

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

Volume 34, Issue 4

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



July-August 2011

Riders and Walkers:

Please Report Street Problems

by Bonnie Mason, Outreach Chair (shpoa@shpoa.us)

If you experience or have experienced any problems riding or walking on any of our community streets due to street conditions, please document your incident and email it to me. I have been asked to compile a database of incidents for future reference.

Please include:

- Your name/address/phone number
- Date & time of incident
- Location of incident (be as specific as possible)
- Description of what happened (include: condition and slope of street, if anyone else was involved, any witness information)
- Attach photos of the incident/street, when possible



Win a 42" TV by Micro-Chipping!

In association with L.A. Animal Services to help raise much needed funds, Summer Hawk Ranch has put out a challenge to all equestrian facilities, clubs, businesses, individuals and anyone else interested in hosting an event anywhere in the San Fernando Valley which is serviced by L.A. Animal Services. The Challenge: to micro-chip the most horses, dogs and cats on or before September 30, 2011.

Up for the challenge? Set-up a Micro-Chip Day with East Valley Animal Services and the race is on. For a list of the rules or more information, contact Vikki Brink: 818-383-0690 or summerhawkranch@hotmail.com.



Coyotes and Bobcats and Cougars! Oh My!

by Bonnie Mason, Wildlife Lover

Shadow Hills is blessed with a vast population of wildlife. It's not unusual to see coyotes, quail, bunnies and bobcats. And if you live near the ridge between Wheatland and Wornom above the dirt road at the end of Wornom, you may have seen a young cougar. Mountain lion tracks have been seen above the "Castle House" at the end of Mary Bell Avenue.

Mountain Lions generally exist wherever deer are found. If allowed, they will also eat pets and livestock. Mountain lions are quiet, solitary and elusive and their nature is to avoid people.

Continued on page 5

A Thank You Note ...

SHPOA Thanks **Sun Valley Graffiti Busters** for Trash Removal and Weed Abatement along Wentworth Street.



Don't Wish you HAD Prepared your Pets for an Emergency

by Denise Fleck

Hopefully you will never experience a fire destroying your home, yet you plan ahead—install alarms, smoke detectors and purchase insurance. You certainly hope never to be involved in a car accident, but you have airbags and wear a seat belt (and should safely restrain your pets as well). Being prepared makes sense as we can minimize potential injury to those we love. However, most people are not prepared for a major disaster. "Be Prepared" works for the Scouts, and planning ahead is the best way to keep yourself and your pet safe.

At the Very Least

1. Place a Pet Alert Sticker near your front door recording how many and what type of animals live there. If you aren't home when tragedy strikes, trained professionals will seek out and help your pets.

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"Johnny Carpenter" Arena Becoming A Reality

The New "Heaven on Earth" Ranch (NHOER) took its first steps in construction of the "Johnny Carpenter" Arena on Foothill Place in Lake View Terrace. Construction began Saturday April 30th, 2011. Attending the start up were Mary Benson, representing Council Member Paul Krekorian, Terry Kaiser of FTDNC & ETI, and members of the board of directors of NHOER: Lee Diebold, President; Randy Horton, Vice President; Katherine Carpenter, Secretary; Joel Druckman and Skeeter Mann.

The first task was to display the banner announcing the "future location" of the arena, which is the same historic site of the original Heaven on Earth Ranch, where Johnny Carpenter built an authentic western town and taught physically and mentally challenged children and young adults how to ride a horse. All Nations Church purchased the land and upon learning about Johnny and the ranch, said to "bring it back." The arena is part of the churches conditional use permit, with NHOER listed as the organization to maintain it.

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<i>Sunland:</i> Larry Martinez	634-0705
31179@lapd.lacity.org	
<i>Sun Valley:</i> Michelle Rodriguez	634-0755
31020@lapd.lacity.org	

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

<i>West Shadow Hills/Stonhurst:</i>	
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Dale Gibson	968-8670

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Wanted: All Equestrians!

by Vikki Brink, FTDNC Equestrian Committee Chair

Interested in receiving up-to-date information about equestrian matters and events? I invite all of you to join my email list where we network information about everything equestrian. Please contact me at: summerhawkbranch@hotmail.com.



Summer Safety and Care for Fido

by Bonnie Mason, Dog Lover - with information provided by Denise Fleck, Sunny-dog ink

Dog-Walkers: Walk your dog on grass. Sand and metal, concrete and asphalt pavements will be Hot! Feel the ground. If it's hot to a three-second touch or too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for your dog's paws. If you must walk your dog on sand or pavement, go in the early morning or wait until late in the day, when the ground and pavement have cooled to the touch. Take along drinking water for your dog.

If your dog is limping or refusing to walk, missing part of a pad, licking or chewing at his feet or if pads look darker than usual or contain blisters or redness, it's evident your dog has burned pads. Get the dog to a grassy area or indoors quickly. Flush your pooch's paws with cool (not cold) water. Keep them off pavement or sand until they show signs of improvement. Seek medical attention if you think your dog may have deeper burns.

Water: Provide your pet with constant cool, fresh water all day, every day. If the water dish is outside, be sure it is in constant dense shade, especially in the afternoon. If need be, move the dish as the sun moves. Swimming pool water is not meant for drinking.

Shelter from Heat and Sun: Best to keep your dog inside your air-conditioned house on hot days. If your dog must be outside: provide a densely shaded grassy area, a raised dog bed on a covered porch or a raised, well-ventilated dog house placed in the shade. Run fans or install misters to help keep your dog cool.

Cars: If you take your dog with you, park so that your dog is in the shade and keep the engine running and the a/c turned on. If it's too hot for your kids to wait in a parked car, it's not safe for your dog; even fatal. And, it's against the law.

Grooming: Your dog's fur helps protect it against heatstroke and sunburn. Do not shave your dog's back and around its eyes. Cut or trim the fur instead, but not too short. Brush daily to help thick-coated dogs with shedding.

Exercise: Play with your dog during the cooler parts of the day and on grass to prevent heat stroke and injury.

Fenton Avenue Charter School Open Enrollment

by Stacy Hutter

The Fenton Charter Public Schools are enrolling now for the 2011-2012 school year. Enrollment is open to everyone. We operate grades 2-5 and the Fenton Primary Center/Grades K-1. We are located at 11828 Gain Street, Lake View Terrace, CA 91342 (818-0896-7482). You can learn more about our school on our website: www.FentonCharter.net. Charter schools are public schools and are tuition free.

Fenton offers:

- Small class sizes – Gr. K-2, 20 students; Gr. 4-5, 24 students
- Full time Science Specialists grades 2-5
- Full time Art Specialist and art teachers - Gr. K-5
- Music Instruction - Gr. K-5
- Technology rich environment – iMacs in grade K-5, iPod Cart for project based learning, teacher amplification systems, document cameras with projection units to meet the needs of all learners.
- After-School Playground and After-School Programs available for Gr. 1-5 from dismissal until 6:50 pm

Fenton Avenue Charter School has been an independent charter school for 18 years. For the 2009-2010 schoolyear we achieved the highest test scores in our area.

Kindergarten Hours: M-F – 7:50-3:00 pm; W – 7:50-1:45.
Grades 1-5 Hours: M-F – 7:50-3:15 pm; W – 7:50-2:00.



Solicitors to Carry Valid ID

by Elektra Kruger

Residents have expressed concern about people posing as door-to-door charitable or commercial solicitors while actually scrutinizing homes with the intent to commit burglaries in the future. This is in part because no City laws required solicitors to carry valid personal ID and law enforcement had no authority to deal with suspicious solicitors.

This issue was considered numerous times at City of LA Public Safety Committee meetings. At its April 2010 meeting, the Committee approved recommendations presented by Councilmember Jack Weiss in June 2009. The City Attorney prepared a Draft Ordinance to add regulations to our City Code requiring persons engaged in door-to-door solicitations to carry proof of business/charitable validity as well as a valid government-issued personal ID which must be produced upon request by any person being solicited or any law enforcement agent.

The Draft Ordinance was submitted to the Public Safety Committee for their review in March 2011 and was discussed with the City Attorneys Office and the Police Department on April 4, 2011. It was determined that the proposed Ordinance would enable the Police to conduct investigations of door-to-door solicitors suspected of engaging in criminal activities and, as such, Committee Members recommended that the City Council approve the Ordinance. The Ordinance was passed and became effective on May 31, 2011.

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Coyotes, Bobcats, and Cougars *Continued from pg 1*

Coyotes, bobcats and mountain lions all play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent and wild animal populations under control.

Tips to AVOID attracting wildlife:

- Do not feed deer and avoid planting plants that deer like to eat.
- Bring uneaten pet food inside: dusk to dawn.
- Clean-up seeds, grains, fallen fruit and other foods rodents like to eat; cover compost piles.
- Remove sources of water.
- Reduce animal hiding places. Cut back brush; create a clearance beneath shrubbery.
- Fix or eliminate places where rodents can hide
- Install motion-sensor lighting and sprinklers
- Provide sturdy, covered shelter for goats, sheep and other vulnerable animals
- Secure enclosures for rabbits, chickens, ducks and geese; lock them up at night
- Bring all pets inside from dusk to dawn!

Have an incident or injured wild animal to report? Call: L.A. Animal Services-East Valley: 888-452-7381 Ext. 1-4-5 with your sighting information and say "I want to make a wildlife incident report."

To share wildlife sightings or information with SHPOA or to receive community news and info, send an email with your name to shpoa@shpoa.us and say "Add me."

For more information about living with mountain lions: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/keepmewild>. Have a question not answered on the website? Contact Kevin Brennan: 951-659-2468 at the California Dept. of Fish and Game.



Electric Carts for Sidewalk Patrols

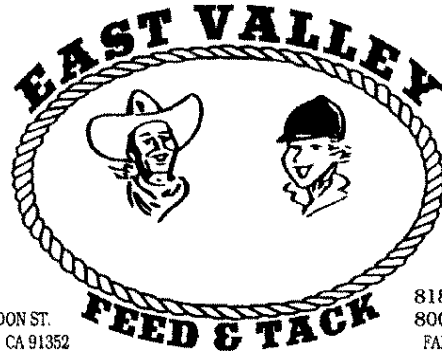
by Elektra Kruger

In late February 2010, Chief of Police Charlie Beck sent an interdepartmental correspondence to the Board of Police Commissioners asking that they support a recommendation that the City enact an Ordinance authorizing the use of electric carts on sidewalks by law enforcement officers while on duty.

The police department had begun using T3 electric vehicles - a three-wheeled electric cart - in addition to the traditional foot-beat patrols as they improve visibility due to their elevated design. The carts are currently restricted to roadways as the California Vehicle Code generally does not permit electric carts to be operated on public sidewalks, however it does permit exemptions to this if local Ordinances are approved permitting the use of such vehicles by limited and specifically designated persons including State and local government employees.

In addition to enhancement of sidewalk foot patrols, the T3 carts would be well-suited for navigating narrow streets, alleyways, malls, parks, school campuses, facility grounds, transportation platforms and entertainment venues. Current restriction of the T3s to the highway greatly diminishes the usefulness of the carts by reducing mobility, reducing visibility of pedestrian traffic and reducing their ability to apprehend a criminal suspect on foot as well as increasing safety hazards to the officers themselves. By allowing a T3 to operate on sidewalks,

Continued on page 9



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Johny Carpenter Arena

Continued from pg 1

The land where the arena will sit was dedicated in a public ceremony by the church on September 12th, 2004. The Johny Carpenter working group recommended creating an independent 501 c(3) public charity to build the "Johny Carpenter" Arena. The plan is to make it available to the community 7 days a week during daylight hours and to establish the "Johny Carpenter" riding program, free of charge. NHOER is now a fully recognized CA based 501 c(3) public charity, has its LA City Business Tax Registration Certificate, and is a member of the Sun Valley Area Chamber of Commerce.

Other activities that day included the plotting of the site plan and working on the round pen in the adjacent "horse rest" area (part of the dedicated trail around the church). Thanks to Terry Kaiser and his tractor which made a huge difference in the round pen.

Future activity will be a formal "groundbreaking" and final construction. The arena dimensions are 125' x 250' with 3 gates. The "target" date for the formal opening is mid-September 2011 or soon after. Monday-Saturday, you will be able to park horse trailers in a staging area next to the arena (note such parking is not available Sundays). For a nominal fee, local groups will be able to "reserve" half the arena for their use. There will be no "public" events taking place, but local groups can conduct their programs. A bulletin board will be on site with rules and be available for community postings.

For more news about NHOER and the "Johny Carpenter" Arena, please call 818-470-5235, email: lamikec@yahoo.com or come by the board of directors meeting, last Thursday of each month (through October) at Coco's Restaurant on Sunland Blvd. in Sunland, 7pm.



Small Animal Rescue Team

There is a group called "Small Animal Rescue Team Los Angeles" which is excellent at rescuing small animals (including wildlife). They are a dedicated group of animal rescue officers who are well trained, caring, equipped, etc. These people are the ones to call, not the police, fire department or animal regulation services. They can be reached at (213) 305-4095, animalrescueteamla@yahoo.com, or the following website: www.laanimalservices.com/about_us/smart.htm.

Emergency Pet Preparedness *Continued from pg 1*

2. Designate a pre-arranged meeting place for your family and identify several places that will take your pets. Most Red Cross Shelters will not allow animals and it could take your community several days to set-up a temporary animal shelter. Making arrangements ahead of time with out-of-town friends and relatives is your best bet, but have a "Plan B." Check with pet day care and boarding facilities as well as your Veterinarian to see if they will accommodate during a disaster. Compile a list of hotels where pets are welcome and set aside one credit card for emergency use. It's also a good idea to have cash (in bills smaller than 20s) easily accessible as ATM Machines will not be working.
3. Stash the following for each pet in an easy-to-carry backpack or crate (that way you'll have the carrier to evacuate in):
 - Two-week supply of food and water stored in an airtight container and a manual can opener if needed. For medium to large dogs, one gallon of water per day. Remember to exchange these items regularly so they are fresh when needed.
 - Medications for your pets.
 - A water-proof container with vaccination and micro-chipping records, and photos of your pet with your family as proof of ownership.
 - Treats, toys, bedding, food & water dishes.
 - Collars/harnesses and leashes; Litter, scoop and boxes for kitties; specialty items for pocket pets, birds, reptiles and amphibians.
 - Disinfectant for cleaning crates, paper towels, flashlight with batteries, zip ties, garbage bags and a well-stocked Pet First-Aid Kit (www.sunnydogink.com)
 - Learn animal life-saving skills before you need them.

Where to Put It All

Even with the best laid plans, life happens, so store goods in several locations in the event they are un-retrievable when the ground shakes, the flames rise or the mud slides. Positioning items close to an outside wall in your home will allow easier access should buildings collapse and you need to rummage through rubble to get to supplies. Also, stowing duplicate items in your car is a good idea.

Don't Forget the Two-Legged Family Members (or you won't be able to help the furry ones!)

Remember to stash food and other items for the humans including a battery or solar-powered radio, rubber-soled shoes and a flashlight near your bed so that you can help your pets and keep yourself safe! A good place to check for human supplies is Earthquake Solutions (www.earthquakesolutions.com).

Preparing for the worst may just prevent the worst from happening!

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Morning Glory

By Veronica Allen

Awakened by the aftertaste of a barely remembered dream, I carefully head towards the kitchen, turning hall light on, lest I step on my dogs, or a rat, gifted by my cat as I slept.

The coffee pot beckons with its inviting soft light next to the round wooden table where two chairs face the curtained window, soon to unveil the flourishing beauty of June.

The clock on the stove shows 3 am, my secret time to write. Soon, with coffee in hand, I open my journal and try to describe again, the view of my back yard.

Lavender trumpet vine blooms along wrought iron fence

between violet bougainvillea and hanging wisteria.

On the lawn, my chocolate lab waits with his prized red ball,

as horse tails sway in the back pasture.

All this, graced by the ancient black walnut tree,

whose open arms shade the width of the yard.

In the backdrop, layers of rolling hills change from fresh green to summer gold,

as hawks ride high on gusts of spring.

We who live in Shadow Hills awaken to this country atmosphere daily. I'm sure the people who wind their way through our Sunland Blvd corridor, past white railed fences and homes with yards like mine, sense the reverence, as something in them changes on their morning commute to the city.

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Ban on Mobile Billboards Pending - Part 2

by Elektra Kruger

In early September 2009, a Motion was presented to City Council requesting the City Attorney to present a Draft Ordinance to the Council for their approval banning mobile billboards parked along our streets. As of the end of the year 2010, such an Ordinance still had not been approved. In mid-January 2010, this Motion was brought before the City Council's Transportation Committee at which time a question was posed as to whether the City could impose a condition on a companies' business licenses committing them to refrain from using mobile billboard advertising.

In response to this discussion, in late January 2010, Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented a supplemental Motion asking that the City Council request the City Attorney, the Department of Transportation and the Office of Finance report on the feasibility of conditioning business licenses on a business applicant's agreement not to utilize mobile billboard advertising. This supplemental Motion was also referred to the Transportation Committee for their further consideration and recommendations.

In early December 2010, the City Attorney submitted a Draft Ordinance to the City Council which would prohibit parking mobile billboard advertising displays on City Streets and public lands. The item was scheduled to be heard in City Council on December 17, 2010 at which time the Council adopted a revised Ordinance which now included an "urgency clause" meaning that it becomes immediately effective upon approval of the Mayor. The Ordinance took effect on January 1, 2011.

In order to be consistent with State law, in early January 2011, Councilmember Dennis Zine presented a Motion to City Council asking that the City adopt the same fine structure for Mobile Billboard Parking violations, that structure being \$250 for the first violation, \$500 for the second and \$1,000 for the third and any subsequent violations. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Transportation Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you updated on the progress of this Motion.



Patrol Carts

Continued from pg 5

courtyards, plazas, etc. officers will have the option of determining if it is safe enough to travel on the roadway or if he/she could travel safely and efficiently on a sidewalk.

The recommendation was approved by the Board of Police Commissioners in early March 2010. The City Council's Public Safety Committee considered the recommendation during their late March meeting at which time they requested that the City Attorney prepare a Draft Ordinance to be submitted to the Committee for their review. The Draft Ordinance was prepared by the City Attorney's Office and was reviewed by the Public Safety Committee during their late January 2011 meeting at which time they approved the draft and recommended that the City Council also adopt the Ordinance "amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code.....to permit law enforcement officers to operate electric vehicles/carts on public sidewalks while in the course of their employment." The item was approved in City Council on February 8, 2011 and became effective as of March 30, 2011.



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B/S Code Enforcement Fee Recovery - Part 4 -

by Elektra Kruger

As the City continues to face budget challenges, in September 2010, Councilmember Ed Reyes presented a Motion to City Council asking that they request the Department of Building and Safety (B/S) to prepare a report on the feasibility of establishing a fee-based enforcement and/or fee recovery program for services provided by the Code Enforcement Program. In November 2010, the Office of the City Attorney submitted a Draft Ordinance to the City Council for their review that would provide for the proposed cost recovery for B/S services.

A technical management consultant firm submitted a letter in opposition to the Draft Ordinance. They strongly opined that if passed, this Ordinance would end up being tested in Court and would be found legally invalid. They stated that enforcement of law is a matter of public safety, that law enforcement for public safety is at the core of the City's duty to its residents and, as such, it is property taxes that should pay for Building and Safety enforcement duties in Los Angeles. They stated that the fact that just because Building and Safety and not the Police Department is being tasked to inspect properties in response to a complaint alleging a Code-Violation does not remove the inspection from the classification of "police action". They claimed that the Constitution of the State of California does not permit Public Safety to be assessed by means other than uniform taxes on all property. They referenced Article 13D of the California Constitution which requires property taxes to be used for services to the property which paid the tax and, as such, all properties already paid for any inspections required in response to an alleged violation.

So it would be improper to add an inspection fee which is already included in the body of an existing property tax. Not only do they believe that costs related to Code Enforcement should be paid for by our property taxes, but also that any tax increase for work related to Code Enforcement would first require a vote of the people. They also stated that it is not sustainable to assert that the property owner is necessarily the code violator when inhabitants of the property (eg a renter) likely damaged the property actually leaving the property owner as the "victim". I may not necessarily agree with all these arguments, but they may leave the City Attorney with some legal research to do. To be continued in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.



Aggressive Leash Law Enforcement

by Bonnie Mason, SHPOA Outreach Chair

The County of L.A. has adopted a ZERO Tolerance policy on unleashed dogs due to complaints including unleashed dogs attacking horses and wildlife in the County-owned Tujunga Ponds/Mitigation area. Riders must have their dogs on a lunge line and under control.

L.A. County Animal Regulation Officers will also cite the owner of any off-leash dog they see on any L.A. City park property between the 210 Freeway (to the east) and Glenoaks (to the west): Hansen Dam Golf Course, Hansen Dam, Gabrielino Park and all areas of the Big and Little Tujunga washes.

This aggressive enforcement will continue through the summer or until the County feels the problems have been resolved. If you are cited, the ticket cost can be as high as \$1000. To report aggressive or stray dogs in L.A. City parks, call LAAS: 213-475-8613.

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Regulation of Vehicle Sales on Public Streets - Part 3

by Elektra Kruger

Our public streets increasingly seem to be turning into Used Car Lots. Currently, there is little that can be done to regulate these cars from simply portraying "For Sale" signs as long as they are legally parked. This certainly contributes to the blight of our neighborhoods.

In recognition of this, Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented a Motion to City Council in October 2010, asking that the City Attorney prepare and present a Draft Ordinance that would ban vehicles with "for Sale" signs from parking on City streets. Although we have this problem to some extent in Shadow Hills and would certainly benefit from having such an Ordinance passed, this must be a far greater problem in the Los Feliz area because just about all the letters received and placed in the file were from the Los Feliz area and all persons testifying before the Transportation Committee were from the Los Feliz area.

One letter states that people stop to look at cars. Dealers or buyers and their families crowd the sidewalks and walk over residents private lawns. It causes traffic problems, cleanliness problems and safety hazards for the Los Feliz neighborhood. Needless to say, they obviously have a much greater problem than we, but we do still have to deal with the blight. In their case it must be instances in which dealers actually bring cars into their neighborhoods to park them for greater public visibility to passing traffic rather than just depending on buyers going to their lots.

I am assuming that in the case of Shadow Hills it is more a case of just local homeowners making vehicles they wish to sell more visible to passing traffic. At any rate, this Los Feliz resident suggested that the City provide resident parking stickers that must be portrayed on cars parked on Los Feliz Blvd between Griffith Park Blvd and Hillhurst. Without such a sticker the vehicle should be towed. A second letter mentions frequent near accidents due to slowing or stopped vehicles with passengers looking at cars parked and for sale. Pedestrians and bicyclists standing in the street looking at these cars cause hazardous situations.

Although this is not a serious problem in Shadow Hills, we could certainly benefit from the passage of this Ordinance as it would reduce blight in our neighborhood. By the time this Motion made it to the floor of City Council its emphasis changed drastically away from an Ordinance prohibiting parking of cars with "For Sale" signs on streets Citywide to a prohibition of banning said vehicles only on Los Feliz Blvd. Goes to show the power of the old adage "the squeaky wheel gets the oil". Although the original Motion was worded to be effective Citywide, it was Los Feliz that did the squeaking and it was Los Feliz that got the oil.

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No Food Vendor Styrofoam?

by Elektra Kruger

California State Senate Bill 568 (SB 568), if passed, would prohibit food vendors from distributing cooked food items in polystyrene (Styrofoam) containers. This is in an effort to reduce the amount of polystyrene currently found in the waste stream and littering the environment as Styrofoam is rarely recycled. SB 568 passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on April 4, 2011 by a vote of 5-2, passed the Senate Floor on June 2, 2011 by a vote of 21-15 and is headed for the Assembly Floor.

Aside from the large volume of waste created by the product, manufacturing polystyrene exposes workers to many dangerous chemicals that increase the risk for many forms of cancers. In addition to this, the Styrene from Polystyrene food containers migrate into the foods in those containers when heated or when in contact with fatty or acidic foods thereby endangering the general public to carcinogens and neurotoxins.

Polystyrene containers have also become a danger to marine wildlife. Because Polystyrene is so light, it is easily swept off of streets where it is commonly littered, enters our storm drain systems and becomes the second most abundant form of litter found on our beaches. Polystyrene containers tend to break down easily into smaller pieces which are mistaken as food by marine life.

SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of SB 568.

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Transfer of CD2 Funds to Neighborhood Councils?

by Elektra Kruger

The City's Neighborhood Councils, like all City Departments, received budget cuts in the latest budget proposal in an effort to balance the City's bleeding red fiscal status. The value of the Neighborhood Council concept is something close to Councilmember Paul Krekorian's heart and to support the Neighborhood Councils in his CD2, in mid-May 2011, he presented a Motion to City Council asking that they approve a transfer of \$22,000 of unallocated and unencumbered CD2 discretionary funds into a new fund to be entitled "Council District 2 Neighborhood Council Grant Program" for the purpose of providing grants to Neighborhood Councils.

Per the Motion, all expenditures from this new fund must be authorized by the Councilmember in office (currently himself) such that the monies will not be foolishly wasted. This Motion went straight to City Council for their vote rather than being first referred to any City Council Committee for review and recommendation and was agendized to the May 20, 2011 City Council session at which time they approved the transfer of unallocated monies to provide grants to CD2 Neighborhood Councils.




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ALERT

COYOTES IN THE AREA





There have been sightings of Coyotes in the area. Coyotes may come out at any time of day or night. A number of factors encourage coyotes to interact with humans including: people leaving out food for animals and the presence of unenclosed refuse containers.

Coyotes are wild animals. Do not encourage or approach them. They are smart, fast, and will take what they can get.

Cats should be kept indoors at all times. Dogs must be kept under direct supervision and restrained on a chain or leash, not exceeding 6 feet in length, while being walked in any public area.

NEVER FEED COYOTES

Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
Please report wildlife sightings and issues to:
Los Angeles Animal Services at (888) 452-7381
For further wildlife information on the web, please visit
www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani_wildlife.htm



ALERT

Ban on Mill-Bred Animals

by Elektra Kruger

Pet shops selling live animals are traditionally a sales-outlet for mill-bred animals. Mill breeders may produce from hundreds to thousands of animals under conditions lending themselves to cruelty, in-breeding, health and personality issues. It is a very lucrative trade for both mills and pet shops. Animals not placed in shops and/or sold to consumers generally end up being dumped into our overburdened shelters - or worse.

Growing national sentiment against animal mills has led many states and individual communities to adopt legislation that regulates the mills and the retail outlets. Thousands of dogs, cats and rabbits are euthanized annually in City shelters. There is a growing public sentiment to find ways to break the link between the mills and pet shops. Efforts thus far on the City's part have included such things as establishing an Animal Cruelty Task Force, strengthening animal abuse laws, limiting forms of street sales of animals, establishing stronger regulations monitoring performing animals, and establishing more rigorous requirements for kenneling and for pet shop permits. In 2010, there were approximately 100 retail shops selling live animals in the City of LA, most of which had been obtained from puppy and kitten mills.

Recognizing the abuses associated with animal mills and their contribution to the overpopulation of animals in our community, Councilmember Paul Koretz presented a Motion to City Council in May 2011, requesting a study and recommendations regarding:

- The establishment of a ban on the sale of mill-bred dogs, cats, chickens and rabbits within the City limits
- Making shelter animals available to licensed pet stores for adoption
- The establishment of a rating system much like that of our restaurants that identifies stores excelling in meeting rigorous requirements and conditions
- Banning puppy, kitten, chicken and rabbit mills in the City limits
- The proposal of Ordinances and Programs to accomplish these proposals

In May 2011, the California Federation of Dog Clubs submitted a letter to the LA City Council OPPOSING any ban on pet sales arguing that such bans create a shortage (?) of desirable pets, a black market for dogs and cats, and a rise in animal imports from other countries. They referenced a rescue group Web-Site called "Dogs Without Borders" which states "We currently rescue most dogs from local shelters and strays, but sometimes we rescue dogs from as far away as Taiwan!.....Some of the dogs you see on our site are not here in the States." This may well be true and should summarily also be banned.

The California Federation of Dog Clubs argued how irresponsible it is to take dogs from other countries into our shelters/rescues as these animals could be the source of disease/parasites which could not only be passed on to other dogs but also to humans (such as the first confirmed case of canine rabies to have entered LA County in 30 years from Mexico in 2004).

As the Ordinance is drafted, it should also require Rescue Groups permitted to provide animals for sale through the pet-store trade to verify to the City, by means of the licensing or permitting process, that no animals in their care are knowingly originating from other countries or are knowingly originating from any mill-bred setting within the City, the U.S. or internationally.

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Farmer's Markets in Residential Zones?

by Elektra Kruger

Currently, Farmer's Markets are not permitted in residential zones. Councilmember Herb Wesson felt that in the interest of providing communities easy access to fresh foods, fruits and vegetables that the City should consider streamlining the permitting process for Farmer's Markets and should allow non-profit organizations to set up Farmer's Markets in residential areas by-right.

In mid-November 2010, Councilman Wesson presented a Motion to City Council asking that they request the Planning Department and City Attorney to review the feasibility of allowing non-profits to obtain a permit by-right for Farmer's Markets in residential zones without requiring a Zoning Administrator's Hearing or other discretionary action.

The Planning Department recognizes the need to encourage Farmer's Markets throughout the City, but at the same time recognizes that the busy nature of these Markets may be incompatible with the more quiet, harmonious and safe character of a residential neighborhood.

Therefore, the Planning Department believed that a higher level of review should be required for Farmer's Markets in residential zones than in other zones. The Department recommended a 2-tiered process for Farmer's Markets throughout the City in which those for residential areas would be a little more stringent. First, the Planning Department recommended requiring a Conditional Use Permit in residential zones which would call for a 500-ft radius notification and a Public Hearing. The Department then recommended Farmer's Markets to be classified as a "Public Benefit" in non-residential areas which could allow the Markets to be located by-right in agricultural, commercial and manufacturing zones with defined conditions of operation so that they will not become a public nuisance.

The Motion was heard during the April 12 and April 26, 2011 sessions of the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management Committee. Letters and testimony dealt with issues such as the abundance of such markets, the over commercialization of neighborhoods, zoning constraints related to such markets, the need for such markets, health and safety issues related to food and clean up at such markets, etc. The Committee recommended that City Council create a Conditional Use allowing Farmer's Markets in any residential zone. City Council adopted the recommendation on May 11, 2011.



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Business in City Parks (Re-Instatement of LAMC 63.44.B3)

by Elektra Kruger

When originally introduced into the Los Angeles Municipal Code, Section 63.44.B3 prohibited any trade or business on City Park property without permission of the Board of Recreation and Parks. This Code Section was suspended on October 1, 2005 following litigation alleging that it violated First Amendment rights to free expression. This suspension, however, resulted in people converting public property intended for public recreational use to their own personal private business location. By doing so they competed unfairly with the City's concessionaires who are authorized by the Department of Recreation and Parks to furnish goods and services to the public by concession contract or permit for which they must pay rental or permit fees.

The City has no intention of infringing upon a person's right to use City Parks for free expression, but does wish to prohibit the unauthorized use of City Park property for commercial business unrelated to constitutionally protected speech. In mid-September 2010, Councilmember Bernard Parks presented a Motion to City Council asking that the City Attorney prepare a Draft Ordinance reinstating a portion of LAMC Section 63.44.B3 which would prohibit the practice of conducting any trade, occupation, business or profession - except as authorized by contract or permit - while still recognizing that expressive items that are constitutionally protected because they are the seller's "own expression or are inextricably intertwined with the seller's religious, political, philosophical or ideological message" may be sold in Parks without express authorization of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

The Draft Ordinance called for the total deletion of Section 63.44.B3 as it was originally written to be replaced with:

"No person shall practice, carry on or conduct any trade, occupation, business or profession except by contract or permit issued by the Board, Department or Commission or their authorized representatives. However, nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit the sale or offering for sale of newspapers, leaflets, periodicals, pamphlets, bumper stickers, patches or expressive buttons and other forms of communication which have been created, written or composed by the seller including books, cassettes, tapes, compact discs, digital video discs, paintings, photographs and sculptures or other items that are inextricably intertwined with the seller's religious, political, philosophical or ideological message"

The City Council's Park Committee approved the Draft Ordinance in mid-April 2011. Final review by the City Council is still pending. SHPOA will let you know if and when the Ordinance is approved and becomes effective.



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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 Janet Winslow (818-353-2500)
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; 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland

Community Calendar

LAPD Communittee 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.
• 9749 Wheatland Ave.

Neighborhood Watch

3rd Tuesday, Every Month
• 7 p.m.
• East Valley Municipal Bldg.

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3rd Wednesday, Every Month
• Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
• Call church 818-352-2500

Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

4th Tuesday, Every Month
• 7 p.m.
• Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

3rd Thursday, Every Month
• 7 p.m.
• Location variable, check website for location
• www.ftdnc.org

ETI C20

4th Wednesday, Every Month
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