



Rising together to make things happen....

North Hills Phoenix Association

NEWS

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Letter From Our North Hills Phoenix Association Co-Presidents

Within the last few months, our beloved city of Oakland has hired a new City Manager and elected a new Mayor. Neither of them lived here at the time of the fire. The Fire Suppression District has now been gone for over a year. As the years go by, more new houses are going up, and gradually the percentage of area residents who actually experienced the fires of 1991 (and previous years) declines.

We must be careful that in the midst of this inevitable renewal and change we don't let the issues of vegetation management and fire safety lose their urgency.

Historically, our area burns periodically; unless we vigorously pursue creative strategies to manage vegetation, we will inevitably suffer another tragedy including death and property loss. The North Hills Phoenix Association exists to keep this necessary work alive.

We continue to work with City Council and City Staff to make sure that inspections and clearing of overgrown lots continues. We will make sure our new City leaders understand the lessons the fire has taught us. We explore and publicize new strategies and concepts, such as "Buffer Zones,"

which will keep the risk of wildfire low. We will not let complacency and oblivion substitute for the vigilance and effort we know are absolutely necessary for the welfare and survival of our hill neighborhoods.

To this end, we invite everyone to attend a Safety Fair, scheduled for Sept. 20th at the North Oakland Sports Center from 12 noon to 4:30 P.M.

We have invited a wide range of public utilities, service organizations, government departments like the Fire Department, local CORE groups, and private vendors with emergency equipment to set up demonstrations and display materials useful in insuring fire safety and emergency preparedness. We hope you will drop by and refresh your knowledge of current safety equipment and operations.

Let your neighbors, especially newcomers, know about the Phoenix Organization and the Safety Fair. Your membership keeps us strong and our voice for fire safety loud. Life and safety are the fruits of continuing vigilance and our mutual involvement.

– David Kessler and Linda Strovink Co-Presidents

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

by Anne Seasons

The Public Art Program of the City of Oakland's Cultural Arts Division is soliciting submissions from artists for artwork for the outdoor viewing area of the new North Hills Fire Station.

The artwork should be sensitive to the area and serve a functional purpose. It may include seating elements, tables, etc. The project is only open to artists who are residents of Oakland. Applications are due by August 17. For more information call 510-238-2155. (See new fire station, pages 2-3.)