



## Message from Jane Stanton

I am honored to send the message this month, because I can extend thanks, both personally and from the entire organization, to a few outstanding individuals. And isn't that what this month is all about?

Last month, we highlighted our extraordinary Board Member, Stan Bryant. This month, we recognize Dave Hasson as another YMCA Hero. Allow me to also point out two other dynamic individuals and our 2009 Booster Dinner Chairs: Councilman Greig Smith and his chief of Staff, Mitchell Englander.

As chairs of the event for the third straight year, both Greig and Mitch are an invaluable help in making the event what it is. Greig is the pillar of support while Mitch is the engine that drives the committee. The Booster Club Dinner is really a very special event that brings together individuals in the community as well as friends and sponsors of the YMCA. The evening's events feature a casino reception, a celebrity putting contest and both silent and live auctions. Monies raised support youth programs at our YMCA. So, please join us November 12, 5:30pm, at Porter Valley Country Club for a great evening!

Another "happening" this month that I truly enjoy is our annual Thanksgiving Basket. Now in our 4th year thanks to contributions from community members, we can be a part of 100 families' special meal. Check out the full story on page 4.

Jane Stanton is Group VP and Executive Director of the North Valley Family YMCA



Dave Hasson, a 12-year member of the North Valley Family YMCA board of managers, has been named volunteer of the year by the Greater San Fernando Valley Chapter of the American Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). He and four other individual award winners, plus three organizations, will be honored Thursday, Nov. 5, at the AFP annual awards luncheon at the Hilton Woodland Hills.

Hasson received the award for his longstanding commitment to the YMCA and for his recent work as project manager for North Valley's expansion. A retired civil engineer, Hasson put in 40-hour weeks overseeing placement of two modular units at the YMCA branch in Northridge for additional YMCA classes and upgrades to school buildings at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Granada Hills for a 96-child, YMCA preschool.

"He's been like an employee here," said Miki Shelton, North Valley's Director of Development. "We couldn't have handled this without his help."

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Hasson is a UCLA graduate who spent 33 years as vice president of engineering at Shapell Industries. With two sons, now adults, he joined the West Valley YMCA to participate in the Y-Guides parent and child program.

Read more about Dave Hasson's award on p. 3. Also, ever wonder why people give? Check out p. 3

# FALL FUN IS HERE

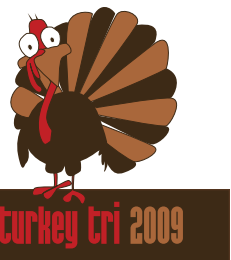
at the North Valley Family YMCA.



Family Camp



Booster Dinner



Turkey Tri



Preschool Learning Center

## November Calendar:



To sign up for any of these activities, log onto [www.ymcala.org/nv](http://www.ymcala.org/nv) or visit the Welcome Center.

- **November 6th: Blood Drive**

Providence Holy Cross will be here from 1:30-7pm in the back pool area. Signups begin Wednesday October 28th at the front desk. Statistics show that every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood and that one donation can help save the lives of up to 3 people, so what better way to ring in the holidays by helping someone in need!

- **November 6-8: Family Camp** at Camp Whittle

Activities include archery, arts and crafts, ropes course, hiking, sports and a campfire on Saturday night. Accommodations will be in Wagner Lodge, each room sleeps four and has a private bath. Fee is \$125 per person, and four meals are included. Contact Josie for more details.

- **November 12th: 22nd annual Booster Dinner**

This is not your average fundraising dinner - casino, silent auction, putting contest and the "Chairs Game" make it a complete adventure. Contact Jane for more details.

- **November 19th: Member Appreciation**

Join us between 8am & 12pm or 2pm & 5pm, and allow us to thank you for being a member of our YMCA.

- **November 21st: 4th annual Thanksgiving Basket** More information on p. 4.

- **November 26th: Turkey Tri**

Get to the YMCA early and burn off those pre-turkey calories! Members of all ages are invited to participate in the 5 lap swim (in the pool) 5 mile bike (on the stationary bike) 1 mile run/walk (outside.) Sign up today at the front desk! \*\*\* Actual start time will depend on age. \*\*\* Kids can race too! Ages 9 and under can participate in the Tiny-Tri 2 lap swim, 3 mile bike, 1 mile run. Cost \$15 and includes T-Shirt.

- **Cycle Studio Now Open!**

Simulating an outdoor ride, this will be a workout without comparison. All levels are welcome.

- **NEW Preschool Learning Center in Granada Hills - Now Enrolling**

15950 Chatsworth St. Granada Hills, CA 91344 We opened Oct. 19 for kids ages 2 to 5 years. Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Contact Mac Johnston for more information, 818-368-3231.

- **Child Care:** Time to prepare for fall

Licensed, on-site, before- and after- school programs at 13 public schools in the Valley. Our programs focus on the whole child and work to develop the 40 developmental assets in all children. We offer homework time, healthy lifestyle activities and a wide variety of enrichment activities. Also, ask about our special Club Mid program at Porter Middle School.

# THANKS & GIVING

at the North Valley Family YMCA.

## Dave Hasson

(continued from p.1)

When his sons went on to college, Hasson and his wife, Sandy, moved to Porter Ranch where he joined the North Valley Family YMCA in 1993.

Ironically, Hasson had years earlier in his career been the civil engineer who first plotted out the grading, sewer, sidewalks and foundations for the branch at 11336 Corbin Avenue. At North Valley, Hasson has served on various committees and is now currently overseeing expansion of the parking lot to add 78 additional spaces and creation of an adjacent nature park trail.

“I’m dedicated to the YMCA because my kids went through that program and I wanted to give back to the community,” Hasson said. “When it comes to getting kids in programs, the more we have, the better off we are.”

Inspired by Dave’s Story? Find out how you can become a YMCA Hero. Talk to Miki Shelton Ext 2319.

## President’s Club: A Legacy of Philanthropy

The North Valley Family YMCA’s President’s Club is a group of dedicated individuals whose love for the YMCA and the community we serve inspired them to make endowment or planned gifts to ensure that we keep our promise to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities both now and in the future. Our thanks to these members for their unwavering support of the YMCA and our community. Contact [Miki Shelton Ext 2319](#) to learn how to join this prestigious group.

Stanley and Sharon Bryant

Shirley B. Cheri

Barry and Renee Cohn

Don and Jan Cosby

Kathy Cryer

Terry and Sarah Dixon

Mitchell and Jayne Englander

Sondra and Drew Frohlich

Camillo Galieti

Leslie K. Grossman

Bette Hamer

Dave and Sandy Hasson

Phillip Johnson Family

Mac Johnston

Kim Kovacs

George and Jeri Kozonis

Howard and Beth Layne

Roger B. Lee

Gary and Dorothy Magenheimer

John and BJ Medler

Maryann Mendenhall

Patrick and Traci Newburn

Paul and Stacy Parzik

Josie Rea

Monica Rodriguez and Raul Fontanills

Robin and Pam Rothman

George W. Sales

Jean C. Sanesi

Larry and Niki Schwartz

Greig and Chris Smith

Jane Stanton

Leonore Stroh

John and Nancy Trent

Tom and Catherine Wallace

George Walter

John Weitkamp and Karen Zdonzyk

Kim Spenchan Family

## Why Do You Give?

Take a look at the top 9 reasons why people give:

- ▶ Believe in the objectives and future direction of the organization
- ▶ Are personally involved in the charity
- ▶ Derive personal satisfaction from providing service to others
- ▶ Feel an obligation to help those less fortunate than themselves
- ▶ Wish to repay a previous debt, or assist an organization that has benefited them
- ▶ Feel peer pressure
- ▶ Respect the person who asks
- ▶ Wish to receive a tax deduction
- ▶ Choose to respond to a gift request

No matter why YOU give, we’d like to say  
**THANK YOU.**

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at the North Valley Family YMCA.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

A warm kitchen, a whiff of turkey and the mouthwatering aroma of pumpkin pie bring families together at Thanksgiving to celebrate the year's blessings. For some families, economic hard times means they'll have to skip this traditional, family meal. That's why each year North Valley Family YMCA works to provide a Thanksgiving feast to those families that might not otherwise have an opportunity to celebrate together.

Groups of North Valley members, board and staff from throughout every YMCA program, as well as the 16 North Valley YMCA child-care sites, put together baskets. They contain vegetables, fruit, stuffing, potatoes, turkey and other Thanksgiving foods, along with gift cards donated from local grocery stores. Those receiving the baskets include families on YMCA program scholarships, as well as community families in need.

"I like being a part of this because it is rewarding to give to those people who need it. When you actually give them the basket, you can see how much they really appreciate it," says Ana Duarte, director of the Granada Hills Preschool Learning Center.

Baskets will be distributed at North Valley on Saturday, November 21st. If you would like to help in any way, please call (818) 368-3231.

### Notes from Last Years' Recipients:

"This card alone cannot express the gratitude for all that you made happen for me and my family. The Thanksgiving basket brought warm smiles and food to our table that day. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts."

"Thank you for our Thanksgiving this year. It came in very helpful as our home burned down in the Sylmar fire and we lost everything!"

"Quiero agradecerles por el gesto cariñoso y fraternal que tiene este gran centro maravilloso y educativo para nuestra familia e hijos. Gracias, muchas gracias por haber compartido con nosotros esta grandiosa celebración de acción de gracia."

"This was certainly a surprise—a surprise most welcoming. I have shared my basket with extended family members—2 sisters-in-law that are basically in the same boat as I am. I let them have their choice and they were most appreciative. These times are tough and every little bit helps. Even kind words like 'Happy Thanksgiving' are a meal in itself."

## Art Walk & Harvest Festival:

Want to see more pictures from events?  
Send your email address to [northvalleyYMCA@ymcala.org](mailto:northvalleyYMCA@ymcala.org)  
and join our Flickr account.

