

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

Volume 32, Issue 2

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



May - June 2010

Introducing and Welcoming Councilman Paul Krekorian

by Dave DePinto

Attendees of SHPOA's recent general meeting were treated to their first visit with new Councilman Paul Krekorian. The new councilman has been busy enough since taking office with the heavy rain storms, the city's budget crisis, and proposed DWP rate hikes. And he did not get a "night off" as more than 100 SHPOA members and guests peppered Councilman Mr. Krekorian with questions related to dozens of local issues and concerns. The issues covered the gambit of public safety, land use, the city budget, horses, and trash trucks.



To his credit, the Councilman was very patient and professed to still be learning about some of the challenges in "our" district, but he calmly gave us confidence that he and his staff would bring a serious, business-like approach and responsiveness to their work. Among his local staff is SHPOA's long time friend and resident, Mary Benson, who attended the meeting along with Planning Deputy, Daniel Brumer. We know the Councilman to be a family-man with a passion for community service and stakeholder services. We feel very fortunate to be represented by Councilman Krekorian and we commit to helping him and his staff continue to make improvements in our quality of life in CD2 and the City of LA.

We thank the Councilman and his staff for being with us and hope it is the beginning of a beneficial and rewarding relationship.

Please visit the Councilman's website for further information (<http://cd2.lacity.org/index.htm>). The phone number for the CD2 office in Sunland/Tujunga is 818-352-3287; the phone number for the downtown LA office is 213-473-5002. If you want to visit the local District office, it is located at 7747 Foothill Boulevard in Tujunga.

Getting to Know You

by Sue Mansis

Years ago when Sandy Williams operated "Nell's Country Ways" gift and yogurt shop, Sheila Cook and her young son would often stop by for a 'cool' treat. Little did Sandy know her friend and Shadow Hills neighbor would pull her 'into the mud' this winter! Both



Continued on page 2

CERT Class Disaster Preparedness Being Offered in Shadow Hills

by Sue Mansis

After witnessing the devastating effects of the Station Fire this past summer, Eric Hamilton, President of the Shadow Hills Estates HOA and local Insurance Broker, was reminded of the urgent need for our Shadow Hills community to be prepared for any emergency and began consulting with local fire departments about a Civilian Emergency Response Training (CERT) program.

Forming a team of local residents, schools, service groups, businesses and churches to locate resources (water/generators/tractors to clear debris; doctors to help injured) and establish communications between block captains/schools/city, we can relieve some of the pressure on our local emergency services in the event of a disaster and meet the immediate needs of our neighborhoods.

The Los Angeles City Fire Department is offering a **FREE** 6-week CERT training class:

When: **May 3 - June 7, 2010** - 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
(No class on Memorial Day 5/31/10)

Where: **Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church**

Who: **18 years or over**

LAFD requires a minimum of 25 participants. If you are interested in participating in CERT training, please contact Eric Hamilton: **818-353-0496** to leave your name and phone number. Email contact is ebham@aol.com. **RSVP by April 26, 2010 - Past CERT members also welcome for REFRESHER Class!**

Update on Mandatory Micro-Chipping of Redeemed Pets

by Elektra Kruger

In late July 2007, the Department of Animal Services Commissioners submitted a letter to the City Council requesting that the City Council direct the City Attorney to draft an Ordinance requiring mandatory micro-chipping of any cat or dog redeemed by an owner from Animal Services with the understanding that such a requirement would increase future pet-owner reunification and a decrease in unnecessary euthanasia. In mid-August 2007, Councilmember Alarcon presented a Verbal Motion in Council asking that the Commissioners report be received and filed and requested that the City Attorney incorporate mandatory micro-chipping along with the mandatory spay/neuter Ordinance proposal also under consideration at that same time.

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2010 SHPOA Board Members**Executive Officers**

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Executive Secretary:	Kellie Kozonis	
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Recording Secretary:	Katherine Dayen	
	katherine.dayen@valleypres.org	
Treasurer:	Gerhard Kruger	352-6220
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Trails:	James and Andrea Gutman	
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Special Projects:	Karen Burdett	(W) 970-1995
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 31020@lapd.lacity.org

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

West Shadow Hills/Stonhurst:
 Terry Kaiser area5rep1@ftdnc.org

East Shadow Hills/East LVT:
 Dale Gibson 818-968-8670

Emergency Animal Hospitals

Animal Specialty Group www.asgvets.com
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 Weekends: 24 hours

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 11730 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604
 (818) 760-3882 Mon–Thurs: 6pm – 8am
 Weekends: Fri 6pm – Mon 8am

Getting to Know You*continued from page 1*

seasoned Emergency Response Team members, Shelia volunteered to help in the clean up effort after a catch basin overflowed in La Canada, literally swashing tons of mud and debris from the mountain into homes off Ocean View Boulevard.

Sandy and Sheila spent four hours digging outside a home filled with 4' of mud, sludge and water. As Senior VP and Regional Manager at Gilmore Bank in La Canada, Shelia's on hand for whatever the city needs. As Sandy observes, La Canada is a close knit community, much like Shadow Hills, so it was encouraging to see neighboring folks helping devastated and exhausted residents. Even an 80 year old woman offered her assistance, gently wiping mud off flower pots.

Sandy and Shelia are part of the Shadow Hills CERT team and have been trained by the Red Cross. Additionally, Sandy was a medic in the Army and worked briefly as a nurse afterwards. Sandy says that in any emergency, people with medical or emergency training backgrounds just "appear" on the scene to help set up triage, food, shelter and meet needs at all levels. In her words, disasters are very "sobering" and there is no way to anticipate when calamity will strike. Both Sandy and Sheila are qualified to help with anything from traffic control, search and rescue or even assisting with heavy fire hoses. As Sheila chides Sandy, "*what else would (we) do with our lives if we couldn't volunteer for everything?!*" Both she and Sandy agree this mud clean up was the worst disaster they have ever been involved with. True valor often remains anonymous but we say a grateful "thank you" to these two local heroes!

Land-Use Updates in Shadow Hills*by Bill Eick***9705 La Canada Way**

The land-owner undertook a procedure called "piece-mealing", a means by which a developer can circumvent anticipated entitlement restrictions. In this case, it was an effort to circumvent the restrictions of the Slope Density Ordinance that limits the number of homes that may be built in steep terrain. The land-owner first filed for a lot-line adjustment that separated the very steep portions of his land from the flatter portions. He subsequently filed for a Parcel-Map Subdivision on the flatter portion of his land only claiming the steeper portion to be "not a part" of the proposed Project thereby circumventing the restrictions of the Slope Density Ordinance which might have reduced

*Continued on page 9***Fires, Earthquakes & Your Pets***by Denise Fleck*

Planning ahead and knowing what to do when an emergency occurs just may save your four-legged family members. Although it is difficult to teach someone not to get stressed, being as prepared as you can be for any situation in life can help lessen the panic. Refer to the May 2008 issue of the SHPOA Newsletter for General Pet Disaster Preparedness Tips such as having food, water and pet first-aid kit accessible, but here are specifics to emergencies we might experience in Shadow Hills...paws crossed that we do not!

Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church Pre-School

How is it that 2010 is nearly half over and the 2009-2010 school-year is coming to a close? It just all happens too fast. Of course at Shadow Hills Pre-School, this time of year means graduation for our pre-K students as they prepare to move on to Kindergarten. We keep it simple as we celebrate our students' achievements and recognize all they have learned.

It is our job to see that each pre-K student has learned all the skills necessary to begin their elementary education. They will need good listening skills so they can sit still and attend to the lessons. They need mature, but age appropriate social skills in order to interact with their peers to problem-solve, negotiate, and cooperate with other students. Students have developed language skills to be able to clearly express their needs, share simple stories, and communicate their thoughts. Cognitive skills include recognizing letters and numbers, name recognition and the early stages of printing their names.

Our teachers work hard and provide creative curriculum to ready our students for the year ahead. With lots of hands-on activities and many opportunities to learn through their natural play our students have grown and developed and we are proud of them! We want to congratulate all our Pre-K students on their achievements and we hope they continue their love of learning. Congratulations and good luck to our class of 2010...we will miss you!

For those of you with younger children who may be seeking a good quality pre-school, we invite you to attend our annual Open House on Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 pm. This is the perfect opportunity to see first-hand what Shadow Hills Pre-School is all about. We are part of Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church at the corner of Sunland and Johanna Ave. Come by for Open House or call for a personal tour. We would love to show you around.

If you are interested in our 6-week Summer Program, please call the school at 818-353-7554.



Wildfires

Once underway, Wildfires can consume millions of acres and blow in changing directions.

- Plan several escape routes for you and your pets in the event the flames block your path.
- Create a "fire break" around your home by clearing away vegetation, especially dead brush from all structures.
- Use fabric, rope or leather leashes and collars. Nylon can melt and burn your pet.
- Take all animals with you and monitor for burns and smoke inhalation. Knowing how to perform Rescue Breathing and CPR could save your dog or cat's life!

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA Membership Form

Residents in the Shadow Hills area
Join SHPOA for the 2010 calendar year!

Your support and participation are vital
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Impound Vehicles Used in Illegal Dumping?

by Elektra Kruger

In mid-February 2010, the Board of Public Works sent a letter to the members of City Council proposing that they instruct the City Attorney to prepare a draft Ordinance to reflect an amendment to the Los Angeles Municipal Code allowing for a 30-day seizure and impound of vehicles used in the commission of illegal dumping crimes. Ask me, it should be a permanent impound, but I guess 30 days is better than nothing. Actually, the City did enact such an Ordinance once before in 2003, however the Ordinance was met with a series of legal challenges and State law, as it read at that time, invalidated the new City Ordinance.

Then, effective January 1, 2010, the California State law was changed allowing cities and counties the right to create their own Ordinances giving local law enforcement the authority to impound vehicles used in the commission of illegal dumping crimes by violators with a prior illegal dumping conviction within the past three years. So, it's ok to dump once? It's ok to dump every three years and one day apart? Well, then why not make it a big load and make it worthwhile! For whatever it is worth, here are some of the amendments to the original 2003 Ordinance now under consideration:

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Urban Forestry to Take Over Tree Trimming?

by Elektra Kruger

Currently the LADWP contracts out its tree trimming to clear power lines to private companies although the City's own Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry employees could well do the job themselves given the proper training. A recent proposal in an effort to deal with the City's Budget crisis is to eliminate 100 positions from within the Bureau of Street Services and it is the Bureau's Urban Forestry Division that stands to take all of the Bureau's cuts.

In recognition of this Division alone taking a full 10% of all proposed cuts Citywide, Councilmember Jose Huizar recommended that the Bureau assume responsibility for line clearing for the DWP as well as tree trimming operations for the Department of Recreation and Parks and other departments. The Director of the Bureau of Street services has also indicated that the DWP is willing to contract with the Bureau for a sum of money that would cover the salaries and benefits of crews dedicated to perform trench resurfacing as part of utility line replacement projects expected to take at least 5-10 years to complete.

This would involve a contract negotiation between the Bureau of Street Services and other City Departments whose responsibilities they will undertake. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this potential change of responsibility.

Update: In late February the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee approved the Motion.

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Illegal Dumping

by Elektra Kruger

Illegal dumping is the disposal of trash/waste in an unapproved place often along roadsides late at night or in a storm drain. Most commonly, illegal dumping results from either efforts to avoid disposal fees or lack of familiarity with proper disposal locations. Keep in mind that free Bulky Item Pick-Up is available to the public by merely calling the "One Call to City Hall" 311 number and asking the operator to transfer you to Bureau of Sanitation. Arrangements can be made for the City to pick up your old furniture and appliances from your curbside. It is that simple and it is free. Proper disposal sites for any other form of bulk trash too much to fit into your curbside bins can be located on-line at www.lacity.org/bos.

Illegally dumped material that SHPOA's Heaver Retriever Team frequently encounters along Wentworth Street includes such things as construction and demolition waste such as drywall, roofing material, lumber, lumps of cement or asphalt and brick; chemicals such as oil and paint; abandoned vehicles, tires and assorted auto body parts; furniture and appliances, large and small; yard waste such as tree branches, stumps and root balls; and even everyday household trash that could easily go into anyone's black or blue bin.

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Neighborhood Watch: Team Update

by Sue Mansis

Car break ins, mail theft, license plates/bikes stolen, windows smashed, Fuhrman's robbed twice, trash cans rummaged, foreclosures, abandoned shopping carts, illegal dumping, graffiti, unfamiliar cars and trucks casing our streets...all of these have increasingly happened in Shadow Hills within the last few months. And with hundreds of prisoners being released this spring, homelessness and unemployment on the rise, and severe budget cuts in community services, we can no longer live alone in our bubbles of safety. We NEED each other!

We now have ten firmly dedicated block captains who are part of our Shadow Hills Neighborhood Watch team. But they are in need of your assistance and support. SHPOA's daily emails give us local updates, but have you considered how we'd obtain 'immediate' warnings or emergency alerts? Neighborhood Watch operates as a "communication system" delivering spontaneous and relevant information when needed.

Organized Watch programs successfully deter crime and disseminate information faster and more efficiently. Areas with strong Neighborhood Watch programs garner more respect and attention from police and local authorities. Block captains can work at their own pace according to their time, energy level and needs of their street.

Please find out how YOUR block can become part of the Watch Team. As your Coordinator, I am here to help. Contact Sue Mansis at 818-554-8113 or suemansis@shpoa.us for further info.



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S.A.F.E. Collection Center

This hazardous waste collection center accepts paint cans, electronics, out of date medication, cell phones, batteries (small and large), etc. The center is located at 11025 Randall St., Sun Valley, and operates Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from 9am - 3pm.

Directions: Go west on Sunland Blvd. toward Sun Valley/ Glenoaks. Turn right on Tuxford, right on the first street, then left on Randall.

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Enhanced Code Enforcement?

by Elektra Kruger

Code enforcement predominantly under the auspices of the Department of Building and Safety serves, among other things, to preserve public safety, address visual blight and eliminate nuisance issues. When construction takes place without permits, not only are City regulatory controls circumvented, but dangerous conditions of illegal structures may be created. Code Enforcement is dependant on the General Fund, your taxpayer money, because enforcement activities are expensive. Penalties charged to those who choose to ignore City regulations are inadequate to keep the program self-sustaining. Penalties and fines should be sufficiently severe to act as a deterrent and repeat offenders should face exponentially increased penalties for each violation.

Other jurisdictions charge additional fees for building or planning permits obtained "after-the-fact". For example, the City of Malibu charges double the regular building permit fees and five times the regular planning permit fees when obtained "after-the-fact". In recognition of some of the weaknesses in our Code Enforcement program, in mid-January 2010, Councilmember Paul Koretz presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Department of Planning together with the Department of Building and Safety and the City Attorney develop an Ordinance to include the following:

- Penalty fees for issuing permits "after-the-fact", a practice that does not currently exist
- Administrative penalties for planning and code violations, construction without permits, and failure to comply with any Department order
- Establish a penalty structure severe enough to deter future Code Enforcement violations.

The Motion was forwarded to the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee for their review and recommendations.

Update: The City Council's Budget and Finance Committee waived consideration of this item and it was scheduled to be heard in City Council in early February, 2010.

Remember to License Your Dog

by Elektra Kruger

The City requires all dogs in the City to be licensed. This assures that dogs are properly vaccinated and the City's spay/neuter Ordinance is enforced. License fees also provide revenue for the operation of the Department of Animal Services. The DWP keeps a database of homes with dogs so that meter-readers can be aware of when to anticipate potential issues with animal encounters. This DWP database could serve as an informational tool for the Dept. of Animal Services to locate dogs in the City to determine whether those dogs are properly licensed.

Based on recognition of the great potential value of the DWP database to the Dept. of Animal Services, in mid-February 2010, Councilmembers Eric Garcetti and Paul Koretz co-presented a Motion to City Council requesting that the Council instruct the DWP and Dept. of Animal Services to prepare and present a plan for making

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Crime in Shadow Hills

by Sr. Lead Officer Larry Martinez

The SHPOA e-blast that goes out is an excellent way for a community to communicate with each other. I monitor the SHPOA e-blast everyday I am working and sometimes respond to certain people. For the last couple of weeks I had received a SHPOA e-blast that gave information on a certain vehicle/motorist that was seen breaking into vehicles. I gave the information to the Foothill Auto Detectives who began following up on the information.

Thursday, March 18, I received a couple of phone calls from a Block Captain that lives in Shadow Hills who had seen the vehicle driving around Shadow Hills. An LAPD helicopter, Foothill Patrol Officers, Foothill Auto Detectives and Officer Rich Wall and I responded in the area looking for the vehicle and found it on Dronfield Avenue and Stonehurst Street near Stonehurst Park. The suspect was taken into custody with some property from several victims of burglaries and burglary from motor vehicles.

Several community members and Block Captains that live in the area drove by and told us they had additional information and were also looking for the vehicle. The best thing about this arrest is how everything worked out so well - the information that was given to the community, how everyone started calling in information, and how it led to an important arrest. I am very proud of how everyone worked together to get this accomplished. Hopefully the justice system will keep him locked up for a while.

The Shadow Hills e-blast only reaches 450 homes out of about 2500. Just think what we can accomplish if we can get more people involved. To join, please send an email to shpoa@shpoa.us and ask to be added.

What a Sucker

excerpt reprinted from *The Big T Washline*

There's a "sucker" at Big T--the Santa Ana Sucker, a little fish. The Santa Ana Sucker (*Catostomus Santaannae*) is a fish native to streams in the Los Angeles Basin in southern California, including at Big T. These "suckers" are not related to the "sucker fish" that are commonly found in freshwater aquariums, which are native to central and south America. The Santa Ana Sucker has large lips and a small mouth that lets it "vacuum" its food from stream beds. Adult Santa Ana Suckers are about 6 inches in length and have dark, blotchy backs with silvery colored undersides.

The Santa Ana Sucker has been identified as a "threatened" species by the federal government. This means that the species could become endangered (in immediate danger of becoming extinct) if it is not protected. They have become threatened due to loss of habitat and competition from species that are not native, meaning they would not naturally live at Big T. Non-native species, like pet store turtles and aquarium fish, can eat food usually eaten by the Santa Ana Sucker and other native species, and can introduce exotic diseases. Work is being done to remove non-native plants and animals from Big T. You can do your part to help protect the Santa Ana Sucker and other native species: PLEASE DO NOT release your pets at the Big T site.



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Mandatory Micro-Chipping

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While the mandatory spay/neuter Ordinance was enacted in February 2009, the amendment relating to the mandatory micro-chipping of redeemed cats and dogs was not acted upon and thus did not become part of the Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance. In mid-September 2008, the Department of Animal Services once again forwarded a letter to Mayor Villaraigosa asking that mandatory micro-chipping be included in the LA Municipal Code. That letter apparently "got lost in the shuffle" and the Department once again sent a letter in mid-November 2009.

The Mayor forwarded the letter to City Council for their consideration in late November 2009. In mid-December 2009, the City Council's Public Safety Committee recommended that the City Council request the City Attorney to draft the micro-chipping Ordinance as requested by the Department of Animal Services. The item was scheduled to the March 5, 2010 City Council Agenda.

Update: At the March 5, 2010 City Council Session, the Public Safety Committee's recommendation that the City Attorney prepare and present an Ordinance to amend the LAMC to require the micro-chipping of any dog or cat redeemed by its owner from a Los Angeles City Animal Shelter was adopted. This refers only to adopting the "recommendation". No Draft Ordinance has, as yet, been presented or voted upon. SHPOA will keep you informed as to if and when the Ordinance itself will be acted upon.

Administrative Penalties for Illegal Dumping - Part 1

by Elektra Kruger

In early April 2008, the Bureau of Street Services submitted a proposed amendment to the LAMC suggesting that administrative penalties be added for the illegal dumping of rubbish on public right-of-ways. The proposal further suggested establishing a new revenue code in the General Fund to assure that all penalties so collected be used solely for illegal dumping enforcement by the Bureau of Street Services' Investigation and Enforcement Division. Instances of Illegal Dumping continue to increase in the City of Los Angeles and its proliferation increases City expenditures to mitigate this visual blight and potential safety hazard.

The Bureau of Street Services hopes this may improve the efficiency and effectiveness of illegal dumping enforcement. Currently, when dumpers are OBSERVED in the commission of a dumping violation BY ONE WITH LEGAL AUTHORITY (that is not you or me), they can be cited for a misdemeanor violation of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and applicable State laws. Bureau Investigators claim to also routinely search through dumped piles of trash to find evidence leading to the person responsible for the debris.

I don't know exactly how much weight that claim holds. I once found multiple envelopes with the same name and address in a pile of roadside trash. I was told that without

Continued on page 10

Land Use Update

continued from page 2

the number of allowable units overall. The City approved the Project. SHPOA has filed a lawsuit claiming, among other things, that the City failed to require the entire land available for development to be used for calculation of the Slope Density of the Project area.

Athens Services, Inc

SHPOA has filed an appeal with the City to the LEA (Local Enforcement Agency) certification of the EIR (Environmental Impact Report) that the Athens waste processing facility prepared to support its application for a permit to increase its allowable waste tonnage/day to 1,500 tons/day of which 1,000 tons/day is to be MSW (Municipal Solid Waste (i.e. black-barrel garbage) and 500 tons/day is to be C&D (Construction and Demolition debris waste). If permitted, this would be the first time that MSW waste processing would be permitted on the residential side of Glenoaks and would take place only 900 feet from the nearest existing residence.

9619 Hillrose

The property has been sold - there should be no 10,100 sq. ft. house constructed there after all.

Verdugo Hills Golf Course Project

The owners have applied for a Tract Map for a proposed 229 townhome development to replace the golf course despite the fact that the environmental review for same has not been completed.

Wealtha Pit/Wealtha Rock Mound

Many of you may have noticed that the pit is essentially filled. As soon as the fill is sufficiently compacted to support heavy equipment/trucks, the rocks should begin to disappear. Also, the judicial system finally delivered: the owner of the property has made the first payment of what amounts to \$650,000 of fines/penalties.

Funding for Street Resurfacing?

by Elektra Kruger

The City is eligible to apply for its remaining share, approximately \$59.7 million worth, in California's Prop 1B Local Streets and Roads (LSR) funding once an application is submitted with the California Department of Finance (DOF). Due to California's limited bonding capability, only a portion of the total Prop 1B funding available can be released at any one time. Distribution of funds during the current application period will be on a first come, first serve basis.

In order to apply for Prop1B LSR funds, the Council for each City wishing to apply must first have approval from that City's Council and delineation from that Council on how

Continued on page 14

Bert Bonnett Celebrates 100th Birthday



Bert has been a resident of Shadow Hills since the early 1940's.

On February 21st he celebrated his 100th birthday. ETI Corral 20 had a party planned for the 20th, but the weatherman had a different idea. The ride was rescheduled for March 27th.

Bert led the ride and was joined by 80 + friends on horseback to celebrate this grand event.

We rode for approximately 3 hours and returned to Pam & Hei Mitchell's beautiful ranch in Lake View Terrace where he was joined by many more friends. After lunch Bert was presented a letter from President Obama and Governor Schwarzenegger congratulating him. Personally on hand was our new Council 2 District representative, Paul Krekorian who presented a plaque to Bert, and Millie Jones, representing Supervisor Mike Antonovich, with a beautiful certificate. The afternoon finale was a slideshow video, created by Tim and Becky Borquez presenting Bert's life in photos. The video is on YouTube and can be viewed by visiting C20 website <http://www.eticorral20.com>. It was a wonderful day.

We are already planning the 101st birthday ride!!

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Administrative Penalties

continued from page 8

having seen the dumper in action, one cannot directly tie the action to said name and address. Perhaps the person was hiring someone who was paid to take the trash to a waste facility, but that person chose to dump the trash on the roadside and pocket the money. Why the person whose name and address evidence I submitted is still not ultimately responsible I do not know. I found those envelopes in a pile of trash at a location on Wentworth that I had multiple times cleaned up only to have a new pile dumped in only a matter of a few days.

I took it upon myself to write an anonymous letter to the name/address appearing on those envelopes along with the incriminating envelopes from the trash pile. I explained that I take pride in my community and do not appreciate it being defiled by piles of illegally dumped trash from a source outside my community. I asked if that person felt compelled to dump trash along the roadside, to please do so in their own community. I have to admit, I have not seen a pile of trash at that same location on Wentworth ever since, nor a pile of similar content elsewhere on Wentworth.

"It Takes a Village"

by Sue Mansis

Calling ALL residents! If you're like me, you're feeling overwhelmed, yet angry by the rise in "incidents" around our little Shadow Hills community lately. We may not be able to stop crime completely, but it takes a tightly networked community to disseminate information that helps us watch for it, deter it, and catch it. Won't you please consider becoming a block captain with Neighborhood Watch? All it takes is being that person(s) on your street whose house is the "go to" for emergencies and info, and the person(s) who connects with neighbors on your block who are not reachable via email.

You don't have to attend scores of meetings or keep books of information, but if each street had a block captain, think of how much more cohesive our 'village' community could be. We are unusually blessed to have a great email chain (thanks Chris Arlington!) that reaches us daily, but how many of our neighbors are not connected to it, thus may have no current updates of what's going on in and around them? We need YOU to be the person who informs them and helps bring your block together.

Please consider getting involved in order to better protect the homes and neighborhoods you love. Contact me at suemansis@ca.rr.com or call 818-352-3966 to get on board. Thanks to those of you who have already expressed interest and ideas to help. We have gotten used to years of quiet anonymity but that is changing. Undoubtedly, you've enjoyed the 'pocket' of peace we experience here in Shadow Hills... now more than ever, we need to rely more on ourselves to keep it that way.

Anne Finn: Great Friend of Shadow Hills

by Carol Roper

Shadow Hills lost a well-respected, civically-active member of our community on March 10. Anne Finn was the widow of our former Councilman Howard Finn who died in office in 1986. Howard, who was an architect and builder, constructed 29 homes on Shadow Island Drive as well as several others throughout the Shadow Hills area.



According to one source, Anne and Howard met in Berkeley. After their first date, Howard called Anne to tell her she was the one he wanted to marry. Anne and Howard did everything together - first in his business as architect, builder and developer and then during his tenure as our Councilman. Mayor Tom Bradley once said that we got "two for one" the day Howard entered office. Anne was also very active with her family. When the kids attended Stonehurst Elementary School, she was very involved with the PTA. While there, she helped raise money for band uniforms. One way was by selling popcorn.

Following Howard's passing, Anne unsuccessfully ran for Council herself, but did serve as a significant player on the LA County Grand Jury, the LA City Charter Commission, the Mayor's Commission on Domestic Violence Task Force, and behind the scenes of many local elections. She served on the Board of Directors of the Hillview Mental Health Center, the Independent Living Center of Southern California, New Directions for Youth, and Shadow Hills' very own Tierra del Sol.

Even up to last year Anne was an icon of our local 4th of July parade. Anne was always willing to help those who had come on hard times, but she always remained in the background. If someone needed something - Anne was there. Anne loved Shadow Hills and lived for 65 years in the home that Howard had designed and built. Anne treasured her independence and continued living in their home after Howard passed away. Until recently, Anne enjoyed driving, walking and swimming daily. Anne was the mother of three. She will be sorely missed by her family and many friends.




License Your Dog

continued from page 6

the DWP "household with dogs database" available to the Dept. of Animal Services for the purpose of using that database to insure compliance with the City's dog licensing regulations. The Motion was scheduled straight to Council for hearing in late February.

Update: During the City Council Hearing in late February, Councilmember Richard Alarcon amended the Motion adding that the Department of Water and Power also provide its list of households with horses to increase horse licensing regulation. I can understand why the DWP would have a list of households with dogs, but with horses? That seems odd. At any rate, public testimony supported the Motion and it was approved at the late February City Council session.




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Impound Vehicles

continued from page 4

- Within 2 working days after impoundment, the legal owner of the vehicle shall be notified by certified mail that the vehicle has been impounded. Included shall be information relating to the opportunity to determine the validity of the storage or to determine any mitigating circumstances establishing that the vehicle should be released. (e.g. the vehicle was stolen prior to the commission of the crime)
- The notice must include an explanation that in order to receive a post-storage hearing, the owners must request the hearing either in person, in writing, or by phone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice.

There is a lot more legal-ese to the proposed amended Ordinance which, in the long run, seems to end up with the whole 30-days of impound in question to run out before the process is ever completed. But that seems to be the way things work. The Motion has been forwarded to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review and recommendation. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this issue.

Unhitched Ad Trailers on City Streets

by Elektra Kruger

There has been a proliferation of unhitched trailers with a variety of advertisements on them creating a visual blight on the streets throughout the City. Trailer owners make a point of not allowing their unhitched trailers to sit longer than three days in any one location thereby assuring they do not fall under the definition of "abandoned vehicle." Regulations in this area are so ambiguous that there is a great deal of confusion within the community with regard to laws, rules, and ordinances regarding the parking of unhitched trailers on our City streets.

To clarify the regulations for the public as they relate to unhitched trailer advertisement, in mid-December 2009, Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Department of Transportation be instructed to create a one-page informational document for dissemination to community groups, Neighborhood Councils, and the public at large which is to include current laws on unhitched trailers, defining what constitutes an unhitched trailer and contact information for submitting complaints and questions.

The public responded positively to the Motion encouraging the City to remove mobile ad trailers parked on City streets sometimes listing specific addresses where such trailers are prevalent. They not only re-emphasized the fact that the trailers were an eyesore, but also brought up the issue of them being a terrible safety hazard sometimes either because the trailers themselves often stick out into traffic lanes or, at times, actually even tip over in high winds thereby becoming serious driving hazards. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Transportation Committee for their review. In mid-January 2010, the Transportation Committee approved the recommendation of the Motion and forwarded it to the City Council for a

Continued on next page



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Shadow Hills 1978

Marlene Hitt

Archivist Bolton Hall Museum and a Sunland Resident

While thumbing through a stack of news clippings, I saw a Record Ledger issue dated February 23, 1978, which reminded me of one of our natural disasters as well as our past and current battles. That was just after the big flood had washed out Foothill and caused so much destruction all over the Valley.

The first article on page one merely announces: "Shadow Hills Meeting Set Tonight" which would concern the Japanese Gardens development at Helen Avenue, the meeting to be held at Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church.

The second is captioned "Armed Robbers Hit Hobers". That robbery was the first since 1939, and became the beginning of a series of them over the years. What had happened? The freeway had opened. Masked men with a shotgun and a pistol entered the store at closing time, held an employee at gunpoint, and stole drugs and cash.

Article three is really scary: "Bike Ride Turns to Nightmare". An 11 year old boy, pedaling his bike furiously near the curb on Sunland Boulevard was assaulted when two men tried to run him off the road with their car. The boy was riding along when the car pulled up beside him and tried to knock him down by repeatedly opening its door in his path.

The adult men apparently achieved their purpose when they finally struck the rear of the boy's bike, knocking him to the pavement. No words were exchanged and the boy had never seen the men before. The unidentified lad was treated for abrasions and pavement burns to his cheek, hand and forearm.

Then, to remind us that there is sanity, the next article tells us that the East Valley Horse Owners Association planned to discuss horse care and management at the Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center. During the rainstorms at least 20 horses had successfully been moved to safe ground, thanks to an unidentified woman who housed them on her large piece of property.

Last on that page is, of course, "Shadow Hills Strives to Maintain Rural Lifestyle amid Growth". The controversy was about the building of close to 200 new homes. That issue of the paper is thirty years old. Same old, same old.....

City Streets

continued from page 12

final vote. The item was scheduled to be heard in Council in late January 2010.

Update: At its January 29, 2010 session, the City Council adopted the Transportation Committee's recommendation to create a one page informational document which can be disseminated to community groups, Neighborhood Councils and residential neighborhoods on the laws, rules and regulations regarding the parking of unhitched trailers on City of LA streets and in residential neighborhoods. This document is to include current laws on unhitched trailers, definition of an unhitched trailer and contacting information for submitting complaints and requesting information.

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Street Resurfacing?

continued from page 9

those funds will be used. Due to the obvious competition for the limited funds, it was extremely important for the City of Los Angeles to submit its application the first day that the application period opened up - sometime in late January. If Los Angeles failed to make a timely submission of its application, it would have to wait for the next round of Prop 1B fund access which would not be until Spring of 2010 or later depending on the State's financial status.

Understanding the urgency of getting this application out, in mid-January 2010, Councilmember Jose Huizar presented a Motion to the City Council asking that the Bureau of Street Services be authorized to serve as the Lead Agency in the preparation of the application for LA's entire remaining share of its Prop 1B LSR Appropriation of \$59.7 million. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Works Committee which waived consideration of the item and it was scheduled straight to the City Council agenda for January 20, 2010.

Update: At its January 20, 2010 session, the Los Angeles City Council adopted the Motion that the Department of Street Services be authorized to serve as the lead agency for the preparation and submission of an application on behalf of the City of Los Angeles with the State Department of Finance for the City's entire remaining share of its Prop 1B LSR Appropriation amounting to approximately \$59.7 million. This would be done during the first available 2009/2010 application period with such monies to be utilized for Resurfacing and Slurry Seal Projects.

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Illegal Dumping

continued from page 5

Common locations for illegal dumping are highways and unsecured, undeveloped, vacant lots. The Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services has formed an Investigation and Enforcement Division which performs surveillance at chronic dumping sites and is authorized to make arrests and seize vehicles used for illegal dumping.

Report illegal dumping sites to the "One Call to City Hall" 311 number and ask the operator to transfer you to the Bureau of Street Services. Have the address or the nearest intersections available to identify the location of the dumping site for the Bureau. They will usually pick up the material within a couple of days. They are usually very good about this. It has been very rare that the dump site has not been cleared within a week. If it has not been cleaned up within a week, just provide them with a polite follow-up call. Sometimes the Bureau is extremely busy and a nudge will be helpful, but we don't need to be rude - just persistent.

Do not dump oil or any other chemicals into our storm drains. One gallon of motor oil can pollute 250,000 of water. Multiply that by the population of Los Angeles. If even a small percentage of the population dumped chemicals into our storm drains, they can cause major environmental damage.

Closing the Recycling Loop, Together

Reprinted from City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division newsletter

Recycling only works economically if we purchase and use materials made of recycled content. By doing so, we in effect create a "market" for recycled materials and create "demand" for all the materials turned in through recycling programs. Government cannot afford to subsidize the cost of recycling programs that can and will pay for themselves if we close the recycling loop by buying items made of recycled content.

Products and packaging made from recycled materials are easy to find. Recycled-content paper products and packaging (including glass/plastic bottles, aluminum/metal cans, and paperboard boxes) can be found in grocery and drug stores.

Many office and school supplies (such as folders, notebooks, envelopes, stationery, pens, and re-manufactured toner cartridges) are available with recycled content. Automotive parts are often made with recycled materials, and re-fined oil performs just fine while conserving valuable resources.

Anyone remodeling a home or planting a garden can buy recycled with products such as plastic lumber and planting pots, steel framing, insulation, wallboard, paint, carpet, and flooring. By examining labels for recycled content information, just as one would for ingredients in food items, shopper will discover a wide assortment of available recycled content products and packaging.

As consumers, we can make an environmental difference with our purchasing power. When we buy recycled we:

- Conserve resources
- Decrease dependence on landfills
- Support markets for recycled content products
- Conserve energy
- Maintain demand made for collected recyclable materials

Consider recycled content when deciding on purchase. Seek out and ask for recycled content products and packaging while shopping. Contact manufacturers to ask that post-consumer recycled materials be used in the manufacture of their products. Together we can bring our resourced full circle and close the recycling loop, if we buy recycled.

Rebates for Sprinkler Controllers?

by Elektra Kruger

Many different proposals have been tossed about to help deal with the impacts of our current drought situation - limiting the number of days and time which our yards may be irrigated, addition of "water-shortage" use rates to help incentivize conservation, etc. Another recent proposal has been for the DWP to offer full rebates for the installation of weather-based sprinkler controllers. Depending on the brand, controlled sprinkler systems may base their operation on the weather while others base operation on moisture levels.

It is estimated that weather or moisture-based sprinkler controllers can reduce water usage by approximately 20%. The Metropolitan Water District currently offers a limited rebate for weather-based sprinkler controllers. Councilmember Greig Smith stated that he felt that the Department of Water and Power should offer full rebates to help ensure increased water conservation and presented a Motion to City Council in mid-February 2009 requesting that the Council instruct the DWP to report to the Council on the feasibility of implementing a full rebate program for customer installation

of weather-based or moisture-based sprinkler controllers and to report on any rebate programs used by other cities and jurisdictions to incentivize customer water conservation efforts. The Councilmember also requested that the DWP develop an implementation plan to install weather-based sprinkler controllers on all City facilities.

Update: At its July 14, 2009 Hearing, the City Council unanimously adopted this Motion as amended in Council to read that not only the DWP report on the feasibility of establishing a rebate program, but that the DWP itself directly PROVIDE weather-based or moisture-based sprinkler controllers to the City's residential customers FREE-OF-CHARGE and additionally study the feasibility of totally exempting residential, commercial and City properties that install and have properly functioning weather-based sprinkler controllers, moisture-based sprinkler controllers or Smart Sprinkler Technology from Water Conservation Programs. Keep in mind that this Motion orders the DWP to provide a feasibility study only; it has not yet approved any rebate or give-away programs for these controller systems.



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This year the Tujunga United Methodist Church's Bailey Human Care Center will receive food donations from the Tujunga, Sunland and La Crescenta Post Offices!

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Community Calendar

Monday, May 3

CERT class disaster training (see article)

Tuesday, May 11, Tierra del Sol - 7pm

SHPOA General meeting

Thursday, May 13

7- 8pm, Open house at Shadow Hills Pre-school (see article)

Thursday, May 20

Deadline for articles for Shadow Hills Newsletter

Saturday, June 5

Rummage Sale Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 4

Sunland/Tujunga parade

Foothill Boulevard

1st Tuesday, Every Month

7pm, FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

9749 Wheatland

3rd Tuesday, Every Month

7 pm, Neighborhood Watch, East Valley Municipal Building

4th Tuesday Every Month

7pm, Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

3rd Thursday Every Month

7 pm, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council Meeting

7 pm, Location variable (check website for location www.ftdnc.org)

4th Wednesday Every Month

Becky Borquez - 818.352.3634

ETI Corral 20 Meeting Stonehurst Park 7 pm Rock building

Key Community Locations and 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 at Sunland, Shadow Hills);

Pastor Janet Winslow.353-3500

Stonehurst Park: 9901 Dronfield, Sun Valley, 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 East Valley Municipal Building/ Office CD2 Councilman Paul Krekorian;

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Abandoned Car: (800) 222-6366

East Valley Animal Shelter

East Valley Animal Shelter is now located at 14409 Vanowen in Van Nuys, 1 block east of Van Nuys Blvd. at the corner of Vanowen and Lennox. Toll free 1-888-452-7381 (menu option 1 then 4 then 5) inside line 1-213-485-8613 or 1-818-756-9323.