

# SUMMIT LIFE



VOLUME 5

OCTOBER 2013

## GONE WITH THE WIND

SEE PAGE 2



# IT'S SANTA ANA SEASON WHEN CARPORTS FLY AWAY

From Page 1

BY GARRY WORMSER

**W**hen you drive in and out of your carport, you'll probably never think about Daniel Bernoulli.

The man was a Swiss scientist who, in 1738, figured out how a gentle wisp of wind could lift a heavy object, such as the roof of your carport, and send it swirling down the street like a leaf.

The corrugated metal roof of a carport is similar to a wing. That's because wind can pass over and under it at the same instant in time, causing a pressure differential. Mr. Bernoulli discovered the seemingly simple fact that when there's more pressure below a certain mass than above it, lift is created. This uplifting force is known today as the airfoil effect. It not only

keeps jetliners in the air, but blows carport and patio roofs skyward at the rate of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

"Now's the time to check out your carport and make the necessary repairs before the Santa Ana gusts begin," said Jennifer Duprey, a Southern California claims representative for the American Modern Insurance Group. The countrywide insurer specializes in mobile home coverage and is widely known for rapid and fair claims service.

"The most important components of the carport structure are the posts that support the roof," Mrs. Duprey explained. "Make sure that your car hasn't bumped and splintered or bent the posts and that they are firmly attached to the roof. It's especially

important to examine the base of the supports where they bolt into the concrete driveway," she noted.

"Over time, water or runoff will weaken and rust the driveway mounted metal base plates and the base plate bolts, as well as rusting or rotting the posts themselves where they join the plates," Mrs. Duprey said. However, the base plates and bolts can be replaced with aftermarket hardware and wooden posts can be resealed and repainted, according to the claims representative. For more information, you can contact Mrs. Duprey directly at 877-514-5453.

If and when you're caught with a wind-crumpled roof, the first thing to do is to tie it down securely or have someone tie it down for you, being extra careful in handling the sharp metal edges. "If you're insured with American Modern," explained Mrs. Duprey, "we will do whatever it takes to get the damaged roof tied down as quickly as possible. While the price of a new carport can range from \$3,000 to \$10,000, it can climb even higher if the runaway cover falls onto your automobiles, crashes into your roof or collides with other homes down the street."

No one really knows when Mother Nature will huff and puff and blow your carport down. Strong gusts sometimes do little damage. Light breezes, on the other hand, have been known to collapse several carports at once in a single mobile home park. So consider yourself warned. If you haven't paid attention to those innocuous covers over your driveway and patio for the past 10 years or more, you may wake up some bright, clear morning and find that they've vanished; gone with the wind. ❖



The patio cover of this doublewide mobile home simply disappeared one morning. A gentle breeze blew it a half-block away.

*Photo courtesy of Jennifer Duprey*



# NEWSLETTER OPENS NEW GATE TO EFFECTIVE PARK ADVERTISING

**A**n angry resident pasted the threatening message pictured below on the park entrance gate several years ago. Since then, the gate's unintended function as a bulletin board has remained an eyesore. Paper ads taped and tied to its iron flanks often flap wildly as if begging to be taken down.

That's about to change. Beginning with its November issue, Summit Life will replace the gate as a no cost means of residential advertising, directly reaching all 203 homes in the park each and every month. "We want our residents to communicate more effectively and find missing pets faster," said Philip Miller, Summit co-owner. "And we want to accomplish it without compromising the attractive look of the park entrance."

The newsletter ad program will reach its residential audience in two time frames: an immediate time frame for lost and found pets, and a month-to-month time schedule for ads covering yard sales, residential services and private clubhouse events.

Here's how it works. Ads submitted to the Summit office by the last day of each month, will be edited and formatted and will appear in the next mid-month edition of Summit Life. For example, ads received between

played over our automated message alert system. Unless we're told that the pet has been found, each such notice along with a photo of the missing animal will also appear in the following month's newsletter.

The "One Call Now" messaging system is primarily designed for the timely verbal dissemination of urgent messages such as weather/evacuations, neighborhood watch advisories and amber alerts. The system's ability to reach up to six phone numbers and five email addresses for each park resident makes it an ideal vehicle for alerting the park community about lost animals.

It's important for all residents to provide the office with all of their contact numbers

to make the verbal alert system work efficiently. Those numbers should include email addresses, home phones, work phones and cell phones. Please call the Summit office at (818) 340-7564 for questions regarding the system and for ad placement information.. ❖



October 1 and October 31 will be published in the November issue of the newsletter circulated on or about November 15.

We recognize that pets are special, so we want to assist you in getting the word out about your missing pet as soon as possible. All information on missing pets will be recorded and

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

## NEW SUMMIT COUPLE ARE SOCIAL WORKERS WITH A MASTER PLAN



*Valerie Winbush at left and Coyles Scarbrough share a Summit home on Clubhouse Drive. Valerie is a supervisor for a supported living facility. Coyles or “Q,” as her friends call her, is a counselor for a Chatsworth boy’s home. Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.*

**C**oyles Scarbrough and Valerie Winbush agree with life as Ernest Hemingway saw it. “People heal in their broken places,” he once wrote.

The two women moved into a two-bedroom Summit home with a huge kitchen slightly less than a year ago. They are a loving couple, and their relationship is an odyssey of healing in the broken places, not only within themselves, but in others that they counsel on a daily basis.

Valerie is a supervisor for New Horizons, a supported living facility in North Hills. Coyles, known to her friends as “Q,” is a counselor at the Rancho San Antonio Boy’s Home in Chatsworth. It’s a lockup facility for juvenile delinquents.

“My delinquent charges are often too young to have their violent feelings fully diagnosed,” said “Q.” The best we can do as counselors is help them cope emotionally so that they can eventually return to their

communities,” she explained.

Many of those same juveniles often wind up at supported living facilities like New Horizons once their mental disorders such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder are fully understood and the healing process initiated. The pair actually labor at opposite ends of the same spectrum. “We help people live full and productive lives from difficult beginnings at a very early age up until old age,” they said. “It’s a process of healing, sometimes regressing and then healing some more.”

“Q” admits to a difficult childhood, but she made a name for herself when she played basketball for Kennedy High School in Granada Hills.

As a teenage bride, Valerie gave birth to a daughter and now has grandchildren. She fought cancer in her twenties, and remains in remission. “For me, the healing process accelerated nine years ago

when I met “Q.” Valerie confesses. “Since then, we’ve become inseparable.” The couple met while working at a Psychiatric Hospital in Sylmar. That’s where they rented a house until it was sold out from under them.

Social workers are not paid well, even at Valerie’s supervisory level and despite “Q’s” college degree. But the two women love their work, especially when they see their clients mastering long-term goals. The pair each have a master plan for their own success.

“I’ll run my very own supported living facility by the end of 2014,” said Valerie. “There’s no doubt in my mind about that.” “Q” plans to become a chef. “In addition to being a basketball jock,” she said jokingly, “I discovered while I was working in my beautiful kitchen that I have a real knack for cooking.” ❖

# AROUND THE TOWN

## VALLEY HAPPENINGS, OCTOBER-NOVEMBER



### Saddle Peak Lodge

Oct. 22, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.,  
419 Cold Canyon Rd., Calabasas

You may still have time to attend this conservancy fundraiser to help protect the Santa Monica Mountains. All you need is \$250 and a little luck at poker, or blackjack, or craps, or roulette. Hors d'oeuvres, drinks and live music come with the territory. For more information, phone 818-591-1701, ext. 0 (would you believe). You can also visit the website at [www.mountainstrust.org](http://www.mountainstrust.org).



### Fall Shorts

Oct. 8 to Nov. 5,  
8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.  
13500 Ventura Blvd.,  
Sherman Oaks

Fall Shorts is an evening of 10-minute original comedies from an array of talented writers and performers. It features 11 plays, ranging from *Surf N Turf* to *How Dick & Jane Fell In Love*. Tickets are \$20. For more information, phone 818-990-2324.



### Light the Night Walk

Nov. 2, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.,  
Woodland Hills

No cost walk where illuminated balloons are carried to signify contributions to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Walk stands apart as a visual display of hope. For more information, phone 310-342-5841



### On Pointe at 50 & Beyond,

Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.,  
2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks

An evening of world-class dance and music ranging from sensual pas-de-deux, tango and salsa to neo-classical and contemporary pieces. Performance features former American Ballet Theater Ballerina Marie-France Levesque. Tickets \$35 - \$47. For more information, phone 818-888-3531.



### The Canoga Park Farmer's Market.

Every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Now in its third year, the main street Canoga Park Farmer's Market is located on Owensmouth Ave. Between Sherman Way and Wyandotte St. Open to all; the weekly event offers fresh fruits and vegetables, BBQ, food, and live, local entertainment. For more information, visit [www.mainstreetcanogapark.org](http://www.mainstreetcanogapark.org).



### 2013 Canoga Park Dia De Los Muertos Festival

Sunday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Canoga Park Chamber of Commerce along with Main Street Canoga Park and the Canoga Park Improvement Association are sponsors of this no charge event. Located on Sherman Way between Canoga and Vassar Avenues, the festival celebrates community diversity with food vendors and entertainment. For more information, phone 818-346-7480.

# SUMMIT LIFE

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