

SUMMIT LIFE

VOLUME 8

JANUARY 2014



Gabriel Grant celebrates his first New Year on earth by sleeping through it. The 6-pound, 10-ounce boy was born to proud Summit parents Khená and Eric Grant in mid-November. Results of a Summit poll on what Gabriel's world may be like in 2014 can be seen on page 2. Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo

THE GABRIEL POLL

NEIGHBORS WELCOME BIRTH OF THE SUMMIT'S NEWEST RESIDENT WITH HOPE, ANTICIPATION AND HUMOR

"IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL JOB OF A TODDLER IS TO RULE THE UNIVERSE. In a biblical sense, God gives every newborn the potential to make the planet a better place. Born to highly intelligent parents, it's fitting that Gabriel should be here in this park. As a green and nurturing middle-class community, the Summit is an incubator for that better place; a place that will help grow a more caring and less biased generation of bright young movers and shakers."

Garry Wormser, Editor, Summit Life.



"COMING FROM A FAMILY OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, I HOPE GABRIEL ULTIMATELY FOCUSES HIS TALENTS ON HELPING THE MORE THAN 8 MILLION MENTALLY CHALLENGED IN THE U.S.

We have been successful in providing these individuals with counseling and with jobs that in most cases help defray the cost of food, clothing and shelter. Our current effort is focused on moving these people from group living facilities into real home environments. But it breaks my heart to see these very decent human beings struggle like children from the cradle to the grave,"

Valerie Winbush, Supported Living Supervisor.



"YOU ARE STILL AN ANGEL, LITTLE ONE. GO ON AND BLOW YOUR HORN AS LOUD AS POSSIBLE AND FOLLOW ITS TUNE TO A BRIGHT FUTURE FILLED WITH MILLIONS OF GREAT EVENTS.

Life is for the taking, so have your fill, but also learn to share the good that you get from it. 2014 is going to be a much better and lucrative year because as a society we are the quality of people that regardless of what we say or do, we love the idea of success; and why not dream big and reach for the stars..."

Orlando and Elizabeth Burgos, Specialists in Latin American Travel.

"YOUNG GABRIEL MAY SOMEDAY COMMAND A SPACE SHIP BUILT BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY.

NASA's prominence is fading. But American industry could take its place, transporting Gabriel and a host of ambitious scientists, physicians and engineers to the very edges of our galaxy. In test engineering, I helped launch our initial space program, and it is my hope that that effort will continue with the help of bright young business entrepreneurs.

Eugene Madden, retired Rocketdyne executive.



A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM PHILIP MILLER, *SUMMIT CO-OWNER*

I am not one to make resolutions for the New Year, but I will say this regarding The Summit: by summertime 2014, our property will be much more beautiful. The recreation area we've been planning will be complete by then, changing what is now an eyesore into lovely parkland. Additionally, the office will have been remodeled along with the first floor of the clubhouse.

By summer I will have contacted those who until now have disregarded requests that all residents properly maintain their home exterior and landscaping. As a result we'll have a consistent cleanliness throughout the Park to the benefit of all.

I want to thank those of you who have improved your homes over the last twelve months. I appreciate the work you've done, and your neighbors feel the same.

I need your help in the New Year. I want to see improvements that will benefit all but can't do it on my own. Let's take pride in The Summit; let's show that pride.

I wish you all a year of plenty, a year of happiness, a year of fulfillment. ❖



"GABRIEL WILL HAVE MORE FIGHTS THAN ANY KID IN SUMMIT HISTORY AS A RESULT OF SISTER PHOEBE STARTING THEM.

He will also be an avid hiker by age 5, a licensed holistic practitioner, the Doogie Howser of the Summit, and 100 percent gluten free for life.

Sharon Isler, Operating Room Nurse, and Fletcher Isler, Calibration Technician.



Khen and Eric Grant pose for family photo four months before Gabriel's arrival. Daughter Phoebe, now 20 months, is shown in mother's arms next to sister Emma, 4.

Larry LaCom/Summit photo.



RATTLERS ARE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST MICE AND RATS

(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of Summit Life articles on wildlife in the Santa Susana foothills).

Along with the Coyote, the rattlesnake represents a first line of defense against rodent overpopulation. The animals are frightened by humans and use their rattles to warn off intruders. They feed exclusively on mice, rats, small squirrels, reptiles and insects.

When a rattler bites to defend itself, it emits a poisonous venom through its fangs. Young rattlers are more dangerous than their parents in this respect, according to Duane Tom, Director of Animal Care for the California Wildlife Center (CWC), Calabasas.

"When young rattlesnakes use their fangs, it is believed that they may not have the ability to discern between a true threat and a false one, and may not have the experience or ability to control the flow of their venom," Dr. Tom explained. "As a result, the young will sometime release large amounts of venom during a bite."

Rattlesnakes kill their prey with their fangs before ingesting them. Most rattlesnakes forage near where they are born. When relocated a substantial distance away, they become disoriented with their surroundings, have difficulty adapting and often die, the licensed



While this Horned Sidewinder may never win a beauty contest, the animal can help keep your mobile home free from rats and mice year around. Rattlesnakes give humans a wide berth, but keep an eye on your pets. Rattlesnake venom kills up to 15,000 dogs annually in Southern California.

Photo By Tigerhawkvok, via Wikimedia Commons

veterinarian explained.

If you see a rattlesnake along the trail, don't panic, said Dr. Tom. Keep your distance; make a little noise, and the animal will most likely scurry into the underbrush. Never hike alone. If trail running during the warmer months, be careful coming around blind corners. Inexperienced people should never attempt to capture or move a rattlesnake. The severed heads of freshly dead rattlesnakes have also been known to bite.

Most importantly explained Dr. Tom, give your dog "rattlesnake avoidance training" before hiking on the trail. While this often employs electric shock, the result is far

less shocking than the seriousness of having your pet bitten by a rattlesnake. It is estimated that 15,000 dogs die annually from snakebite in Southern California. The animals have a 20 percent greater chance than humans of being bitten by poisonous snakes and are about 25 percent more likely to die from them.

The CWC cares for animals whose injuries are often caused when the natural and urbanized environments collide. Since 1998, the non-profit organization has experienced a steady increase in animal patients, currently totaling 5,000 wild animals annually. To contact the CWC, call 818-591-9453. ❖



WOULD YOU BELIEVE, an estimated two tons of trash including a motorcycle and an industrial water heater (left, foreground) were removed from Woolsey Canyon's Four Horse turnout in three hours by some 30 volunteer workers. The group included residents of the Mountain View and Summit mobile home parks, a Cub Scout troop and members of a Cal State Northridge sorority. The county was also indispensable in the cleanup, said Bruce Kuhn, it's organizer. *Larry LaCom/Summit photo.*

AROUND THE TOWN

VALLEY HAPPENINGS, JANUARY - MARCH

Universal CityWalk



Address: 1000 Universal Center Drive
Universal City, CA 91608 Lankershim and
101 freeway (follow signs for parking) - Or
take Red Line Metro to the Universal City
Station. Phone: (818) 622-4455

Movie theaters, restaurants, entertainment and lots of
casual dining. Admission to CityWalk is free except for the
cost to park.

Kid's Club at Northridge Fashion Center

Time: 10:30 am

Location: Food Court

Contact: 818-885-9700

Sponsored by: Northridge
Fashion Center

FREE for kids ages 1-8

Join us every First & Third Thursday of Every Month,
10:30 am, Food Court

Crafts • Music • Live Entertainment

Thursday, January 16 / Spin Art Craft

Thursday, February 6 / Music with Melissa Green



"Into the Frame"



Mon-Fri. 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Sat. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Address: 15821 Ventura Boulevard, Encino,
CA 91436 | Phone: (818) 885-8306

"Into the Frame" will engage and captivate the viewer as
they connect with a diverse collection of paintings and
drawings done in an assortment of artistic mediums. The
14 participating artists in this exhibit are: Susan Ahdoot,
Marlaya Charleston, Cheryl Cohen, Judy Dekel, Jean
Edwards, Jill Gluck, Joan Greenwald, Mary Guzman, Royce
Menkus, Shadi Nowtash, Lois Rothblum, Lynne Schroeder,
Daveda Shapiro and Dee Stone.

"Into the Frame" celebrates the 4th year of collaboration
between Artist Co-op 7 and Encino Terrace Center.

Los Angeles Ballet Presents 'Quartet'



7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Address: 18111 Nordhoff Street,
Northridge, CA 91330

Phone: 310-998-7782

Los Angeles Ballet presents Quartet, a mixed program of
both renowned and new works selected by LAB Artistic
Directors Thordal Christensen and Colleen Neary: "Return
to a Strange Land" by Jiri Kylian, World Premieres by
Christopher Stowell and Sonya Tayeh, and "Stars and
Stripes" by George Balanchine.

Explore the Bible

at the Summit Clubhouse
every Thursday from
6:30 to 7:30 pm. Summit
residents Sharon and
Fletcher Isler will help
students explore the teachings
of the old and new covenants.
A time of fellowship will follow
the half hour study session
with refreshments provided.



SUMMIT LIFE

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