“We are very excited to be opening a new Bristol Farms in Valencia,” said Patrick Posey, Senior Director of Sales and Advertising for Bristol Farms. “Our specialty food and fresh product mix will be unique to the area, and will fulfill a need that the Valencia community seems hungry for.”

Bristol Farms is famous for its huge selection of produce, including natural and organic items, as well as organic, free-range poultry and hormone-and antibiotic-free, American-raised, all-natural beef. Shoppers can also expect an olive bar, Coffee Café, olive oil-tasting station, fresh baked bread, a full-service floral shop and ready-to-eat and prepared foods that are healthy, delicious and restaurant quality.

The store will feature a uniquely designed décor package that celebrates and highlights the Valencia community. The store will have historical, early 1940s, ’50s and ’60s murals that show off the rich history of the local area.

“The Valencia community is an exceptional fit for a specialty food store like Bristol Farms and an ideal addition to the Bristol Farms family of stores,” Posey said.

Sushi lovers will savor Kabuki, which has a reputation for dishing up innovative Japanese cuisine throughout Southern California for more than 25 years. Known for high-quality service, presentation and freshness, the restaurant consistently wins prestigious awards for Best Japanese Restaurant.

Kabuki Japanese Restaurant is the most popular restaurant in the Valley, and is one of the most popular in the county. It has been open for over 25 years and is known for its fresh ingredients and delicious sushi. The restaurant features a wide variety of sushi, sashimi, rolls, and other Japanese dishes, as well as a selection of sake and other Japanese beers.

In keeping with the waterside theme of the adjacent Bridgeport neighborhood, a one-acre lake will border the western edge of the site along McBean Parkway, and add a touch of scenic beauty to complement nearby Heritage Park. Bridgeport Marketplace could be open in late 2007.
On the first day of their Thanksgiving holiday, 43 students from Valencia Valley Elementary School awoke bright and early to spend the morning doing something nice for others. As part of grand opening festivities for Build-A-Bear Workshop in Westfield Valencia Town Center, students became custom toy-makers, each earningfully stuffing a bear donated by the shop and preparing it for distribution to the SCV Sheriff’s Station’s Community Wide Toy Store program.

The Department has sponsored the program to bring holiday joy to needy families in the Santa Clarita Valley for over 15 years, explained Laurie Beall, Community Relations Officer. Vouchers provide 3 gifts per child, giving parents the opportunity to actually “shop” for items their child might love and/or need. Volunteers wrap the selected presents for families to take home. The Toy Store took place at City Hall over four days in December. Principal Tammi Rainville beamed with pride as the students busily stuffed bears that would soon bring smiles to other children in this community. “Every year we do a drive for the Sheriff’s Toy store. It is a great way to extend our participation,” she said. According to Build-A-Bear representatives Margaret Patton and LaQuita Barnhart, a fundamental principle of Build-A-Bear Workshop, headquartered in St. Louis, is giving back to their communities.

Chocolates à la Carte brings commercial business to Retail Store

What do you get the chocolate lover who has everything? How about a 15-pound, edible, milk chocolate Santa? Or perhaps a white chocolate Eiffel Tower? Or maybe pink chocolate sundae cups?

These are just three of the more than 3,000 items available from Chocolates à la Carte. The Valentine-based specialty chocolate company creates chocolate creations for fantastic holidays and occasions, including birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, New Year’s Eve, Valentine’s Day, Easter, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Hanukkah, Christmas and Thanksgiving. Whether it’s NASCAR, NFL, NHL, princess attire or cowboy duds, there is something for every bear and “your imagination can go wild,” said company spokesperson Katy Lachky.

“Every make-a-bear day takes place at several stations, beginning at Choose Me. There, bear builders select from more than 30 furry characters that include snow leopards, bunnies, frogs, kitties, monkeys and of course, bears. The next stop is the Stuff Me station, where guests choose a sound chip to place in their new friend’s belly. Then they go to the Choose Me station, where guests choose from a wide wardrobe of clothes that include shirts, trousers, dresses and petticoats, and of course, bears are dressed like the students busily stuffed bears that would soon bring smiles to other children in this community. “Every year we do a drive for the Sheriff’s Toy store. It is a great way to extend our participation,” she said. According to Build-A-Bear representatives Margaret Patton and LaQuita Barnhart, a fundamental principle of Build-A-Bear Workshop, headquartered in St. Louis, is giving back to their communities.
When a community is more than a series of houses; when a house is truly a home, that’s when thoughtful planning and superior craftsmanship are at the heart of both. Valencia villages reflect that philosophy, as homes are built on land rich with history and designed with infinite care and workmanship. Inviting residences, presented in Spanish and Italian architectural styles, are located amid a vibrant village tapestry of beautiful and convenient amenities. Valencia’s new village of West Creek and West Hills is no exception to the renowned masterplanned community’s tradition of blending the artistry of nature with inspired architectural design and innovative planning.

As planners of Valencia’s new village of West Creek and West Hills, Newhall Land holds fast to the belief that planning ahead is key to designing well-balanced, beautiful hometowns. Valencia’s inviting neighborhoods are balanced with thriving employment centers, abundant parks and natural areas, a host of recreation, outstanding schools and convenient services. Thoughtful planning and attention to detail encourage Valencia’s warm community spirit, beautiful surroundings and lasting value.

Valencia New Home Information Center
24243 Valencia Boulevard
Valencia, CA 91355
(888) 988-5393
Valencia.com/WestCreek

Lennar Welcome Home Center
28601 1/2 Pietro Drive
Valencia, CA 91355
(661) 310-3622
LennarRegistration.com

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A Legacy of Artistry Comes Home

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Amid rolling hillsides and the tranquil setting of the San Franciscuito Creek, a grand selection of 2,300 distinctive new homes will soon be unveiled. From a wide variety of townhomes to spacious, traditional and executive single-family residences, West Creek and West Hills provide a collection of homes infused with craftsmanship, design and Old World splendor that homebuyers have only imagined until now.

Just step outside and revel in the resort-style amenities that come with homeownership in West Creek and West Hills, featuring three private recreation centers with features such as swimming pools, spas and cabanas. Be comfortable in the knowledge that your new village continues to share in Valencias distinguished environment, with miles of paved pathways and creek-side trails all waiting to be explored and connecting residents to other villages, parks and shopping. The village offers two community parks, Rio Norte Junior High School and a quaint neighborhood retail center. West Creek Elementary School, a new campus within the respected Saugus Union School District will be built by Newhall Land, community planners of Valencia, and is expected to open in the fall of 2008.

Extraordinary Homes from an Extraordinary Builder

Lennar is the proud builder of an inspired selection of new-home neighborhoods within West Creek and West Hills. Since 1954, Lennar has welcomed over 600,000 homebuyers to new homes throughout the United States. For over 50 years, they have built an indisputably solid reputation for exceptional craftsmanship and unparalleled customer care—a reputation that has taken them to the top of Fortune magazine’s list of America’s most admired homebuilders.

For more information on the new Lennar homes coming to Valencia, please register at LennarRegistration.com or stop by the Valencia New Home Information Center, located at the corner of Valencia Blvd. and McBean Parkway, next to Westfield Valencia Town Center.

Lennar—Making Homeownership an Extraordinary Tickled, Delighted & Happy® Experience!
**Santa Clarita is Host City for Nation’s Largest Cycling Race**

**Amgen Tour of California Rolls into Valencia Town Center, February 24**

Imagine standing on a sidewalk in Valencia and watching 150 of the world’s top cyclists flying by you in a scene reminiscent of the most prestigious international cycling races.

On February 24, imagination will give way to reality as the Amgen Tour of California rolls into Santa Clarita. The city was chosen to host Stage 6 of the 8-day, 700-mile race, billed as a “rolling festival” through California and which made a record-setting debut last year.

Stage 6 is the second longest of the Tour at 110 miles, said Rick Gould, Santa Clarita’s Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. It will leave Santa Barbara between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., pass through Ojai and pick up State Route 126 to enter the Santa Clarita Valley. It will follow Avenue Stanford to Avenue Scott through Valencia Industrial Center, and turn right on Midland Parkway. The route continues along Valencia Boulevard to Touney Road, which connects with Magic Mountain Parkway. Riders will make the Magic Mountain-Hablon-Valencia Touney loop three times before finishing on Town Center Drive in front of Hyatt Valencia between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

There will be designated spectator areas set up along the route, including a Lifestyle Festival, which will be held on Midland, behind the finish line. There, race enthusiasts can visit various booths and watch the Stage 6 action as it unfolds on giant video screens.

**HEARTWARMING POSSIBILITIES FOR VALENTINES**

**Heartfelt thanks from an organization that for over 30 years, has been helping individuals become independent, contributing members of the community.**

Barry Witler of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. Roundabouts are circular intersections that allow us to continue to provide quality services to adults with developmental disabilities here in the Santa Clarita Valley. You are helping individuals to become independent, contributing members of the community...”

“With the project unique is its use of roundabouts,” said Barry Witler of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. The interchange is designed to not only handle current traffic flows, but also will have the capacity to meet future demands as well.

“The advantage to using roundabouts is their need for fewer lanes,” Witler said. Standard intersections are controlled by traffic signals and need dedicated lanes in each direction to handle different types of traffic, such as drivers turning left or right. Instead, roundabouts operate continuously, with drivers entering when there is a gap in traffic and traveling around it until they reach an outlet that allows them to make a left turn, a right turn or even a u-turn.

Witler said the design is well suited for the area, given the need to minimize the impact of the interchange on surrounding neighborhoods.

**Freeway Improvements Add up with Hasley/I-5 Interchange**

More changes are “on the road” that will benefit residents and area commuters. One significant improvement is a complete renovation of the Hasley Canyon Road/Interstate 5 interchange in Castaic, which is scheduled to begin in May 2007 and take approximately two years to complete.

The interchange project is a joint effort between Los Angeles County, the State of California and Newhall Land. The $39 million project will provide new on and off-ramps on both sides of the freeway, a new freeway overpass and a bridge widening and scenic retrofit on the existing bridge over Castaic Creek. To ensure that the bridge meets current earthquake safety standards, Newhall Land is contributing $21 million (59%) of the cost of the project. The new interchange is designed to not only handle current traffic flows, but also will have the capacity to meet future demands as well.

Newhall Land president Greg McWilliams presented Howard with a $15,000 contribution that came about as a result of company associates learning more about the organization. Associates spent a day volunteering at LARC Ranch, a residential facility for adults with developmental disabilities, some of whom are Pleasantview clients. “Our associates’ interaction with the community gave us the opportunity to learn more about the great work being done by Pleasantview,” said McWilliams. “It’s a great philosophy of supporting organizations focused on maximizing potential and reaching for excellence. Pleasantview is a terrific example of this philosophy in action.”
Plans call for creating a trail from the Castaic arena to the intersection of Hasley Canyon Road and CDFG biologists collected nearly 400 tadpoles and eggs, raising them to toadlets. The toadlets were then released into the new created habitats within the River Village open space.

Immediately following the 2004 breeding season, Newhall Land worked with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to capture and eventually relocate western spadefoot toad populations to habitats created specifically for them in two areas within River Village. The feasibility to maintain these populations within the village was due primarily to the fact that more than 60% of the River Village site was being preserved as natural areas, including 350 acres of the Santa Clara River corridor.

Newhall Land will continue to monitor the response of the lilies and toads to their new habitats for the next four years. In addition, Newhall Land will provide habitat maintenance through 2010 to prevent non-native species from invading the sites, promoting the species’ long-term sustainability.

To assess its success, biologists visited the site after the species’ first breeding season, and the results were very positive. The 2006 monitoring revealed numerous egg clusters, indicating that the toads utilized their new habitats as intended. In a follow-up visit, tadpoles were present and thriving.

Translocating Lilies Leads to Blossoming Results

The slender and Plummer’s mariposa lilies are a native California toad species, the western spadefoot toad requires special habitat conditions for breeding, and ultimately, its long-term survival. Working with the CDFG, Newhall Land learned that the property contained a few special lily species—the slender and Plummer’s mariposa—and the western spadefoot toad.

TRANSLOCATING LILIES LED TO BLOSSOMING RESULTS

translocating lilies leads to blossoming results

During the planning process for its 700-acre River Village community in Valencia, Newhall Land learned that the property contained a few special native California species. Surveys conducted in conjunction with the environmental review process revealed the presence of at least a few sensitive lily species—the slender and Plummer’s mariposa—and the western spadefoot toad.

The yellow and pink-flowered slender and Plummer’s mariposa lilies bloom during the spring months in many of Southern California’s dry foothill canyons. The thumb-sized western spadefoot toad spends much of its time underground, coming out during spring rains to reproduce within rain pools.

Working with its biologist and the City of Santa Clarita, Newhall Land identified open-space areas within the River Village planning area where lilies could be relocated. In addition, Newhall Land worked with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to capture and eventually relocate western spadefoot toad populations to habitats created specifically for them in two areas within River Village. The feasibility to maintain these populations within the village was due primarily to the fact that more than 60% of the River Village site was being preserved as natural areas, including 350 acres of the Santa Clara River corridor.

Created Habitats Promote Toad’s Breeding Success

A native California toad species, the western spadefoot toad requires special habitat conditions for breeding, and ultimately, its long-term survival. Working with the CDFG, Newhall Land and its consulting biologist explored ways to create and enhance the on-site habitat for the 2.5-inch-long amphibians. The result was in a plan to raise hundreds of tadpoles collected from previously disturbed portions of the property while two new habitat areas were designed and constructed to support the toads’ needs. These created habitats consist of native vegetation surrounding shallow depressions that collect water during the rainy season. “The western spadefoot toads breed in seasonal rain pools,” said Dave Crawford of Compliance Biology, “so we put significant effort into designing a habitat that would provide the right conditions for long-term on-site species success.”

Commitment to Long-term Resource Sustainability

Newhall Land will continue to monitor the response of the lilies and toads to their new habitats for the next four years. In addition, Newhall Land will provide habitat maintenance through 2010 to prevent non-native species from invading the site, promoting the species’ long-term sustainability.

River Village is a terrific example of how environmental mitigation, even when experimental, can be successful with the right formula of research, regulatory agency coordination and design engineering,” concluded Carpenter. Newhall Land will continue to explore habitat creation and enhancement approaches as future communities in Valencia and Newhall Ranch move through the planning process.

LILLYS AND TOADS BENEFIT FROM ENHANCED HABITAT AT RIVER VILLAGE

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