

# SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association  
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

*A Neighborhood Where Families Grow*



Volume 44, Issue 3

SHPOA May-June 2021

## **Recap of the March 16, 2021 SHPOA General Meeting By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board**

Greetings to our Shadow Hills Neighbors,

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association Zoom General Meeting on March 16, 2021 was well attended by members of the community as well as many of our governmental representatives, to discuss current local issues along with a virtual tour presentation of the Fond Family open space park.

Teresa Lamb-Simpson, from Congressman Adam Schiff's office, discussed the passage of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act which adds 191,000 acres of accessible natural land along the perimeter of the San Fernando Valley to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA). These newly included lands will be referred to as the Rim of the Valley Unit and run from Simi Valley and the Santa Susanas to the Verdugos and on to the San Gabriel Mountains. The legislation will help to provide better access and continuity to the perimeter trail system.

Eve Sinclair from Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez's office discussed the traffic issues along Wentworth and Sunland Blvd. The Council office, working with Department of Transportation, will be installing an equestrian/pedestrian signal at the intersection of Wheatland and Mary Bell to provide better protection for our local residents. Additionally, Eve Sinclair presented an update to the vaccination clinic and eligible groups for District 7. The goal of the Council Office has been to provide a local approach to the accessibility of the Covid 19 vaccine.

Roger Klemm, our local botanist and "treehugger," gave a virtual presentation and tour of the Fond Park. The tour illustrated the 600+ open space acreage in all its pristine beauty. Many of the photos included the breathtaking vistas of the park, the floral array of the native plant life and some of the wildlife found in the park. Following Roger's dynamic presentation, Bill Eick, representing the Fond Family Foundation,

*(Cont'd next column)*

## **Join us for our virtual Zoom Meeting**

**May 11th - 7:00 pm**

**\* DWP will answer your questions regarding the Valley Electric Substation Methane Leak (see below)  
[www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us)**

**Meeting ID: 894 3882 5419**

**Will be promoted also on Daily Fodder, Facebook, NextDoor, and website [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us).**

## **Methane Gas Leak to be Discussed at Next General Meeting By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board**

While we're on the subject of SHPOA General Meetings ... our next meeting will be May 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm. It will be a Zoom meeting and the meeting ID is listed above.

Our program will be a presentation from the Department of Water and Power (DWP) on the continuing issue of the methane gas leakage at the Valley Generating Plant. A representative from DWP will discuss their plans to mitigate this issue. They will also be discussing their plans for upgrades in our area and peak energy hours of usage. Additionally, the DWP representative will include a status report and future for the steam generators (the striped smokestacks) to the west of our community.

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



*(Cont'd)*

fielded questions from residents.

Our thanks to all who attended the meeting. And a special thanks to our government representatives who help to keep us well informed ... and finally, a very special thanks to Roger Klemm for his beautiful presentation of our local native environment.



## **2021 SHPOA Board Members**

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

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## **4-5 Cats Per Household to Require Registration Fee?**

**By Elektra Kruger, Resident**

Prior to January 21, 2021, the maximum number of cats one could have per household in the City of Los Angeles was three. Effective January 21, 2021, one now may keep up to five with the following caveats:

- All cats must be kept indoors.
- All cats shall be spayed or neutered.
- All cats shall be microchipped.
- The location where the cats are maintained shall be registered with the Department of Animal Services using a Department approved form that specifies the name of the cat owner, the address where the cats are being kept, etc.

The Department of Animal Services (DAS) is now proposing to institute an annual registration fee of \$10 for households with four or five cats. The registration fee is to be deposited in an Animal Sterilization Fund intended to fund data collection as the Department of Animal Services sees fit and to help establish low-cost feline spay/neuter programs for low-income households. Following their January 26, 2021 meeting, the DAS submitted a report to the Board of Animal Commissioners recommending that they approve this proposal as well as having a copy of the proposed action be sent to the Office of the Mayor and the City Council asking that the Council direct the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code to reflect these changes. The Board of Animal Services Commission agreed with the recommendations of the DAS and forwarded a letter to that effect to both the Mayor and City Council on February 2, 2021. The recommendations were then referred to the City Council's Animal Welfare Committee for their review and recommendations. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



## **Equestrian Notice**

**By Rosey Payne, SHPOA Board**

There has recently been a number of motorized off road vehicles observed riding around in Hansen Dam. These vehicles are not allowed in the park and an encounter with an equestrian can be dangerous. Some of these vehicles are entering the dam from the Lake View Terrace side of the dam. Particularly disturbing is that they are now using the McBroom tunnel in Shadow Hills to access the dam area. The tunnel is unnerving enough for horses without

(Please see "Equestrians" on p. 3)

**Have We Got a Deal for You!**  
**Please Renew Your Membership Today**  
**By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

It's never too late to renew your SHPOA membership. No time to mail? Send an email to Jo Rich at [membership@shpoa.us](mailto:membership@shpoa.us) and SHE WILL COME PICK UP YOUR CHECK! We know times are tough and we appreciate your commitment to paying your annual dues. More than ever, your dues help us pay for insurance, website, outreach email (Daily Fodder), meeting expenses (virtual or in person), the newsletter, and more. Please spend the less than 2 minutes it will take to fill out the form (to the right) and write a check for \$25 today (that's 7 cents a day!), or renew online via Paypal or by credit card at [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) and click on the "Online Member Payment" button. ***It is easier than ever to renew. Thank you!***



("Equestrians" cont'd from p. 2)

the added factor of an off-road vehicle. SHPOA and other local equestrian groups are working to find a solution to this problem. Some ideas are to place large rocks, poles or "step overs" in strategic locations to prevent these vehicles from entering. In the meantime, if you see any off road vehicles out in the dam or using the Mc-Broom tunnel, please call the Park Rangers at (818) 899-8087.

They have been responding to calls and writing citations. Hopefully getting the word out that citations and fines are being issued will discourage these off roaders. Please remind your neighbors that not only are these vehicles prohibited in the dam, but they are dangerous for horse and rider.



**A Shout-Out to our Beloved**  
**SHPOA Advertisers!**  
**By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

One of SHPOA's popular work products is our printed newsletter which is mailed every other month to approximately 2,200 households in the Shadow Hills/Stonehurst area, plus elected officials. We could have switched to an impersonal emailed or electronic version, but there are two reasons why we continue to mail it out via the US Postal Service. First, it is required by our Bylaws. Second, and perhaps more importantly, survey respondents a couple of years ago overwhelmingly stated that they prefer having it mailed.

In addition to containing what we hope is useful and relevant information to our community, it also averages around 30 advertisers per issue. Fact: The newsletter simply could NOT exist without the continual support of our advertisers

(Please see "Advertisers" on p. 4)

**Shadow Hills Property Owners Association**

# SHPOA

## Membership Form

Shadow Hills area residents, it's always time to join SHPOA! We are here for you!

-----  
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 to the preservation of our rural community.

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### Benefits and Value of SHPOA Membership

#### **Preserve Country Lifestyle**

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

#### **Protect Public Safety, the Environment and Property Values**

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

#### **Promote Shadow Hills**

- ✓ Market unique lifestyle and real estate properties
- ✓ 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

("Advertisers" cont'd from p. 3)

(who are also your neighbors). The cost of printing and mailing has continued to escalate while SHPOA has kept its only other funding source, membership dues, at \$25 for several years.

We want to thank our loyal, longtime advertisers. As you can see from the list below, of the long term advertisers, most have been with us for over 10 years! It's truly heartening to see that even during economic downturns, so many of our advertisers have unwaveringly continued to support the SHPOA newsletter. At our May meeting, we will present certificates of appreciation (which will then be mailed) to the following advertisers (in alphabetical order):

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We hope that you will thank our advertisers, too, by using their products and services. I know that when I need a product or service, my first thought is to utilize a SHPOA advertiser.

Also, if you'd like to be a SHPOA newsletter advertiser, it's easy. Just send an email to either [invoices@shpoa.us](mailto:invoices@shpoa.us) or to [cbloom571@gmail.com](mailto:cbloom571@gmail.com). Who knows? Maybe your business will be on our list in 5 years!



### **Cook's Corner** **By Bob Renna, Resident**

#### **ICEBOX CAKE**

This recipe comes from my Grandma Millie. It comes from a time in the past when this refrigerated dessert was originally called an "Icebox Cake." I am old enough to remember what an actual icebox looked like in the kitchen – to say nothing about growing up with a coal stove!

My grandmother would make this dessert for large family gatherings because it can serve several guests, it is portable, and because it is

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

very easy to make and assemble.

You will need:

- One 12x18 inch rimmed cookie sheet
- Enough graham crackers to line the cookie sheet in three layers.
- 2 boxes of chocolate pudding (follow directions on box)
- 1-pint heavy whipping cream
- Confectionary sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 can sliced peaches (drained)

To assemble:

- Line rimmed cookie sheet with bottom layer of graham crackers.
- After cooking chocolate pudding, let cool for at least 10 minutes and then pour half the pudding over graham crackers and smooth out to cover crackers.
- Top with another layer of graham crackers.
- Use the remaining pudding to cover crackers.
- Cover pudding with last layer of crackers.
- Chill in the "icebox" for at least 4 hours until set before serving.
- When ready to serve, whip heavy cream, confectionary sugar, and vanilla extract into stiff peaks and spread cream over top of crackers. (Use the back of a spoon to create peaks.)
- Place peach slices on top of cream, spacing them so each piece of cake gets a peach slice.

There are many different versions of this recipe such as alternating vanilla and chocolate pudding between layers. You may also use a different flat cookie. Different fruits could also be placed on top, such as sliced bananas. Or use no fruit at all. But the above recipe was what my grandmother made for us and we liked it!

Unfortunately, there won't be much left over, but you can refrigerate what is. Fortunately, it's even better the next day. Enjoy Grandma Millie's Icebox Cake from a simpler and uncomplicated time.



### **A Brief Bio About Our Treehugger,** **Roger Klemm** **By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board**

Roger Klemm is the instigator and primary caretaker of the Sunland Welcome Nature Garden, a community entrance garden in Sunland. Before his tenure, the City of Los Angeles had developed the garden with an attractive hard-scape reminiscent of the nearby Tujunga Wash, some Oak and Sycamore trees ... and Fountain Grass. Klemm led the transformation of this in-

(Please see "Roger" on p.5)

("Roger" cont'd from p. 4)

vative exotic monoculture to a showcase of the local native flora. He enjoys giving talks about the garden and shares its development over the past 8 years, since the initial renovation.

Klemm is an engineer at JPL and finds his passion for landscaping with native plants to be a beautiful and tangible balance to the ethereal nature of software for space vehicles. Over the past 30 years he has landscaped two yards and two community gardens with native plants, has planted native trees in public parks, and done considerable guerrilla gardening at the campus where he works. He lives in Shadow Hills with his wife (also a JPL engineer) and their son, who has in the past couple of years gotten him seriously into mountain biking! (Also see the article about the nature garden on p. 13.)



### Time to Get Back to a "New Normal!" By Eva Lund, Special Spirit, Inc.

According to Dr. Robert Leahy, psychologist at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center: *"For people frustrated by the new limitations on everyday life during quarantine and the new normal,"* he suggests resetting expectations and identifying what you can do rather than focusing on what you can't. *"Early Americans from hundreds of years ago wouldn't even understand the concepts behind some of the luxuries we might miss right now. We are fortunate to even have the things we miss, and maybe we'll appreciate them even more when they return."*

Here at Special Spirit, we are entering into a new normal by choice. Our horses had a well-deserved break; most of our therapy horses are getting up in age so they appreciated the break very much. We were able to continue our Equine Assisted Activities and Learning/Therapy programs, still adhering to the social distancing. Conducting less lessons allowed us to catch up with paperwork; we had time to reach out to new organizations, which in turn has led to an increase of participation in our equine ground programs.

Rachel, one of our very dedicated volunteers, helped a boarder take care of her retired horse. This is what happened to her recently:

*"Today, I rode at the Paddock. I rode a horse called Moe and the trainers name was Lena. I got to do gymnastics over cavalettis. I enjoyed it very much! I learned a lot of new things as well. It was a very good & fun experience and I hope to go back soon. The reason why I got to*

(Please see "Normal" on p.6)

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("Normal" cont'd from p. 5)

go was because I took care of Carolin's horse Kalle. Eva was kind enough to take me there because I have drawn a lot of pet portraits. The 2021 Pet Portrait Extravaganza is a fundraiser Linda Dalziel is doing for Special Spirit and an animal shelter. You should check it out." <https://www.facebook.com/2021-Spring-Pet-Portrait-Extravaganza-108399931337137/>

A couple of months ago we welcomed Linda Dalziel and her horse Christopher Pine, and they fit right into our ranch. Soon we learned the many secret talents of Linda. Linda is a professional artist, specializing in pet portraits in oil and abstracts as well as equine art. Linda also spent the first part of her career as a professional singer, songwriter-producer, touring with Al Jarreau's all-star band, Berlin, Tears for Fears and Boz Scaggs to name a few. She was also the singing voice behind commercials such as Mr. Pillsbury Dough, Seven Seas Salad, Maybelline, and Kroger -- to name a few. Linda has been busy. Linda now has a passionate desire to pursue art therapy and to teach art at Special Spirit's new renovated ranch studio. Watch for an invite to Linda's upcoming "Paint & Sip" event for our Shadow Hills community and their friends. Please check out the fundraiser she is spearheading on Facebook, search for "2021 Pet Portrait Extravaganza." It is a lot of fun!



Rachel Riding Moe at the Paddock

We are thrilled to announce that Armen Ajemian, who is a Boy Scout for Troop 139 in Sherman Oaks, is completing his Eagle Project here! The project's main goal is to demonstrate his ability to manage a project that delivers something worthwhile to the community. He will be conducting a hands-on construction

(Please see "Normal" on p.7)

("Normal" cont'd from p. 6)

project to custom-build shelving units in our greenhouse, place a table in there and install black matting across the floor for us to further utilize the facility to grow plants and flowers there. This will allow us to gather materials for any project or work we would like to do there and will give Special Spirit the ability to hold future mini classrooms for summer camps with students. We are immensely proud that Armen chose us because of our work with those with



Linda Dalziel our fabulous artist  
with her Christopher Pine

physical and cognitive challenges and we are excited to witness the outcome of his project.

Cassie, our riding instructor, has been busy earning a certificate in full-stack web development from UCLA Extension. She is now ready to update websites and applications for everyone in the community. When not practicing her new coding skills, she has started a new venture with Special Spirit baking horse cookies. She bakes delicious human-grade cookies that our special ranch hands help to decorate. Look out for Special Treats for Special Animals going on sale soon!

Many busy bees at the ranch in more ways than one ... we've got a large group of bees that moved into our picnic area, so now we are looking for a beekeeper to come and help relocate these bees.



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## **DWP to the Rescue? You Betcha!** **By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

It was Easter Eve, Saturday about 6pm. It was time to manually fill our front yard stream which was installed a few years earlier. The autofill feature never worked correctly—sometimes it would but many times it wouldn't. And when it didn't, it would overflow resulting in the loss of precious water. After paying to have it fixed numerous times but always resulting in failure, my remedy was to simply turn on the valve every other day for 15 minutes, and then of course, turn it off.

Well, this particular time, when I turned on the valve, it broke off in my hand—resulting in a gusher. Apparently, the contractor installed the cheapest possible valve in the world: Plastic ball valve with a cheap plastic handle. I guess paying \$10,000 for a stream doesn't mean you get quality parts. Even I knew that the proper part would have been a brass valve and handle.

I immediately realized this was serious—it was a weekend, the next day was Easter, and we didn't have a shut off valve because what broke WAS the shut off valve. I immediately called our stream maintenance guy who picked up. A sigh of relief washed over me which was nearly immediately replaced with supreme disappointment, "I'm across town and I can't get to your house until Monday," he said. "You need to call a plumber." I then called my plumber who is also a friend and left a panicked voicemail on both his phones. I also called a plumber who advertises in the SHPOA newsletter and left a voicemail.

Some of this was happening simultaneously so bear with me.

I fetched my husband. Aha! We can turn off the water at the street! We trotted up to the curb and the meter had disappeared—no green cover, no outline—nothing to indicate a meter was even present. It was completely invisible as the years of dirt had completely obfuscated its location. However, my husband remembered where it "sort of" was. And sure enough, he found it and dug it out. I pried open the cover only to find the usage meter, the turn off valve, and pretty much everything else completely buried in dirt. I used my hand to scoop and scoop, and finally there it was: The solution to our geyser: The turn off valve. Yay! Of course, it required a special tool—which we had...at our cabin in Lake Arrowhead. Wait! Vise grips! They can do everything, right? Well, we found out quickly, that no, not everything. We couldn't

*(Please see "DWP" on p.9)*

("DWP" cont'd from p. 8)

get the right angle for torque and the valve remained stubbornly shut.

It was now dark so I brought out our lantern. But not before I slipped in the mud. Twice. Oh, and I also managed to get soaking wet from the gusher.

While we were digging out the buried water meter, the other local plumber called me back. He was very helpful and his advice was that no local independent plumber will do 24/7 emergency work (which this was, especially on Easter weekend) and told me to call DWP as they have 24/7 service to respond to water emergencies. He then told me after I called DWP to then search the web for 24/7 emergency big box plumbers. I thanked him and hung up. I called DWP (you may wonder why I have all of these phone numbers in my phone) and navigated through the menus. I got ahold of a human! Yes, a real live dispatcher on a Saturday night who didn't flinch when I told her of my predicament. She said a crew would come over ASAP.

So now it was time to call 24/7 emergency plumbers. "Oh, well, we're really booked up and the earliest we can get out is next Wednesday at 1pm." Seriously?? They are **emergency** plumbers?? And they're really THAT busy?? Three others took my information and never called me back.

I thought, "Well, while I'm waiting, maybe I can at least direct the water to our redwood tree." I retrieved our pool pump (remember, it's completely dark outside), plugged it in, and attached a hose. Immediately, the hose coupling broke right off. Ugh. I have another hose attached to a sprinkler. Unfortunately, when I was trying to detach the hose from it, there was still pressure which resulted in me getting soaked to the skin but it did help wash off the mud. But I managed to attach it to the pump. This plan would have worked except the base of the pump was just a smidge too large. On to Plan C (or am I now at D?): I got the little pump with ½ PVC tubing and used that. After fumbling around, I got that to work.

Yippee! I see an official-looking truck coming down the street. It's DWP!!! Hurray!!! Two guys jumped out and immediately turned off the water. Holy cow! Their curb key's horizontal bar was 6 feet wide! Since they didn't have a call after me, they inspected at the broken valve. But first, they had to use a hand pump to completely clear out the hole so they could see

(Please see "DWP" on p.10)

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- Register online: [www.laanimalservices.com/Laws\\_Policies/Dog\\_License.htm](http://www.laanimalservices.com/Laws_Policies/Dog_License.htm)
- Visit in person: East Valley Animal Control located at 14409 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys CA 91405
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(**"DWP"** cont'd from p. 9)

it. Their first response was, "Why did they use a cheap valve and handle?" They were appalled at the cheap parts and told me what to tell the plumber over the phone when/if he called back.

They looked at me, covered in mud, and said they could come back any time to turn the water back on, even for a short time if I needed it. They insisted "it was their job," and They. Were. Great. So, if you have an emergency, please call DWP (800-342-5397). They really saved the day (or night) for me. Thanks to COVID, we had plenty of sanitizing wipes to keep our hands clean. I used pool water run through our Brita in case we needed water for the pets.

*Postscript: My hero plumber called me back later that night and came over at 7:30 am ON EASTER and fixed the broken plastic valve with the proper brass valve. He also had the right tool to turn the water back on. I also am the proud owner of a new curb key. Hint: get a pipe to fit onto the horizontal handle in case you need extra torque.*



## Springtime at AHEAD With Horses By Michelle Newman, Executive Director at AHEAD With Horses

Horses are shedding, flowers are blooming, weeds are sprouting: Spring is here!

While we are happy to have the warmer weather and longer daylight hours, spring also comes with lots of weeds that keep sprouting, lots of hair coming off horses, and allergies. If you don't have a problem with the allergies and would like to help us prepare for fire clearance season, we are always looking for volunteers to help at our Forever Home property at 9955 Foothill Blvd. We have 2.5 acres that we keep mowing and weed whacking while watering our trees and plants and preparing the space for when we finally get our permits to move our facility. It is a large space to only have 1 or 2 people maintain, so if anyone has a green thumb, they would like to let us borrow, we would love to have you! (Or even if you know nothing about gardening, we would be happy to teach you.)

At the main ranch, we are seeing some of our students back on horses with huge smiles hiding behind their masks. Normally at this time, we are preparing for our Annual Children's Demonstration and Fun Day. We were unable to hold it last year due to the pandemic, and once again we will be having to make adjustments. 2021 marks our 40<sup>th</sup>

(Please see **"AHEAD"** on p.11)

("AHEAD" cont'd from p. 10)

Annual Children's Demonstration that we will be having Virtually. We will be creating a video of our students, along with entertainment, that you can purchase a link to watch on June 12th, 2021. If you would like to purchase the link, or become a Sponsor or donate, you can find more info at [www.AWHLA.org](http://www.AWHLA.org) or on Facebook. com/AHEADWithHorsesInc.

If you would like more information on our program, how to volunteer, or donate please call 818-767-6373 or email [aheadwithhorses@yahoo.com](mailto:aheadwithhorses@yahoo.com).



A student learning skills at AHEAD with Horses



### Create Your Own Butterfly Garden By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

It's spring! Time to go outside and enjoy all the new flowers and wildlife. We've been cooped up for so long, due to the pandemic and the weather, that it feels really good just to be outside and tend to the garden. I have a new project that I wanted to share because it has been so rewarding. It's a butterfly garden! If you plant milkweed plants, monarch butterflies will come to your yard. It's the only plant they eat! You can buy your milkweed from most local nurseries, but the California milkweed can be purchased from Theodore Payne Foundation in La Tuna Canyon. Follow the planting instructions and be

(Continued next column)

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# SOLD!

(Cont'd)

sure your plants get a lot of sunlight. Silly as it may sound, you become fairly engaged in the transition from (dare I say, adorable) baby caterpillars, to the cocoon stage and finally to the emergence of the beautiful monarch butterfly. Our butterfly garden has become a focal point for our children, grandkids, and friends. Many of them have started their own butterfly gardens ... and so I thought that if I shared this outdoor project with you, maybe we could all enjoy the beautiful monarchs throughout the community. As they say, "If you plant it, they will come." How awesome would that be?



## Update on the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance Part 6 By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Prior to composing the actual Sidewalk Repair Ordinance, it would be necessary to consider all levels of noise that might be associated with the construction process. As feasible as possible, a minimum 10-foot distance between construction equipment and any sensitive commercial use receptor and a minimum 20-foot distance between construction equipment and any sensitive residential use receptor should be maintained during the construction process. Best Noise Management Practices should be implemented including:

- Strict prohibition of unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines
- Maintaining all equipment in good repair with any worn, loose, or unbalanced parts to be replaced
- Placing any noise-generating equipment such as air compressors as far as possible from neighboring houses
- Notifying all adjacent property owners in writing of the proposed construction duration and anticipated hours of noise
- Providing contact information re construction activities prior to and on-site during the construction period

In addition to Noise Best Management Practices, Best Vibration Management Practices are to be implemented including:

- Using lower-powered equipment whenever possible such as concrete saws as opposed to e.g., jack hammers.
- Notifying all adjacent property owners in

(Continued next column)

(Cont'd)

writing of the anticipated time and duration of vibration activities

Additionally, prior to composing the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance, it would be necessary to consider all issues related to traffic including such things as requiring flaggers during lane closures needed during street tree removals, or any other construction activity which would disrupt the flow of vehicles, pedestrians or bicyclists. As needed, signage is to be used to direct vehicles or pedestrians to alternate routes and any affected transit provider (e.g., bus stop) must be informed of any necessary temporary closure due to sidewalk repair construction so they too can arrange temporary stop relocations. Further information on the status of the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance will be provided in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



## A Brief Overview of Assembly Bill 974 By Rosey Payne, SHPOA Board

Our Assemblywoman Luz Rivas is introducing a Bill, AB974: Equestrian Ridership Safety Legislation. As it was originally written, it would require equestrians under the age of 18 to wear a helmet and to wear reflective gear after dusk. Assemblywoman Rivas held a zoom meeting on 3/6/21 to receive feedback and recommendations from the community. There was a lot of good feedback and several of the participants were concerned with why this bill would apply only to minors. As a result of that community event, the bill has been amended to:

- 1) Require reflective gear to apply to adults, and
- 2) Allow the reflective gear or lights to be worn by the rider and/or equine.

SHPOA will keep you updated on how to support this bill through the legislative process. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to:

Arturo Garcia-Mendoza,  
Senior Field Representative,  
Office of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas: Arturo.  
Garcia-Mendoza@asm.ca.gov

The Assemblywoman appreciates your support.



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## Sunland Welcome Nature Garden: What Is It and How Did It Get There?

By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

If you've driven on the 210-freeway westbound through La Crescenta and gotten off at Sunland Boulevard, you can't miss the Sunland Welcome Nature Garden. Staring you right in the face on the opposite side of the intersection, this showcase of our local native flora may at times look a bit drab, but if you stop and take a stroll through it, there's always something going on -- a flower blooming, bees buzzing, hummingbirds flitting around.

And that's the joy of gardening with native plants - the plants support the insects, which in turn support the lizards, birds, and other critters that bring a garden to life.

But this particular garden wasn't always that way. Those of you who've been here for a while might remember that a decade ago, this garden was pretty much a monoculture of Fountain Grass, with a couple of struggling Sycamore trees and a few Oak trees that the City had planted a decade or so prior.

What happened?

In the aftermath of the Station fire (August - October 2009), Shadow Hills resident and native plant geek Roger Klemm attended talks about fire ecology and went on plant walks in the fire scar. In the process, he connected with a local community member who was also knowledgeable about native plants and knew where some particular plants grew locally. In an offhanded comment at the end of an email, Roger mentioned the community entrance garden, and wouldn't it be nice if the City could do something about the Fountain Grass. And so, the idea was born.

Of course, the City didn't have a clue about plants, especially natives. However, due to the encouragement of fellow Shadow Hills resident Mary Benson, who was our council member's field deputy at the time, Roger looked into the City's Adopt-A-Median program and got started on the project. As it developed from a wild hare idea to a realistic plan with architectural drawings courtesy of local sustainable landscape firm FormLA, Roger engaged with various groups in the community, and the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council agreed to be the signatory agency on the adoption paperwork. Folks at our local native plant resource, Theodore Payne Foundation, helped him start his local native plant propagation effort.

(Continued next column)

(Cont'd)

In the spring of 2013, over the course of three weekends, dozens of community volunteers ripped out hundreds of Fountain Grass plants and planted hundreds of local native plants to get the garden started. Since then, Roger has been the primary caretaker of the garden, which has flourished, so much so that last year, two of the Yucca plants bloomed!

For more information, please visit the garden's Facebook page where Roger occasionally posts pictures of the plants in the garden.

<https://www.facebook.com/SunlandWelcomeNatureGarden/>



## THIS COULD BE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THIS FALL!

## UNLESS YOU TELL YOUR LEGISLATORS TO VOTE NO on SB 9 and SB 10

Senator Anthony Portantino, [senator.portantino@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.portantino@senate.ca.gov) (818) 409-0400  
 Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, [assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov) (818) 504-3911

### Quickies!

By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

1. **Report from Dominic Vitti, Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez's office:**
  - a. Mobile Vaccination Clinic: We are currently taking FIRST DOSE appointments for our mobile vaccination clinic, which will be in Pacoima, Sylmar, and Sunland-Tujunga. Anyone with an appointment at one of our pop-up vaccine sites in Council District 7 will receive a Pfizer vaccine. These pop-up locations are walk-up, not drive-thru, and will provide FREE vaccines by appointment regardless of immigration status. As of this week, anyone over the age

(Please see "Quickies" on p.14)



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("Quickies" cont'd from p. 13)

of 16 is now eligible to receive a vaccination. Please call our office at: (818) 352-3287 to schedule. We have recently onboarded the MedEx Pharmacies, 8441 Foothill Boulevard, Sunland. Their contact person is Mr. Monte Keshishian who can be reached at 818-404-8386, [monte@medexpharmacies.com](mailto:monte@medexpharmacies.com)

b. **Homelessness:** Biggest issue continues to be the lot off the 210 and Osborne. As a reminder, the City doesn't own this parcel of land. Army Corps of Engineers owns the land and leases it out to SoCal Edison and CalTrans. The SCE parcel in the middle has had no active encampments even since they removed the vegetation and trees, however they are going to do some trash removal. CalTrans performed brush clearance and did not remove any homeless encampments, this continues to be their protocol. For this reason, our office has been facilitating outreach at this location with all jurisdictions and LAHSA. We met on site on Monday and are actively working on housing options since the individuals at this lot are interested in housing. It's also important to note that no State elected official offices have been present at these meetings

c. **Upcoming engineering improvements:**  
\*Foothill Blvd. Safety Improvement Plan virtual meeting will take place May 11th at 6pm. At this meeting LADOT will present their draft plan for Foothill Blvd after reviewing feedback from the community given in Feb 2020. More information about this will be found in an upcoming email from myself, and Councilwoman's social media posts. \*Installation of left-turn phasing signal at Foothill/Tujunga Canyon-anticipated completion April 2021

2. **Fire Department Brush Clearance:** Although keeping your property maintained is a year-round responsibility, it's that time of year for inspections. Inspections start May 15th. No inspection fee if property is found to be in compliance for first inspection. All parcels receiving a failed inspection will receive a re-inspection. If you pass, no fee. If you fail again, a \$29 fee will be assessed. Continued non-compliance will be charged \$1,303 PLUS contractor's price. For more information, go to: [VMS3.lafd.org](http://VMS3.lafd.org) "Clearance Requirement."



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- Allow the splitting in half of every single-family lot in California.
- Demand no infrastructure improvements from developers.
- Mandate maximum four-foot rear yard setbacks.
- Remove environmental protections.
- Cause the mass removal of our trees.
- Eliminate yards and permeable soil.
- Mandate not one unit of affordable housing!

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Assemblywoman Luz Rivas,  
[assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov) (818) 504-3911

Don't forget the Governor:

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Stop the big giveaway to developers.

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### **Preliminary Conceptual Approval of Discovery Cube Outdoor Exhibits By Elektra Kruger, Resident**

The Discovery Cube Los Angeles is an approximately 57,000 square foot museum and science center located at 11800 Foothill Boulevard, located on a 2.5-acre site within the 1,450-acre Hansen Dam Recreation Area. On December 10, 2012, the Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners approved a Lease Agreement with the Discovery Science Center of Los Angeles (DSCLA), a non-profit organization based in the City of Santa Ana in Orange County to bring a museum to Hansen Dam Park. A museum to be used, operated, and maintained as a Children's Museum and Environmental Awareness Learning Center now to be known as the Discovery Cube Los Angeles. The Lease Agreement was executed on January 4, 2013 with a term of thirty years plus an option to extend the Lease for an additional twenty years. The Discovery Cube opened to the public on November 13, 2014. The Lease Agreement re-

(Continued next column)



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(Cont'd)

quires the DSCLA to raise and make available funds necessary to make improvements to the building and to design, fabricate, and install the Discovery Cube's exhibit programs. There is currently a proposal for the installation of interactive outdoor exhibits:

- A water fountain featuring a 26-foot Discovery Cube Sculpture with water and lighting effects generating power via solar panels.
- A play area featuring a fire truck with splash pads and an interactive model helicopter.
- A carousel powered by solar panels.
- An interactive water table resembling the Los Angeles River
- Landscaping improvements
- A decorative water retention basin

The budget for the Project is currently estimated at five million dollars. The DSCLA has the funds needed to install the proposed exhibits, those being provided by the State of California. If the City's Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners conceptually approve the installation of these exhibits at its March 2021 meeting, the DSCLA can proceed developing detailed working drawings, specifications, and final plans for the Project.



## Emergency Animal Hospitals & Services

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

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**Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tuesday, May 11th @ 7:00 via Zoom**

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### Key Community Locations & Contact Info

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

### Community Calendar

**Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)**

- 3rd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center)
- [www.ftdnc.org](http://www.ftdnc.org)

**FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting**

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

**FTDNC Equestrian Committee meeting**

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

**Neighborhood Watch**

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

**LAPD Community Coffee Time**

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

**Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board**

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

**ETI C20**

- 1st Monday, Every Month
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