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Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow

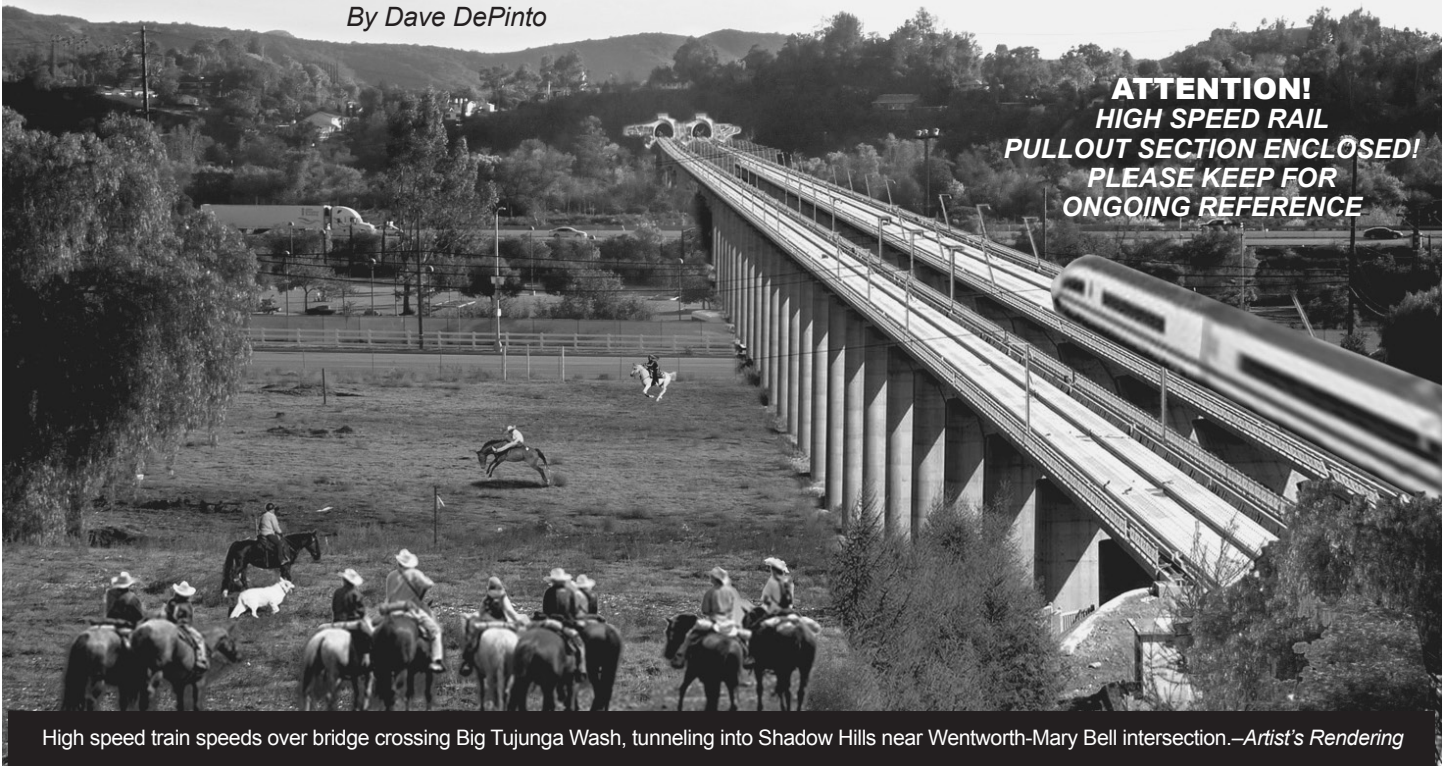


Volume 38, Issue 1

January-February 2015

Mandatory High Speed Rail Meeting – Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 pm – All Nations Church

By Dave DePinto



High speed train speeds over bridge crossing Big Tujunga Wash, tunneling into Shadow Hills near Wentworth-Mary Bell intersection.—Artist's Rendering

Mandatory? Yes, it's mandatory for all residents and property owners who are concerned about the future of their homes, quality of life and property values in Shadow Hills.

Mandatory? Yes, it's mandatory if you want to preserve our equestrian and country lifestyle.

Mandatory? Yes, it's mandatory for all residents and property owners who either have or have not yet written a protest letter or attended public meetings about high speed rail.

Rather than have its regular January meeting at Tierra del Sol, SHPOA is joining together with neighboring communities such as Lake View Terrace, Kagel Canyon, La Tuna Canyon, Sunland/Tujunga and Sun Valley to host an informational meeting about high speed rail at All Nations Church, located on 10000 Foothill Boulevard in Lake View Terrace. Yes, there have been high speed rail meetings in the past few months. BUT, residents and elected officials were not allowed to speak or ask questions at those meetings. Those meetings were orchestrated by the High Speed Rail Authority and designed to stifle public comment and did not allow elected official comment.

This is OUR meeting. You will have your say. Our elected officials will have their say. We've been communicating exhaustively on the subject of high speed rail for several months in our newsletter, at our meetings and via Daily

Fodder. Now it's time for you to attend and to take action.

A group of about 25-30 concerned area leaders (aka "working group") has been fighting hard since mid-August to demand the High Speed Rail Authority eliminate poorly planned routes from throughout our Foothill communities. As of press time, we have no guarantees that our comments, concerns and demands have been heard or responded to. So, we must take action.

Please attend this meeting. It's critical that every property owner and resident be heard on this issue before it's too late. Within the next 1-2 months the High Speed Rail Authority (which is part of California State Government) will choose which rail routes to study in its Environmental Impact Report (EIR). We do not want routes that DESTROY our community in their EIR. If they wind up in the EIR, our next 4-5 years will be pure hell as we'll have to fight this battle every day! And then, the prospect of high speed rail being built over, under and through Shadow Hills will be much more likely.

Please make sure you subscribe for free to Daily Fodder (send your email address to shpoa@shpoa.us) and stay up to date on the issue and on the meeting. 🐾

Look inside for more critical news! ▶▶▶▶

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER—PAGE 3

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President:	Dave De Pinto 352-7618 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com
Vice President:	Sue Mansis 554-8113 suemansis@shpoa.us
Executive Secretary:	Linda Fullerton, 246-8877 linda@wrightcolor.com
Recording Secretary:	Ann Hesen 695-3290 appleandgracie@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Cindy Bloom invoices@shpoa.us
Membership:	Eric Stein 949-280-1339 eric@shpoa.us Susan Lozano slozano7@ca.rr.com

Appointed Officers

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Special Projects:	Vacant
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Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets	Terri Ortiz shpoa@shpoa.us
Volunteers:	Anton Bosch anton@ifcb.net
Webmaster:	Carlos George webmaster@shpoa.us
Editor and Article Collection:	Dave De Pinto 352-7618 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com
Newsletter Coordinator and Ad Collection:	Toni Ingallina 951-1136 toni@ingallina.com –or– advertising@shpoa.us
Newsletter Design/Layout:	Mike McCoy 273-4195 mccoyart@yahoo.com
Historian:	Vacant
Hospitality:	Martha Hankins 951-1669 mhankins@ca.rr.com
SHPOA's Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 345, Sunland, CA 91041
SHPOA's E-mail Address:	shpoa@shpoa.us
Website:	www.shpoa.us
Printer:	Wright Color Graphics Linda Fullerton, 246-8877 linda@wrightcolor.com
Senior Lead Police Officers: <i>Sunland/Shadow Hills/LVT</i>	Cesar Contreras 818-634-0705 36373@lapd.lacity.org LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861
<i>Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West</i>	Rich Wall 818-634 -0755 30204@lapd.lacity.org
Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC): www.ftdnc.org	
<i>West Shadow Hills/ Stonehurst:</i>	Terry Kaiser hdconcerns@ca.rr.com Robert (Bob) Bell
<i>East Shadow Hills/East LVT:</i>	Dale Gibson 968-8670 Mike Carpenter 470-5235 lamikec@yahoo.com

Johny Carpenter Food Drive & Spirit Awards

The 2nd Annual Community Food Drive and 12th Annual "Spirit of Johny Carpenter" Awards were held Saturday November 22nd, 2014. This was the first time both the awards and the food drive were held on the traditional day Johny had his Thanksgiving Dinner at the original Heaven on Earth Ranch.

The recipient of all the donated food was "Winds of Hope" led by Pastor Domingo Mota, from Sun Valley. The 2014 honorees were Phil Tabbi Sr. and Katherine Carpenter. More food was donated by our community this year and it took a big truck to load it. The offices of Councilman Felipe Fuentes, Congressman Adam Schiff, former Assemblyman Raul Bocanegra and Supervisor Michael Antonovich also recognized our honorees. We had



representation from Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council, Valley Village, Foothill Division LAPD, the San Fernando Rangers, among others. We also thank OK Trophy for donating the plaques.

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SOME HOT ITEMS IN THIS ISSUE...

High-Speed Rail!—Removable 4-pg section!
Renew Your Membership Now! LOOK HERE! ►►
Patty Lopez Elected to District 39—See p. 3
Johnny Carpenter Spirit Awards & Food Drive ! p. 2
Terry Kaiser-ETI Area 7 Volunteer of the Year-p.10

MANDATORY**HIGH SPEED RAIL MEETING**

Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
All Nations Church, 10000 Foothill Blvd.
Lakeview Terrace

It's Membership Renewal Time
Membership Envelope Enclosed

By Eric Stein

Happy New Years from the Membership Committee! We would like to thank everyone who paid their membership dues for 2014; it was a record year as more than 600 residents were active SHPOA members. Your dues payments help support all of our VOLUNTEER activities: our newsletter, 5-6 meetings per year, Daily Fodder, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteer Committee work and advocacy on issues such as public safety, high speed rail, road paving and solar farms.

We know everyone can't afford the time to be on the Board or on a committee. But, we're pretty sure everyone can afford \$25 per year to help our volunteers who serve the entire community. Please help our membership body grow by renewing your membership and encouraging friends and neighbors to join SHPOA! Please make sure to send in your 2015 dues as soon as possible. Thank you! 🐾

Patty Lopez Wins Election for Assembly District 39

By Dave DePinto

In what has been described as an upset and an election surprise, Patty Lopez narrowly defeated incumbent Raul Bocanegra this past November and will represent the 39th Assembly District for the next two years. The District includes the communities of: Shadow Hills, Pacoima, San Fernando, Arleta, Mission Hills, Sylmar, North Hollywood, Lake View Terrace, Northeast Granada Hills, Sunland-Tujunga, and Sun Valley.

Before being elected to the State Assembly Lopez was a community representative for the North Valley Occupational Center. She was also a community activist for various community projects serving San Fernando public schools.

A mother to four girls, a grandmother and married to Juan Lopez, Assembly member Lopez is committed to making a difference in the community, especially through advocating for a quality public education for all children. 🐾

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA

Membership Form

Shadow Hills area residents, it's time to join SHPOA for the 2015 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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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



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Neighborhood Watch Update

by Sue Mansis

Shadow Hills has always been community that 'watches.' For years, there have been brave and passionate souls willing to assume responsibilities on behalf of the neighbors to keep their streets safe, clean and peaceful. These individual 'watches' began to be organized and identified when Chris Arlington, with the help of SHPOA, formed a "community Neighborhood Watch" through email alerts and communications, unifying residents and police and helping others to know who and where to contact when help was needed.

About 7 years ago, when Chris "retired," she asked me to step into her position and develop it further. Attempting to unify the community further, Neighborhood Watch became more widespread using the expansion of SHPOA's "Daily Fodder," facilitated by Terri Ortiz. The Daily Fodder has exploded and reached farther than we could ever have expected, as our readership exceeds the boundaries of Shadow Hills. Together with you, our readers, we are now able to send out alerts and updates, often in real time, which help to prevent crime, identify suspicious behavior and deter would-be thieves, educating and empowering our residents to take a much more proactive stance against threats to our communities. We are grateful.

My role as Coordinator has evolved into a full time 'job' and now I need to scale back. So, together with several others willing to step up and assume a farther reaching role, we are transitioning into a "multi-coordinator" community by dividing Shadow Hills into "boundaries" by streets. Starting in 2015, I will no longer be the "go to" for all Neighborhood Watch needs or issues. I will stay on in a lesser role and direct residents to the coordinators for their individual areas so they can interface more directly with them.

Our LAPD Senior Leads will work with many block captains and 'coordinators' for this area and we'll meet more frequently to touch base, compare notes and support each other with information, input and advice. Now all we need is YOU..... more of you to step up into a 'coordinator' role for your street(s). Together as we spread out over this community, we envision a stronger and more watchful force for each others' needs to keep our streets safe, sane and secure. We need you - won't you please consider serving in a small role towards this vision? Contact me at either 818-554-8113 (mobile) or suemansis@gmail.com (email). 🐾

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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DWP Paperless Billing Incentive Program

by Elektra Kruger

The DWP felt it could realize significant savings in its operational budget if it created an incentive program encouraging customers to utilize a paperless billing system. Savings would be generated through reduction in use of paper and reduction in mailing costs, all of which would also help the City come closer to meeting its goal of environmental sustainability.

In late August 2014, Councilmembers Bob Blumenfield and Paul Koretz co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that they call upon the DWP to report on the feasibility of creating a paperless billing incentive program in an effort to facilitate customer service, reduce operational costs and preserve the environment. There might be some question as to whether paperless billing would facilitate service to all customers as some actually do not even have computers and many that do still prefer not to do their billing on-line - yes, me included. The requested report was provided in early October 2014. The DWP first offered a paperless billing option in 2009. Among the benefits the DWP claims this option offers its customers were:

- An increased security of account information (this is hard to believe given the frequent and massive breaches of security that have occurred the last couple of years - could a bill be stolen from my mailbox from which someone could ascertain my account information? - yes, but that is a chance of one in a couple of million - a DWP security breach lays out my information along with that of millions of others in one stroke)
- Timely notification of bills and notices
- Convenience of electronic files for easy record-keeping (I know a five-year-old could do it, but most of those paying utility bills still come from my generation which is not the most computer savvy and, as much as they may claim it to be, NO web-site is user-friendly and easy to use for record-keeping!)

By having created an improved "one-click enrollment process", the DWP claims a 90% boost in on-line payment participation over the last two years bringing total overall participation levels to 9% of all DWP customers. To be continued in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter. 🐾



Update on 30-Day DWP Billing Cycle

by Elektra Kruger

In late July 2013, Councilmember Fuentes submitted a Motion to City Council asking that the DWP provide a report within 30 days on the feasibility of switching the residential DWP billing cycle from a 60-day cycle to a 30-day cycle and what processes would be necessary to



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make that happen. Four months later (not 30 days) the DWP did make a presentation to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee, however, the presentation was about the DWP's Customer Information System and had absolutely nothing to do with the DWP billing cycle.

It is now an entire year after that and the Motion was being agendized to a December 3rd 2014 session of the Energy and Environment Committee. Councilmember Fuentes is the chairperson for the Energy and Environment Committee. Well, the December 3rd meeting also had nothing to do with considering switching to a 30-day billing cycle, but the Department of Water and Power once again gave a presentation about the continued problems they were having with their Customer Information System and what they were doing to resolve them. They were dealing with having purchased the largest and most complex utility billing system as a lowest cost alternative and because the City is impeding hiring they are dealing with insufficient staffing to handle customer complaint volume.

This has been something not only harmful for customer relations but internal morale as well. In an effort to fix these problems there has been a slight increase in staffing of Customer Services Representatives and Meter Readers. I guess they will not even attempt to go to the effort of switching protocol of the billing system until such time as they get the complexities of the utility billing system under control. Goes to show - the cheapest will always be the most expensive in the long run. 🐾



Angeles National Golf Club Debuts Wine Tasting Room

By Sue Mansis

Malibu Family Wines Tasting Room at Angeles National Golf Club recently opened to the public. With fantastic mountain and golf course views along with perfect Southern California weather, this tasting room also features Semler and Saddlerock wines.

Located adjacent to the Agave Bar and Grill, Malibu Family Wines works closely with the restaurant to create food and wine pairings for your enjoyment. The Tasting Room is open daily 11:00am-7:00pm, with the last tasting offered at 6:30 pm. There is live music every Saturday and Sunday afternoon 2-4 pm at the outside courtyard. Events include monthly Sips N Giggles comedy show, Malibu Wine Dinners (in conjunction with Agave Bar and Grill), and other festivities. The Tasting Room is open to guests 21 years of age and older. Parking is free for cars, pick up trucks and horses (stables available).

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<https://www.facebook.com/MFWAngelesNational>. 🐾



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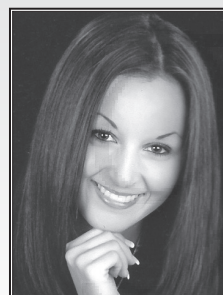


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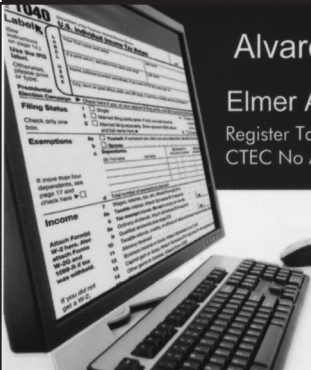
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Canyon Park Development Information

By Dave DePinto

In the midst of all the craziness involving high speed rail, solar farms and the holidays, a large, newly proposed residential development held "scoping" meetings recently (why do they always seem to occur during the holiday period??).

The proposed development is named Canyon Park. Having attended the scoping meeting and reviewed literature by opponents, here is some basic information. SHPOA will give further coverage to this issue in the future.

- Location – 12100-12400 Big Tujunga Road
- Requires up-zoning of Scenic Corridor land to allow for higher density housing
- Would change the City's General Plan to allow anywhere from 50-242 five-bedroom, 2-story homes over 110 acres
- Concerns stated by opponents:
 1. Would change City Council precedent-setting decision in 2007 that down-zoned properties near the National Forest to preserve open space
 2. Plans violate Community Plan
 3. Traffic congestion
 4. Insufficient public services/utilities
 5. Environmental hazards
 6. Wildlife habitat loss
 7. Watershed damage
 8. Cultural/historical loss
 9. Aesthetics/rural character degradation
 10. Reduction in quality of life

For more information – call 323-895-6275 or email saveourcyn@gmail.com or Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/StopCPD/



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Public Hearing for Protected Tree Removal*by Elektra Kruger*

Residents of Sullivan Canyon, a natural and equestrian friendly neighborhood in the Santa Monica Mountains were greatly aggrieved at the removal of 56 of Los Angeles' oldest protected oak trees from the land of a proposed massive private residential development. The tree removal permit was issued without public notice and without public hearing which failed to provide any public review of such a considerable and irreversible environmental impact contradicting the City's own CEQA process in so doing.

Why do we have a City Ordinance establishing standards for the preservation of specific native trees if they can be indiscriminately cut down at will? Although the impact would be great and irreversible, it was determined that there is no requirement for community notification of any intention to remove protected trees on private property. It is becoming increasingly evident that those protections need to be expanded to improve upon the current tree removal process.

In the case of Sullivan Canyon, though the Mitigated Negative Declaration anticipated the removal of only 25 trees, a total of 56 protected trees were actually removed. In defense of our City's few remaining open spaces and protection of our natural environment in a world of ever-continuous development, it would be good public policy to give communities the opportunity to voice concerns.

In recognition of this, in December 2014, Councilmember Mike Bonin submitted a Motion to City Council asking that they request the Board of Public Works to require a 30-day public notice and public hearing for any permit for the removal of three or more trees on private property. To carry this a step further, he also is asking that the Planning Department, Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry Division, Public Works - all departments and review bodies - create a system for improved review and analysis of environmental impacts within their purview in the completion of CEQA review of a proposed project. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review and recommendation. SHPOA will keep an eye on the progress of this Motion. 🐾





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Terry Kaiser named ETI Area 7 Volunteer of the Year

by Linda Fullerton

I knew Terry Kaiser was a keeper when Bert Bonnet, Mike and I took him on a cold dreary trail maintenance day to Cienega Springs above Castaic Lake. This was his first adventure with us and he was truly a nu-be to our world. We started out at the crack of dawn, worked until dark with the last trek of the day ending up on the side of a wash out where we had to cross the pathless trail and maneuver into a fast flowing bed stream that we followed back to the staging area. We landed back at our trailer well after dark. Terry must have either thought we were crazy, we wanted to see if he was really a city slicker or if we were testing his internal fortitude to see if his constitution was made of full grit. Well, he didn't complain that day, tho he has mentioned it many times over the years. In any case, from that day forward Terry was trained and has never thought twice in responding to assist ETI and SHPOA in any venue that arose.

Terry currently serves on Hansen Dam Advisory Committee, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council, ETI Director for Area 7, and Chairman for California Trail Users Coalition (aka C-TUC). C-TUC is a 501-3c which along with other projects such as Sweet Smelling Toilets, Staging area for all recreation use, manages North Fork fire station and has also manufactured routed wood signs over the past 15 years valued at \$480,000.00 for the U.S. Forestry Department. Terry is always one of the first to step up during any fire evacuation emergencies organizing us to aid equine relocations. Because of his connections to LAPD and Fire department officials he is often called when there are equine accidents.

In our community of Shadow Hills and Hansen Dam Terry has volunteered his time to build a safety gate exiting Hansen Dam that stops a loose horse access to a major street which prevents them from being hit by passing cars.

For ETI NATIONAL he has volunteered several years on the Death Valley annual 5 day ride. He has built portable showers with hot water that allow riders the luxury of a clean body during the long ride. For ETI convention Terry has been our conduit between the management of the LAEC and Horse Show management who coordinates the daily events that allow for a smooth functioning 4 day event. His title is Grounds manager, but the job is truly much more. He still does endless trail maintenance work and also has set up many of our National Trail Trial courses.

So in a nut shell, this is Terry Kaiser and his relationship to our equine world. And in is down time he also volunteers at his church as a greeter/usher and is always available to help set up for special events or anywhere else an extra set of hands are needed.

Thank you, Terry, for your many years of dedicated service to ETI and our community. 🐾



SHPOA's Public Safety Scorecard

*Keep Track of Safety Issues in
the Area Where You Live!*

The SHPOA Public Safety Scorecard was introduced in summer 2014 as a way to keep track of safety issues raised during our survey. Use it to monitor YOUR neighborhood; make notes, list concerns, keep score. Bring your sheet to our next regular meeting in March. 🐾

SHPOA Shadow Hills Property Owners Association Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community		SHADOW HILLS PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECTS		
ISSUE	NO PROGRESS	SOME PROGRESS	LOT OF PROGRESS	FIXED
Drag Racing on Wentworth				
Wentworth Skid Marks, Donuts, Street Graffiti				
July 4 th Fireworks				
Exclusive Senior Lead Officer				
Speeding on Sunland Blvd.				
Speeding on Surface Streets				
Personal Crimes (e.g. burglary, thefts from cars)				
Mail Box Theft				
Recycling Bin Scavenging				
Dirt Bikes on Streets, Trails				
Drug Dealing				
Night Riding Safety				
Wentworth EQ Crossings				
Stonehurst & Stallion Market				
Homeless & Transients				

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Weekends: Fri 6pm–Mon 8am

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Mark your calendar . . .

Mandatory HSR Meeting -Tuesday, January 13, 2015 - 6:30 pm • All Nations Church

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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 Felipe Fuentes; 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland

Community Calendar

Alcoholic Family/Friends Support Group

- Every Monday evening, 7:00-8:15 p.m.
- Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
10158 Johanna Ave. @ Sunland Blvd.
For Info: (818) 353-2500

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.

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

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