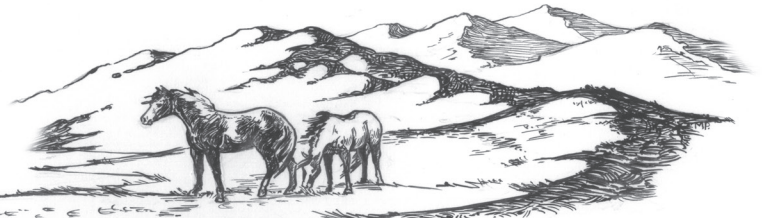


SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 45, Issue 1

SHPOA Jan-Feb 2022

Recap of SHPOA November General Meeting By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) held its November 16th General Meeting by Zoom, due to covid concerns. The meeting was well attended by an approximate 80 neighbors. Our guest speaker was Xiomara Duran, Tree Ambassador, from TreePeople. Xiomara gave a detailed video presentation of the tree adoption program and the December event at Valley Village Park in North Hollywood to give away shade trees and fruit trees to homeowners. Each address can adopt 7 trees total - 5 shade and 2 fruit trees. TreePeople offers community greening projects as well. For inquiries: xduran@treepeople.org.

Many SHPOA attendees of the November 16th meeting were eager to get an update on the armed prowler who had been burglarizing local residents and businesses for the past few weeks. SHPOA invited the LAPD task force to respond to the community's concerns. Captain John Smith, Lieutenant Guinter, Detective Wheat and Senior Lead Officer Richard Wall discussed the on-going case in detail. The prowler had been breaking into out-buildings, homes and businesses throughout Shadow Hills and Sun Valley. He stole whatever he could carry - tools, merchandise and many weapons which he upgraded as he continued on his burglary spree. His picture from security cameras showed him with a semi-automatic slung over his shoulder. At the time of the SHPOA General meeting, the task force consisted of an approximate 150 police officers and LAPD dogs and horses. Their concerns were based on the risks to the community's safety as the threat of criminal escalation seemed eminent. SHPOA is very grateful for the intense police response and for keeping the community well informed and prepared as the case unfolded. Within 2 days of our SHPOA meeting, the prowler was captured and jailed. To show our sincere gratitude, SHPOA sent a large basket of cookies and doggie biscuits to thank the task force for their efforts in keeping our community safe.

Following our guest speakers, Eve Sinclair from Councilwoman Rodriguez's office updated the community on the installation of pedestrian/

(Cont'd next column)

Join us for our virtual Zoom Meeting

January 11th - 7:00 pm

* Los Angeles City Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez and Eve Sinclair (7th District)

www.Zoom.us

Meeting ID: 894 3882 5419

Will be promoted also on Daily Fodder, Facebook, NextDoor, website www.shpoa.us.

SHPOA General Meeting Notice By Jacqy Gamble, SHPOA Board

The first SHPOA meeting for 2022 will be held on January 11th at 7 PM. LA City Councilmember Monica Rodriguez and her staff member, Eve Sinclair will be our guests. Council Staff will update us on all the safety and traffic projects for this area. They will also answer questions posed by our community. All of the questions need to be submitted in advance to the SHPOA website: shpoa@shpoa.us. Unfortunately we are still doing the meetings through Zoom. The questions will be reviewed and presented to Council staff at the meeting by our ZOOM meeting host. Please find the ZOOM link on the SHPOA website or through the Daily Fodder announcements.



(Cont'd)

equestrian signals on Wentworth at Wheatland and Marybell, as well as the approval for a similar signal on Sunland Blvd. at Johanna.

SHPOA Board members gave committee reports including the approvals of the General Meeting minutes for September by Lynne Toby and the Treasurer's monthly statement by Michael Stein. Tina Eick and Susan Wong reported on the Redistricting map for the City of Los Angeles which finally recognized and reunited the community of Shadow Hills into one district, CD7. Happily, we can now report that the final vote by City Council in December, approved the Redistricting map which shows Shadow Hills will stay united as a whole community for the next 10 years in the City of Los Angeles.



2022 SHPOA Board Members

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

Executive Officers

President:	Tina Eick board@shpoa.us
Vice President:	Jacqy Gamble
Executive Secretary:	vacant
Recording Secretary:	Owynn Lancaster
Treasurer:	Michael Stein
Membership:	Jo Rich, Chair membership@shpoa.us Michael Stein

Appointed Officers

Land Use:	vacant
Equestrian and Trails:	Rosey Payne (Liaison)
Special Projects:	Jo Rich (Events) Azalia Snail
Neighborhood Watch:	Vacant
Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets	Susan Wong shpoa@shpoa.us
Webmaster:	Michael Stein webmaster@shpoa.us
Traffic Safety Coordinator	Carlos George
Newsletter Editor and Article Collection:	Tina Eick board@shpoa.us
Newsletter Advertising :	Michael Stein webmaster@shpoa.us
Newsletter Design/Layout:	Cindy Bloom
Hospitality:	vacant
Historian:	Gerardo Barrientos
SHPOA's Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 345, Sunland, CA 91041
SHPOA's E-mail Address:	shpoa@shpoa.us or board@shpoa.us
Website:	www.shpoa.us
Senior Lead Police Officers:	
<i>Sunland/Shadow Hills/LVT</i>	Cesar Contreras 818-634-0705 36373@lapd.lacity.org
<i>Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West</i>	TBD (Rich Wall retired) LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861
Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC):	www.ftdnc.org
<i>President:</i>	Kevin Davis president@ftdnc.org
<i>Area rep:</i>	Cindy Bloom cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org

Prohibit Bicycle "Chop-Shops" On Public Right-Of-Ways?

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Bicycle theft is an on-going problem across the City of Los Angeles. The majority of bikes which are never recovered are due, in large part, because thieves run bicycle "chop-shops" taking apart stolen bicycles and either selling bicycle parts or reassembling bikes often right in the public right-of-way. Thieves have little fear of repercussions as this activity is not expressly illegal and the police do not have the resources to check every bicycle being disassembled in the street against those that have been reported as stolen. The City of Long Beach, having similar issues, adopted an Ordinance prohibiting the operation of bicycle "chop-shops" on public property or within any public right-of-way with specified exceptions for licensed bicycle repair businesses. In the hopes that we might curtail the ever-increasing number of bicycle chop-shops on Los Angeles public right-of-ways, in early October 2021, Councilmember Joe Buscaino presented a Motion to City Council asking they request the City Attorney to prepare and present a Draft Ordinance modeled after that of Long Beach prohibiting the assembly, disassembly, sale, distribution of bicycles and/or bicycle parts on/within any public property/any public right-of-way. One Public Commentator testified as to this being a great idea and one that is sorely needed as in any encampment under any bridge, in any canyon, etc., one will see an assemblage of bikes and bike parts, but also questioned who is going to enforce this – a "bicycle patrol"? And will the violator merely be cited for an infraction? This speaker did not have the highest regard for our D.A. fulfilling the duties of his office. Community Impact Statements submitted by a couple Neighborhood Councils supported the Motion. The Motion was referred to both the City Council's Public Safety Committee and Public Works Committee for their review and recommendations. The Public Safety Committee approved the Motion at their November 3, 2021, meeting and the Public Works Committee approved the Motion at its November 24, 2021 meeting. To be up-dated in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



Prevent Speculative Buying Of Affordable Single-Family Homes

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The City of Los Angeles ranks among the top most unaffordable cities in the United States having recorded a price increase of 11.3%

(Please see "Affordable" on p. 3)

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

compared to last year. This cost increase is being exacerbated by high tech companies such as Zillow, Opendoor, Rockethomes, Redfin as well as private equity firms - companies that primarily target affordable, single-family homes, compete to buy up as much inventory as possible, flip them and then sell them for a profit. A recent Zillow earnings report showed a 13.1% profit. This trend systematically increases the price of single-family homes in a real estate market that is already experiencing skyrocketing housing prices. Low-income Angelenos are unable to compete with these buyers. In late October 2021, Councilmember Nury Martinez presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the City's Legislative Analyst and City Attorney to prepare and present a report with recommendations on strategies the City could use to prevent large tech and private equity firms from engaging in speculative practices that involve purchasing affordable, predominantly single-family housing. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Housing Committee for their review and recommendations. The Housing Committee waived review of the Motion and forwarded it directly to City Council for their final vote where the Motion was adopted at their November 12, 2021 session.



Improved Public Notice Of Pending Discretionary Land Use By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Public notice is required for matters of discretionary land-use to inform the community about proposed projects in their neighborhood, enabling them to provide input to decision-makers. The City of Los Angeles uses three primary methods of informing the public:

- Mailings to property owners/residents within a specified distance of the project site, a method which reaches a very limited number of people.
- Provide information on a City Web-Site, a method requiring significant planning expertise on the part of the public.
- Notices of pending hearings posted on-site, postings the size of a post card often intentionally inconspicuously placed.

On-site postings are theoretically the most effective form of notice for proposed discretionary land-use entitlements supposedly providing maximum likelihood of public attention as people pass by the site. However, the City of Los Angeles fails to achieve the full potential such on-site postings could provide. Notices

(Please see "Land Use" on p. 4)

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA

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

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Benefits and Value of SHPOA Membership

Preserve Country Lifestyle

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- ✓ 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

("Land Use" cont'd from p. 3)

are posted for a limited period of time, only 10 days in advance of a scheduled decision-making hearing. They are small and easy to miss and are not designed to attract attention. The notice usually contains little information other than technical land use planning jargon difficult for the general public to understand. Other jurisdictions have more effective posting rules and regulations including larger signage obvious even to those driving by. Have any of you ever driven by a location in the City of Glendale with a huge almost billboard-sized sign posted in the front yard of a site that has applied for new land-use entitlements? There is no missing these. Their postings are up for a much longer period of time with either visual renderings of the proposed entitlement or plain, non-technical language describing the proposed project. In late November 2021, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to report with recommendations for more effective on-site posting requirements in the City of Los Angeles including larger sizes, longer posting periods, renderings where and when appropriate and use of plain language thereby providing all interested stakeholders with fully transparent notices. These recommendations should be modeled on noticing procedures already established in other jurisdictions such as Glendale, Burbank, West Hollywood and Oceanside in California and Seattle Washington. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Planning and Land Use Management Committee for their review and recommendations. To be up-dated in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



Shadow Hills Lawsuit By Bill Eick, Resident

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association has been named in a lawsuit involving a double fatality motorcycle/car crash accident which occurred on the corner of Wentworth and Wheatland Ave. in June of 2018. The driver of the motorcycle and the driver of the car both died in the accident. The plaintiff is the family of the motorcyclist and the defendants in the case include the City of Los Angeles, the driver of the automobile, the employer of the person on the motorcycle, SHPOA, and one of the nearby land owners. SHPOA was not originally named in the suit but was added as a Doe defendant. The claim against SHPOA is that the white equestrian fence impaired the view of the driver

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

of the car. SHPOA did not design, pay for or construct the fence at Wheatland/Wentworth. SHPOA has turned the matter over to our insurance company for handling.



Michael's Yummy Curry by Michael Stein, SHPOA Board

Ingredients

- 4 Medium to Large Chicken Breasts or Package of Firm Tofu
- 1 Red Pepper
- 1 Yellow Pepper
- 1 Orange Pepper
- 1 Celery Stock
- 1 oz fresh garlic(cluster) or Frozen Garlic Cubes (Trader Joes or Ralphy's)
- ½ Large Red Onion
- 4 Scallions (onion)
- Large Package of Mushrooms (sliced will save time)
- 4 cans 8 oz Diced Tomatoes (can be fresh)
- Olive Oil
- Hot Red Pepper flakes (to taste)
- 5 Tbs Curry Powder – approx. depending upon the Curry Powder
- 4 Tbs Basil or Frozen Basil Cubes
- ½ Tbs Cumin
- ½ Tbs Thyme

Cooking Utensils

- 1 Large Skillet with high side
- Wooden Spoon
- Garlic press

Instructions

Preparation:

1. Cube Chicken or Tofu
2. Cut celery into medium size chunks
3. Cut and clean red peppers – cut into medium size chunks
4. Slice mushrooms
5. Cut Red onion into small chunks
6. Cut scallions into small chunks
7. Separate fresh garlic, ready for garlic press

Cooking:

1. In Skillet: Brown chicken or Tofu cubes in Olive Oil until cooked (Chicken is white, Tofu is browned)
2. Remove chicken or Tofu and set aside
3. In Skillet
 - a. Add more Olive Oil
 - b. Cook celery and red onion until soft
 - c. Add red pepper and scallions

(Please see "Yummy" on p.5)

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

- until soft
 - d. Add garlic and basil, coat vegetable with garlic
 - e. Push Veggies to size of Pan
 - i. Add a little oil and Curry Powder to cook Curry and bring out flavor
 - f. Add Chicken or Tofu – coat with curry powder
 - g. Mix all ingredients together until covered with curry
 - h. Add thyme, cumin
 - i. Stir in tomatoes
 - j. Fold in mushrooms
4. Let simmer on low to medium heat for 15 – 30 minutes, partially covered
 5. Stir occasionally
 - a. Add salt, black pepper, hot red pepper flakes to taste
 - b. After simmering Taste - add more Curry or other spices to personal taste
 6. Serve over rice
 7. If patient, after simmering for 30 minutes, remove from heat and let Curry rest/cool for 30 minutes, then reheat. This allows the curry flavor to infuse into the meat/vegetables for a stronger flavor profile



Ban Single-Use Printer Cartridges? By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Over 375 million single-use plastic ink and toner printer cartridges are thrown away each year sending over 150 million pounds of plastic waste to our landfills each year, a level rapidly growing each year. Single-use printer cartridges use 40% more energy to produce, 54% more fossil fuels to use and generate a 55% larger carbon footprint than recycled or remanufactured printer cartridges and can take between 450 to 1,000 years to decompose in a landfill while leaching toxins into the soil and groundwater. In recognition of this, in late September 2021, Councilmember John Lee presented a Resolution to the Los Angeles City Council asking that, with the concurrence of the Mayor and City Council support, whether by any State or Federal legislation or administrative action, the banning of the importation and/or sale of single-use new printer cartridges, since they are harmful to the environment and cannot be recycled or remanufactured. The Resolution was referred to the City Council's

(Please see "Printer" on p. 6)



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

Intergovernmental Relation's Committee for their review and recommendations. The Westside Neighborhood Council filed a Community Impact Statement of support for this Resolution. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



Enforcement Of Obstructing The Public Right-Of-Way? By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Section 41.18 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code provides that the City Council may, by Resolution, designate specific areas for enforcement against sitting, lying, sleeping, storing/using personal property or otherwise obstructing the public right-of-way. In late August 2021, the Los Angeles Chief Legislative Analyst, at the request of the Council President, provided procedures to be followed by Councilmembers/City Departments in the preparation, processing and disposition of Resolutions for invoking the provisions of LAMC 41.18 against any violators thereof. All Resolutions are to be prepared by the Office of the City's Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) in accordance with a list provided to the CLA by each Councilmember identifying the address or other identifying method along with a specification of the category of prohibition eg American Disabilities Act, sidewalk, driveway, loading dock, building entrance/exit, fire hydrant, any City-permit issued activity, any street/public right-of-way used by motor vehicles, bike lane/path, any sensitive use area (eg school, day-care center, public park, library), designated overpass/underpass/on-ramp/off-ramp/tunnel/bridge, subway, wash, spreading ground, railway, hillside, human trafficking hotel or designated shelter facility. Each location must have documentation of the threat as being unhealthy, unsafe or incompatible with safe passage. The Resolution would direct and authorize the City Department with jurisdiction over the identified location to post appropriate notices of the prohibition along with the date enforcement is to begin. In early October, 2021, Councilmember Monica Rodriguez presented a Resolution designating 18 locations in CD7 to be designated for enforcement of LAMC 41.18 (c) including our Firestation 24 on Wentworth St. and Sunland Park. The Resolution was referred directly to the City Council in early October, 2021, for their consideration and vote. Surprisingly, a large number of Public Comments opposed Resolutions such as this presented by all Councilmembers asking that they first fully fund and implement the "Street Engagement Strategy" that was passed by City Council in September 2021.

(Please see "ROW" on p.7)



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

Arguments were made that the Strategy's "Encampment to Home" Projects showed that, given proper time and resources, this process can successfully put people on the path to permanent homes by accompanying efforts with housing-focused outreach. To be up-dated in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



Reduction Of City Street Speed Limits?

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

State laws to date, have undermined all efforts to reduce vehicle injuries and fatalities by forcing Cities to raise roadway posted speed limits by means of an outdated and unsupported methodology of periodically ascertaining the average speed that vehicles drive on a given roadway regardless of its posted speed limit and raising the posted speed limit if that average speed registers higher than the current posted speed limit. Whatever a posted speed limit may be, we all know that vehicles tend to drive somewhat over that limit thus per current methodology of determining the actual average driving speeds, posted speed limits will almost always be raised. In October 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB43 into law, a long overdue and common sense change to the way in which street limits are to be set. This Bill allows Cities to evaluate their own vulnerability of road users and Vision Zero goals when setting speed limits on streets with a history of collisions and special attention to places where people are likely to walk and bike. It allows Cities to maintain existing safe speed limits and even roll back speed limit increases that happened several years ago at times when those increases were not made due to changes in street design. With AB43 now in effect, Councilmember Mike Bonin presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to prepare and present a report identifying street segments that should be eligible for speed limit reduction to promote greater public safety, especially in locations where people walk and bike with special priority given to streets with a history of fatal and severe injury collisions. In late October, 2021, the Motion was referred to the City Council's Transportation Committee for their review and recommendations. There were numerous public comments presented at the November 2, 2021 meeting of the Transportation Committee all supporting the

(Cont'd next column)



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(Cont'd)

Motion and subsequent reduction of street speed limits in the City of Los Angeles. In addition, during the meeting, Councilmember Bonin presented an Amended Motion that, in the spirit of further streamlining the reduction of posted speed limits, the Committee recommend not only to have a DOT report prepared and submitted for consideration, but also that the City Council ask the Office of the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance that would reduce speed limits on appropriate streets, with priority given to streets with a history of severe and fatal collisions – those classified as High Injury Network. The whole State program that resulted in the "speed limit creep" was originally designed to protect drivers from rural speed traps but failed to recognize the harm it was doing in urban areas. Councilmember Bonin's Motion and Amended Motion was unanimously approved in the Transportation Committee.



Redesign The Los Angeles Seal And Flag To Recognize The Indigenous Peoples Historically Residing On Los Angeles Land?

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

All land in California is indigenous and modern Los Angeles sits on ancestral Tongva, Tataviam and Chumash land. Recognizing this, Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell believes that the City Seal and City Flag fails to include any mention of the City's original inhabitants in effect denying their history and that the City should take action to reevaluate the designs of the City Seal and City Flag to represent inclusion and more

(Please see "Flag" on p.8)

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The Meaning of Horseshoes

Q. What does it mean if you find a horseshoe?

A. Some poor horse is walking around in his socks

("Flag" cont'd from p. 7)

accurate reflection of the culture and history of the City. The current official Seal of the City of Los Angeles was adopted by the City Council on March 27, 1905. The coat of arms in the center of the seal displays images representing four different phases of the City's history – the stars and stripes of the American flag to signify Los Angeles' status as a City of the United States since 1848, a grizzly bear on a California State flag signifying Los Angeles' history as part of the California Republic from 1846-1848, an eagle holding a serpent to represent the Mexican rule from 1822-1846 and lastly the Castile and Leo'n from Spain's coat of arms representing Spanish colonial rule from 1781-1821. The coat of arms on the Seal of the City of Los Angeles is surrounded by images of olives, grapes and oranges representing the three major crops of early Los Angeles surrounded by a 77-bead rosary representing the part played by the Spanish missions in California beginning in the late 19th century. The official City Flag was designed and presented by the La Fiesta Association for the City's 150th birthday on July 22, 1931. The flag has the official City Seal in the center with a background of vertical zigzag stripes of green, gold and red representing the major California crops – olives, oranges and vineyards. Colors of the Los Angeles Flag are also found on those of Spain and Mexico representing the two nations that ruled the area before it became part of the United States. In mid-October, 2021, Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell said that the City Council should take steps necessary to ensure that the Los Angeles City Seal and Flag be redesigned to be inclusive of the indigenous people of Los Angeles thereby reflecting all appropriate symbols of the culture and history of the City. All Angelenos should be encouraged to submit proposals for evaluation in collaboration with the first peoples of the region. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



The Mystery of the Checked Tarp By Cristy Bird, Resident

More than 25 years ago, a violent wind storm tore through Shadow Hills, toppling trees and leaving huge drifts of leaves all over the community. During the cleanup afterward, I remember seeing frayed pieces of a distinctive looking black and white checked tarp all over our yard. I found myself picking through the dead leaves to separate out all the plastic before I moved the organic materials to our compost heap. There were thousands and thousands

(Please see "Tarp" on p.9)

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

of pieces of this tarp on our property. It was a painful process, but I told myself that no doubt the tarp that rained these bits of plastic all over Shadow Hills had been found after the storm was over, and the tarp permanently disposed of in a black trash bin. It would never happen again, I thought.

But that was not the case. Every year thereafter I found black and white checked tarp pieces by the hundreds and thousands mixed in with all the leaves and tree branches and other wind detritus. Somewhere in Shadow Hills, I thought, there's an ancient frayed tarp sitting outdoors – and whoever put it there has forgotten all about it.



Pieces of the "checked tarp"

Yesterday, I was out on a long walk. I was down on McBroom Street near the Horse Tunnel when I saw it. One of the horse properties down there has a fence running alongside the road for quite a distance. The fence is obscured to some extent by bushes, but my brain picked up the pattern in the shadows immediately and went into high alert. (Decades of searching for checked pieces of plastic in the garden will do that to a person.)

Someone has black and white checked tarp lashed to a road frontage fence – lots and lots of it. And, all along the top of that fence the tarp is badly frayed. It's so bad it looks like the fence has black and white checked eye lashes – foot-long eye lashes. No wonder that every strong wind breaks the long skinny frayed pieces off and scatters them far and wide. It looks like there's at least several decades more of the tarp remaining.

I hope it won't come to that! Dear Shadow Hills Neighbor, if you have property on McBroom somewhere near the horse tunnel, PLEASE inspect your front fence. Most likely you haven't looked behind the bushes at that fence in many

(Please see "Tarp" on p.15)



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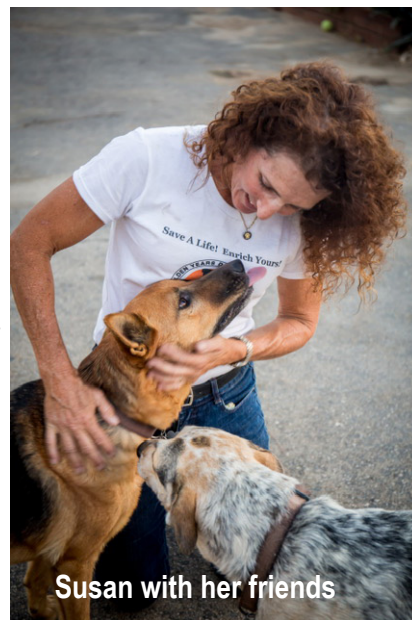


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Golden Years Dog Sanctuary **By Susan LeTourneur, Resident**

Just across the freeway and up the canyon from Shadow Hills, there is a special place where old, sick, unwanted senior dogs can live the rest of their life with freedom from fear, hunger, and pain. That place is Golden Years Dog Sanctuary. Located in Kagel Canyon at the home of Susan and Paul LeTourneur and Goldspirit Farm, Golden Years Dog Sanctuary is a 501c3 non-profit, dedicated to rescuing dogs that have been dumped and left to die at our local shelters. So many senior dogs are discarded like trash at local shelters. Being old is not a crime. Senior dogs actually make the best companions! They embrace the love and attention, are grateful, and offer unconditional love in return. They may require more medical care than younger dogs, but what they give back outweighs the cost of any vet bills. Most of the dogs outlive our expectancy of them. They bring us joy every day and we give it right back. You would never know by the spring in their paws that the



Susan with her friends

average age of our dogs is 12! The mission of Golden Years Dog Sanctuary (GYDS) is to give these dogs the best of the rest of their life. GYDS takes care of the medical issues which range from medicine for kidney failure, to removal of tumors, to dental work and in some cases, spay or neuter. GYDS relies solely on donations. Often times a dog they rescue from a shelter has a following on Facebook or Instagram where people have pledged to donate on behalf of the dog. Whether or not donations are made, GYDS ensures the dog's medical condition is remedied or treated to keep the dog happy and comfortable. Golden Years Dog Sanctuary incorporated in 2018. In the first three years of operation, Golden Years Dog Sanctuary saved about 60 dogs. This year, Susan's goal is to save 50 dogs. So far, the sanctuary has rescued 49. At the sanctuary, there is only room for 18 dogs, so Golden Years Dog Sanctuary relies on fosters to help them save more dogs. If you walk the neighborhood, ask the people you pass walking

(Please see "Dog" on p.11)

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

their dogs, where their dog came from. Some of Susan's adopters and fosters are located in Shadow Hills, as well as Kagel Canyon and elsewhere throughout L.A. County. Golden Years Dog Sanctuary encourages you to adopt a senior dog next time you are looking for a new companion. If that's too much, you can sponsor a GYDS dog. GYDS is always accepting donations and/or sponsors of the dogs. GYDS is always looking for long-term fosters and adopters. Nothing is more rewarding than giving a discarded unwanted abused, unloved dog a chance for love, joy, a warm bed, and a place to call home. Check out their website and meet the wonderful dogs of Golden Years Dog Sanctuary. www.goldenyearsdogsanctuary.com To contact Susan please call 818-636-1522.



"Oh, Rats!"

By Susan Wong, SHPOA Board

If you live in this area, you live NEAR rats. Specifically: black rats or roof rats (scientific name: *Rattus rattus*). Roof rats are smaller and sleeker than Norway rats (*Rattus norvegicus*) which are common on the East Coast and in dense inner cities. Roof rats' tails are as long or longer than their bodies, they are sleeker and have lighter undersides than Norway rats, and have proportionately larger ears. They live outdoors in trees and dense vegetation such as



tall hedges or palm trees with dense skirts, or indoors in attics and upper levels of structures. (Norway rats favor sewers and basements.) They will seek warm places in winter, including under the hood of a car. Their main food is fruits and nuts, including palm nuts. They don't travel far from food sources, and often live alone. They are nocturnal, so seeing one during the day indicates an infestation. They reach reproductive maturity in a few months and a pair can produce 2000 offspring a year. Roof rats tend to be more problematic than Norway rats in in-

(Please see "Rats" on p.12)

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("Rats" cont'd from p. 11)

land and suburban areas of L.A.

The goal is to not live WITH rats.

Why are roof rats a problem? Rats chew on anything. Like all rodents, roof rats have continually growing teeth and need to chew in order to maintain them. In a home this means that they will gnaw through and damage drywall, insulation, wires, pipes, furniture, clothing, books, pictures, personal items, and food items. Their chewing habits can also lead to fires and water damage inside the structure they are infesting. It is estimated that 8-20% of house fires are caused by rats chewing on wires.

As rats scamper around, they leave feces and urine in their path. Removing and replacing rat urine soaked attic insulation is expensive. "Roof rats secured their place in history by spreading the highly dangerous bubonic plague. Though transmission is rare today, there are still a handful of cases in the U.S. each year. Roof rats can also carry fleas and spread diseases such as typhus via fleas, infectious jaundice via urine in water or food, rat-bite fever via bites, and salmonellosis via droppings. Additionally, these rodents can cause food poisoning by contaminating food or food preparation surfaces."(1)

If rats thrive in your yard, they will eventually find their way into your house.

Because roof rats do not travel far from their food source, the key to eliminating them on your own property is to remove their preferred food sources. They will go elsewhere and set up house near their new food source.

It is NOT recommended that you ever use rodenticide in our area. Rodenticide kills more than rodents - it kills all predators up the food chain. These include our own domestic pets, raptors, coyotes, bobcats, and mountain lions. U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife says that 70 to 80 percent of all wild animals in California have rodenticide in their bodies, and many have died from it. It has been reported that P-22 has suffered from rodenticide poisoning.

What can YOU do to prevent rats on your property?

- Remove all fruit that falls on the ground.
- Cut off all palm nuts from any palm trees as soon as they START to turn yellow (and before they turn to orange and to red).
- Keep garbage cans tightly

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(Please see "Rats" on p.13)

("Rats" cont'd from p. 12)

closed. Replace trash bins that have damaged covers. (Call [1-800-773-2489](tel:1-800-773-2489). Please have your bin number handy; it is located on the bin.)

- Clean up debris outside where rats can hide and eat.

Bye, rats.

Sources:

1. <https://www.pestworld.org/pest-guide/rodents/roof-rats/>
2. <https://www.beproactivepestcontrol.com/roof-rats>
3. <https://www.lamag.com/mag-features/rats-house-say-aint/>
4. <https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-launched-protect-endangered-california-foxes-other-wildlife-super-toxic-rat-poisons-2019-12-12/>
5. <https://www.nps.gov/samo/learn/education/classrooms/national-park-service-legacy-nature-neighbor-9-12-lesson.htm>
6. <https://pestologyltd.co.uk/what-size-hole-can-a-rat-get-through/>



Gateway '76

By Marlene Hitt, Resident

Way back in 1971, a dynamic new group was formed in Sunland-Tujunga called "Gateway '76". The group was seeking an identity as a recreational place. Those citizens, whose leader was Gladys Anderson, spoke to the Forest Service about development of the Angeles Forest, particularly Big Tujunga Canyon. There was a four-point plan to develop the Verdugo Mountains, the Tujunga Wash, Hansen Dam and Big Tujunga Canyon.

In an editorial for the Record Ledger, Tony Kiss commented, "The time has come. The coming months and years seem to be decisive in what direction the community will develop in the future".

At a meeting, a Forest Service representative thought the idea put forth was a good one, and mentioned that there were seven and a half million people in greater LA area and an increasing number of visitors to the Forest. Recreation areas were already overcrowded. They anticipated that by 1976 the Vogel Flats area, then open to campers, would be expanded from 44 to 68 acres. It was also proposed to enlarge facilities at Hansen Dam.

Ideas presented included equestrian trails, a fishing and sail boating lagoon at the dam, and a cycle trail. It was pointed out that there were two obstacles to surmount: The need for water, and the need for funding. The first estimate for plans was over two million dollars.



Palm Nuts

- Inspect and repair all holes, cracks, and other areas of your home. An adult rat can squeeze through a 1/2 inch horizontal gap and a round hole of 1 inch in diameter; young rats can squeeze through a 3/8" hole. Rodent proof screening works for larger openings.
- Look for entry points under the eaves, and at any areas where wiring enters your home (air conditioning units, cables, etc.). Stuffing steel wool in the openings around the wires can block rats from entering. Hire an expert if you can not do this yourself.
- Screw rodent-proof 1/4" metal screening over all vents.
- Install flaps at the bottom of outside doors.
- Check under the hood of your car to see if there are any roasted palm nuts around the engine area. If you ever smell roasted nuts while driving or as you get out of your car, check under the hood (ask me how I know this...). If you find roasted palm nuts, check for damage to wires. Park your car in the garage if possible. Removing their food source in your yard will also prevent rats from partying in your engine compartment.

(Please see "Projects" on p.14)

(Please see "Gateway" on p.14)





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

Bob McKee wrote in July, '71 (Record Ledger) that Gateway '76 "would give the community a chance to adopt a brand new lifestyle, improve property values, enhance local business and, for the first time, give a chance to place direction on where this town is going."

He emphasized community pride, reminding the crowd of the spirit of the pioneers here who enjoyed fishing and camping. He said the stream would be cleaned out and stocked with fish, more camping facilities, picnic areas, and even scenic highways. The '76 group, along with a large audience applauded as it was proposed that the Big Tujunga Wash would be turned into a nature park for study by botanists, zoologists and even oceanographic studies.


McKee said that the program of "Gateway '76" could be completed by the bicentennial in 1976. He closed the meeting by requesting volunteers to help the project along.

Tony Kiss wrote again in another editorial : "The question is: Who is stronger? Land in and around the Wash is becoming more and more valuable when the new Foothill Freeway is completed in the near future. The Foothill Freeway will link up this portion of the Valley with highly developed areas of the Los Angeles Basin. It is just a matter of time when speculators will discover the tremendous potential which is dormant now in Sunland-Tujunga....a frantic land grab will begin."

Of course there was disagreement among the town factions. The amount of money needed was probably impossible to obtain. More information is not available as to what happened to Gateway '76.

This author heard that the cost of Fehllhaber Park on Tujunga Canyon Blvd cost 3 million dollars to complete. Gateway '76 accomplished that project. The famous sign, made for the boulevard hangs in Bolton Hall. The logo was later claimed by the Chamber of Commerce. Any related commentary is for the reader's discretion. One person's response may be to say that nothing ever gets done around here-that all the projects fall apart. Another person may be aware of the scenic corridor plan of 2000 and those citizens who may be working voluntarily, within the community, with the many who have taken part in the various plans for the community through the Neighborhood Council and property owners associations. They may say that the groups that keep the place alive come and go, names change, but the spirit keeps on and just won't quit.

(Please see "Gateway" on p.15)



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See page 3 for details

("Gateway" cont'd from p. 14)

As we know, some changes have occurred and to some degree, some with success. Yet, though citizens who want a rural or recreational identity have most often lost that battle. We can remember the recent wins over a housing development in Tujunga Canyon and La Tuna Canyon, and that old battle of long ago, fought and won by the historical society to prevent the demolition of Bolton Hall Museum.

What will the future bring with redistricting, with increased development in a cycle of drought? By golly, aren't fires and flash floods and earthquakes enough?



("Tarp" cont'd from p. 9)

years. You may have forgotten all about it. If that checked tarp belongs to you, strip it off of the fence, securely enclose it in bags, and dispose of it in your black bin. I would be so happy – and I'm sure I'm not the only one – to never to see those little black and white strips in the garden again.



("Recap" cont'd from p. 1)

And finally, the members of the Board of SHPOA send our holiday greetings to you and your loved ones and wishes for a healthy, peaceful New Year to all.



High Speed Train Update By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

In case you thought we were "done" with the high-speed train, think again. The California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is still sucking at the teats of the taxpayer revenue stream.

The Infrastructure Bill recently passed at the federal level does not specifically include monies for the California high speed rail project. However, not surprisingly, CHSRA is aggressively applying for grant funding from the Federal Railroad Administration. In March 2021, Save Angeles Forest for Everyone (SAFE) wrote an 11-page letter to Secretary of Transportation Buttigieg with copies to dozens of lawmakers. Enclosures included a scathing letter from Tutor-Perini-Zachry-Parsons and a DVD of a documentary of how the project has shattered the Central Valley. The letter concluded with the following:

"The California High-Speed Rail Authority is simply not capable of delivering a high-speed rail system in the foreseeable future. Any reduction in greenhouse gas emissions would commence

(Cont'd next column)



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(Cont'd)

around 2060 (for only a 117-mile stretch), and only if the train radically displaces airline and vehicle travel. We simply do not have the luxury of delaying another 40 years-- climate change must be addressed NOW. We strongly urge you and the Biden Administration to robustly pursue other 'build back better' green projects that have been identified and which can be implemented much sooner: upping electric vehicle production and making them more affordable, investing in nationwide charging stations, renewable energy, and electrifying current trains (Amtrak) in congested areas (Northeast USA). These can be implemented much quicker, are jobs creators, and are much more efficient projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions than investing in high-speed rail, especially California's high-speed rail project."

The "preferred alternative" for the Palmdale to Burbank section is still SR-14. CHSRA is expected to release its draft Environmental Impact Report for the Palmdale to Burbank Project Section in February 2022. However, based on its history of missing deadlines, we will not be surprised if it's delayed once again (it has been delayed over 2 years at this point). We will continue to monitor this project.



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Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tuesday, Jan 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

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

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- 1st Monday, Every Month
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