

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 44, Issue 5

SHPOA September-October 2021

Recap of the July 13, 2021, SHPOA General Meeting

Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

The Shadow Hills Property Owners held their first in-person meeting since March 2020 at Tierra Del Sol on July 13, 2021. It was an outdoor gathering, well attended by neighbors throughout the community. The weather was perfect! We met under a grove of trees on the southwest side of the parking lot and there was a refreshing summer breeze that helped to keep the temperature down. Everyone was eager to renew friendships and discuss local issues. All-in-all, a very positive gathering.

The meeting's program centered around Fire Preparedness. Our Vice President, Jacqy Gamble introduced our guest speakers—Eric Hamilton, an insurance broker and local resident, and the hard-working, courageous firefighters from our local fire Station #24. We want to thank our guest speakers for a most informative evening.

Eric Hamilton strongly recommends that we check our policies to ensure that we have the coverage needed in a mountain fire district. Oftentimes people find out too late that their insurance coverage is inadequate. He also advises that insurance rates be checked prior to purchasing a new home. Make sure that your property is compliant with fire regulations in order to assure that your fire claims will be accepted.

Station #24 of the Los Angeles Fire Department specializes in brush clearance preparations. Although many other stations are deployed city and county-wide 24/7, Station 24 stays at their station in order to be ready to protect our local hillsides. They note that most house fires are started by brush fire embers. Among their many recommendations: cars should be removed from roadways during red flag warnings; garage door openers should be disabled; garden hoses and ladders should be easily accessible; there should be a family evacuation plan in advance,

September SHPOA Community Meeting

We will meet on

September 14th at 7 pm.

Unfortunately, the COVID impact has pushed us back to using ZOOM for our meetings.

Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez

and her staff person Eve Sinclair will be our guests. They will provide us progress updates and report on a bundle of street and traffic improvements in our, and surrounding neighborhoods. It is also an opportunity for us to ask her questions about neighborhood plans and zoning issues.

Please join us with our Zoom Webinar Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89170010704>

**PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTEND TO GET ALL
YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED.**

including a meet-up location...especially if there is an elderly or disabled person at the residence. Weeding and weed eating activities should be in the morning or evening hours, with a hose at hand. Shavings and most mulches are highly flammable. For more fire preparedness information: lafd.org

Following the informative fire preparedness program, the SHPOA officers and committee chairs gave their bi-monthly reports. The minutes by Lynne Toby, Recording Secretary, were read and approved from the last General Meeting. Jo Rich, Membership chair, is collecting memberships in person at East Valley Feed on the weekends. Carlos George, Traffic Safety Coordinator, gave an update regarding the traffic issues on Sunland Blvd and Wentworth,

(Cont. on page 4 "Recap")

Jr. Ambassadors Plant Trees in Hansen Dam Parks: LABT Tree Planting-August 7, 2021 Equestrian Trails, Inc.

Since 1992, Los Angeles Beautification Team, which was started by community volunteers who are now residents of Shadow Hills, has diligently worked to improve the health and beauty of our city. LABT removes graffiti, plants trees in neighborhoods and schools, teaches environmental education classes, and converts asphalt playgrounds into healthy green, shaded environments for children. They offer community tree giveaway programs, which Shadow Hills has participated in over the last 15 years. They have been implementing storm capture projects for the city and offered DIY classes for residences on building rain gardens and rain barrels at home. LABT currently has grants to plant 1500 trees in local parks and neighborhoods.

On August 7, along with Dominique Vitti, who joined us representing our 7th District Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, Equestrian Trails Inc., Jr Ambassador Court continued the tradition of community support by joining LABT in planting 16 trees in Gabrielino Park, (aka Orcas Park) and the park that fronts the soccer fields around the corner on Osborn. It was a very successful day of planting.

These young ETI members work diligently to assist whenever asked. To become an ETI JR. Ambassador, they have written equine tests, riding tests that reflect their discipline, and personal interviews. It is not easy to

(Cont. on page 3 "Jr. Ambassadors")



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(if no email is listed, please send to board@shpoa.us)

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President: Tina Eick
board@shpoa.us

Vice President: Jacqy Gamble

Executive Secretary: Owynn Lancaster

Recording Secretary: Lynne Toby

Treasurer: Michael Stein

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membership@shpoa.us
Michael Stein

Appointed Officers

Land Use: vacant

Equestrian and Trails: James Gutman (Trails)
Rosey Payne (Liaison)

Special Projects: Jo Rich (Events)
Azalia Snail

Neighborhood Watch: Vacant

Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets: Susan Wong
shpoa@shpoa.us

Webmaster: Michael Stein
webmaster@shpoa.us

Traffic Safety Coordinator: Carlos George

Newsletter Editor and Article Collection: Owynn & Sarmin Lancaster
shpoanews@gmail.com

Newsletter Ad Collection: vacant

Newsletter Design/Layout: Gerardo Barrientos

Hospitality: vacant

Historian: Gerardo Barrientos

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Website: www.shpoa.us

Senior Lead Police Officers:

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36373@lapd.lacity.org

Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West Rich Wall 818-634 -0755
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Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC):
www.ftdnc.org

President: Kevin Davis
president@ftdnc.org

At large rep: Cindy Bloom
cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org

(Cont. from page 2 "Jr. Ambassadors")

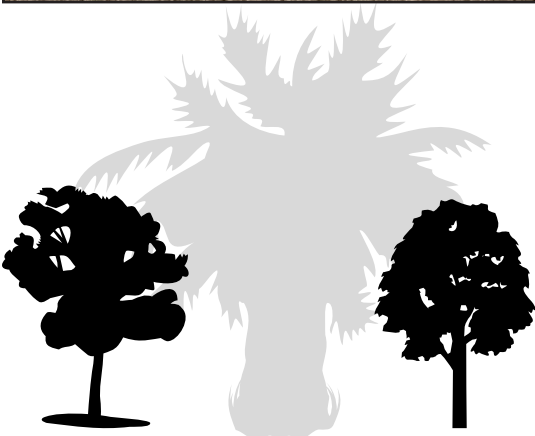
become a Jr. Ambassador and they take their duties very seriously. This year there are 6 girls serving the 2021 -2022 calendar years. They are members of different ETI Corrals that cover Southern California.

This past year LABT has added 138 trees in Hansen Dam and Orcas Park and planted close to 800 trees in our valley area. LABT tree program is, in part, provided by CalFire Grants. LABT will water these new trees to help them survive.

Please join LABT for their annual observance of 9/11, held on the south side of North Hollywood Park. Cross streets Magnolia and Tujunga. The 20th Anniversary remembrance will be held Saturday 9/11/2021 from 5:30 to 6:30. Masks and social distancing will be observed.

For more information on both organizations, visit LABT @ <https://hbteam.org/> and Equestrian Trails, Inc. @ <https://etinational.com/>

If you want to join our local Corral 22, for day rides and camping, please call Rebecca Borguez at (818) 262-7764





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(Cont. from page 1 "Recap")

and finally, Tina Eick, Land Use Chair, discussed the current status of the state's attempt to eliminate single-family properties in SB9 and SB10. Although there is growing opposition statewide (over 70% opposed), pressure must not let up on the state assembly legislators to listen to their constituents. Both bills will allow multiple buildings to be constructed on single-family zoned properties, by right. That means there will no longer be hearings to discuss the proposed development. Side yards and back yards will be 4' wide. There will be no environmental review, no off-site improvements required by the developer, and no infrastructure requirements.

Refreshments of watermelon and cookies were provided by Jacqy Gamble, Vice President. It was great to see so many friends and neighbors gather to discuss local issues and concerns. And finally, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.




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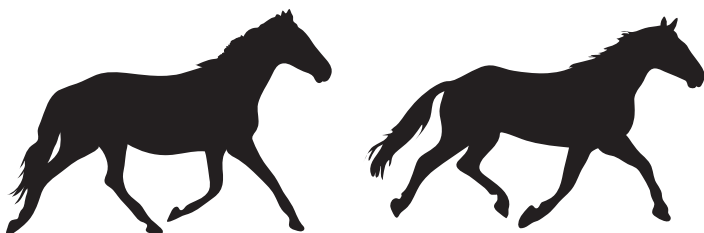


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Equine Crosswalk at Sunland/Johanna?

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

All horse owners in the City of Los Angeles are assessed an annual License fee/horse. The monies are collected into the City of Los Angeles' Equestrian Facilities Trust Fund. The intended use of monies from this Trust Fund is to "provide for the construction of new equestrian facilities." Shadow Hills is intersected by Sunland Blvd, a corridor we all know to have a high level of traffic leaving Shadow Hills little in the way of providing safe passage for equestrians from the north-to-south side or south-to-north side of Sunland Blvd. One way to provide safe passage is to install a High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) beacon signal at the intersection of Sunland Blvd and Johanna Ave to enable equestrians to cross from the south side of Sunland Blvd to the north from which they can continue on to the favored riding area of the Hansen Dam basin or from the north side to the south side of Sunland Blvd to access the trail networks south of Sunland Blvd. There are currently enough funds in the City's Equestrian Facilities Trust Fund which can be transferred to the Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Street Lighting to begin planning a project design for a HAWK crosswalk at the intersection of Sunland Blvd and Johanna Ave. In mid-August 2021, Councilmember Monica Rodriguez presented a Motion to City Council asking that they, with approval of the Mayor, authorize the transfer of \$455,500 from the Equestrian Facilities Trust Fund to a new account in the Department of Transportation Trust Fund to be entitled "Sunland Blvd at Johanna Ave Improvement" and to ask the respective City Departments to identify a contractor for the construction of the project. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review and recommendations. Updates will be made available in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.









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- For more information call: 888-4LAPET1 or 888-452-7381.

State Drought Conditions

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

State drought conditions are accelerating at an unprecedented rate now outpacing the devastating 2012-2016 drought. Reservoir levels Statewide continue to drop raising concerns about future water supply and its impact on the population and the environment. Among water resources for the City and the Metropolitan, region are those of the Colorado River which also is seeing record-low water levels including at Lake Mead from which the City derives a large portion of its power generation. Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Mitch O'Farrell have stated that these worsening conditions call for immediate and aggressive water conservation methods to mitigate these drought impacts. The City has been at the forefront of water recycling and reuses efforts but it is obvious that more needs to be done to address the growing drought condition. The Colorado River Compact is a 1922 agreement between States, Native Tribes, and other Southwestern jurisdictions which governs the allocation of Colorado River water rights and as such to the City and the southern California region. The Compact has not been updated since its inception through official Compact renegotiations are currently already in progress. In late June 2021, Councilmembers Koretz and O'Farrell co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Department of Water and Power and Metropolitan Water District prepare and present a report to the City Council inclusive of a review and greatly warranted Compact Allocation Up-Date including such items as water conservation elements, water recycling elements, watershed management elements, stormwater capture/reuse/remediation elements, use of native plants, turf removal, a review of the current local water resiliency strategies that can be employed regionally in order to effectively meet the growing drought crisis and that the Department of Water and Power report on the potential impacts to Hoover Dam power generation due to the historic low water levels at Lake Mead. It is hoped that by integrating new and effective water conservation elements in the Colorado River Compact, the City, Region, and Southwest will be able to meet the challenges of the drought crisis. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and River Committee for their review and recommendations. To be updated in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.





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High-value Projects to Bypass the PLUM Committee – Up-date

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

In a 2020 meeting, the City Council's Planning Land Use and Management (PLUM) Committee considered the Motion presented to City Council by Councilmember Nury Martinez that Projects classified as "high value" should bypass the usual step of being heard in the PLUM Committee and go directly to City Council for final approval/denial. The Committee's recommendations included:

That the City Council instruct the Department of City Planning along with the City's Chief Legislative Analyst prepare a report developing criteria for the classification of "High-Value Projects" and amend the planning process so that these Projects be diverted from the PLUM Committee and go directly to the City Council for consideration. The report is also to determine the total cost of having "High-Value Projects" first being considered in the PLUM Committee since 2013.

The City Council is to instruct the Department of City Planning to include deadlines as to when "High-Value Projects" should be scheduled to be heard in City Council and when "Non-High Value Projects" need to be scheduled to be heard in the Planning and Land Use Management Committee where all Project applications are currently being processed.

Seven Neighborhood Councils submitted the Community Impact States as "Against" with one as "Against Unless Amended."

Los Angeles is already overrun with corporate developers and massive Projects. The Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) is one of the few protections keeping Los Angeles' skyline from overcrowding. It is necessary that PLUM continues to impart its oversight on massive high-profile Projects. Were these massive construction Projects skirt the PLUM committee, they not only avoid legal scrutiny but reasonable public input as well. "High-Value Projects" implies projects of significant size and/or significant impact on their neighboring communities and, as such, deserve full vetting with sufficient time and input for evaluating their impacts. A better approach to reducing corruption might be to extend prohibitions on contributions by lobbyists and developers both as individuals and as firms. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



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Benefits and Value of SHPOA Membership

Preserve Country Lifestyle

- ✓ Fight for code enforcement to protect residential zoning
- ✓ Provide legal counsel and referrals
- ✓ Expand trail system, open space and wildlife corridors
- ✓ Support equestrians and equestrian organizations
- ✓ Advocacy with government and law enforcement agencies
- ✓ Assisting families impacted by fires or other natural disasters

Protect Public Safety, the Environment and Property Values

- ✓ Initiate Neighborhood Watch groups
- ✓ Liaison to local police and fire departments
- ✓ Assist animal health and care
- ✓ Reduce speeding, unsafe driving and trash truck traffic
- ✓ Community beautification and clean-ups
- ✓ Partner with real estate community
- ✓ Leading the fight to defeat the high speed train proposals

Promote Shadow Hills

- ✓ Market unique lifestyle and real estate properties
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Update on the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance – Part 7

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) submitted a letter of objection to the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) relating to the proposed Sidewalk Repair Program especially as it relates to the proposed Sidewalk Repair Street Tree Policy. The entire Sidewalk Repair Program has been set in motion as a result of a 2010 court case ruling in *Willits vs LA* which claimed that many of LAs sidewalks violated features of the 1973 ADA and Rehabilitation Act. Having lost the case, it was determined that to be completed within 30 years, Los Angeles must invest \$1.4 Billion in a Sidewalk Repair Program that would bring LA sidewalks up to ADA standards. The Forest Advisory Committee felt that the Ordinance, as proposed, would codify existing unsustainable practices for thirty years that relies on old data and misinformation. The City would fail to acknowledge and address problems inherent in current practices. The urban forest must play a crucial role in the health of our City as tree canopies reduce temperatures, clean our air and aid in groundwater recharge. Everyone wants a “walkable sidewalk,” but must also maintain a healthy tree canopy. We do not need to choose between one or the other. The Committee also rejects the notion that a choice has to be made between affordable housing and trees. The City continues to approve residential projects that remove mature trees and reduce permeable surfaces claiming the sacrifice be needed to meet housing goals. With proper planning and the adoption of “best practices” construction of new affordable housing AND maintaining a healthy urban forest is possible. Unfortunately, the proposed Ordinance maintains failed past practices and bad policies. The proposed Ordinance is using an outdated and unsubstantiated inventory of 700,000 street trees to determine the possible impact of tree removal failing to recognize this number to be inaccurate even by the City which is currently in the process of updating the inventory of its existing street trees. In addition, the proposed Ordinance is relying on the density of private trees to help support the insignificant impact that a removal of 12,000 trees would have, failing to recognize that the private tree canopy is in serious decline due to the cumulative effect of mansionization, new development, drought and poor management practices. And the Bureau

(Cont. on page 9 “Empty Homes”)

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(Cont. from page 8 "Update")

of Engineering was unable to access and unable to utilize LIDAR data completed by Loyola Marymount which mapped the current tree canopy to, in any way, reconcile it with their model in use. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



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Empty Homes Penalty? – Part 3

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

While facing both a crisis of homelessness AND a shortage of “affordable housing,” Los Angeles still additionally suffers from a state of elevated housing unit vacancies. Various cities around not only the country but around the world are facing a similar housing crisis. They have responded by establishing some form of an “Empty Homes Penalty” or “Vacancy Tax” to address the issue with property owners who deliberately keep habitable units vacant. Vancouver became the first North American municipality to levy a tax on empty homes as a way to fight back against rampant speculation and foreign ownership that left many homes in the City empty during the recent housing crisis. The policy requires homeowners to prove that their homes are occupied for at least six months out of the year by either themselves or by renters or they will be charged an additional one percent property tax on the property’s assessed value. The revenue collected by Vancouver’s Empty Homes Tax goes towards affordable housing projects, homeless programs, and resources, and other blight mitigation programs. The Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney prepared a proposed Vacant Property Tax Ordinance modeled after that in effect in the City of Oakland to present to the City Council that would be imposed on properties and parcels that are unoccupied and vacant for 315 days or more per year, the tax rate to be imposed based on the type of properties or parcels that are unoccupied or vacant respectively as follows:

Unoccupied multifamily properties and unoccupied corporate single-family properties will be taxed at an annual rate of \$6,000 per parcel.

Corporate-owned vacant parcels zoned for single-family residences that measure 20,000 sq ft or less will be taxed at an annual rate of \$5,000 and if larger than 20,000 sq. ft. an additional \$1,000 tax per 2,000 sq. ft. or fraction thereof.

Vacant parcels zoned for multi-families measuring 20,000 sq ft or less are to be taxed at an annual rate of \$10,000 and if larger than 20,000 sq ft an additional \$2,000 tax is to be imposed for every additional 20,000 ft or fraction thereof.

Vacant parcels zoned for mixed-use measuring 87,120 sq ft or more are to be taxed at an annual rate of \$5,000 plus an additional \$1,000 for every 20,000 sq ft or fraction thereof in excess of 187,120 sq ft.

Exemptions would be made for non-profits and any properties or parcels undergoing or about to undergo construction or development. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



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By Vanessa Marsot, Resident

Want a decadent treat that's good for you and doesn't hurt our animal friends? Check out this recipe from the Decadent Health Nut of Ellora Wellness, that is packed with flavor, but has no oil, no refined sugar, and is gluten free.



It's full of protein and fiber from lentils and oats, has omega 3's from the flaxseed, and B vitamins and brain power from the dates. Dates do not raise glycemic levels like refined sugars. You could have this as a delicious protein bar or breakfast treat. Or a midday snack. Or whenever the heck you feel like it. Go ahead and indulge. It's guilt-free and good for you! For more healthy vegan recipes, contact Vanessa at info@ellorawellness.com or 818-383-5998.

Ingredients

Brownies

- 2 cups cooked red lentils
- 1 cup quick oats
- 2/3 cup pure date syrup
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cacao & carob powder
- 1/2 cup ground flaxseed
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup vegan dark chocolate &/or carob chips

Caramel

- 1 cup full fat coconut milk
- 1 cup date sugar

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line an 8x8 pan with parchment paper and set aside.

Make caramel by adding coconut milk and sugar to a saucepan over medium-heat. Stir until sugar has dissolved. Let mixture simmer while stirring occasionally for 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside and let cool (It will thicken as it cools).

In a food processor or coffee grinder, process the oats until they are somewhat broken down.

Add the remaining brownie ingredients besides the chips and process until smooth. Set aside.

Pour half of the batter into the pan. Then add a layer of the caramel and add 1/2 a cup of the dark chocolate and carob chips on top. Then pour the other half of the brownie mixture on top and gently spread around evenly with a rubber spatula.

Bake for 18-22 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Let chill in the refrigerator overnight before serving. Serve. Store leftovers (there won't be any ;) tightly covered in the refrigerator for 5-7 days

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Cell/Text 818-523-3645 Fax 818-951-1859
Office 818-951-1851
trish.realtor@gmail.com
www.trishramseyrealtor.com

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC.

Emergency Animal Hospitals & Services

Animal Specialty Group www.asgvets.com
4641 Colorado Blvd. (off 5 Fwy), Los Angeles 90039
(818) 244-7977 Mon–Fri: 2pm–8am; Weekends: 24 hours
Animal Emergency Centre www.valleypet911.com
11730 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604
(818) 760-3882 Mon–Thurs: 6pm–8am; Weekends: Fri 6pm–
Mon 8am
Shadow Hills Chip Reader: Jacqy Gamble (818) 426-5226

East Valley Animal Shelter

Needs Blankets, Towels,

Toys and Treats for Cats and Dogs

Please bring items to East Valley Feed & Tack

Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tuesday, September 14th via Zoom

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Community Calendar

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)

- 3rd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center)
- www.ftdnc.org

FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

- 1st Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- 9747 Wheatland Ave.

FTDNC Equestrian Committee meeting

- 2nd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

Neighborhood Watch

- 3rd Tuesday, Every Month 6:00 p.m.
- Sunland-Tujunga Library, 7771 Foothill Blvd

LAPD Community Coffee Time

- 1st Thursday, Every Month 8:00 a.m.
- Rise n Shine Cafe, 9685 Sunland Blvd.

Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

- LAST Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

ETI C20

- 1st Monday, Every Month
- Becky Borquez, 818-262-7764
- ETINational.com

WANT TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE SHPOA NEWSLETTER?

Our newsletter reaches over 2200 households and is issued every 2 months. Only \$45 for a business card ad, \$95 for 1/4 page, and \$190 for 1/2 page. For more info, email invoices@shpoa.us

SHPOA ADVERTISING DEADLINE For Nov-Dec 2021 Newsletter: Oct. 10th

IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

Dial 311 – Info on all City Services
L.A. Dept. of Water & Power (800) 342-5397
Street Service (800) 996-2489
Large Item Pickup..... (800) 773-2489
Abandoned Car..... (800) 222-6366

Key Community Locations & Contact Info

All Nations Church: 10000 Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace
Bolton Hall: 10110 Commerce Ave., Tujunga (818-352-3420)
Lake View Terrace Recreation Center: 11075 Foothill Blvd.,
Lake View Terrace
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church: (Johanna/Sunland Blvd.
intersection); Pastor Arlo Tysinger (818-353-2500)
Stonehurst Park: 9901 Dronfield, Stonehurst/Shadow Hills (818-767-0314)
Stonehurst Elementary School: 9851 Stonehurst Ave., Sun Valley
(818-767-8014)
Tierra del Sol: 9919 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills (818-352-1419)
Village Christian School: 8930 Village Ave., Sun Valley (818-767-8282)
City of LA North Valley Neighborhood City Hall/Office: Council Member
Monica Rodriguez, District 7, 13520 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 209,
Pacoima, CA 91331 (Tujunga location being renovated) same phone
number: (818-352-3287)