

# VILLAGE GREEN

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

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# HIGHLIGHTS

A Monthly Publication of the VGOA

July 2022

## NEWS FROM THE VG BOARD AND MANAGEMENT

—compiled by P.J.C. and Lucy Fried

*Nine directors, two employees, and 17 residents attended the June Board meeting, where a wide range of topics was addressed.*

**ELECTRICAL UPGRADE PROJECT:** The VGOA has reached an important moment in the lengthy electrical overhaul project: the design phase for the new electrical infrastructure. Three companies vied for the contract, tied to redesigning and mapping out new vaults in the garage courts, new cable pathways to the buildings, new meter enclosures, and wiring in our buildings. After reviewing the bids, the Board selected the Triple C Company of Valencia at a cost not to exceed \$50,000. The project team, led by director Steve Haggerty, was impressed with the company's collaborative approach and willingness to think "out-of-the-box."

### REHABBING THE SECURITY FENCE ALONG SYCAMORE AVENUE:

To address ongoing problems with the perimeter fence along Sycamore Avenue on the east side of the property, a task force led by director Chris Scornaienchi proposed an upgrade of the existing fence line and its vegetation. After an inspection of the existing structure, Scornaienchi brought a resolution that includes raising the fence height to eight feet in some places, covering the cyclone fencing with green shade tarps, and installing bougainvillea and other plants to deter trespassers. The Board passed the resolution at its requested funding not to exceed \$12,200.

**FOURTEEN DAY VIOLATION TOWING PLAN:** In May, the Board discussed but did not resolve a proposed change in the **VILLAGE GREEN HANDBOOK** for ticketed cars to be towed away according to a fixed schedule organized around three 14-day periods. The June discussion focused on the logistics of access to an enforcement hearing during that 42-day period. Director Scornaienchi, who had brought the proposal, agreed to iron out some of these details and return with a final version next month.

## YOUR HOME SECURITY SYSTEM QUESTIONS ANSWERED!

In response to the spate of recent home break-ins, the **The Village Green Safety Committee** will present an information exchange and Zoom meeting to explore the use of Home Security Devices at the Green. LAPD Officer Kenneth Sanchez available to answer questions on security devices like Ring, cameras, lights, and alarms. Also on hand, VG security staff, residents and neighbors who use these devices; they'll discuss their installation, use, and pros and cons.

When: **July 16, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Where: **Zoom**  
VG Meeting ID: **592 544 596** Password: **5300Obama** (2 zeros, upper case O)  
Or go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/592544596>

## HIGHLIGHTS TAKES A BREAK

**VGH** will not be published in the month of August, as the editors take a much-needed breather. Official business—security report and Board and Manager's reports—will be compiled and available online at [www.villagegreenla.net](http://www.villagegreenla.net).

Happy summer to all from your Communications Committee! Look for your next **Highlights** in September.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jazz singer Sylvia Boyd will headline this year's **Labor Day Jazz Concert**; Monday, September 5 (3-6 p.m.)

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**Highlights** is an all-volunteer project of the Village Green Communications Committee.

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## MANAGEMENT NEWS from Sherri Giles *compiled by Lucy Fried*

**GOPHER MITIGATION** conducted by Village Green Management is having some success, Ms. Giles reported, as several gophers have been trapped. Management will continue setting up perimeters as needed. She also noted that residents have reported a white powdery substance—apparently poison—dispersed at some gopher holes, by someone other than the eradication team. She reminded residents that Management is using the trap method to **avoid** the use of poisons, since families and pets traverse our common spaces.

**PAINTING AND INSULATION** are tentatively scheduled to begin on July 18, starting with Building 90 in Court 17 and followed by 3, 15, 33, 34, 58, 62, 67, 68, 70, and 90. Residents of these buildings will receive an invitation to an information meeting.

**GARAGE INSPECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS** are not yet scheduled; they're still on the docket.

**IRRIGATION WELL PUMP** parts have arrived; the next step is to pull the existing pump to examine the condition of the column pipe and electrical cables.

**CLUBHOUSE AIR CONDITIONING** replacement bidding has been shifted from gas to an electric powered heat pump, a climate-friendly move. The current system badly needs replacement, and Ms. Giles said the Green will be eligible for LADWP and other incentives. She plans to present a resolution to the Board next month.

**GREENCREW** reported they worked in Court 12 to East Circle in June and are detailing Courts 15 to 17 this month. As of June 20, they had planted 45 trees and hoped to plant 32 more soon. A one-inch irrigation mainline break in Court 6 lost us about a half-day of watering. □



## PUBLIC SECURITY REPORT May 20 - June 22, 2022 *Edited by Lucy Fried*

**BICYCLE STOLEN FROM PATIO** Court 10, 5/23, 4:00 pm. The thief was caught on camera, and Security advised the resident to contact LAPD.

**SMOKING** Court 15, 5/20, 4:30 pm. A resident reported that tobacco smoke regularly wafts into her unit during a two-hour period every afternoon. Officers found no evidence of smoking.

**POTENTIAL BURGLARS** Court 11, 6/03, 10:15 am. Several callers reported a male knocking on their doors looking for his lost German shepherd. Another caller reported a male in a red hoodie peeping into windows on Coliseum. Officers were unable to find either person.

**STOLEN VEHICLE** Court 12 parking area, 6/06, 5:00 pm. A resident reported that her friend's car was stolen from the parking area while the two were away. Security suggested calling LAPD to file an on-line report.

**COMPLAINT OF POLLUTION AND NOISE** East Circle, 6/06, 5:50 pm. A resident complained that his neighbor regularly warms up his motorcycle inside the garage for five minutes or more, which sends noise and fumes to the resident's unit.

**BURGLARY** Court 1, 6/22, 4:15 pm. A couple told Security that robbers had entered through their front door and ransacked and burglarized their unit after they had left the house to drop their children off at school and go to work.

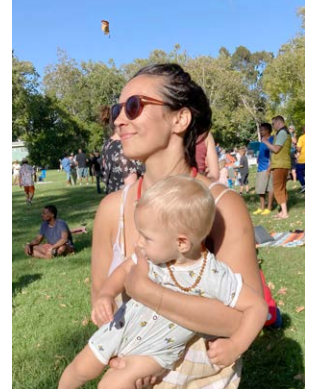
**NOISE COMPLAINT** East Circle, 6/16, 6:00 pm. A resident requested an incident report and offered Security video evidence of a neighbor who often starts and runs his motorcycle in the parking lot late at night, disturbing the resident's sleep.

**NOISY TRESPASSER** east end of Village Green, 6/19, 2:40 pm. Security responded to a report of a male non-resident acting strangely and talking loudly. The trespasser complied to Security's order to leave the property immediately.

**DOUBLE CAR THEFTS** Court 6 parking area, 6/20/22 between 4:30 pm and 8:30 am. A resident noticed both her car and her husband's had been stolen overnight. A police report was generated, and patrols have been increased. □



## CULTURAL AFFAIRS' SUMMER CONCERTS DRAW HUGE CROWDS



Residents and guests welcomed the return of our summer events on the Green with a huge turnout for the Memorial Day concert featuring the Cuban sounds of Son Habana.

The rhythms were irresistible, and picnickers of all ages left their chairs and blankets and danced and danced and danced, in conga lines, in pairs, small groups, and alone. Thanks to our resident Latin music expert Betto Arcos for helping to procure the band.



For this summer's second musical event, the Elliott Caine/Trevor Ware Quintet lured about two hundred residents and guests to the Main Green.

But wait! There's more! Drinks on the Green returns on July 10 in the West Green. □

Here comes everyone's favorite Village Green event, the long awaited...

## Drinks on the Green

*a family friendly event*

Sorry, pets are not permitted on the Green  
Co-sponsored by the Cultural Affairs Committee



4:00-7:00 pm on Sunday, July 10, West Green  
Bring your favorite beverage, eco-friendly cup, and an appetizer



## Another Sunday Concert Draws (smaller) Crowds

On June 15 a long-delayed recital was held at court 14 that included current and former Village Green young people. Louis Grover Khoury (16), Wolf Brown (11), Delphine Dumont, (almost 10), and Max Denicke (10), played ukulele and guitar under the guidance of their teacher, Rocco Matone (ageless, Court 14) in a recital for family and friends. They entertained with solos, a duet, and a rousing group encore. A highlight: Matone and Khoury jamming on the Gypsy Kings version of "Hotel California." –P.J.C. □



## FIVE THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT **SECURITY OFFICER GERALD TATUM**

First in a series of "Get to Know Your Friendly Local Security Officers" - by P.J.C.



*Gerald Tatum*

1. He was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana from a long line of Tatums—the family name is found all over Calcasieu Parish. (Perhaps for that reason he goes by "Tatum," not Gerald.)
2. He was a football star for Ganesha High School in Pomona, where he made the All-SoCal Division Three team as middle linebacker.
3. His first career was as a plumber and apprentice, both here and in Kansas City, MO.
4. Before joining the Village Green Security team in 2018, he was part of car show security detail for Mercedes Benz protecting their prototype cars from competitors stealing ideas and technology.
5. His handwriting (on security logs and reports) is exquisite. □

## VG YARD SALE RETURNS AFTER THREE YEARS

*by Ted Robbins, Court 1*

About 80 sellers made money or friends or both at the 2022 Village Green Yard Sale on June 18th. The event went off without a problem, according to organizer Michael Schodorf (Court 6). "What surprised me was like how happy everybody was," he said. "It just seemed like everybody was just in a good mood and having a good day."

Chris Scornaienchi (Court 2) had a pretty good candidate for most unusual object sold. It was a steel tub with holes in its lid. The sign taped to it read "Popsicle Maker from Thailand." He had had the tub shipped from Thailand for \$120, used it a few times, and then it sat in his garage. He sold it for \$20 to a guy who wanted to make alcoholic popsicles.

"I told him 'I don't know if it's gonna get cold enough to freeze alcohol because you know, alcohol doesn't freeze,'" said Chris, "'but there'll be slush and you can use them as shooters' and he goes 'Shooters! Sold! I'll do half regular popsicles for the kids, then the other half for the adults.'"

While Michael was making the rounds, his wife Avelene and family sold about \$425 worth of books and toys and games, kids' clothes—and a table saw. He walked the entire VG perimeter three times to keep tabs on things. It was exhausting, but he'll organize it again next year. "It's my favorite event that happens at Village Green." □



*the 'Thai popsicle' device*

