

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 36, Issue 3

May-June 2013

Remember to Vote on Tuesday, May 21

Elections for Los Angeles Mayor, City Controller, City Attorney, Board of Education, Community College District and Local Measures



"Share the Road" Equestrian Safety Signage Sprouting Up Around Shadow Hills

by Dave DePinto

Over the past year, SHPOA worked very hard with Councilman Alarcon and his staff, as well as local equestrian leaders and organizations to lobby for and to secure funding for additional equestrian safety measures. Some of that work is now bearing fruit.

"Share the Road" signage with brightly reflective horse imagery has been installed on many local streets in recent

(See "Share the Road" p. 3)

Remembering Shadow Hills' Friend Lona Webb

By Donna Sweet (Daughter)



"Walk on, Sparkle, walk on," was commonly heard as Lona Lowe Sweet Webb drove one of her petite Welsh ponies through the Shadow Hills neighborhood. Driving in cart was one of her great joys, as was sharing rides with friends and strangers alike. Lona loved tinkering in the yard, gardening and cultivating her various fruit trees throughout the family

(See "Remember Lona" p. 4)

MAY SHPOA MEETING Saturday, May 18, 9:30a.m.-11:30a.m.

Ride Your Horse, Car, Bike to Stonehurst Park!

SHPOA's annual "outdoor" equestrian-style meeting will be held at Stonehurst Park. Bring your spouse, family, friends, pets and HORSES! We will focus on equestrian needs throughout the community.

Come meet our new Councilman, Felipe Fuentes, as well. We'll have food and refreshments for all, a great way to start your weekend.

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

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

Promote Shadow Hills

- ✓ Market unique lifestyle and real estate properties
- ✓ Conduct SHPOA membership drives
- ✓ Hold general member meetings with guest speakers, helpful information and entertainment
- ✓ Bi-monthly newsletter
- ✓ Daily email outreach and information
- ✓ Website information
- ✓ Special events and signage

2013 SHPOA Board Members

Executive Officers

President:	Dave De Pinto	352-7618 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com
Vice President:	Sue Mansis	554-8113 suemansis@shpoa.us
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Recording Secretary:	Katherine Dayen	Dayenight1@gmail.com
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Special Projects:	Vacant	
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818-634-0685 (office)
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31095@lapd.lacity.org

Sun Valley: Michelle Rodriguez 634-0755
31020@lapd.lacity.org

**Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC):
www.ftdnc.org**

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Robert (Bob) Bell

East Shadow Hills/East LVT: Dale Gibson 968-8670
Mike Carpenter 470-5235
lamikec@yahoo.com

SHPOA Board Ponders Membership and Financial Challenge

By Dave DePinto and Eric Stein

SHPOA needs to confront a long-standing manpower and financial challenge: the Association, which supports ALL of Shadow Hills, is supported financially by a relative few. Only 10% of our community's 2,200 households are members of SHPOA. Is our community still interested in a "high touch", neighbor-to-neighbor community or have new values, changing culture, technology and social media rendered local community organizations like ours obsolete?

Background

SHPOA has served the Shadow Hills community since the mid-1960s with a variety of services designed to "preserve, protect and promote" our country lifestyle, quality of life and property values. SHPOA is not a homeowner association; it is a "neighborhood improvement association." It's an all volunteer organization and it chooses its issues and priorities based on input and feedback from our "members" and residents.

With more than 2,200 households in Shadow Hills, if you assume 3 people per household, that's a community of over 6,500 residents...and that's of the two-legged variety. One of our primary functions, as evidenced by the free newsletter, free Daily Fodder, free website and free bi-monthly meetings, is to inform, engage and advocate on behalf of our residents about important issues. We think we do a great job of this in our all-volunteer way.

Thus, we are struggling with the fact that last year approximately 330 residents joined SHPOA (for \$25) and this year, despite numerous mailings, appeals and solicitations, membership payments number approximately 200 four months into the new year.

We thank the contributing members for their support and confidence – you are doing more than your share! But, while serving the entire Shadow Hills community is our objective, we are trying to make sure our services are equitable and cost-effective. With more than 2,000 households receiving ALL the above benefits of membership at NO cost, in effect subsidized by our currently active 200 members, we have to review our future. To be clear, we are not considering dissolving SHPOA at this point, but we are being forced to look at the optimal way for us to serve our active members and whether we continue to provide free services for those who either don't want to support SHPOA or who don't even know or care about SHPOA.

SHPOA basically breaks even each year financially; we don't bite off more than we can chew. We are certified with both the state of California and the IRS as a non-profit organization. But we could provide even more services, information and advocacy if more members of the community participated. Something has to give and the SHPOA board is reviewing this issue carefully. We will shortly send a letter to all non-members asking for their support and input on their ideas and their needs. We may get a great response...or we may find that indifference and trends like social media have changed our community's needs and culture. SHPOA

Support and Input Needed.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions on this topic, the

Board would love to hear from you. Feel free to speak with any board member, call/write SHPOA president Dave DePinto (818) 352-7618; 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com), membership director Eric Stein (949) 280-1339; eric@shpoa.us) or come to any of our upcoming meetings. We will discuss this issue further in the upcoming months. If this article interests you in joining SHPOA, please use the membership form included in this newsletter or visit the membership section of our website at: (http://www.shpoa.us/Membership_Subscription.html)

Thank you.



Another Good Sign

By Dave DePinto

Scrapers, tractors, pavers...Isn't this the way the City is supposed to function? Shadow Hills is receiving an unprecedented amount of street paving



services along with the equestrian signage project. It's refreshing to see our tax dollars being put to work for services that make our community safer and improve our property values. Our Council office deserves much credit for pushing for these services, but kudos also go to the squeaky wheel residents of Shadow Hills who have kept up the pressure for many years to get this community cleaned up. Keep up the good work! 🐾



Helpful Hint of the Month for the Horse Owner

By Dr. Lindsey Brown

This very comprehensive list is shown in full on the SHPOA website (www.shpoa.us). Due to its length, we'll cover one tip per issue of our newsletter.

Tip #4 - HOW FREQUENTLY SHOULD I DEWORM?

In some instances, horses may be dewormed too frequently, which can lead to parasite resistance to the various deworming products. Fecal egg count tests are improving our deworming programs. A fecal egg count test is a microscopic examination for parasite eggs in fresh manure. The results can help us create a more specific and individualized deworming protocol for your horse. 🐾



("Share the Road" cont'd from p. 1)

weeks. We'll be reporting soon about new equestrian crossings with safety flashing lights at the intersections of both Wheatland and Mary Bell on Wentworth (leading to/from the Hanson Dam Recreation Area).

We owe tremendous gratitude to Councilman Alarcon for all of his work and commitment, as well as staff members Becca Doten, Gerald Gubatan, Mary Benson and Marisa Alcaraz. Thank you! 🐾

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA Membership Form

Shadow Hills area residents, its time to join SHPOA for the 2013 calendar year!

Your support and participation are vital to the preservation of our rural community.

Membership = \$25

Newsletter only = \$10

Donations are always gratefully received.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check one: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Newsletter Only

Mail this form with your check to:

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How To Register Your Horse

- **East Valley Feed and Tack** has licensing forms and will submit checks on your behalf to the City (they do not handle credit cards).
- Register online: www.laanimalservices.com/Laws_Policies/Dog_License.htm
- Visit in person: East Valley Animal Control located at 14409 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys CA 91405
- For more information call: 888-4LAPET1 or 888-452-7381.

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("Remember Lona" cont'd from p. 1)

homestead. Friendly and welcoming to all on Wheatland Avenue who rode past on horseback, horse carts or golf carts; she would befriend dog walkers and neighbors out for a stroll offering them fruit from her trees or tomatoes from her vines. She loved to gab with folks about her ponies when they would stop by to pat Ace of Diamonds, her Welsh pony stallion corralled in the front yard.

Don and Lona Sweet first moved their family to Shadow Hills on La Canada Way in 1962. Our mother and father both desired to get their first horses and ponies to share with their four children: Susan, Jane, David, and Donna. A year later they moved to the family home on Wheatland. Lona's family was immersed in ETI (Equestrian Trail Inc.) Corral 10 monthly meetings and dances at the women's club in Sunland, numerous trail rides in the Angeles Forest foothills, including the Messenger Flats ride and the yearly Labor Day weekend up at Camp Bandido. Lona too joined the La Tuna Canyon Corral 34, Sunland Corral 20, and a short lived endurance riding Corral. Lona for a time was the president of Corral 10, penning her ETI Magazine Corral activity updates as Lona Ranger.

Lona branched out riding competitively in NATRC (North American Trail Ride Conference). She competed at the national level on her appaloosa POA (Pony of America) stallion S.S. War Bonnet traveling to rides throughout California and other states, earning the National Light Weight Reserve Champion in 1970. She too enjoyed working as a horsemanship judge for a number of years with NATRC. Lona's love of competition and riding the trails in God's country extended to 25 and 50 mile races with AERC (American Endurance Riding Conference). Twice Lona completed the Tevis Cup, the most coveted of 100 mile races.

After the passing of her husband Don in 1973, Lona became a registered nurse working as a coronary care nurse both at the Serra Memorial Hospital in Sun Valley and Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Panorama City. Her medical training led to an adventure she couldn't refuse; in 1976 she worked as the only medical person for the competitors and staff of the Great American Horse Race. She doubled as a vet secretary on the ride with her friend Dr. Homer Webb. A few years later that friendship grew into a loving marriage.

Kindred spirits, Homer and Lona continued their equestrian affiliations with the Appaloosa Horse Club, for numerous years vetting and riding on the annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride. They cultivated and maintained many friendships through riding on multi-day trail rides. In the mid-1990s, Lona decided it was getting too hard to climb up on the horses and traded them in to buy Welsh Ponies. Lona loved to breed and work with her tiny steeds. Lona was involved in pleasure and recreational driving participating with the GLADS (Greater Los Angeles Driving Society) sharing in the fun and encouraging others along the way. After the passing of her husband Homer in 1997, Lona's daughter Jane kept her involved with The Whip'r Snappers and Welsh and Cobb Society supporting competitors volunteering at shows and cheering everyone on in their pursuits.

On May 5th Lona's children invited friends and family to a Celebration of Life gathering to honor their mother at the family home. 🐾

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**Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
Annual Rummage Sale
is happening on
Saturday June 1, 2013
8am – 3pm.**

Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church, 10158 Johanna Ave, Sunland will host their 10th Annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 8am – 3pm. Join us for a day of shopping in our large Parking Lot. Look into our treasure room and find jewelry and vintage items.

Show up early (Early Bird Special 7:30am -8:00am--\$5.00) and be first to buy all these great items in the parking lot or treasure room.

Remember:

Saturday, June 1, 2013
8am – 3pm (7:30am – 8:00am--\$5.00)
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
10158 Johanna Ave
(corner of Sunland Blvd and Johanna)
Sunland, CA
(818) 353-2500

*Meet and welcome our new pastor to Shadow Hills,
Rev. Rebecca Prichard*



**Shadow Hills Presbyterian
Pre-School Updates**

Everyone at Shadow Hills Preschool is gearing up for our Annual Open House to be held on Thursday, May 16!!! Our Preschool has been part of the Shadow Hills community for over 60 years and every year we are proud show off who we are!! Students will be busy as they help to clean and tidy their classrooms. They also prepare special art projects to create a visual display of what they have learned. On May 16 we open our doors at 7:00 pm and invite students, families, friends and prospective new families to come and see what we have to offer! The classrooms become a colorful, wall-to-wall exhibit of students' arts and crafts. We display our favorite educational toys, samples of books and music we've enjoyed, and classroom learning props and toys. It is a most special event for us!

We are also proud to announce that we are planning a six-week Summer Fun Program!!

Our program is scheduled to begin on Monday, July 1st and will continue until Friday, August 9. The hours will be Monday-Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. We have exciting, fun-filled themes planned and lots of productive play activities!! If you would like detailed information on this Summer Fun Program, please call the preschool office at 818-353-7554.

Shadow Hills Preschool is a Developmental, play-based Preschool, a place of discovery and learning. If you would like to know more about us, please call. We will be glad to arrange a personal tour for you.



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Neighborhood Watch Crime Report

by Sue Mansis

Burglaries from vehicles are picking up in Shadow Hills. During March and April, we've had more than 8 burglaries from vehicles and at least 2 home invasion burglaries along Sunland Blvd. While we don't know what was specifically stolen from the vehicles, there was most likely something of value left in the vehicles that enticed the break in. Unfortunately, many vehicles that are left on the street become easy prey, but occasionally vehicles parked in driveways can fall victim to break ins as well.

On our dimly lit Shadow Hills streets, it's easy to see why vehicle break ins could be tempting in the night hours but, surprisingly, many of these burglaries happen during the daylight too! Please take extra precaution to secure your vehicles, boats, RV's, etc. because we have an increase in "foot traffic" wandering our streets nowadays. If you see ANY suspicious activity, call LAPD non-emergency at 818-734-2223. Take good pictures, accurate license plate numbers, and detailed descriptions whenever possible. But be very cautious not to put yourself in harm's way.

Last month, we had graffiti scrawled across a fence on Sunland Blvd. Your Neighborhood Watch immediately called our Council District office, and CD 7 rep, Mary Benson, reminded us that there is a city agency to remove graffiti within 24 hours. Rather than painting over it and possibly putting yourself at risk, please call "Graffiti Busters" at 818-767-7711 with exact location and description of the graffiti. Additionally, it is helpful to take photos before it's removed to submit LAPD, as they can identify and decipher tagging and gang related activity from the graffiti.

Two new block captains on Wornom Avenue are giving it their all - they invited their neighbors to participate in forming a Neighborhood Watch on their street and had a very successful response! To start a Neighborhood Watch on YOUR street, contact Sue Mansis at suemansis@shpoa.us or 818-554-8113. A few neighbors are all it takes to begin! 🐾



Update on Crown Disposal/Community Recycling Project in Sun Valley

By Dave DePinto

Neighboring Sun Valley is home to most of the trash and recycling facilities that service the northeast San Fernando Valley, as well as many sand/gravel mining operations and auto salvage yards. In addition to the impacts we confront due to dust and odors at the facilities themselves, Sunland Boulevard and Wentworth Street are "corridors" for trash trucks, auto salvage trucks and many other large, polluting and noisy trucks.

For those reasons and others, SHPOA has been working many years with representatives from the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, Foothill Trails Neighborhood Council, La Tuna Canyon Homeowners Association and Council offices to reign in these old-fashioned polluting businesses. The latest project receiving our attention is one proposed by Crown Disposal/Community Recycling at their existing, DISGUSTING site located near the intersection of Pendleton and Glenoaks in Sun Valley.

Unfortunately, despite having seen several other trash/recycling projects move through the planning process and agree to "modern" design, controls and mitigations related to air quality, traffic, noise, etc., the owners of Crown Disposal/Community recycling came forward with a project proposal suited to the early 1900s. For starters, their proposed trash facility was NOT fully-enclosed! In addition, the project was brought forward during a time in which CD6, where the project is located, had NO elected representation within the LA City Council due to Councilman Cardenas moving on to Congress. Very sneaky, very non-transparent and much unappreciated! SHPOA and its friends took both of these developments as insults and a challenge.

As of this printing, we've been working closely with planning and environmental staff at Council Districts 7, 6 and 2 to force Crown/Community to improve their project. At an early April public hearing, all surrounding communities, neighbors, council offices and candidates for election in CD7 and CD6 expressed their opposition to the original proposal, vowing to defeat the project unless MAJOR changes were adopted.

A highly critical front page LA Times story, plus detailed work by a local group of concerned representatives, led by SHPOA, finally resulted in the applicant stopping the process and going back to the drawing board to revise their project proposal to meet the detailed and specific input of the community. 🐘

SHPOA will continue to represent your interests on this project and update you as new developments occur.



Feasibility/Benefits of Prohibiting High-Capacity Ammunition

by Elektra Kruger

On February 28, 1997, two heavily-armed bank robbers entered a North Hollywood Bank of America and emptied more than a thousand rounds of ammunition using fully automatic machine guns and an AR-15 assault rifle with high-capacity drum magazines and armor-piercing bullets. This was not a unique example of abusing high-capacity magazines against large numbers of innocent people either in Los Angeles or elsewhere. We all know the stories of Sandy Hook Elementary School, Columbine, Virginia Tech, Tucson, Aurora and other Cities throughout the United States.

Such weapons and their large capacity magazines are designed for one purpose only - to shoot and kill as many people as possible as quickly as possible. While high-capacity magazines are admittedly not the CAUSE of gun violence, they do make tragic cases far deadlier. While the State of California prohibits anyone from "manufacturing, importing, selling, giving or lending" any high-capacity magazine, the State does not prohibit possession of these magazines. This gap in the law poses a daily threat to residents of Los Angeles.

Recognizing this danger, in mid-January 2013, Councilmember Paul Krekorian presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Council request the City Attorney, Chief Legislative Analyst and Police Department work together to prepare a report on the (See "**Ammo Feasibility**" on p. 8)

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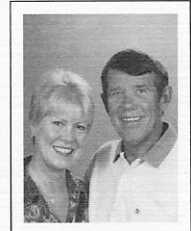
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("Ammo Feasibility" cont'd from p. 7)

feasibility, effectiveness and benefits of an Ordinance prohibiting the possession of high-capacity ammunition magazines within the City of Los Angeles. The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council submitted a Community Impact Statement also with the understanding that high-capacity ammunition magazines are not the cause of gun violence, but they do make incidences of gun violence far more deadly.

In early March 2013, the Office of the City Attorney presented a report to the City Council's Public Safety Committee in which it discussed the fact that existing State Law does allow for a City's Legislative Body (our City Council) to, by Ordinance, declare large-capacity ammunition magazines to be a public nuisance and to confiscate and destroy large capacity ammunition magazines. The Public Safety Committee recommended that the City Attorney amend the Draft Ordinance they presented to make possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines one year after the effective date of the adopted Ordinance a misdemeanor and to allow for a 60-day period of time during which large-capacity ammunition magazines could be surrendered.

Update: At its May 3, 2013 session, the LA City Council voted to draft a law prohibiting the possession of high-capacity ammunition magazines. On an 11-0 vote, the council called for an ordinance labeling the magazines a public nuisance and "an immediate threat to the public health." 🐾



Redefinition of "Kennel" and "Pet Shop" - Part 1

by Elektra Kruger

In 2011, City Council approved an Ordinance prohibiting the sale of commercially-bred animals ("those from puppy mills") in retail pet shops requiring them to obtain their animals from public or private shelters or rescue groups. However, this has led to some difficulties with our current codes for would-be pet shop owners seeking building permits to open a new business in retail districts. They have been informed by Building and Safety that keeping animals older than four months of age overnight would also require them to file for a kennel permit. Kennel permits are allowed by-right only in manufacturing/industrial zones in Los Angeles. Obtaining one in a retail zone would require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) which typically costs in excess of \$10,000 per application and requires between 6 to 12 months to process by the City Planning Department's Office of Zoning Administration - and even then, there is no guarantee the CUP will be granted.

Kennels are typically indoor/outdoor facilities housing larger numbers of animals in a manner difficult to buffer noise, thus the current Zoning Code restrictions on kennels were intended to confine boarding and breeding kennels housing large numbers of dogs to industrial areas away from residential areas where inhabitants could be disturbed by excessive noise the dogs could generate. The Los Angeles Municipal Code currently defines a "kennel" as "any lot, building, structure or premises whereon or wherein four or more dogs are kept or maintained for any purpose." The current Los Angeles

Municipal Code defines a "pet shop" as "any store or department of any store or any place of business where dogs, cats, monkeys, birds, reptiles or any other animals are kept for sale, for hire or sold."

In mid-October 2012, the Department of Animal Services recommended to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners that these definitions be amended:

- A "Kennel" shall mean any lot, building, structure or premises whereon or wherein four or more dogs are kept or maintained for any purpose WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A PET SHOP".
- A "Pet Shop" shall mean any store or department of any store or any place of business where dogs, cats, monkeys, birds, reptiles or any other animals are kept for sale, for hire or sold IRRESPECTIVE OF THE AGE OF THE ANIMALS PROVIDED THAT THE FACILITY IS NOT USED FOR COMMERCIAL BOARDING OR BREEDING AT ANY TIME.

These suggested amendments would be consistent with the City's intention to allow pet shops in commercial areas while still confining commercial kennels to industrial areas unless they obtain a Conditional Use Permit. It would encourage and accommodate live animal sales in pet shops in compliance with and, as intended by, the new pet shop regulations.

In November 2012, the Board of Animal Services Commission recommended to the Mayor that these amendments be approved in a timely manner and that the matter be referred to the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management and Animal Welfare Committees for their review and recommendations. In late March 2013, the City Attorney's Office referred a copy of a Draft Ordinance to the City Council's Animal Welfare Committee for their review and recommendations. 🐾

SHPOA will keep you up-dated on this matter in future issues of the newsletter.



Livestock Water Rate Adjustment

by Elektra Kruger

In early 2009 the Board of Water and Power Commissioners approved amendments to the Water Rate Ordinance which provided a "hardship adjustment" for owners of horses and other livestock. Registered livestock owners were allotted 100 Cubic Feet (1 HCF/748 gal) per month per animal to provide additional water to drink and for care and hygiene of the animals.

A horse consumes up to 15 gallons of water per day amounting to approximately 500 gallons per month. The hardship adjustment was intended to create a "reasonable water use allotment" at a modified rate. BUT, by mid-2009 the hardship adjustment was still not adopted and was referred back to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners at the request of the DWP. DWP claimed that due to management changes it wanted to reassess all rate proposals and adjustments.

By mid-October 2012, there still has been no hardship adjustment for livestock owners. Due to the rising cost of water resulting in exceedingly high water bills for (See "Water Rate" on p. 11)

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Will Street Repair Bond “Resurface?”

by Elektra Kruger

More than 8,700 lane miles of streets in the City of Los Angeles are in need of repair. Street repair falls into one of three categories:

- Pavement Preservation
- Street Capital Improvement
- Street Reconstruction

Pavement Preservation refers to maintaining a street at its current condition. The goal of this program is to keep the City's better streets rated A, B or C from deteriorating into D or F rated streets which would cost a great deal more to repair as repairing these “failed” streets would require extensive resurfacing or even total reconstruction. A, B and C rated streets can be maintained with activities such as pot-hole repair, crack sealing, slurry sealing and resurfacing.

Spending the City's limited funds on a street Pavement Preservation Program would therefore be far more cost-effective and would hopefully prevent any increase in the number of classification D or F rated “failed” streets. The City is currently spending approximately \$130 million annually on the Pavement Preservation Program. Further funding has included dollars from the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and from the California Transportation Bond Program - Prop (See “**Street Repair**” on p. 12)



The Spaghetti Western Event – June 8 at Ravensview Ranch

By Suzanne Marcus Fletcher

Just when you thought June Gloom was inevitable, The La Tuna Canyon Community Association with the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council has the ultimate summer's day antidote: Saturday, June 8th, from 11 AM to 5 PM, the Community presents: “**The Spaghetti Western**” an event slated to bust your britches with all the wonderful hijinks of the real cowboy era. This event features special guest, **Johnny Crawford**, of “The Rifleman” fame, and **Will Ryan and the Cactus County Cowboys**, top-shelf players with banjo, fiddle, and guitars, hamming it up and wowing the crowd with crazy talent. There will also be a barber shop quartet called **Sound Check**; these boys can really make those notes ring. Launched successfully two years ago, **The Spaghetti Western** this year promises to be even more spectacular with western re-enactors, fair games and prizes, a dazzling barrel-racing event, a children's costume parade with a prize for best costume, a must-have chili cook-off (if you have the best, bring it!), and when the sun gets high, you can hop over to Ye Old General Store for some sweets and an old fashioned sarsaparilla, or the Saloon for a local Micro Brewed Beer!

Join us for a day of unforgettable Western fun at: The Ravensview Ranch, located at 10207 La Tuna Canyon Rd. All vendors welcome. A \$5.00 entrance donation per adult is requested. Children get in free! For more information on how you can get a booth for your organization, or other questions, contact: Kris Goddard at 818-294-1903 or Richard Sklarsky at (818) 398-3152.

See y'all there!!

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Real Estate Forum – March 2013

by Sue Mansis

Before a packed house of concerned residents, SHPOA presented “the state of Real Estate” in Shadow Hills at our March meeting. Always a well attended event, this night was planned as an update to our very popular Real Estate forum last spring.

Our realtor presenters, Mary Ann and Angela Geyer of Keller Williams Realty, Kim Villalobos with Bill Toth & Associates Real Estate, and Janaka Perera of Perch Properties, focused on how property values have increased since last year, new developments and legislation affecting those values and sales. The ensuing Q&A was the highlight of the meeting. Residents’ questions ranged from increasing property appeal, updates on foreclosures and rental properties in Shadow Hills, specialty loans and horse property zoning concerns, fencing and property dispute issues, and the evening’s best, “how to increase curb appeal when we have no curbs (in Shadow Hills)?!!”

Coffee and scrumptious treats were supplied by Nancy’s Catering and even our CD 7 Councilman-Elect, Felipe Fuentes, stopped in for the latest on real estate. All in all, residents left the meeting feeling positive and upbeat about their Shadow Hills community! 🐾



(“**Water Rate**” cont’d from p. 9)

livestock owners, Councilmember Mitchell Englander felt that the DWP should prepare and present a report to the City Council as to the status of the livestock hardship adjustment and the DWP’s plan to institute it. The Councilmember’s Motion to this effect was referred to the City Council’s Energy and Environment Committee for their review and recommendations.

In late February 2013, the Department of Water and Power informed the Committee that in 2011, as part of its water rate change proposal, it planned to include one additional HCF per month at the Tier 1 level for each registered livestock or horse over 500 pounds. However, Rate Payer Advocate feedback and other factors ultimately delayed implementation of the hardship adjustment as well as other components of water rate restructuring until a comprehensive overall proposal could be developed.

Implementation of a new rate plan is anticipated for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 at which time the Department expects to further evaluate potential inclusion of water allotments for registered livestock. The issue is now still in the hands of the Energy and Environment Committee. 🐾



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("Street Repair" cont'd from p. 10)

1B. These Federal and State funds helped fill a gap in City funding due to the recession.

To deal with this backlog of "failed" streets, in early January 2013, seven Councilmembers co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that they prepare necessary Resolutions to place a \$3 billion Street Repair Obligation Bond on the May 21 ballot. That effort was unsuccessful and the Bond will not be on the May 21 ballot, but the effort is likely to "resurface." 🐾

To be continued in future SHPOA Newsletters



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State to Ban Local Regulations on Single-Use Plastic Bags?

by Elektra Kruger

Approximately 6 BILLION single-use plastic bags are used in Los Angeles County each year, few of which are recycled. Many of these end up littering our streets, waterways and beaches. In 2012 Los Angeles City adopted a plan that would, upon completion of an environmental impact report, begin phasing out the use of single-use plastic bags by retail stores and would also require stores to charge a fee for use of paper bags. The City is slowly working toward implementation of that plan.

Now, in an attempt to block this progress, State Assemblymember Allen introduced a Bill in the State Assembly that would prohibit local jurisdictions, whether cities, counties or local public agencies, from adopting or enforcing a ban on single-use plastic bags or mandating fees on non-plastic bags for purposes of containing meat, poultry, fruits, vegetables, food products, household chemical products, food products for pets or products intended for use by domestic pets. The Bill would leave legislation of and implementation of such bans/fees at the State level. If passed, this Bill would set back years of work on the part of the City of Los Angeles from implementing its own solutions to the problem of single-use plastic bag pollution.

In mid-April 2013, Councilmember Paul Koretz presented a Resolution to the Los Angeles City Council asking that they take a position of Opposition to this proposed State Bill. There have been numerous Motions presented to City Council over the years working toward establishing a ban on single-use plastic bags and establishing a mandatory fee on paper bags. Thus, this proposed State Bill would be totally inconsistent with City policy. The proposed State Bill would eliminate the current State mandated recycling requirement for a retail store to establish an at-store recycling program in which a customer may return clean plastic carryout bags. 🐾

Editor's Note: This, like all articles are welcome and this is a valid environmental issue. As I've opined in the past, and as our cover page documents, we need our City Council to FOCUS on local issues that directly affect residents here in Shadow Hills. Once our streets are paved, our schools repaired, our trees trimmed, our criminals incarcerated, our speeders ticketed, our budget balanced and our businesses thriving, then let's worry about plastic bags (which by the way are fully recyclable, cost-effective and very convenient).



On the Road to Zero Waste

by Elektra Kruger

As part of the mandate to achieve a status of "Zero Waste", the Los Angeles Environmental Learning Center is displaying an exhibit entitled "On the Road to Zero Waste". In the community of Cateura, Paraguay - a slum built on a landfill - 2,500 families make their living by separating garbage seeking recyclable materials.

In this community, a production company called Eureka Productions is producing a documentary film following about 20 young men and women as they create a "Landfill Harmonic" - a "Recycled Orchestra". Among

the instruments created was a violin - made out of trash. Herein lies a lesson for us all says a young Cateuran musician - "we should not throw away trash carelessly".

As a way to support the documentary film Project, Waste Management Inc. (local division located in Sun Valley) purchased a recycled violin from Eureka Productions. Waste Management Inc. has generously donated the violin valued at \$3,000 to the Los Angeles Environmental Learning Center to be exhibited in their "On the Road to Zero Waste" exhibit. SHPOA salutes Waste Management as it makes great strides toward helping us attain our Zero Waste status. 🐾

Animal Shelters to Lose Midnight Shift Workers?

by Elektra Kruger

The Department of Animal Services gave notice to its graveyard shift employees that effective March 31, 2013; all sixteen Animal Care Technicians working the midnight to 6 a.m. shift at the City's six animal shelters would be transferred to day-time shifts to compensate for staff reductions over the past few years. In lieu of Animal Care Technicians working the graveyard shift, Animal Services would employ security guards.

Animal Care Technicians are the only employees available to monitor and care for animals dropped off by the public - including pregnant animals, some of which are already in labor and newborns. Duties of Animal Care Technicians also include monitoring animals in distress for whatever reason, breaking up fights, providing emergency care and maintaining kennel facilities. Animal Care Technicians also provide post-operative care as prescribed by shelter veterinarians to assure that animals do not pull sutures, receive needed medications and monitor food and fluid intake. Even 911 calls regarding injured or dangerous animals during the graveyard hours had been routed to the Animal Care Technicians working those hours.

A candlelight vigil was held by the public at the East Valley Animal Shelter on March 20, 2013, opposing elimination of Technical staff on the graveyard shift. In late March 2013, Councilmember Paul Koretz presented a Motion to City Council suggesting that, given the negative impacts of such an action, removal of Technical staff during the graveyard shift should be revisited. The Motion further asked that the City Council request the Department of Animal Services to defer implementation of the removal of Technical staff from the graveyard shift pending review by the City Council.

Removal of Technical staff from the graveyard shift was indeed thankfully revisited and its review was referred to the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee and Animal Welfare Committee. The Animal Welfare Committee waived consideration on the matter. At its meeting in early April 2013, the Budget and Finance Committee recommended authorizing 16 additional Animal Care Technician positions for the remainder of the current 2012 to 2013 Fiscal Year and to instruct the City Administrative Officer to locate and transfer funding for those positions. Also the Committee requested the Mayor to include funding and position authority for those same additional 16 Animal Care Technicians in the proposed Fiscal Year 2013 to 2014 Budget. *SHPOA will keep you updated as to the outcome of the vote.* 🐾

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Lopez Amenities Fund to Assist Homeless?

by Elektra Kruger

The Lopez Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund is available to provide a source of funding for a variety of community amenities within the vicinity of the now-closed Lopez Canyon Landfill in CD7. Homelessness is a serious problem within the Lake View Terrace and Hansen Dam area and funding is needed to provide services to these people. Among the needs is to provide permanent housing for them. In early April 2013, Councilmember Richard Alarcon presented a Motion to City Council asking that \$30,000 of the fund monies be used to assist Los Angeles Family Housing to provide outreach services to the homeless community. The funds would be used to enroll homeless individuals into permanent housing, residential treatment and care.

There is additionally a great need to provide a number of the homeless population with mental health services. As such, also in early April 2013, Councilmember Alarcon presented an additional Motion asking that the City Council Resolve to utilize \$200,000 of the Lopez Canyon Amenities Fund over the next two years to assist the Hillview Mental Health Services facility in Pacoima to provide 10 beds and mental health services to homeless individuals from Lake View Terrace and Hansen Dam. The Motion was tentatively scheduled to be heard in City Council in early April 2013. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the outcome of that Hearing. 🐾

Enhanced Safety with E-9-1-1?

by Elektra Kruger

Improving public safety is a priority for the City. Getting a faster response by the fire department, paramedics and other emergency responders to 9-1-1 calls coming in directly to them from a phone might be one way to achieve this.

For example, using a Smart911, one could create a safety profile for one's household that could include any information they might want to be available to a 9-1-1 responder in the event of an emergency. The system would better integrate LAFD and LAPD computer aided dispatch systems. If anyone were to dial 9-1-1 from a phone associated with such a safety profile, their information would immediately be forwarded to the 911 call taker providing data that could be of additional use to first responders allowing them to provide the best service possible - service that could mean the difference between life and death.

This kind of system could be especially beneficial to those with physical or developmental disabilities, seniors or situations where individuals find themselves in situations where it is unsafe or impossible to communicate over the phone. Given the potential today's enhanced technologies could provide, in early March 2013 Councilmember Herb Wesson and Councilmember Mitch Englander co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that the City Council call upon the Fire Department, Police Department, City Administrative Officer and City's Information Technology Agency to explore the feasibility and costs associated with an enhanced E-9-1-1 system.

The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Safety Committee for their review and recommendation

in late March 2013. A Request for Proposals has already been developed for the development and integration of such a system and it was estimated that the program could be implemented in approximately one year if approved. The Public Safety Committee recommended that the City Council approve the Motion for the feasibility study. 🐾

SHPOA will advise you of the outcome of the Council Hearing on this matter in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.

Equine License Processing Fee?

by Elektra Kruger

On January 9, 2013, the City Council adopted the proposed multi-year equine license Ordinance; on January 22, 2013 the Mayor approved the Ordinance and it became effective February 28, 2013.

Now for the next step that actually even began as far back as late October 2012 when the Board of Animal Services Commissioners recommended that the Board's General Manager be authorized to charge a \$3 processing fee for every equine license issued so that Animal Services can recover its administrative costs. Once the \$3 charge is approved, the Board further recommended that the Office of the City Attorney prepare and transmit a Draft Ordinance amending Section 53.15.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. All horse licensing revenue goes into an Equestrian Facilities Trust Fund and is used by the Department of Recreation and Parks for equestrian trail maintenance and construction - Animal Services receives no funding.

The Animal Services Department estimated that, based on current salary rates for the Clerk Typists processing the equine licenses, the cost of each transaction runs about \$3 - it is this cost that Animal Services is asking to be reimbursed for via a processing charge. The \$3 charge is to be a per license charge regardless of the multi-year license purchased. Thus, a 5-year license would not be tagged with an additional \$15 processing fee.

One license regardless of the level of its multi-year status would be tagged with only the one \$3 processing fee. The Board of Animal Services referred their recommendation to Mayor Villaraigosa in late February 2013 and the Mayor promptly sent it on to the City Council for their review and consideration whereupon the recommendations were further referred to the City Council's Animal Welfare Committee for their review and recommendations. 🐾

SHPOA will keep you up-dated on the status of this issue.

Preservation of LA's Equine Culture

by Elektra Kruger

Horses have been an integral part of the City of Los Angeles from its earliest days. Even today there are individual residences and even whole communities that are home to the horse. Some of these communities are within K-Overlay Equine Districts, many are not. Maintaining horses in residential areas preserves a very important part of the City's history and culture. Unfortunately, increased urbanization presents a threat to the continued use of properties as equestrian premises not only for those currently owning horses but also for

those who may wish to do so in the future.

In recognition of this threat, in early March 2013, Councilmember Mitchell Englander presented a Motion to City Council suggesting that the City could and should adopt land-use policies that would preserve the ability to maintain existing equine-keeping uses that are compatible with non-equine uses. The Motion calls for the Planning Department, the Department of Building and Safety and the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee to work together to review existing Municipal Codes, existing land-use regulatory controls and current policies and regulations that relate to the equine community within the City and to provide recommendations for feasible changes or new Ordinances, regulations and policies that would preserve existing equine uses including preservation of historic public and private riding trails.

This working group should prepare and present a report of their findings to the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management Committee (PLUM) for their review and consideration. The Motion was referred to PLUM for further action. 🐾

SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress on this issue.

Sidewalk Repair Issues on the Radar

by Elektra Kruger

In early Dec 2012, AB 22 was introduced in the California State Assembly by Assemblymember Blumenfield that would add a new section to the Streets and Highways Code reading: If a City has an Ordinance on the books that requires the City to reconstruct streets, sidewalks or driveways that have been damaged as a result of tree growth, then the City may NOT REPEAL that Ordinance except with the concurrence of the local electorate by majority vote.

LA is one of those Cities that has an Ordinance stating that a property owner is responsible for repair of sidewalks fronting his/her property UNLESS the damage is caused by tree root growth in which case it would be the responsibility of the City. For a while now, the City has been trying to repeal this Ordinance which would place the burden of all sidewalk repairs, regardless of cause, on the homeowner.

This has obviously met with a great deal of resistance by Angelenos. In late January, Councilmember Bernard Parks presented a Resolution to the LA City Council recommending that the City officially Oppose this Assembly Bill for the Record. In mid-February 2013, LA's Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) prepared a report recommending Opposition to AB 22 because "it would create substantial financial burdens on local governments" by relieving adjacent property owners of their sidewalk repair responsibilities (except that for the last 40 years the LA Municipal Code stated that sidewalk repair due to tree growth damage was the responsibility of the City, not the homeowner, so AB22 is NOT "relieving" the homeowner of ANY current responsibility - it IS the City's responsibility).

The CLA claimed that AB22 would impose increased financial and legal liability risks on local governments at a time when they can least afford it. (Except that it "imposes" nothing - repair responsibility is that of the City

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per its own code right now and is a responsibility that it has failed to honor). The CLA claims that sidewalks are a matter of local concern and should remain so (which of course they would say since the City IS in the process of trying to repeal the portion of the LA Municipal Code exempting sidewalk damage repair from tree growth as being the City's responsibility and trying to lay that responsibility onto the property owners).

The City has some 10,750 miles of sidewalks and a mature urban forest. In 1990, the Bureau of Street Services estimated that 40% or 4,620 mi were in disrepair - how many more miles would there be today - 23 years later? At that time estimated repair costs were estimated at \$2 billion. Again, how much more would that be after 23 years and, again, how easy is it to understand that the City wants to now relieve itself of this financial burden by transferring that burden onto the shoulders of the homeowners? As such, the City has put itself in a corner and must fight AB22 which, if approved, would make it impossible for the City to repeal its code thereby retaining City responsibility for sidewalk repair caused by tree growth. 🐾

To be continued in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.

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Advertiser's Index

Armstrong Insurance.....8	Mission Valley Bank.....11
C & M Printing.....7	MRA Sound (Piano Instr).....7
Century 21 Fran & Ray.....7	Murray Teens.....15
Classic Bath Design.....15	Pampered Pets.....5
Creature Comforts.....6	Peacock Hill Ranch.....13
Critter Sitter.....5	Perch Properties.....10
Dale's Automotive.....12	Randy's Property Maint.12
David Robertson, DVM.....6	Real McCoy Graphic Arts.....5
Delphi Academy.....9	Rescue Dog.....12
Eagle Plumbing.....4	R. Caruso Construction.....6
East Valley Feed.....3	Richard's R.R. Plumbing.....13
Eick, William E. - Attorney.....6	Sharon Yoho, Realtor.....6
Ellingford Brush Clearance.....7	SoCal Turf/Tractor.....9
Jo/Michael Rich Realtors.....5	Sicari Plumbing.....7
Joe's Bar & Grill/Champs.....4	SoilDirect.com.....13
Kim Villalobos - Realtor.....5	Spaghetti Western.....10
LA LAW Center.....8	Trish Ramsey Realtor.....13
Mary Ann Geyer-Realtor.....11	WRD.....13
MicroArtisans.....15	Wright Color Graphics.....12

Key Community Locations & Contact Information

All Nations Church: 10000 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace
Bolton Hall: 10110 Commerce Ave., Tujunga (818-352-3420)
Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center: 11075 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church: (Johanna/Sunland Blvd. intersection); Pastor Rebecca Prichard (818-353-2500)
Stonehurst Park: 9901 Dronfield, Stonehurst/Shadow Hills (818-767-0314)
Stonehurst Elementary School: 9851 Stonehurst Ave., Sun Valley
Tierra del Sol: 9919 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills
Village Christian School: 8930 Village Ave., Sun Valley
City of LA North Valley Neighborhood City Hall/Office CD7
Councilmember Richard Alarcon; 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland

Community Calendar

LAPD Community Coffee

1st Tuesday, Every Month
• 8 a.m.–10 a.m.
• Albertson's/Starbucks, 6240 Foothill Blvd.

FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

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

Neighborhood Watch

3rd Tuesday, Every Month
• 6:30 p.m.
• East Valley Municipal Bldg.

"Prime Timers 60+"

3rd Wednesday, Every Month
• Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
• Call church 818-353-2500

Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

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

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

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

ETI C20

4th Wednesday, Every Month
• Call Becky Borquez, 818-352-3634

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Jul/Aug Newsletter: Jun 4

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