the background is the chase vehicle that arrived at the intersection shortly after the accident." The photo was shot by one of Dean's two friends who followed in the Chevrolet, Carl von Delius, whose own brother died in an auto race in 1937.

the role and, with the enthusiastic endorsement of Steinbeck himself, quickly established himself as Hollywood's rebel loner, much to the delight of a vast teenage audience. For his role in "East of Eden" he would later be the recipient of the first posthumous Best Actor nomination in Hollywood history.

"East of Eden" was quickly followed by his ultimate legendary role as a rebellious and misunderstood high school student in "Rebel Without a Cause." The film also featured young talents Natalie Wood and Sal Mineo and included a now-famous scene shot outside

the Griffith Observatory. "Rebel Without a Cause" would prove to be enormously popular with the teenage audience and cemented Dean's place in Hollywood history.

Dean's last film, "Giant," saw him play a supporting role to Elizabeth Taylor and Rock Hudson. The film was released in 1956 after his death and resulted in a second posthumous Best Actor nomination at the 1956 Academy Awards.

As historians, we see time and time again the effect that untimely death at a young age can have on

long-term fame. Marilyn Monroe. John F. Kennedy. James Dean.

Dean became interested in auto racing while filming "East of Eden." During the filming of "Rebel Without a Cause," he purchased a Porsche 550 Spyder. He was barred from racing while filming "Giant," but upon completion of the movie he decided to drive the Porsche up to Salinas to compete in auto races at the Salinas Airport.

On September 30, 1955, Dean started out from Los Angeles with his 29-year-old mechanic Rolf Wütherich in the Porsche. They drove into the Santa Clarita Valley

along Highway 99 and by some accounts may have stopped for lunch at a Tip's Restaurant – the location of which was either the present-day intersection of the Old Road and Henry Mayo Drive at the Junction with Highway 126, or the current Marie Callender's site at the corner of the Old Road and Magic Mountain Parkway.

Althea McGuinness, a Tip's waitress who died in the 1970s, was reported to have served Dean at the restaurant. An article in *The Signal* newspaper in September 2005 recalls a 1985 interview by Tony Newhall of former Tip's manager Carmen Cummings, who said, "Yes, he did stop there on his last day. He sat at the counter. We all recognized him."

After his purported meal at Tip's, Dean proceeded north up Highway 99, and down the Grapevine Grade into the San Joaquin Valley. There he was ticketed by a CHP officer for Speeding: 65 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Just north of Bakersfield, he turned west on U.S. Highway 466 (now California Highway 46) and climbed over Polonio Pass headed towards Paso Robles. Dean's auto was estimated to be traveling at 55 mph as he approached the town of Cholame on the downgrade from the pass.

Just outside of Cholame, Highway 466 met Highway 41 in a "Y" intersection. Coming in the opposite direction was a black and white 1950 Ford Custom Tudor coupe driven by 23-year-old Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student Donald Turnupseed, who was traveling to Tulare to visit his parents.

As he approached the "Y"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.

# Dean, CONT.

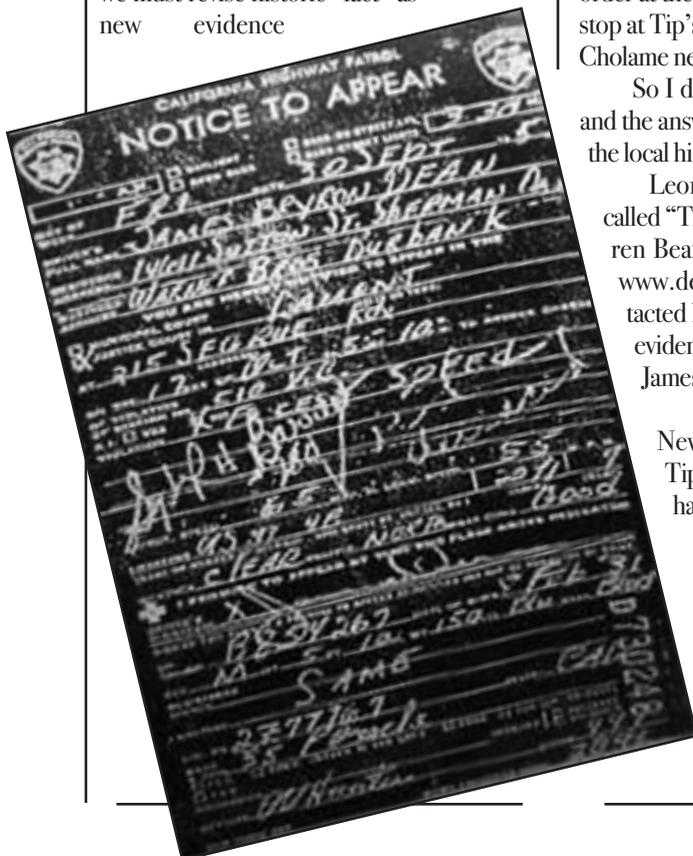
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intersection, Turnupseed began to make a left turn on to Highway 41. Due to the twilight conditions and the color of Dean's car, Turnupseed never saw the approaching Porsche. The two cars collided in a horrific near head-on crash, with Dean's car ending up crumpled in a ditch by the side of the road.

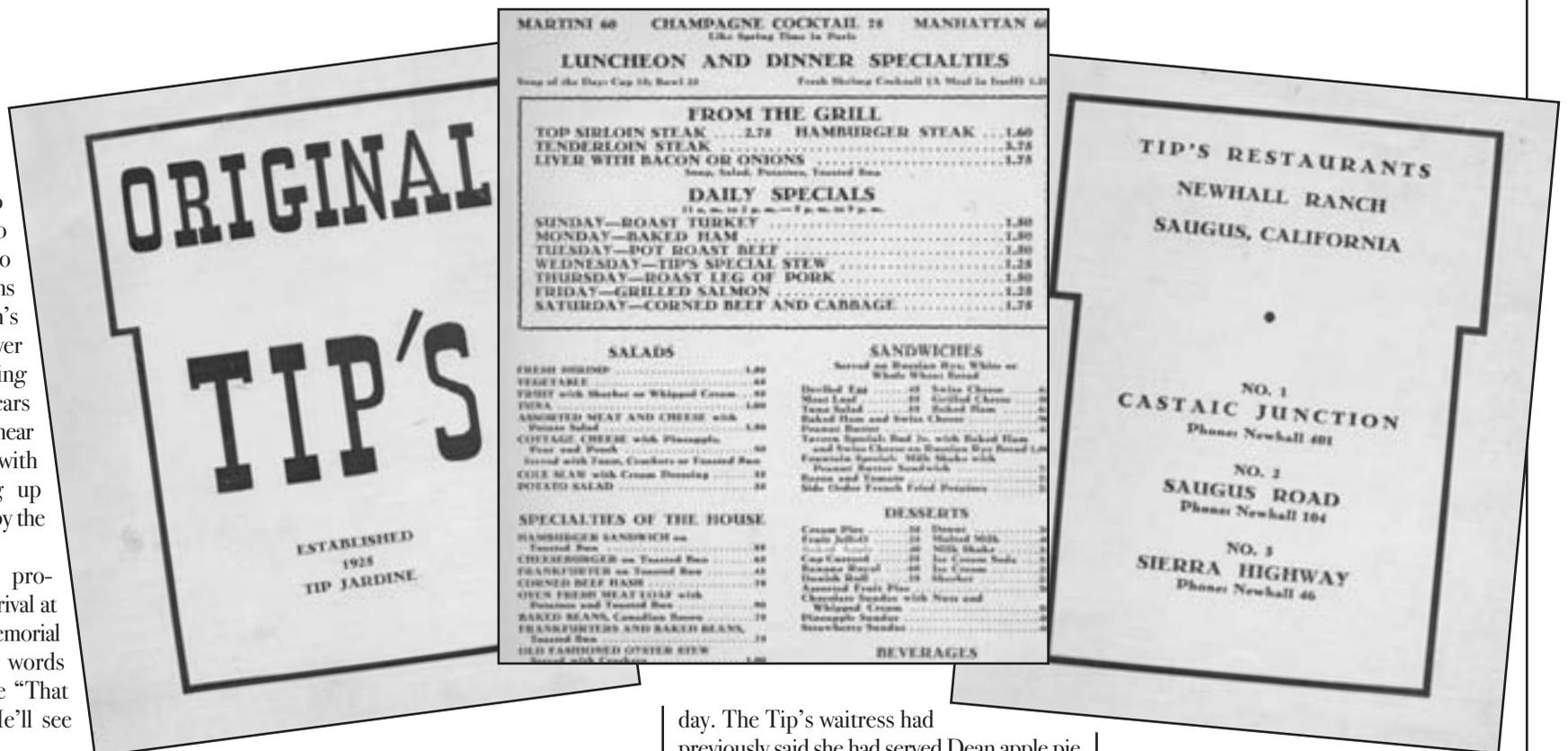
Dean was pronounced dead on arrival at Paso Robles' War Memorial Hospital. His last words were reported to be "That guy's gotta stop. He'll see us."

Dean's body was brought back to Fairmount, Indiana where he was buried in Park Cemetery at a funeral attended by three thousand people. A young life was ended prematurely at the age of 24, but a Hollywood legend was born.

History is a dynamic process. Sometimes we must revise historic "fact" as new evidence



**Above: The menu at Tip's, where James Dean is reported to have eaten his final meal. Left: A copy of the citation Dean was issued for speeding on Highway 99.**



comes to light. That may or may not be the case with the last day of James Dean.

I recently talked with a number of our local experts and found quite a lot of disagreement as to what actually happened in the Santa Clarita Valley that day, September 30, 1955.

Where was the exact location of the Tip's Restaurant? What did Dean actually order at the restaurant? Did James Dean even stop at Tip's on his way to the fatal accident at Cholame near Paso Robles later that day?

So I decided to investigate this further, and the answers we came up with may change the local history of the James Dean saga.

Leon Worden told me about a book called "The Death of James Dean" by Warren Beath. I found Mr. Beath's website, [www.deathofjamesdean.com](http://www.deathofjamesdean.com), and contacted him to see if he had any additional evidence that might solve the mystery of James Dean and Tip's restaurant.

As mentioned previously, Tony Newhall had interviewed a former Tip's manager in 1985. She said they had indeed seen Dean at Tip's that

day. The Tip's waitress had previously said she had served Dean apple pie and milk. But in spite of the testimony of these two ladies, we did not have any other evidence to support their statements of Dean's having stopped here.

Beath initially was not sure of the answer, either. He had been aware of the controversy, and noted that some of the fan magazines at the time had mentioned a stop at Tip's, but that this may have been taking some poetic license.

As far as we know, there was never any mention of Tip's in any of the testimony provided by the people who actually accompanied Dean that day. There was no account of Dean's death in The Newhall Signal newspapers of October 1955.

Then Beath provided us with a 1960 German Porsche magazine which contained an article and interview with Dean's mechanic, Rolf Wütherich. Wütherich was severely injured in the accident when Dean's auto collided with the Ford Tudor Coupe near Cholame. The article was written in German, and Beath had never had the opportunity to translate it. But thanks to Worden's translation, we now know what it says.

In the article, Wütherich states that the original reports of his recollection of the day Dean died actually came from his ex-wife while he was still in the hospital and were essentially untrue. Per his actual recollection, he and Dean left Hollywood in the Porsche and drove for three hours before stopping at a roadside refreshment bar on Highway 466

(now 46) called Blackwell's Corner. At Blackwell's Corner, Wütherich states that he had an apple while Dean drank a Coca-Cola. They left Blackwell's Corner around 5:45 p.m. and proceeded to the crash site outside Cholame.

There is no mention of a stop at Tip's. If they drove for three hours straight from Hollywood, that would put them well past the Santa Clarita Valley before stopping.

Although Wütherich's recollection might have been a little shaky – he states that Dean was stopped for speeding at 50 mph in a 45 mph zone in Bakersfield, when in fact the CHP traffic ticket cited Dean for doing 65 mph in a 55 mph zone outside Bakersfield – if his statements in the Porsche article are accurate, then it raises the distinct possibility that James Dean passed through the Santa Clarita Valley but did not stop at Tip's Restaurant on the day of his fatal accident in 1955.

On the other hand, Tony Newhall pointed out to us that both the manager of Tip's whom he interviewed in 1985 and the former Tip's manager who was actually there in 1955 said Dean did stop at Tip's on the day of his death. The 1985 manager said he had stopped at "Tip's Coffee Shop" (roughly the current Marie Callender's site) and not at the main Tip's at Castaic Junction.

The former manager, Carmen Cummings, had also stated that police stopped by the restaurant a few days later to speak with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.

# Santa Clarita Residents Participate in Extreme Tree Plantings.

## Communities Embrace Beautification Project.

### From the City of Santa Clarita.

The City of Santa Clarita's Urban Forestry Division joined local residents in November to plant 15 new Camphor trees along Arch Street in Newhall. The City's Extreme Neighborhood Makeover program is designed to help assist in solving neighborhood beautifi-

cation and safety issues and increase community pride.

"The trees are an ideal addition to Newhall, as the attractive evergreens remove pollutants in the air, attract no pests and are a cost effective way to add immediate curb appeal," said Council member Marsha McLean.

The Extreme Neighborhood Makeover program for Newhall began with an invitation-only Neighborhood Block Party for all residents of the nearly

160 homes in the target area. The goal of the event, sponsored by the City in partnership with the Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, KHHS 1220 and local nonprofit organizations is to help maximize property values throughout City neighborhoods.

For more information about the City's Extreme Neighborhood Makeover in Old Town Newhall, contact Norm Sieger by phone at 661/286-4064 or e-mail at [nsieger@santa-clarita.com](mailto:nsieger@santa-clarita.com).



Volunteers helped with the tree planting.

## Dean, CONT.

FROM PAGE 13.

anyone who had seen or waited on Dean at the restaurant that day. She recalled that although they had not done so, the restaurant people were afraid they would be accused of serving Dean alcohol and sending him off drunk. In spite of their fears, no such accusation ever came from the police afterward.

Newhall tells us that the witnesses he interviewed appeared to have no motive to misrepresent what they knew about the incident. They spoke candidly, did not seem interested in getting any publicity nor in perpetuating any myth.

Newhall further points out that although only one of Dean's movies, "East of Eden," had been released at the time of his death, he was already quite well known and could have been recognized as a celebrity, particularly by any young people who were at Tip's that day.

Furthermore, even if the waitresses had not recognized him immediately that day, they may well have realized only later who their famous customer was after the accident and the police visit.

So, did James Dean actually stop in the Santa Clarita Valley on the day of his death? Based on the evidence we have, it would depend on the accuracy of Wütherich's account in the Porsche magazine or the testimony of the workers at Tip's restaurant. Now, 53 years later, unless more new evidence comes to light, we may never know for sure.

Whatever the course of events on September 30, 1955, the legend of James Dean lives on to this day. A stainless steel monument dedicated to Dean that sits in a parking lot in Cholame was actually erected by a fan from Japan, attesting to Dean's worldwide appeal and fame.

As for the location of Tip's restaurant, based on review of old menus and local phone books, as well as information from Tony Newhall, it turns out there were two Tip's locations along Highway 99 in 1955: one at Castaic Junction (the current Interstate 5-Highway 126 junction), the other at the current Marie Callender's site (The Old Road-Magic Mountain Parkway intersection). There was also a Tip's on Sierra Highway, and later a Tip's on Pico Canyon Road (the current Interstate 5-Lyons Avenue interchange).

The Marie Callender's location was called Tip's Saugus Road in the menus and phone books, and was locally known as Tip's Coffee Shop. It went out of business around 1967 and was replaced by the "Calico Kitchen" for a 12-month period, which was then leased to a new owner and opened as J's Coffee Shop in 1969 or 1970. J's was later torn down and replaced by the Marie Callender's that we know today.

J's Coffee Shop was also the site of the Newhall Incident of on April 5, 1970, when which four young CHP officers were brutally gunned down by two suspects in the J's parking lot. A portion of Interstate 5 near Magic Mountain Parkway was named for the four officers last April.

The SC Historical Society will host a special event Saturday, February 28, at the Saugus Train Station at Heritage Junction in William S. Hart Park as part of its Lecture Series and "Flickers at the Junction" classic movie series. We will be presenting a panel of experts on James Dean's life and death, including authors Chris Epting ("James Dean Died Here"), Warren Beath ("The Death of James Dean"), and other guests to be announced. The panel discussion will be followed by a showing of the classic James Dean film, "Rebel Without a Cause." Further details will be available on the Historical Society website, [www.scvhs.org](http://www.scvhs.org).

## Collect Antiques?

### Want to Know What They're Worth? Local Antiques Connoisseur to Share His Wisdom.

Terry Sonntag, a longtime resident of the Santa Clarita Valley and familiar to most area antique buffs, will present a series of informal seminars on "Antiques Appreciation" for the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society.

Terry has been an active collector, buyer and seller of antiques, collectibles and decorative arts in this valley since the 1970s. He was co-owner and operations director of the Country Antique Fair Mall from 1981 to 1995. He established the Santa Clarita Antique Center in 1996. In 2004, he retired from the retail end of antiques to pursue antique appraising. He remains active in the field as a buyer, seller, appraiser and consultant.

Terry has been an adjunct professor at College of the Canyons since 1991 in an unrelated discipline. In 2007, he was approached by COC's Vice President for Instruction, Dr. Mitjl Capet, who asked him to create a Community Extension Series in Antiques Appreciation. He gladly assumed the task and ensured that seminars would be fun, exciting, educational and interactive. He has presented the series into 2008 at COC and a private learning center in Canyon Country.

Terry brings his hands-on approach to the Santa Clarita Historical Society with three Saturday seminars beginning in January. Terry is an accredited member of the International Society of Appraisers and the Appraisers National Association. He is an

active panel member of "Roadshow"-type valuation events conducted at the Saugus Swap Meet, the Rose Bowl Flea Market and other venues in Los Angeles County.

### Saturday Seminar Workshops

All morning sessions are from 9a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Saugus Train Station Museum, Heritage Junction at William S. Hart Park, 24101 Newhall Avenue (formerly San Fernando Road)

Fee: \$45 each session

### Feb. 14: How to Be An Antiques Detective.

Investigate the various aspects of construction, hardware, tools, fakes, reproductions, repairs, and trends. A portion of the seminar will explore the use of ultraviolet light and what it will reveal. Bring a few items to discuss and share. Handout materials included.

### March 14: Do I Need an Appraisal?

This consumer session is eye-opening as to ethical and professional standards of antique and personal property appraising. We will explore myths of popular TV shows, when and why you may need an appraisal, written and verbal reports, authentication, how to approach valuation and research. This session will clear the air about insurance, estate, divorce and other legal appraisals that are required. Bring in a couple of items to share with the group. Handout materials included.

*One book on antiques will be a door prize at each session. To register, call Pat Saletore at 661/254-1275.*

# Hart's Pony and Other 'Newhallywood' Lore.

## A Glimpse Through Time.

By **JOHN BOSTON,**  
MR. SCV.  
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.

For more than a century, the Santa Clarita Valley has long been a "Newhallywood," home to movie stars and site where hundreds of films, TV shows and mouthwash commercials. Here's some interesting lore about our rich entertainment heritage for the month of January from yesteryear...

### February 1919

This is where the whole mess started. Ninety years back, the first-ever issue of *The Mighty Signal* was published.

### February 1926

"Cowboy" Bob Anderson, famed for starting the first rodeo in the SCV and former manager of the Baker Ranch (today the Saugus Speedway) went into the horse-racing business. He came back from "Tia Juana" with a string of eight thoroughbreds.



Boston.

### February 1928

The first French Village opened on this date on Feb. 15th. The popular dance hall, according to local old-timers, was originally where present-day Sierra Highway and San Fernando Road meet. Then, it moved up San Fernando Road (now called Newhall Avenue) to where the retirement village is today. The French Village was a popular dance hall from the '20s to the '50s here. Lots of both noses and hearts broken there.

### February 1930

Remi Nadeau got another delivery of deer to add to his game preserve (where North Oaks is today). The Canyon Country millionaire received a truckload of elk and, except for two that were trampled to death, the load arrived safely. It was Nadeau's dream to build a deer farm with every breed of deer on the planet living in CC. He almost got there. An epidemic would later wipe out most of the United Nationsesque herd.

### February 1931

On this date, the Newhall baseball team played host to a squad who called themselves *The Apemen*. Newhall's men bested their simian counterparts, 15-11, despite having to pull a catcher out of the crowd.

The semi-pro monkeys from Tarzana were best known for their owner - adventure novelist Edgar Rice Burroughs, who lived in the San Fernando Valley town named after one of literature's most famous characters, Tarzan of the Apes.

Hmm. Odd. You'd think when naming a city with a Spanish heritage after a male fictional character, they would have



named the place, "Tarzan-o."

### February 1938

Fritz was laid to rest this month, sixty years back. He was the original property of the old 101 Movie Company and silent screen superstar William S. Hart first rode him in 1912. Four years later, Hart bought the pony and rode him for twelve years.

The calico horse had royal lineage. His father, Red Top, was given to President Ulysses S. Grant as a present by an Arab chieftain. Hart deeply loved this horse, which had the nickname of Paint and stayed with him as his film co-star, despite frequent objections from studio moguls. Producers thought Fritz was too short for the tall Bill Hart and made Hart look "ridiculous" with his legs so close to the ground.

Hart penned the following poem as an ode to his friend: "We've jumped through windows, Drowned in water-filled caves, We've rolled down mountains, An' stomped on knaves, Tumbled from narrow bridges, Caught fast-moving trains, Did falls and pick-ups On deserts and plains. And now - it's the end, Fritz, I'll ne'er see you again. It's more than strong love, 'pardner, It's a deep heart pain." They said Fritz was smarter than most people, and sweeter, too.

### February 1953

Here's some extreme trivia for you. Want to know what

Not only did he get his master out of a few on-screen scrapes, but in 1922, Fritz became a published author (with a little editing help from his master). Artist and Hart pal James Montgomery Flagg, best known for his Uncle Sam "I Want You" poster, illustrated Fritz's book, "Told Under a White Oak Tree."

was the first play performed in the Hart High Auditorium? It was the children's play, "Rumpelstiltskin," produced by the Thompson Marionette Company. Admission was 25 cents.

### February 1957

Patrons of Oscar's Cove, a dive up Mint Canyon, were more than surprised when the building seemed to explode. At first they thought it was an earthquake. But another explosion jarred the building and the front end of a big old Pontiac was sticking through the front door.

The barstool leaners watched in amazement as the driver, Gene Gray, put it into reverse, rolled back a few yards, gunned it and rammed into the bar another eight times. Seems Gene didn't want his 20-year-old wife, Lisa, frequenting the joint.

After building his own door, Gene politely asked Lisa to leave. She refused. What's a guy to do?

### February 1974

On this date, the Canyon Theatre Guild was evicted from the Old Courthouse building on Market. Nope. The troupe wasn't asked to leave because of their acting. Owner Andy Storinsky was selling the building. The CTG used *The Rafters'* attic for their public performances. The wooden floor was the very same dance floor in the Hap-a-Lan hall from the 1920s in the same location.

### February 1975

A CalArts student film made it to the Plaza Theater. "The Nightrider" had scenes from the Saugus Cafe and

other SCV locations. Star of the flick was a young student from the Valencia campus, Ed Harris. He even had hair back then.

### February 1982

On this date, one of the oddest sights ever to appear on water was shot at Castaic Lake. A crew filming a Panasonic commercial had a waterskiing elephant being towed by a speed boat.





PATTI RASMUSSEN

Thirteen-year-old Brittany Weistling admires the artwork her father created — depicting her at age five — in the 2009 Cowboy Festival poster.

## Center, CONT.

FROM PAGE 1.

from birth to age nineteen, for families with an income above the Medi-Cal income guidelines. The maximum income eligibility for the Healthy Families Program is about \$53,000 for a family of four.

\* The Healthy Kids Program offers low-cost health insurance for children under age nineteen in families that do not

qualify for Medi-Cal or the Healthy Families program, regardless of their immigration status. For a family of four, the income eligibility is about \$56,000.

Community Center staff members continue to inform and help families with the enrollment process. The Center now has Certified Application Assistants on site who can help families complete applications to enroll their children in Medi-Cal, the Healthy Families Program, or the Healthy Kids Program.

*For more information, contact the Community Center at 661/286-4006.*

## Artist, CONT.

FROM PAGE 1.

listening to the cowboy musicians. She was having fun at that time, being foot-loose and fancy free.”

The City began the Cowboy Poetry Festival in 1994. At the time they held a competition for artwork to be used on posters and advertisement. Mike Fleming, Arts and Events Supervisor for the City of Santa Clarita, said they decided to start researching Western artists and were lucky to find Weistling, a local resident. “He is so low-key and so humble,” Fleming said.

Western art is a passion of Weistling, something he inherited from his father. Weistling grew up in North Hollywood and attended St. Genevieve’s elementary and high school. He was always known as the “art freak” and art is definitely in his blood. His parents met while in art school, as did Weistling and his wife, JoAnn.

“I’ve been into art my whole life,” Weistling said. “My father would sit down with me and we’d draw.”

Weistling began working on movie posters at the age of 19 and he has been supporting himself and his family as an artist ever since. His only other job in his entire life was working at an art store.

“My dad was a huge Western movie fan,” Weistling said. “I was never a rancher or a cowboy, but I’ve always been drawn to Western art.”

Visiting Weistling’s Sand Canyon home and art studio, one will find a variety of western props including a life-size covered wagon that sits on his lawn. Weistling uses all these props with live

models to sketch his ideas before putting oil on a canvas.

“I have an idea and I put everything together, the models, the set,” Weistling said. “I feel like a director.”

He is fascinated with the human form, especially hands and feet. “I get my inspiration from people.” Sometimes when his daughter poses for him, Weistling says she starts playing and he finds a whole a new look. His works reflect simpler times and the observer might even find someone looking a lot like Weistling in some pieces.

Weistling’s art hangs in a gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona. He also displays his artwork on-line. His daughter and wife share the website.

Recognized as one of America’s top contemporary painters, Weistling has won numerous awards — at Autry National Center’s Masters of the American West, he was the recipient of the 2000 David P. Usher Patron’s Choice Award, the 2003 the Trustees’ Purchase Award, and the 2007 and 2008 David P. Usher Patron’s Choice and Booth Museum of Western Artists’ Choice awards. In 2001, he became the youngest recipient of the coveted Prix de West Purchase Award and Nona Jean Hulsey Buyer’s Choice Award. In 2008 he received his second Prix de West Purchase award.

Brittany smiles as she looks at her image on the new Cowboy Festival poster. Weistling believes the Festival has become more family-friendly and you’ll probably see Brittany, her parents and her younger sister at this year’s event.

Maybe you can even get her to sign one of those posters.

*To see more of Weistling’s art, log on to [www.morganweistling.com](http://www.morganweistling.com).*

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