

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

Volume 35, Issue 2

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



March-April 2012

In Memoriam



Bert Bonnett

February 21, 1910 - January 23, 2012

Good whiskey, pretty women and fast horses; it's to those Bert Bonnett attributed his longevity. And he should know! Still riding at the age of 101 years, sharp as ever, joking and flirting like he was 50. Riding with Bert helped to keep it all in perspective. He was quick to point out that all problems can be solved with more riding time! Bert was one month shy of his 102nd birthday when he left this world for the next January 23, 2012.

Bert was born 1910 in Provo, Utah, before automobiles and World Wars. He was just four years old when he had his first horse and began a life-long love affair with horses. His first job was a shepherd for one of his friend's fathers. Bert hitchhiked to California with a \$1.50 in his pocket to see his bother and an aunt. He worked as a plumber's assistant until he became one of the 100 member team who built the Los Angeles Union Station. Bert's job was to drive a dump wagon hauled by three mules that carried the fill that would be used to help build the station. From there he worked as a ranch hand for Cecil B. DeMile, teaching the racehorses to load. Bert worked until retirement at approximately 65 years of age as the welding foreman for National Frost Protection in Burbank. Many of Bert's neighbors and friends enjoyed the benefit of Bert's welding skills.

His contributions to the equestrian community have been many. Numerous Shadow Hills and neighboring communities' equestrians have owned horses that Bert started and trained. Bert is a founding member of Equestrian Trails, Inc., founded in 1944. Many times on ETI rides you will hear a fellow rider state proudly that their horse is a "Bert Horse". Bert maintained and worked all the trails in the Angeles Forest for Corral 20 and ETI National rides. He led the National Convention rides

to Santa Barbara as well as many of the Spring Rides. Bert has plotted and developed most all of the trails from Shadow Hills to La Tuna Canyon.

Bert and his first wife Gladys purchased land on Wornom Avenue and built their first house in Shadow Hills. Gladys passed away shortly after their 50th wedding anniversary. While leading a Ride he met and eventually married his second wife Bari in 1991. Bert leaves behind his wife Bari Noren Bonnett, family in Utah, as well as far too many friends to count. He was a friend to all that met him, he will be missed. A memorial ride and life celebration was held on February 19th at Ranger Park. *Shadow Hills will not be the same.*

REMINDER!

General Meeting Guest Speaker

Wendy Greuel,

City Controller

Former Council Representative

Tuesday, March 13, 7 p.m.

Tierra del Sol

9919 Sunland Boulevard

PLUS:

GOOD REDISTRICTING NEWS!

Hopeful Signs of Economic Recovery in Shadow Hills

By Dave De Pinto

We know many local residents continue to struggle in the aftermath of the recent recession and economic downturn. Our hopes and prayers go out to you and your families to make it through these tough times and to enjoy success and prosperity in the future.

In perhaps a sign that things are improving locally we are



(See "Recovery" on p. 3)

Become a SHPOA Member - See Page 3

2012 SHPOA Board Members

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Redistricting Update

By Dave De Pinto

As this newsletter was going to print, the LA City Council Redistricting Commission had completed its public hearings and was putting the finishing touches on its recommended council district lines/maps and preparing to forward those recommendations to the City Council.

As reported in SHPOA's "Daily Fodder," the Redistricting Commission has listened to our community and we have a positive redistricting outcome, despite the loss of Paul Krekorian as our council representative. Preliminary maps initially split Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon from Sunland/Tujunga and Lake View Terrace. Later versions also separated Stonehurst into two different council districts. Due to hard work by the SHPOA board and land use committee, as well as partnership with neighboring communities, we have succeeded in unifying Shadow Hills, Stonehurst, La Tuna Canyon, Sunland/Tujunga and Lake View Terrace in the new Council District 7. This is an important result with positive effects on equestrian rights, recreational and open space, community and business, services/improvements and property values.

There are population requirements and characteristics that need to be maintained as the new council district lines are drawn with the goal being to adjust for population change will creating fair and equitable situations for elected representation for all residents. Truth is, the system is a human one and is prone to subjective and political influences.

SHPOA held a community information meeting on Wednesday, February 8, to inform residents about the redistricting process and also testified at a public hearing conducted by the Redistricting Commission. Among our strongest arguments were that Shadow Hills has suffered from frequent change in elected representation and from periods of time in which we lacked representation. We are also contending that we share many, many things in common – economically, environmentally, socially, etc. – with Sunland/Tujunga, La Tuna Canyon, rural Sun Valley and Lake View Terrace that we constitute a "community of interest" that should be protected, not "cracked" by the redistricting process. A copy of SHPOA's testimony may be found on our website (www.shpoa.us).

For the next three months the City Council will take over the redistricting process and conduct its own review and hearings with a July 1 completion date. SHPOA will keep you informed of developments in this matter via our email outreach, our newsletter and our general meetings.



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

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA

Membership Form

Shadow Hills area residents, it's time to join SHPOA for the 2012 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:

SHPOA - P.O. Box 345, Sunland CA 91041-0345

("Recovery" from p. 1)



pleased to note the opening of two new local businesses at the intersection of Wheatland and Sunland: The Wild Flowers has both a full range of floral products and gifts for many occasions, and Sam's Country Market (formerly Fuhrman's Market) is a combination convenience store, grill and deli. Other businesses located at that intersection include: Pony Tayls Salon, Rise-N-Shine Café, Shadow Hills Hair Salon, Sparkle and Shine Pet Grooming, Golden Garden Cafe (Chinese food), Shadow Hills Cleaners and 7-11.

SHPOA's Daily Fodder – Food for Thought

By Dave De Pinto

In case you did not know, SHPOA has been providing a service for more than a year now in which we provide community-based or neighbor-to-neighbor information via email to those SHPOA members and residents who wish to be on our email list. Terri Ortiz, a Shadow Hills resident and SHPOA board member, now operates the program which was begun by Chris Arlington, a long-time SHPOA board member and contributor. The impetus for the program was to provide the type of information that neighbors might share “over the fence” with a distinct local, Shadow Hills flavor.



We've recently dubbed the effort “Daily Fodder” and it includes helpful information about lost pets, traffic advisories, Neighborhood Watch alerts, local garage sales, trail advisories, community meetings and the like. In January, our email outreach program shared 19 “Daily Fodders,” 9 Neighborhood Watch messages, 18 lost and found messages, 7 redistricting messages and 78 miscellaneous messages.....all in an effort to help you feel at home in Shadow Hills.

Email Terri at shpoa@shpoa.us and provide her with your email address to be included in the mailings. There are no solicitations involved and you may unsubscribe at any time.



SHPOA Welcomes Your Articles and Advertisements

By Dave De Pinto

The SHPOA newsletter is a fixture here in Shadow Hills, written and mailed “free of charge” every other month to more than 2,200 households, despite the fact that fewer than 200 residents are actually dues-paying SHPOA members (come on guys...is \$25 really too much to ask for all that SHPOA does for the community and for you? Please write your membership check TODAY!)

In addition to providing information relative to our country lifestyle, the newsletter helps keep you connected to the somewhat arcane world of LA City Government and Politics. You might also learn a few things about animal health, plants and gardening, environmental protection and local history by reading our newsletter.

Please know that you are WELCOME to contribute articles, poems, photos and/or informational tidbits to the newsletter by submitting them (200-250 words max) to our newsletter editor, Dave DePinto, at 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com. We'd love to diversify our pool of newsletter contributors.

The SHPOA newsletter is also a place to learn about local service providers who advertise with us and support our newsletter and overall operations. We thank our advertisers for their support and want them to know we are studying ways of increasing your exposure through our daily email outreach and our website. We'll have more about that subject in the near future. In the mean time, good luck with your business and continue to advertise with us and present your services to our members. We certainly encourage our members to support our local businesses and advertisers!



Real Estate Forum Kicks off 2012

By Sue Mansis



SHPOA's first meeting of the new year featured a real estate panel weighing in on the state of real estate in Shadow Hills. There were over 80 people in attendance and 6 local realtors. Stevi Fielding of Dilbeck, Mary Ann & Angela Geyer from Keller Williams, Fran and Ray Loiselle of Century 21 and Kim Villalobos from Bill Toth & Associates covered topics ranging from current real estate values and what buyers are looking for in Shadow Hills, to how we can better market our properties here, to how foreclosures, short sales and bankruptcies affect our values, to what we can do to individually to improve our homes and horse properties.



A lively Q & A session followed and an upbeat, positive buzz was in the air as the meeting concluded. We heartily thank our realtors for educating us and our audience for attending. SHPOA looks forward to bringing you more educational, informational and sensational conversations throughout 2012!

Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church Update

By Andrea Manning

Come and join us for lot of fun on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2012 for Family Fun Night. There will be bingo, food, prizes, and music. Fun starts at 6:00 p.m. and will end at 8:00 p.m. Invite your family, children, neighbors, friends – all those who like to have a good time.

We have a new program starting up as well. We are "calling all crafters: First Thursday Club meets from 10 to 12 in the Church Parlor to participate in crafts. If you like to do crafts, but lack the motivation to proceed or just want association with others, join us for time together. Conversations and projects enlighten the time together. For more information regarding any of the church activities and programs, contact the office at 818-353-2500. Our Easter Season schedule is as follows:

Easter Season Schedule:

April 1 –PALM SUNDAY 10:00 a.m.Praise and Worship
5:00 p.m.–PAWS (Pets Are Welcome Service)

April 8 –EASTER SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. Easter Praise
11:00 a.m.Easter Worship
(PAWS PAUSES – no service)

April 15 –BRIGHT SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship
5:00 p.m. PAWS

Homer Hansen - Short Routes

By Marlene Hitt

I have often wondered why certain people have their names on streets, buildings, towns, a lake, a dam. Usually it is due to the fact that they owned property. In the case of Homer Hansen, yes, he did own land in Hansen Heights (Shadow Hills), and he did name streets in this area for his family members. And he was an early settler who got here before all the others. But, was he worthy? How did such a man grow and what had he been taught?

It has been said over and over that Dr. Homer Hansen was greatly loved and admired. A book in the museum library is devoted in whole to Dr. Hansen. One chapter tells us about his childhood. Because this portion of the book about Homer A. Hansen is so perfect as is, I will quote it:

"From about the age of 14 to 17, I was lively and spirited and sometimes a little worse than mischievous, such as being suspended from school for a month or six weeks. On such occasions, Father would say, as I started off for school, "Homer, come by the office after school and we will hitch up and drive down to the farm." He knew I loved horses and loved the farm down by the Hocking River where I could swim and fish. On the way down he would start giving me a little lecture about like the following: "Homer, I have been hearing some things about you which disturb me a great deal. I do not like to believe them, but facts are stubborn things." Then he would talk about some of the things he knew I had been doing and then would say, "These things may not seem too bad to you, and perhaps I could overlook them for we are both men and all men must be able to meet all kinds of problems; nevertheless, the people about town will think less of us and our family on account of such action, but above all else we must remember little Mother at home and do our utmost to keep her from anxiety and worry." He would always end these little talks with this sentence, "Homer, be careful, go slow. These short routes to success never pan out."



Do Not Turn Animals Loose

By Chris Arlington

Last month there were four starving horses turned loose in the Hansen Dam area. One horse was so starved it would not have survived without human intervention.

Please remember, we have domesticated our animals including cats, dogs, horses, lizards, rabbits, etc. They no longer know how to survive in the wild. If you cannot keep them for whatever reason, please try putting out the word to Shadow Hills via the e-mail shpoa@shpoa.us. There are many people out there looking for inexpensive or free animals that would give them a good, loving home. At least give them a chance before just turning them loose. Most animals can be turned in to the shelter. It is not always a death sentence.

It is especially illegal to turn loose fish, frogs, turtles and other aquatic wildlife as they can kill off the natural wildlife we are trying to save. The Tujunga Ponds are a wildlife protection area for natural flora and fauna.

Bumble Bees, Fruits & Vegetables

By Denise Fleck (www.sunnydogink.com)

One spring morning a Dachshund named Rudy attempted a game of pounce with a tiny buzzing creature. Fun did ensue for a few moments, but it turned nasty once the bee planted his stinger onto the pup's nose! Rudy pawed furiously at his face and as it began to swell he started looking more like a Bulldog than a Doxie.

Should your dog or cat get stung by a bee and you can find the stinger, scrape it away with a credit card, popsicle stick or similar stiff object. Pulling the stinger with fingers or tweezers could rupture the poison sac allowing the toxin to enter your pet's body. Administer 1 mg Benadryl per pound of your pet's body weight, and apply a cold pack (a bag of frozen peas works well) to any swelling. If swelling is severe or any breathing difficulties develop, get to your Veterinarian at once.

Fruits and vegetables are coming into season, but don't feed human foods to your pet without researching which ones are poisonous: Grapes and raisins contain an unknown toxin that can shut down your pet's kidneys; seeds and pits of stone fruits (peaches, plums, apples and cherries) may contain a cyanide-like poison; onions, chives and garlic can cause hemolytic anemia; tomato and potato leaves and stems can result in digestive, nervous and/or urinary system difficulties, and iced tea or coffee could increase your pet's heart rate and result in seizures. Carrots, green beans, broccoli, apples and bananas however, are safe and beneficial for most dogs and cats. Just make sure the pieces don't become a choking hazard. Confer with your Vet to find out what foods are best for your four-legged friends.

Finally, take care with what you are feeding those fruits, vegetables and flowers with! Purchase "Pet & Wildlife Friendly" products. Dogs love the taste of two meat-based organic fertilizers, but ingesting blood meal can result in vomiting, diarrhea and severe pancreatic inflammation, while bone meal can create a cement-like ball in your pet's stomach. Rose-specific fertilizers containing disulfoton can also be deadly, so study-up for Fluffy and Fido's sake because what goes on your ground, gets on their paws and ends up being ingested when they groom.

Update from New Heaven on Earth Ranch (NHOER)

The 9th ANNUAL "Spirit of Johny Carpenter Awards" were presented in December 2011 at Big Jim's Family Restaurant in Sun Valley. The Reel Cowboys offered their monthly meeting venue and were gracious hosts for this event. Nancy Woodruff, Susan Barlett and Robert Stephens were the honoree's for their works in the community. Councilman Paul Krekorian attended and recognized their achievements.

NHOER is a CA based 501(c) Public Charity, based in Lake View Terrace, CA. It honors the legacy of the late Johny Carpenter, stuntman, actor and cowboy whose original Heaven on Earth Ranch stood on Foothill Place in Lake View Terrace for almost 25 years.

(See "Update-NHOER" on page 8)

Club Memberships: Worth Joining?

By Eric Stein

It seems to be that almost everyone has a budget these days. No matter what item we want to buy, we are more price conscious than ever before. Club memberships have been known for selling cheaper because of bulk product packaging and large company buying power.

Buying 12 pounds of ground beef that will expire in 10 days can be quite concerning for one person. However, using frozen storage plastic bags in the appropriate portions will do the trick. This same practice can apply to almost any perishable product worth freezing. Also, there are many other items sold in-store and via store websites that would allow any single person to take advantage of great savings without fear of a spoilage factor. For example, in the store there is furniture, cleaning supplies, office supplies, etc. Also, through membership there are negotiated rates for insurance of all forms, home services, small business services, etc.

I realize there are some people that oppose paying for club membership. When you can justify that the savings you have throughout the year exceed the money you spent on membership, it's well worth it!

The Fond Land Preservation Foundation

By Bill Eick

The Fond Land Preservation Foundation, which owns 500 acres of open space in and around Shadow Hills, recently completed the acquisition of an additional 16.2 acres of property which is contiguous with The Fond Foundation's existing open space. This acquisition was made possible in part by the generous donation of Elektra and Gary Kruger who are long time residents of Shadow Hills and have donated and continue to donate substantial time to SHPOA.

This additional property is at the end of Teazel Canyon and is a key piece of open space in the Verdugo Mountains. A long time resident of Shadow Hills recently passed and remembered the Fond Foundation in her estate. Those funds will eventually be used to acquire additional open space in the Shadow Hills area. Finally, in 2010 the Fond Foundation purchased 38 acres of open space in Lake View Terrace, a portion of which fronts Foothill Blvd. This acquisition was through a generous donation from Judith Owen who appreciated open space. The Fond Foundation can be contacted through Bill Eick who is one of its Directors (weeick@pacbell.net)

(*Cont'd "Update-NHOER" from page 7*)

NHOER is committed to building the "Johny Carpenter" Arena to be open to the community seven days a week. It also will have the "Johny Carpenter" Riding Program, offered free of charge. To learn more about NHOER and how you can help, visit our website: www.NHOER.org. We are also on facebook: New Heaven on Earth Ranch. You can also call us at 818 470-5235 or email: lamikec@yahoo.com. All donations are tax deductible. ID# 27-2613489.

The Truth in Gold

By Eric Stein

The presence of gold is all around us. We put gold in our teeth, wear it as jewelry on our body, invest in gold shares on the stock market, and even pan for it in the river. While there are a couple other precious metals worth mentioning, in my opinion, gold has the richest tradition. Recently when the stock market became extremely volatile investors were looking for safe places to keep their money. Although gold stock doesn't provide dividends, you can sleep better at night knowing your investment won't blow away with the wind.

I remember working with my father in the jewelry manufacturing business just 10 years ago and gold was selling at \$380/oz. As I write this article today, it's now trading at \$1,757/oz.! In the jewelry business, we consider 24kt to be pure gold. For jewelry manufactured in the U.S. it's customary to cast in 14kt, 18kt, and more rare in the 22/24kt range.

✓
✓
✓
✓
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✓

Jewelry becomes softer the closer you get to 24kt, so we would tend to use higher content in the form of pendants, brooches, or earrings. While heating up gold in the casting equipment, the addition of nickel (plus other white alloys) will turn it white. If you were to add copper instead, then it will create a rose color. For bench jewelers, gold is much easier to work with than Silver or Platinum.



Building and Safety Performance Audit

By Elektra Kruger

The Department of Building and Safety has been conducting a Performance Audit of the activities of 350 inspectors and approximately 120 engineers involving 85,000 properties covering the last two years. This resulted from the recent reassignment, resignation, dismissal and even arrest of Building and Safety inspectors for signing off on projects they have not even visited or that knowingly have performed sub-standard work.

One of the operational changes for the Department that was incorporated into the new City Charter was a required periodic rotation of inspector assignments to avoid creation of a "buddy system" between developers and inspectors that could lead to a deliberate practice of "looking the other way". These rotations decreased with the high level of employee demand to stop assignment rotations. But with those dismissals and arrests we see exactly what reducing the rotation periods led to.

As a result of this, in early October 2011, Councilmember Jan Perry presented a Motion to City Council asking that it direct the Department of Building and Safety to report to the City Council its findings of its Performance Audit, an explanation of the process of re-implementing the rotation process, a time-line of when such a process might be reinstated, and the results of any and all investigations currently being conducted by the Department with an update of the status of these investigations. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this Motion.



Amended—and Elevated—City Fees

By Elektra Kruger

In early September 2011, the City Attorney's Office presented a Draft Ordinance in response to a request by the City Council upon recommendation of the Board of Police Commissioners which would add an application fee for charitable solicitation information cards, an increase in issuance of news media identification cards, an increase in false alarm fees and an increase in fees for police permits.

Currently, the Los Angeles Municipal Code does not call for a fee to be paid for the processing of a Notice of Intention to solicit charitable contributions and issuance of charitable solicitation information cards. The City Council adopted the recommendation of the Board of Police Commissioners to establish a fee for this service to recover staff costs associated with investigating an applicant's compliance with all local and state regulations and processing the issuance of a charitable solicitation information card. The recommended fee would be \$42.

Without a written Notice of Intention to solicit charitable contributions filed at least 15 days prior to the date of the solicitation event listed on the Notice of Intention form filed with the City, no one is authorized to commence with solicitation activities. Similarly, the Council adopted the Board of Police Commissioners recommendation to increase the fee for issuance of a news media identification card from \$16 to \$24 to recover staff costs of processing the cards. The fee increase for false alarms as adopted by the City Council on the recommendation of the Board of Police Commissioners is to go from \$149 to \$151 (that one is not too bad) to help recover the salary costs incurred in dealing with those false alarms.

The Los Angeles Municipal Code contains a schedule of fees applicable to obtaining an original Business Permit, its annual renewal fee and any fees associated with a change of location for 56 types of businesses. Fee schedules for 54 of those 56 permits have been amended to help recover the current permit processing costs. The Los Angeles Administrative Code authorizes the Board of Police Commissioners to establish a schedule of fees that the Police Department may collect which include such things as the current \$15 for clearance/detention letters and a \$16 fee for criminal arrest summaries. In early April 2011, the Board of Police Commissioners adopted a revised fee schedule which would increase the fee for clearance/detention letters to \$17 and the fee for criminal arrest summaries to \$64. City Council approved all increased fee schedules in late October 2011.

Register Up to 5 Cats/Dogs

By Elektra Kruger

The current recession has resulted in a marked increase in the abandonment rate of cats and dogs, a notable increase in shelter populations, and ultimately an increase in animal euthanasia. In June 2010, Councilmember Bill Rosendahl presented a Motion to City Council asking that the LAMC be amended to raise the legally allotted number of cats and/or dogs per household from the current 3 to 5. Much debate ensued over the number of

(Cont'd, next column)

(from previous column)

pets, the terms of the motion and whether pets or owners were responsible for behavior control.

One letter of protest was submitted by the Historic Filipinotown Chamber of Commerce based on the potentially resultant nuisance animal situations in their residential and business streets. They stated that about a decade ago it was impossible to walk down the streets without encountering packs of stray and often starving dogs and that their streets are still overrun with homeless feral cats creating a nuisance for business owners and customers. The Chamber opposed any increase in animal limits.

The problem of stray animals faced by the businesses of Filipinotown does need to be addressed, but this is an issue entirely different from that of raising the limit of pets allowable in a private household. To be continued in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.



Department of Animal Services Hearings - Part 3

By Elektra Kruger

In early June 2011, the Office of the City Attorney submitted a Draft Ordinance which would authorize the Department of Animal Services to conduct Hearings even if the dog of interest is not licensed. Among the new provisions of the Ordinance, if approved, would be that a Restricted Dog Permit with additional terms and conditions may be imposed in lieu of license revocation. These terms and conditions may include such things as:



- Defining where on an owner's property the dog may be kept
- Defining the size and construction or design of an enclosure where the dog may be kept
- Defining specialized training by a licensed trainer or training program approved by the Department to correct any behavioral problems
- Requiring removal of one or more other dogs from the premises
- Prohibiting the addition of any new dogs to the premises
- Defining the types and method of restraint and/or muzzling to be used
- Defining means of identification such as electronic identification devices, permanent marking, etc.
- Requiring sterilization even if otherwise exempt
- Imposing a civil penalty as provided by Ordinance for an administrative citations enforcement program
- The dog may not be placed in the custody of another person without the written consent of the Department's General Manager except in a licensed dog kennel or with a California licensed veterinarian. The owner must notify the transferee, kennel, veterinarian or other custodian that the dog is subject to a Restricted Dog Permit.

To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.

We're Not in Any Trouble...*But*, SHPOA Needs a Few Good Lawyers

By Dave De Pinto

This is not a subpoena but a simple call for help! Are you an active or retired lawyer that lives in Shadow Hills or know of one? Do you know someone who might not be a lawyer but that might have a firm grasp of legal terminology and have a sharp analytical mind?

If you've been following SHPOA in any way the past few years, you know that one of our many services is assisting the community in dealing with both simple and complicated issues or projects involving real estate, land use, municipal codes, city services/lack thereof, law enforcement, insurance and code compliance and violations. These matters require some ability to deal with legal mumbo jumbo, to perform research of public records, and to be persistent and tenacious.

Until now, we've had one attorney heading up our land use committee and several "lay" people have tackled these legal or semi-legal issues and projects that are brought to us by SHPOA members and Shadow Hills residents. Well, the number of "cases" we are following and trying to assist the community with has grown beyond our ability to serve. We've been analyzing the types of projects we work on and find that many are like "cases" that require one person just sticking on them until conclusion and keeping the board updated as to their progress. Sample cases include commercial use of residential properties, non-permitted construction, accidents along Sunland Boulevard involving insurance compensation, residential abuse of property (their own or that owned by others) or quality of living issues, public safety threats caused by illegal dumping or other activities, etc.

With that in mind, we are appealing to our concerned and committed advocates in the hope you will volunteer a small amount of your time to help SHPOA and your own community with these legal challenges. If you would offer your assistance, expertise and consultation on some of these individual disputes, it would greatly benefit our board which has been 'spread thin' with the overload of multiple cases. If we could assign as few as one issue/project/case per individual it would make a huge difference.

This is a simple request of time and expertise on your terms. Please consider our need and the benefit this



provides to you and your community. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Dave De Pinto (7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com), Sue Mansis (smansis@ca.rr.com) or Bill Eick (weeick@pacbell.net). We really appreciate your consideration of this request.



Flushable? - Part 2

By Elektra Kruger

There is currently no real definition of what constitutes a "flushable" consumer product, so companies create their own definition of "flushability" and neither consumers nor wastewater agencies have any real means of assessing the true "flushability" of a product. Without these definitions we end up dealing with increased risk of non-flushable products being flushed down the toilet leading to the need for costly plumbing repairs and incredible maintenance problems for sanitary sewer systems and wastewater treatment plants.

The California Association of Sanitary Agencies (CASA) has attempted to address the issue through community awareness outreach programs with limited success. The Association of Nonwoven Fabrics Industries (INDA) has expressed opposition to AB 2256 introduced to the State Assembly by Assemblymember Huffman which, if approved, would require any product labeled "flushable" to be tested by a third party substantiating validity of the claim.

INDA states that AB 2256 would not solve the primary source of clogging issues at wastewater treatment facilities because problems arise not from those products labeled as "flushable" or "sewer safe" or "septic safe", but from individuals flushing items down the toilet that were never intended to be "flushable" in the first place. INDA claims that passage of AB 2256 would actually backfire in that it would probably cause manufacturers to remove all labeling regarding flushability from their products rather than try to interpret and/or attempt to meet state-specified requirements. They believe that in the long run, lacking any flushability information consumers will increase the number of and types of products they will flush down the toilet thereby actually increasing clogging issues in sewer lines and wastewater treatment facilities.

Rather than dealing with the problem legislatively, INDA would like to meet with municipal wastewater treatment facility officials to better understand the causes of - and explore non-legislative solutions to - problems at the facilities. To be continued in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.

Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church Pre-School Update

Your area Preschool welcomes Spring with hands-on fun and special events! On Friday, March 9, Mr. Valentine's Traveling Nature Show visits Shadow Hills Presbyterian Pre-School. We love Mr. Valentine as he shares his exotic animals with our preschoolers. Snakes, lizards, unique bugs, a few small mammals and a fun-loving young wallaby are all part of this amazing learning experience. Even our youngest students are invited to touch and hold these beautiful creatures. It is truly a hands-on opportunity!

Then in April, we have our Annual Trike-a-thon Fundraiser! This is one of our favorite events as all our students participate. Riding, walking, or maybe being pushed around, each student is helping to raise funds for the Preschool. It's fun and profitable! As we've said before, we love to show off who we are and we invite anyone interested to stop by and see our school. We are proud of who we are!

Shadow Hills Preschool is located on the corner of Sunland Blvd. and Johanna Ave. with the beautiful "Country Living in Shadow Hills" sign.



Welcome to Shadow Hills (Signage Program)

By Dave De Pinto

If you've ever seen the beautiful "Country Living in Shadow Hills" sign at the Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church, you've undoubtedly been struck with the thought, "hey, that's a good idea."

Well, SHPOA wants to do more to promote Shadow Hills as a great place to live, to raise families and to care for and to enjoy horses, animals and the outdoors. And as we discussed at our recent real estate forum, wouldn't it be nice to increase sagging property values at the same time?

We've had a few efforts to locate "Shadow Hills" signs in our community. The problem is, it's complicated dealing with city land, state land and public rights of way. We wanted to inquire if there are any private landowners with visible properties that front either Sunland Boulevard or Wentworth Street who would consider working with us to place an attractive sign on their property such as you see at the Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church.

If you are proud of your property and proud of Shadow Hills, please consider working with us. We believe we can enhance the image and quality of life here in Shadow Hills by doing more to promote our community. Please contact Dave De Pinto (818-352-7618; 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com) and let's talk.



Wanted: Sleuthing on Sunland Boulevard

By Andrea Gutman

They seem to come in bunches along our stretch of "The Boulevard". And, lately they are coming more often and faster. Racing, high speed chases, drunk drivers, hot doggers....all ignoring warning lights and clearly posted 45 MPH speed limits, unable to navigate the curves (or even the straight aways!) Then, the screeching CRASH!

They decimate SHPOA's white trail fencing, traffic signals, light poles, fencing and walls of private properties and even the reinforced steel guard rails. Most tragically, some have lost their lives on this busy high speed stretch.

SHPOA has an Equestrian and Trails Committee that works hard to recover financial compensation to repair these damaged railings. It can take months to recover needed pieces of information from authorities so we are forever grateful for citizen "sleuths" like you who have reported from the scene of these accidents. SHPOA depends upon and needs willing community volunteers to record and report details such as: the address location, the license plate number, pictures, make & model of vehicles involved, time and date of these crashes.

SHPOA is keen to maintain the rural image of the Boulevard that we all enjoy and that visitors driving along Sunland won't see cruising the average highway of Los Angeles. Your assistance in helping SHPOA is greatly appreciated. Please call Andrea or Jim: 818-353-5974 or e-mail shpoa.us to report or help out.



Welcome, New SHPOA Volunteers!

By Colleen Caamano-Keppler

SHPOA is thrilled to welcome two new volunteers to our newsletter team: Mike McCoy and Toni Ingallina.

Mike, a graphic designer and fine artist, is contributing his skills as our new layout artist. Every issue is like putting together a jigsaw puzzle, and Mike makes all the news that's fit to print - fit within our 16 pages. Mike and his wife, Sharon, are relatively new to Shadow Hills, and we are so happy to welcome them to the neighborhood. Mike's available art services are listed in his ad for "*The Real McCoy*"

Toni is a long-time resident of Shadow Hills and has stepped forward to commandeer advertising collection for the SHPOA newsletter. Toni gathers up all the advertising details and artwork for each issue and coordinates getting that information to Mike and our treasurer, Kellie Kozonis.

Our webmaster, Carlos George, has set up an email address specifically for advertising purposes. Please contact Toni at: advertising@shpoa.us.

There are many details involved in putting together the newsletter and many hands help to lighten the work. A hearty "Welcome Aboard" to Mike and Toni!

East Valley Animal Shelter Needs Blankets, Towels, Toys And Treats For Cats And Dogs

Please Bring Items To
East Valley Feed & Tack

Emergency Animal Hospitals

Animal Specialty Group 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

11730 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604

(818) 760-3882

Mon-Thurs: 6pm-8am

Weekends: Fri 6pm-Mon 8am

Mark your calendar

SHPOA General Meeting -March 13, 2012 - 7 pm • Tierra Del Sol

Advertiser's Index

Airtight Pest Control.....11	John Nelson Plumbing.....12
Akeela Carpet Cleaning.....10	Keller Williams, R. D'Egidio...15
Alan Phillips Recovery Ins.....8	Kim Villalobos - Realtor.....12
Armstrong Insurance.....3	LA LAW Center.....9
Brush Clearance.....13	Mary Ann Geyer-Realtor.....2
Century 21 - Fran & Ray.....10	Michael Rich Real Estate.....8
Classic Bath Design.....12	MicroArtisans.....13
Corky's Bookkeeping.....11	Mission Valley Bank.....4
Creature Comforts.....8	Pampered Pets.....14
Critter Sitter.....6	Paul Mattox Floors.....6
Dale's Automotive.....15	Randy's Property Maint.....6
David Robertson, DVM.....8	Real McCoy Graphic Arts.....10
Delphi Academy.....9	R. Caruso Construction.....12
Daybreak Massage.....13	Richard's R.R. Plumbing.....7
Devries/Gopher Constr.....11	Sharon Yoho, Realtor.....5
Digital Doctor, Don Delson....14	SoilDirect.com.....4
Don Dunham, Attorney.....7	Trish Ramsey Realtor.....7
Eagle Plumbing.....14	Veronica Allen Income Tax.....5
East Valley Feed.....7	WRD.....6
Eick, William E. - Attorney.....4	Wild Flowers Florist.....13
Joe's Bar & Grill/Champs.....5	Wright Color Graphics.....13

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 North Valley Neighborhood City Hall/Office CD2
Councilmember 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.
- 9747 Wheatland Ave.

Neighborhood Watch

3rd Tuesday, Every Month

- 6:30 p.m.
- East Valley Municipal Bldg.

"Prime Timers 60+"

3rd Wednesday, Every Month

- Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church
- Call church 818-352-2500

Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

LAST Tuesday, Every Month

- 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

3rd Thursday, Every Month

- 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- www.ftdnc.org

ETI C20

4th Wednesday, Every Month

- Call Becky Borquez, 818.352.3634

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
May/Jun Newsletter: Mar. 20

IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

Dial 311 - Info on all City Services

L.A. Dept. of Water & Power (800) 342-5397

Street Service..... (800) 996-2489

Large Item Pickup..... (800) 773-2489

Abandoned Car..... (800) 222-6366