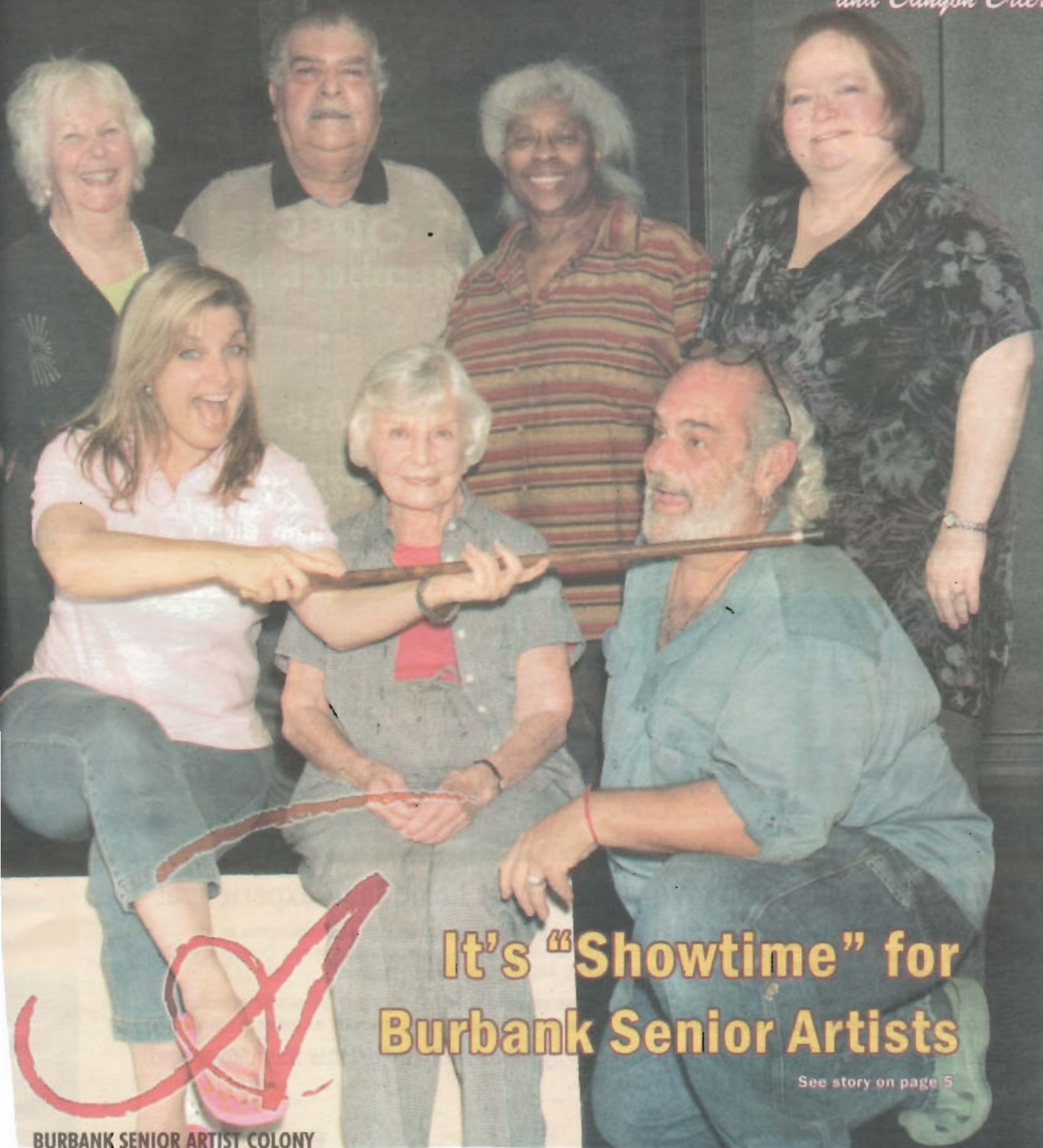


# The Toluca Times

*and Canyon Crier*



## It's "Showtime" for Burbank Senior Artists

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# Stay Active, Get Creative, Be Inspired

It's 'Showtime!' for Burbank Senior Artists

By Dina Takouris

**BURBANK** - With its doors open less than a year, Burbank Senior Artists' Colony is already creating quite a buzz about town - and not just as a great place to live. A multi-award winning apartment complex (including the NAHB/NCOSH Gold Medals for Best of Senior's Housing Design as well as Silver and Gold Awards for Active Adult Housing and Multifamily Housing), Meta-Housing's Burbank complex is, as their slogan suggests, "more than shelter." Beyond membership in a generation, what really attracts and bonds BSAC residents into a community is their love of the creative arts. Experienced entertainers and artists, working alongside novices who once put their dreams aside to raise families and pursue other careers, are coming together and making their mark on the entertainment community.

In January, the Colony hosted a successful two-hour broadcast live on KPFF-FM 90.7 radio featuring celebrities including Academy Award®-nominated actress Teri Garr and legendary

blues musician Billy Osborne, who for many years wrote for and performed with Ray Charles. In an interview on that program, resident Suzanne Knode said she finally had time to work on a longtime dream - to write a screenplay. Fast-forward just four short months, and Knode's first effort is becoming a short film that will air on Showtime this fall, with a cast entirely comprised of talented Colony residents.

Born from an onsite workshop given by BSAC executive director and noted journalist Tim Carpenter, Knode's story, *Bandida*, fell into the hands of Carpenter's good friend and associate, editor/filmmaker Ronny Novick, director of the award-winning human rights documentary, *Strange Spirit: One Country's Occupation*, Novick loved the script, agreed to direct it, and *Bandida* will be entered into film festivals and screened around town.

"I think the thing that is stunning me the most," Knode commented in her radio interview, "is that I really thought all of this had passed me by. You know that feeling [you had] when you got out of school and the whole world was open for you? Now,



Screenwriter Suzanne Knode's first effort, "Bandida" will air on Showtime this fall.

all over again, the world is open to me, and I have no idea what it's going to bring."

What the immediate future is bringing is national recognition. *This American Life*, with noted host, Ira Glass, is profiling the making of *Bandida* for its new Showtime television series, where you will be able to view it this fall!

Stay Active. Get Creative. Be Inspired. Burbank Senior Artists' Colony's slogan echoes through this beautifully appointed facility as one gazes at the inspiring art adorning the halls.

Internationally known resident artist, Belle Osipow, contributed over 50 of those works. An alumnus of Cheimard Art Institute, Art Center and Otis Art Institute, Osipow creates in a variety of media including painting, constructions, printmaking and photography. Her showings and permanent collections include the Susan Teller Gallery in New York, Honolulu National Academy of Fine Art, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery and the LACMA Rental Gallery.

Another internationally

acclaimed artist/painter in residence at BSAC is Charlie Schridde. After a successful career as an award-winning illustrator and photographer, Schridde retired to concentrate on painting. He has been featured in many magazines, including *Fine Art*, *Southwest Art*, and *American Cowboy*. Perhaps best known for his impressionist-realist images of the American West, Schridde has just returned from South Africa with a moving new collec-



Western singer and guitarist Buck Page has just released his first solo CD, "Right Place to Start."

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tion of aboriginal women and indigenous populations, wildlife and scenery.

And who says the music world is reserved for artists under 30? Western-style singer and guitarist Buck Page, founder of the original Riders of the Purple Sage when he was still in his teens, at 80-plus years young has just released his first solo CD entitled *Right Place to Start*.

There is, in fact, a gold mine of musical talent in residence at BSAC. There are weekly performances by the in-house jazz band. Its drummer, Charles "CJ" Johnson, has worked with Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughn and other legends.

The beautiful Burbank Senior Artists Colony, located at 240 East Verdugo Ave. (at San Fernando Road and Verdugo Avenue) in Burbank, welcomes residents 55 or better (spouses can be age 45). BSAC's amenities and programs foster the development of art in its various forms in a nurturing environment, allowing residents to express lifelong talents and skills and develop new ones. It's a place to stay active, to get creative, to be inspired. A place to call home.

For more information, you may call (818) 955-9391 or visit on the web at [www.mtsfs.org/colony.html](http://www.mtsfs.org/colony.html).