

# SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association  
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

*A Neighborhood Where Families Grow*



Volume 43, Issue 5

SHPOA Sept.-Oct. 2020

## SHPOA's New Website Now Looks Like, Well, a Website By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

It took a while but we finally went live with our new website in July. The former one was about 10 years old and the platform was outdated and well, let's face it, ugly. The URL is the same – [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us). With this new platform, you can create your own optional login to track your payments, etc. We now accept credit cards in addition to Paypal, checks, cash, etc. We still don't accept bitcoin, but maybe next year!

Our original vision was to provide a membership tracking system website but the first (and rather expensive) platform was too cumbersome, was unable to do what we needed it to do, and the technical support was less than stellar. After doing some mockups using two other platforms, SHPOA settled on Wix, which apparently is a very popular website company and had most of what we needed at a reasonable price (we got a promotional discount, too!) In addition to our website, Wix is now our email marketing (Daily Fodder) provider.

The only problem that we are not sure will be fixable is that when memberships are paid, your receipt will show the expiration date as being 1 year from your payment date. Our bylaws state that the membership period is on a calendar year so the expiration date actually is December 31 of the year you paid. The exception is for payments made in November or December, then the expiration date is December of the following year (so you get a grace period). It may be easier just to change the bylaws which is now a less cumbersome process.

The website is a work in progress, but we felt it was in good enough shape to launch. Our goal is to make it a "one-stop shopping" site so visitors can find most anything they need for our area, including elected official contact information, maps, legislation, etc. Future enhancements will be a community calendar wherein folks can send us their events and we'll put it on the calendar. A SHPOA merchandise store is also in the works and possibly a classified ad section. If you have a moment, please check it out and if you have ideas, please let us know. [webmaster@shpoa.us](mailto:webmaster@shpoa.us) (Michael Stein).



## SHPOA Meeting July 14, 2020 Recap By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

Since our Town Hall with Adam Schiff in May was a success, we decided to join the rest of the world and hold our July 14th meeting via Zoom. Because I was paying attention to the meeting, I didn't take notes so this article is based on my often failing memory.

Agenda topics were:

**New website:** Still the same name, see article in this issue with details.

**Legislation:** All bad news. SB902 and SB1102 are particularly terrible. Please see our letters to elected on our website, [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) on the "Legislation" page.

**High speed train:** Burbank to LA Union Station will require some property acquisitions in the Empire Center and Costco in Burbank

(Cont'd next column)

## Join us for our virtual Zoom Meeting

**Sept 8 - 7:00 pm (pants optional)**

- 1. The Good, the Bad and the Ugly Ballot Propositions Explained!**
- 2. Updates by our Elected Officials' Staff**

Link will be sent out via Daily Fodder, Facebook, NextDoor, [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us)

(Cont'd)

**SHPOA board update:** Welcome our new member, Azalia Snail (see her article in this issue). Michael Stein will be our new webmaster. Carlos George, our former webmaster, is now our Traffic Safety Coordinator, a newly created position. Bob Renna, our Land-Use chair resigned for personal reasons.

## Update from elected official reps:

Vickere Murphy (Senator Portantino) updated us with various items. Much of their time is spent helping folks with their unemployment claims. She mentioned that many people contact both the Senator's office and Assemblywoman Rivas' office with the same problem but she and Jude Hernandez (Assemblywoman Rivas' office) keep in touch in order to avoid duplicating work. What happens is that all requests from both offices go into a single queue, and it takes twice the time to resolve if there are duplicate requests. So please, if you have a problem, contact just one of them, but not both. Jude Hernandez (Assemblywoman Luz Rivas) updated us with the 210 work in the Lake View Terrace area (which has now started) along with other updates. Eve Sinclair (Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez) had a long list of items including the status of the Wentworth/Mary Bell and Wentworth/Wheatland orange blinking light crossing. They will be replaced with a button-activated pedestrian hybrid red light beacon resulting in 50 seconds of cross time. These enhancements mean that motorists who do not stop can get a citation. She brought us up to speed on their upcoming fire prep webinar series (at the time of this writing all three have been broadcast and they are excellent; you may find them on the Councilwoman's Facebook page at @MonicaRodriguezCD7 and go to "videos." Her Facebook page is a great repository for all the goings-on in CD7 so check it out).

The key topic of this meeting was wildfire preparation and I presented a PowerPoint entitled, "Don't Get Burned! Wildfire Preparation in Horse Country." Please check out [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) for the presentation although the two videos shown during the presentation are not on the website yet. The Treasurer and Membership reports were given and all is good. Rosey Payne from our Trails Committee mentioned that updated Hansen Dam trail maps were available. They are also on our website, [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) (Community Information tab).

All in all, I think our meeting went well. I hope you will join us for our September 8th meeting, 7pm. Zoom link will be sent out via Daily Fodder. To subscribe, to go [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) and there is a prominent area on the home page for signing up.



## 2020 SHPOA Board Members

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

### Executive Officers

President:	Cindy Bloom 818-445-5602 <a href="mailto:board@shpoa.us">board@shpoa.us</a>
Vice President:	Jacqy Gamble
Executive Secretary:	Vacant
Recording Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Lynne Toby
Membership:	Jo Rich, Chair Danielle Fox, Michael Stein

### Appointed Officers

Land Use:	vacant
Equestrian and Trails:	James Gutman (Trails) Rosey Payne (Liaison)
Special Projects:	Cynthia Urias (Beautification)  Jo Rich (Events)  Michael Stein (Technology)  Azalia Snail
Neighborhood Watch:	Thomas Despres
Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets	Susan Wong <a href="mailto:shpoa@shpoa.us">shpoa@shpoa.us</a>
Webmaster:	Michael Stein <a href="mailto:webmaster@shpoa.us">webmaster@shpoa.us</a>
Traffic Safety Coordinator	Carlos George
Newsletter Editor and Article Collection:	Cindy Bloom 818-445-5602 <a href="mailto:board@shpoa.us">board@shpoa.us</a>
Newsletter Coordinator and Ad Collection:	Linda Graves <a href="mailto:invoices@shpoa.us">invoices@shpoa.us</a>
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Hospitality:	vacant
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<b>Website:</b>	<b><a href="http://www.shpoa.us">www.shpoa.us</a></b>
<b>Senior Lead Police Officers:</b>	
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<i>Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West</i>	Rich Wall 818-634-0755 <a href="mailto:30204@lapd.lacity.org">30204@lapd.lacity.org</a>  LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861
<b>Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC):</b>	<b><a href="http://www.ftdnc.org">www.ftdnc.org</a></b>
<i>President:</i>	Kevin Davis <a href="mailto:president@ftdnc.org">president@ftdnc.org</a>
<i>At large rep:</i>	Cindy Bloom <a href="mailto:cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org">cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org</a>

## High Fire Hazard Severity Zones are NO Place for Homeless Encampments! By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

The following is a letter that was emailed to Congressman Adam Schiff, Senator Anthony Portantino, Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, CalTrans District 7, and the Army Corps of Engineers on July 29, 2020:

Re: *Fires Started in Homeless Encampments*

Dear Honorable Elected Officials and Governmental Agencies:

First, thank you for your sensible and strong leadership during this historical pandemic.

We recently learned that both the City of Los Angeles and CalTrans cleared out homeless encampments in our area, including installing a fence, and we applaud you for that. However, we need an ongoing commitment to further prevent homeless encampments from returning. They are notorious for starting vegetation/brush fires in the N.E. San Fernando Valley adjacent to the Hansen Dam, the Big Tujunga Wash (both along Wentworth/Foothill), La Tuna Canyon, Glencrest Hills, Riverwood Ranch and Sylmar. This is now a year-round situation and it cannot be allowed to continue as this area is a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (HFHSZ). Fortunately, the fires within the last 2 weeks had low winds and the firefighters with air support were able to contain the fires without incurring property damage to the nearby communities. We are sensitive to the fire danger as 2-1/2 years ago our area's residents were forced to evacuate during both the La Tuna and Creek Fires. Some of the houses still have not been rebuilt to the point where they can be occupied.

Because this particular area is complicated due to multi-jurisdictional oversight, we need to have all agencies coordinate and cooperate to ensure that homeless encampments are cleared out regularly and permanently. Clearing out only on Red Flag days is insufficient. It should be illegal for the homeless to set up any encampment in any HFHSZ regardless of Red Flag conditions.

Enforcement should not be perceived as encroaching on their rights, but instead intending to save lives, animals, and residential and business properties by mitigating the occurrence of wild/urban fires. It's not only unsafe for our firefighters and residents, but is also unsafe for the homeless population who set the fires.

Fires are costly. Per CalFire/USFS: Fire suppression alone cost taxpayers an average of \$704 million for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

- Excludes property damage suffered by homeowners and business owners, and lost business income.
- Additionally, families lost irreplaceable mementos such as photos, sentimental jewelry and other items—and these cannot be replaced by insurance.
- Insurance companies cancelled insurance policies forcing homeowners (even though they did not file a claim) to sign up for the expensive and woefully inadequate California FAIR Plan.
- Those not cancelled have seen insurance rates doubled

The N.E. San Fernando Valley communities are unique in that we are an equestrian/large animal area which substantially complicates evacuation. Our association is sensitive to our fire situation and presented "Don't Get Burned! Wildfire Preparation in Horse Country" at our July 14th general Zoom meeting. Even with the best planning and abiding by all the suggested preparatory steps to deal with wild/urban fires, the ultimate way to avoid these fires is to prevent them.

Councilwoman Rodriguez is certainly doing her part in supporting us with fire preparation with programs ranging from webinar series, ReadyYourLANeighborhood (RYLAN), and other resources. Supervisor Barger is also supportive. But again, prevention is KEY.

(Please see "Letter" on p. 9)

**Please Renew Your Membership Today!**  
**By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

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 take the 2 minutes it will take to fill out the form (to the right) and send in your check for \$25 today (that's 7 cents a day!), or renew online via Paypal at [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) and click on the "Online Member Payment" button. *Thank you!*



**Life goes on! Amidst Corona!**  
**By Eva Lund, Special Spirit, Inc.**

In the traditional Japanese art of kintsugi, artisans fill the cracks in broken pottery with gold or silver, transforming damaged pieces into something more beautiful than they were when new. Post-traumatic growth is like kintsugi for the mind. This approach makes the most of what already is, highlights the beauty of what we do have, flaws and all, rather than leaving us eternally grasping for more, different, other, or better. After all, our cracks are what give us character. And let us shine!

In many ways, the team at Special Spirit are natural practitioners of this art!

All of our riding lessons with Cassie ceased in mid-March, but by the end of June we did reopen for a handful of independent riders when they require only a few minutes of help and no volunteer assistance. We still are unable to see the return of our amazing volunteers, so all horse care, grooming, tacking, and barn chores are being performed by Special Spirit staff members to ensure safety and wellness for all. We will continue to follow the guidance provided by the CDC and County City Officials.



Farm team with coaches

During the closed period, we practiced kintsugi and freshened up our feed stores, tack room, and barn making them cleaner, more orderly places, with more than just a fresh coat of paint! We renovated our bunkhouse to use as an office and added a Barn Owl Box to hopefully bring an owl family to the ranch.

Ollie, our London intern, went back to the UK to tie up loose ends with friends and family. He returned in great form and is now "back in the saddle" and gaining further knowledge of animal care and ranch management. He said that people in London were not taking the pandemic very seriously and all he wanted was to get back to the ranch, where he feels we are properly following pandemic best practices.

In July, we finally got Jon and Shenae back to tend to the farm animals. They both missed all the animals and life on the farm. Jon is the most hardworking and dedicated farmhand we have at Danny's Farm. Keegan and his coach Gary joined the farm team in August. He enjoys taking care of the animals, and the pigs are his favorite because they are so smart. Keegan likes to groom and walk the horses. Adan and his supervisor Erica, our Tierra team, is back from the COVID hiatus, and our plants and walkways are again in perfect condition.

Alfie, one of our volunteers, donated two Buffed Laced Polish chickens along with a very friendly mature hen named Dolly.

(Please see "Life" on p. 10)

**Shadow Hills Property Owners Association**

# SHPOA

## Membership Form

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

Your support and participation are vital  
 to the preservation of our rural community.

Membership only = \$25

Newsletter only = \$10 (non-Shadow Hills area)

Donations are always gratefully received.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Check one: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Newsletter Only  
 For Paypal, [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) "Online Member Payment" OR  
 Mail this form with your check to:

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

### 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



## High Speed Train Update By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

When we received the August 13th agenda for the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Board meeting, our antenna went up when we saw an item entitled "Palmdale to Burbank Preferred Alternative Adjustment." For those of you who haven't been following the saga of the \$98 billion high speed train project that's been under construction since 2015 but yet hasn't laid a single inch of track \$7 billion dollars later, here is a synopsis of what's happening in our area.

The Palmdale to Burbank Corridor which is about 40-ish miles long will run from (obviously) Palmdale to Burbank. The station in Burbank will be underground at the Burbank Airport. After several iterations over several years, three proposed routes emerged as contenders for the unenviable choice of "preferred alternative": SR14, E1 and E2. All have several miles of tunneling through the Angeles National Forest. For maps, please go to [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov), Communication & Outreach.

In fall of 2018, SR14 was announced as the preferred alternative. Now, there is no guarantee that it will remain as the preferred alternative as all three choices continue to be studied for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). In the event that there is a deal-breaking, unsurmountable problem with the preferred alternative, then the CHSRA would move to E1 or E2 as the new preferred alternative.

While we weren't doing cartwheels that SR14 was chosen as the preferred route as we knew it was going to negatively affect our Sun Valley neighbors (in reality, all three routes impact our Sun Valley neighbors), admittedly we were relieved that E1 and E2 were not chosen. All three would negatively impact the Angeles National Forest due to substations having to be installed on the forest floor and could possibly disrupt the underground streams that provide a portion of Los Angeles' drinking water and well water to the folks in the mountains. E2 would have required a nearly 1-mile long bridge across the Big Tujunga Wash—from Lake View Terrace to Shadow Hills. Not only would it be unsightly, but also the "tunnel boom" created by 220 mph trains entering and leaving the tunnels would echo throughout the region and could frighten horses and other animals, possibly leading to deadly accidents. With trains at their full build-out projected to run every 8-10 minutes for 16-

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18 hours daily, this would have resulted in severe permanent negative impacts in our sensitive environmental area.

So you can imagine our anxiety when we saw this item on the agenda. I tuned into the meeting and was relieved to find out that the "adjustment" does not affect our area. The Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA found that the Refined SR14 route came too close to Una Lake in the Palmdale area, therefore, CHSRA moved it slightly to the west and south and relabeled it "SR14A." The increased cost will be about 2% of the \$17.5-17.8 billion (presently unfunded). The new date for the draft EIR is summer 2021 (was going to be released December 2020).

While not part of the official CHSRA program, another item of note is the Victorville to Vegas route. This is a private high speed rail system from Victorville to Las Vegas and will at some point have connectivity to the Palmdale station via the high desert corridor. It was most recently known as the Virgin Trains USA line, although Brightline was the owner. Brightline is simply removing "Virgin" from the project as they are terminating their licensing/trademark deal with them. Virgin was never an equity partner and Brightline is moving forward. California did finalize an agreement to grant right of way along I-15, approximately 130 miles. Phase 2 will extend the line down to Rancho Cucamonga and will require an additional right of way grant. It is funded by a private equity/bond deal, plus some money from the federal government. No state money is part of the \$600 million raised so far. While CHSRA is supportive of the project, they have no financial interest in it.

At the meeting, the peer review was brought up. This peer review is to ensure that the legislature is kept accurately apprised of the project, especially with regard to the ridership projections which is the driver of the entire project. CHSRA CEO Brian Kelly assured that this is moving forward and will be better addressed at the September meeting. The 2020 Business Plan adoption is still planned for December 2020 after it was delayed due to the pandemic and the California legislature's irritation with their questionable proposed business plan, including their ridership revenue projections and continuing billions in cost increases.



### Quickies!

By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

1. Shadow Hills Sign Update. The Department of Transportation has possession of our sign and was scheduled to reinstall it right before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Currently, they are only doing essential work but will get to it once things return to normal. If you are entering Shadow Hills from Sun Valley, it will be reinstalled on the right side near the intersection of Stonehurst Avenue.
2. Signal on Wentworth. Per Eve Sinclair of Councilwoman Rodriguez's office, the signal at Wentworth and Coal Canyon Road/West Shadow Hills Avenue (Rancho Verdugo Estates) had its timing switched to a full 60-second cycle. Previously, it would only engage if a car was waiting at the intersection on Coal Canyon or West Shadow Hills Avenue. This will hopefully create a traffic break between Glenoaks and Foothill until the new lights are installed at Wheatland and Mary Bell.
3. Devils Gate Dam/Vulcan Pit: Aug. 20 was the 54th day of truckloads through our area. Av-

(Please see "Quickies" on p. 5)

## Palmdale to Burbank: New SR14A Alignment





### Empty Homes Penalty? By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Although Los Angeles is facing two severe and related crises, that of homelessness and a shortage of AFFORDABLE housing, a significant amount of Los Angeles' housing stock remains vacant. A 2017 American Community Survey showed there to be 111,810 vacant housing units in the City of Los Angeles. Other cities facing similar crises such as Vancouver, Paris, Washington D.C. and Oakland levied some form of an "Empty Homes Penalty" or "Vacancy Tax" on speculators and property owners leaving habitable housing units vacant. The intent of an Empty Homes Penalty is to:

- Bring empty or under-utilized properties into use as long-term rental units
- Relieve the deceptive sense of pressure on the rental housing market
- Create a revenue stream for affordable or homeless housing and services

The number of vacant properties in Vancouver, which recently established its Empty Homes Penalty fell by 15% in one year and slightly over half of those previously "empty homes" have been returned to the rental market. Oakland's Empty Homes Penalty, with its population one-tenth the size of Los Angeles, expects to raise an estimated \$10 million annually for 20 years to fund homeless services, create and preserve new affordable housing and to address illegal dumping and blight. With the same crisis facing Los Angeles, similar aggressive steps to encourage or require existing vacant and habitable housing units to be put on the rental market should be undertaken, an Empty Homes Penalty being one strategy for making these homes accessible for more Angelenos. It is possible that establishing an Empty Homes Penalty might require voter approval. Four Councilmembers: Mike Bonin, Marqueece Harris-Dawson, David Ryu and Paul Koretz all co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Council instruct the Housing and Community Investment Department along with the Department of City Planning and the Department of Building and Safety report on the number of vacant, habitable housing units located in Los Angeles and that the City's Chief Legislative Analyst along with the City's Chief Administrative Officer look into the concept of "Empty Home Penalties," Vacancy Taxes or Speculator Taxes employed by other jurisdictions and to recommend some policy options for an Empty Homes Penalty structure in Los Angeles to be considered by Los Angeles voters. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Homelessness and Poverty Committee for their review and recommendations. To be continued.



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

erage daily truckloads are 300. Will wrap up at the Sheldon Pit around 8/31 and will switch to the Manning Pit in Irwindale for the remainder of this season. The County keeps us updated with monthly conference calls.

4. COVID-19: As of mid-August, Shadow Hills' cases are 50, up 355% from 11 cases in April. The rate per 100,000 is 1,126. Compare this to Sunland at 1,818, Tujunga at 1,241, Lake View Terrace at 3,556, and Sun Valley at 2,399.
5. White Vinyl Fencing: Due to COVID-19, we got behind on repairing the numerous areas along Sunland Blvd. and Wentworth where the fencing is damaged either to wear and tear, or more commonly, vehicle accidents. Vice President Jacqy Gamble is now handling the paperwork, including pulling police reports and filing insurance claims, and James Gutman is still our repair guru. Eve Sinclair of Councilwoman Rodriguez's is getting us police reports and materials/supplies which are provided by the City (SHPOA volunteers provide the labor unless there is a reimbursed insurance claim, then we hire a company to repair the damage). To report fence damage, please send an email to [board@shpoa.us](mailto:board@shpoa.us)
6. Community Cleanup. Eventually, we will resume these so please be patient. In the meantime, if everyone just tidies up the area in front of their property, especially along Sunland Blvd., that would be greatly appreciated.
7. Illegal Dumping. This tops my "irritation list" because (1) it

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is so easy to schedule a FREE bulky item pickup through 311, (2) several times a year, the city offers a free dropoff event (one was just held on Saturday, August 15th; and (3) Shadow Hills is NOT a dumping ground! If you see someone dumping, please take a photo or video exposing their license plate number and report it to 311.



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**Cook's Corner: Rigatoni alla Norma  
By Bob Renna, Resident**

Many, many years ago and over 150 pounds ago, I was a Flight Attendant for an International Airline. Our business was providing Charter Flights for various civilian groups but mainly we served U.S. Military Airlift Command (MAC) Flights. On one occasion, I was stationed in Catania, Sicily throughout the festive holiday season from Advent, Christmas, and the New Year. While there, I discovered the following recipe dedicated to Catania's favorite son, Vincenzo Bellini, and his famous opera heroine, Norma.

To begin, you will need a large eggplant. Slice the eggplant in rounds about an inch thick. Salt the slices, and layer them in a colander for about half an hour so that the bitterness weeps out. After that, rinse the slices, pat dry, and stack them together so that you can cut them into one inch pieces. Toss the pieces well with half a cup of virgin olive oil. Put pieces on a cookie sheet and roast them in a pre-heated 450° oven for 30 minutes. After that, you will add them into your favorite tomato sauce and serve over Rigatoni pasta.

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My own Italian upbringing can offer my mother's tomato sauce recipe as follows:

- 1 large yellow onion diced
- 3 cloves of garlic smashed
- 1 tablespoon of Anchovy paste (optional)
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes to taste
- 2 -28 ounce cans of crushed Italian plum tomatoes
- 1 small can of tomato paste
- 1 big handful of fresh basil torn into small bits
- 1 pound Italian sausage links (sweet or hot)

In a large sauce pot, fry the sausage just long enough to brown them. Remove them from the pot and place aside.

Cover the bottom of the pot with extra virgin olive oil and sauté the onion until lightly golden. Add the garlic and cook until you can smell the fragrance but be careful not to burn the garlic. Add the Anchovy paste and stir until dissolved. Add red pepper flakes. Add the tomato paste and fry it until smooth. Add the cans of crushed tomatoes and rinse the cans with half a can of water -- add to pot. Add the torn basil. Salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a bubbling boil and add back the sausage links. Stir. Turn off the heat. Go dust the furniture in the living room.

Return to kitchen and turn on the flame and bring to a boil again. Stir. Turn off flame. Go vacuum the living room carpet. Return to kitchen and bring pot back to a boil. Stir. Turn off heat. Read a magazine. Return once more to the kitchen and bring to a final boil. Stir. Turn off heat. Add the eggplant. Boil water for the Rigatoni pasta. Cook according to directions on box. Drain. Mix sauce with the pasta. Sprinkle with Pecorino Cheese and/or Ricotta Salada cheese. Serve to the delight of your family. Another delicious way to have your children eat their vegetables.



**No Payroll Tax Could Mean No Social Security  
and No Medicare for You!**

**By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

(NOTE: This article does not reflect the position  
of the SHPOA Board)

At the time of this writing, a few days ago, Pres. Trump signed an Executive Order (EO) deferring (meaning it will have to be repaid) the payroll tax from September 1 through the end of the year for people making \$100,000 or less per year. Additionally, he stated that if he was re-elected, he would forgive the deferment and would also make the cut permanent (although this language was not included in the EO). Before I proceed, it should be noted that fiscal policy must be approved by Congress. However, we must take this executive order very seriously as it may have devastating consequences to seniors if permanently enacted with no alternative funding source. During the last recession, there was a temporary suspension of payroll taxes for employers to encourage hiring but the intent was always to make it a temporary reduction.

After unveiling this EO and pressed further, Trump stated that if the payroll tax cut was made permanent, the General Fund would be

(Please see "Payroll Tax" on p.7)



**("Payroll Tax" cont'd from p. 6)**

paying into the Social Security fund instead. How this can be sustainable with an existing \$2.8 trillion deficit is hard to imagine since the Social Security Administration pays out over \$1 trillion annually to 65 million Americans.

Based on social media chatter, a sizeable number of people were confused as to (1) what the payroll tax is; (2) who pays it; and (3) what the consequences are if made permanent. Hopefully, this article can clear up confusion as many folks in Shadow Hills are nearing retirement or are already retired. (Some workers, usually governmental employees, haven't paid into Social Security so this would not apply to them.)

**What is the payroll tax?** The payroll tax is a 15.3% tax based on taxable income (i.e., there may deductions on your paycheck that may reduce your taxable income such as retirement contributions, 401k contributions, healthcare premiums, etc.). "Taxable income" is currently capped at \$137,700 and increases each year to adjust for inflation. This amount is split 50/50 between the employer and the employee so that each party pays 7.65% (Federal Insurance Contributions Act "FICA"). This is further broken down to 6.2% for Social Security and 1.45% to Medicare. The employer withholds the employee's portion of the payroll tax and then remits it on the employee's behalf along with the employer's share to the federal government either monthly or quarterly, depending on the payroll size of the company. This is NOT federal nor state withholding.

**What is the payroll tax used for?** It is the only source of funding for the Social Security Trust Fund and is one of two funding sources for Medicare. The contributions from current workers fund current beneficiaries' payments and medical costs. Right now, it takes about 2.8 workers to fund each Social Security beneficiary. Once you are eligible to receive retirement benefits (minimum age of 62 with benefits increased until your vested age [meaning you receive full benefits with no limit on outside earnings]). The vested age is now 66 years 4 months for people born 1955 through 1959, and 67 years for those born in 1960 or later). Your payout is based on lifetime earnings which are adjusted to your actual earnings to account for changes in average wages since the year the earnings were received. Then, Social Security calculates your average indexed monthly earnings during the 35 years in which you earned the most. A formula to these earnings and arrive at your basic benefit. So, while all the contributions are in a "pot," the formula does calculate your individual benefits.

Self-employed individuals including contractors, freelance writers, musicians, and small business owners are also required to remit payroll taxes. These are referred to as self-employment taxes and function just like payroll taxes. Unlike most salaried individuals, people who are self-employed don't have employers remit payroll taxes on their behalf. This means they must cover both the employer and employee portions of the tax.

**Medicare.** Medicare benefits are much more complicated so this is the Reader's Digest version. Medicare is funded by both the Payroll Tax (1.45%) and premiums (range from around \$145 to \$458). These premiums are paid by recipients or simply deducted from Social Security benefits. Since Medicare benefits are limited and cover 80% of your out-of-pocket expenses, many seniors opt to purchase a supplemental plan (Medigap) to cover the remaining 20% of costs. Also, others opt to have their Medicare benefits assigned to a private healthcare plan (Medicare Advantage) such as United Healthcare, Kaiser, etc. where they may get better pharmaceutical and other benefits such as vision, hearing, etc., that are more appropriate to their personal healthcare needs.

**Who Would Benefit from a Payroll Tax Cut Based on this Executive Order?** If it's deferred, then no one benefits because it will have to be repaid as a lump sum in 2021. If it's forgiven, only employees who actually had income from September 1 through the end of the year. It will not help the self-employed and obviously it's not going to help unemployed, retired, or seasonal folks who had no earnings September-December. So, if you make \$5,000 monthly, you'll "save" \$383 more per month BUT at the end of 4 months, you'll have to repay \$1,530 as lump

(Please see "Payroll Tax" on p.9)



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

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**Me And My Shadow Hills**  
**The Wonderful World Of Sun Space**  
by Azalia Snail (SHPOA Board) & Dan West

Behind its unassuming exterior, there exists the world of unearthly delights that is "Sun Space." The walls are adorned with quirky paper mache art courtesy FLOD enterprises as well as a rotating collection of local artists' work. Noel Rhodes is a part of the collective behind Sun Space that includes a posse of creatives and eccentrics including members of his own family. Music figures prominently and are part of the mix which also features performance art, poetry reading, plenty of jazz, comedy and pretty much any and all forms of expression one can imagine. Since opening its doors in February 2017, Sun Space has become a hub for unique and experimental local artists as well as artists from around the world.

Noel spoke with us and shared insights into the evolution of his art and the creation of Sun Space:

"I've always been interested in art. My parents, siblings and cousins were always doing something artistic. Creating art of whatever form in an informal setting was something that was always happening around me growing up. My son and daughter-in-law live in the area and I've worked on a few recording projects in Shadow Hills. We had wanted to start something for a long time, so when we noticed that the space at Wheatland and Sunland was available, we decided to go for it. We love the location which is right next to the Rise 'n Shine Cafe. We are always happy when locals discover Sun Space. We've had several local artists participating and presenting their creative work - musicians, painters, video artists, actors, comedians and filmmakers. There are so many accomplished (and new) artists living in this area."

Noel also talks about how a venue like Sun Space can survive during a pandemic: "The COVID crisis has radically changed what we do at Sun Space. We are currently limited to online live stream presentations. Raising operating funds has been a real challenge. Hopefully we will be able to stay afloat. We are a 501c3 nonprofit so we survive through donations."

A weekly highlight at Sun Space is 'Unusual Tuesday' which features a wide variety of artists from across the creative spectrum. As a prelude to the festivities, Noel and his troupe of mimmers, mimes and musicians perform 'Phases Of The Moon' which includes singers and dancers adorned in giant wild paper mache costumes. Local grunge rock group Damaged Toys which features Noel's son Gaia and daughter in law Elsie May, perform at the space and also provide musical accompaniment to the various sketches and performance art pieces. Thursday night is Jazz/New Music night and all performances are now streaming via its website [www.sunlandsunspace.com](http://www.sunlandsunspace.com) as well as their Facebook page – simply search for @SunlandSunSpace.



Sun Space provides a welcome relief from the mundane and a much needed dose of escapism from a currently off balance world. When entering Sun Space's doors or, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, viewing their performances online, one will marvel at the ingenuity, innovation and powerful resonance of their creations. Sun Space is an experience one won't soon forget. [www.sunlandsunspace.com](http://www.sunlandsunspace.com)





**("Payroll Tax" cont'd from p. 7)**

sum. That means in 2021, you will owe \$1,530. This may not be such a good deal!

**Other Complications:** According to NPR, employers may opt to continue to withhold the employee portion of the payroll tax so that employees won't be hit with a lump sum payback in 2021 and will remit to the government as usual. So, effectively, there will be no temporary increase to employee take-home pay.

**Disaster Alert:** If the payroll tax is permanently eliminated and is not backfilled from another revenue source, Social Security will cease to exist. Medicare will have to make up its lost funding via payroll taxes through increased monthly premiums. We have paid into the system for decades and now with a swipe of a pen, the government wants to eliminate our Social Security and Medicare benefits? As of December 2019, the average Social Security benefit of \$1,503 and represents 33% to 90% of elderly recipients' income. Additionally, it is predictable and has a built in cost-of-living increase. Other Social Security benefits include disability and survivors' benefits. The other even more alarming issue is what happens if Medicare is eradicated? Where will seniors get their healthcare? Seniors inherently have more health issues than younger people and to hit them at their most vulnerable will be a catastrophe.

Social Security and Medicare are not entitlements; we paid into the system for decades and we deserve to receive our benefits. If the payroll tax is eliminated and not replaced by another funding source, both programs essential to seniors' ability to live independently and to get life-saving healthcare are eliminated.

\*For more info, go to <https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/factsheets/basicfact-alt.pdf>



**("Letter" cont'd from p. 2)**

While we sympathize with the plight of the homeless, we would be remiss not to insist that we, as property owners, business owners, and residents, have the right to ensure that our families, pets, businesses, and properties are safe from the carelessness of a few who refuse to "live" in non-fire prone areas. In other words, if they cannot or refuse to be put into temporary homeless housing, they need to relocate their camps somewhere else where an inadvertent fire can be easily contained.

We urge you to coordinate with each other to:

- Prohibit homeless encampments in or within ¼ mile of areas designated as high fire severity zones;
- Ensure that the legally enforceable "No Trespassing/No Camping" signage is installed;
- Give LAPD, LAFD, LACFD, Park Rangers, Sheriffs, and any other department or agency that you deem fit the full authority to enforce;
- If the homeless return, then direct the Bureau of Sanitation to confiscate and dispose of all their possessions; and
- If compliance is still not met, the offenders will be arrested, booked, and prosecuted for trespassing.

We have the right to live our daily lives without having to be in fear of fires that are 100% preventable.

Thank you again for your tireless work.

Kind regards,

Cindy Bloom  
SHPOA President

Cc: Los Angeles City Mayor Eric Garcetti [mayor.garcetti@lacity.org](mailto:mayor.garcetti@lacity.org); Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez [Councilmember.Rodriguez@lacity.org](mailto:Councilmember.Rodriguez@lacity.org); Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council [ftdnc@ftdnc.org](mailto:ftdnc@ftdnc.org); Fire Station 24, 9411 Wentworth, Shadow Hills, CA 91040







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

Buffed Laced Polish chickens are a very **rare**; they are a European breed known for their distinctive crests, or "top hats." Polish chickens are gentle and docile, but their crests can limit their vision making them timid and easily startled. Dolly has had a few ups and downs fitting in the "pecking order" but now seems settled and happy.



Kim and Juliet

We said goodbye to Juliet, one of our mature retired mares. We were all sad, Kim in particular, to see her leave. She is now with her "brother" Rainman at the Paddock. We welcomed Linda and her amazing 7-year-old Saddle Bred gelding with the unusual name of Christopher Pine! by Pine Canyon. His long neck makes him our tallest horse on the ranch, and he is a

beautiful boy!

Another successful period at the ranch!

"People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day"  
 - Winnie the Pooh

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**SHPOA Elections are Coming Up Soon!**  
 By Cindy Bloom SHPOA Board

At the end of this year, I will be termed out as SHPOA President. Besides being SHPOA president, I also am the SHPOA newsletter editor, do the newsletter layout, and designed the new website and work as the backup webmaster. I am also on the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council, am the leader of our local American Sewing Guild group, am an active member of Save Angeles Forest for Everyone (the group fighting the high speed train), work part-time, and run a small business. While I love SHPOA, I've been on the board for the past 6 six years, and was on the board back in the 1990's. I've seen SHPOA evolve and I cannot emphasize enough how essential SHPOA is to preserving our lifestyle. We are constantly being bombarded by threats from developers, incompatible zoning legislation, crime, and sometimes inconsiderate neighbors who drive recklessly, are loud, shoot off illegal fireworks, and other non-neighborly activities.

We are also fortunate in that SHPOA has re-established or maintained a good partnership/relationship with our elected officials: Congressman Schiff, Supervisor Barger, Sen. Portantino, Assemblywoman Rivas, and Councilwoman Rodriguez. All of them have been extremely responsive.

I am confident whoever is voted in as President in November will be terrific as he/she must be a current board member. But whoever that is will need to have their current position filled.

During this challenging time, like everyone else, we had to adapt to an abnormal situation and were unable to hold our pancake breakfast, community cleanups, fence repairs, and in person meetings. We were finalizing our spaghetti dinner plans (which was going to be in April) when the pandemic hit. But, also like everyone else, we will resume our community activities as soon as it is safe.

While this seems early, please consider running for the SHPOA board. Please refer to the newsletter masthead to see a complete list broken down by "elected" and "appointed." All positions are equally important and get one vote. Committees always welcome volunteers, especially for our community cleanups.

So, please consider becoming a member of the SHPOA board. Send an email to [board@shpoa.us](mailto:board@shpoa.us) for more information.



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**Free Food Giveaway****By Cile Borman and Alice Gonzalez, Lake View Terrace**

All Nations Church (ANC) donated its campus, which provided an excellent location for the "Free Groceries Giveaway Programs" that are being provided around the city by the LA Regional Food Bank. The event happened from 9 AM to 1 PM on Thursday, July 30, 2020. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger and CD7 Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez joined forces with Mika Yamamoto, Regional Operations Manager with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, her associates, and a legion of volunteers from all over the County and City to provide assistance to those experiencing "food instability in our communities."

The ANC campus was humming by 6 AM as huge trucks arrived bearing boxes of high quality frozen meat, canned goods, fresh fruits, and veggies. Equal amounts of these were delivered to the eighteen stations set up along the three lanes that provided easy entrance and exiting for the drive-through distribution. The cars were lined up by 8:30 AM and the traffic directing volunteers started the lines to move into one of the assigned three lanes at 9 AM. All the recipients were wearing



Mika Yamamoto, LA City Parks and Rec. & Jose Grijalva of Joselito's

the required face coverings and remained in their cars as the volunteers at each station, who were also wearing face masks plus rubber gloves, cheerfully placed the allotted boxes in the recipient's trunks or the interior cabs of their cars. All were welcomed. There were no eligibility requirements to receive food. 1,950 households were served.

At least a total of 100 enthusiastic multi-ethnic County and City workers including community volunteers were there to work. They were a mixture of young and old, male and female, who all arrived for the 7:30 AM sign-in, instruction and assignment session. Three people were assigned to each of the 18 stations. Members of ANC also volunteered, including Senior Pastor Tae Kim who, when asked to say a few words, waved hello to everyone and said he came to work--and work he did--until the last car was served.

A delicious lunch was provided at minimal cost by Joselito's Restaurant located in Sunland on Foothill Blvd. The volunteers, who manned the serving of the lunch, had everything very well organized so that the line moved smoothly. The hungry volunteers were served in 30 minutes shifts so that there were always two lanes out of the three made available to deliver food to the cars in those two lanes.

Having the food drive here in Lake View Terrace introduced many new people to our community. Thank you to everyone who distributed masks, gloves, water and food to those in need. Coming together at the All

(cont'd next column)

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(Cont'd)

Nations Church brought many smiles and much encouragement to those who participated. Our sincere gratitude goes out to all of you!



**Airport Task Force Update**  
**By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

The following was provided by Sherman Oaks and Encino For Quiet Skies, a coalition which has been working on the illegal change in outgoing flight paths from the Burbank Airport impacting the South San Fernando Valley. The change in incoming flight paths also impact the N.E. San Fernando Valley as they allow planes to fly slower and lower over our communities resulting in noise and vibration.

"As we previously reported, the South San Fernando Valley Noise Task Force sent final recommendations on May 14 to the FAA after convening for 7 months, with presentations by SOEQS and other major groups in support of immediate relief from day and night flight procedures at VNY and BUR airports. The Task Force had passed nearly every recommendation that we had advocated for, most unanimously or within one vote.

The Task Force also requested responses from various entities regarding specific recommendations within their purview. These are the responses thus far:

**FAA Response:** On June 11, in a first interim response, Regional Administrator of the FAA, sent a letter to the Task Force stating that the FAA will not be able to complete the feasibility determinations for all recommendations within the 60 days requested by the Task Force but will provide periodic, written updates about its progress and "which recommendations can be potentially implemented in the short and long terms, as well as those not feasible to implement." SOEQS sent a joint letter with Home Owners of Encino (HOME) to reiterate the importance of the recommendations concerning immediate relief for our communities in the spirit of the Task Force recommendations,

(Please see "Task Force" on p.13)

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### **American Legion Post #250** **By Marlene Hitt, Sunland-Tujunga Resident**

A scrapbook was found after digging around in a dusty, dark closet, containing information about a strong and vital group which formed the community of Sunland-Tujunga:

"After working amongst the ex-service men in the Tujunga Valley for a period of about nine months, Joseph W. Forster finally succeeded, with the assistance of Wm.H.Gale, in assembling for their first meeting, twelve ex-service men at Bolton Hall in Tujunga, on January 6th, 1921, at which time the organization of Monte Vista Post #250 was accomplished, and the names of fifteen ex-service men were affixed to an application for a Post Charter of the American Legion."

In June of that year, the Commander and Adjutant were instructed to buy Bolton Hall, lots 94 and 95 of Los Terrenitos (Little Landers) tract, Tujunga, for \$5,750; \$1,000 down, \$100 a month payments at 7% interest.

With the attitudes of pride and promotion, the Legion's first order of business was to organize the Moon Festival, which, they say, gave wonderful publicity and led to a rise in population of the town.

The accomplishments of the Legion are far too numerous to mention here. From a short perusal of the scrapbook, it was found that there was a list of 45 major community-changing accomplishments just through the year 1935, the last entry in the book.

In December, 1921, the first Rifle Association was formed by Monte Vista Post. The first Boy Scout Troop in the valley was organized under the leadership of Comrade Maxwell Hill. May, 1922, marks the first observance of Mother's Day when all members appeared in uniform for the occasion. In June, the first barbecue was held at the Begue Ranch, and in December the first of the annual turkey shoots at the Begues ('Legion Nets \$40 at Turkey Shoot') was held. In order to carry on the financial responsibilities of the organization, dances, plays and performances were arranged.

"At a post meeting of August 2nd, 1923, Doctor Theobald gave the news to the post of the death of President Harding. Immediately, arrangements were made for the proper observance of the sad occasion." November 11, 1923, was the Inauguration for the Annual Observance of Armistice Day.

February 13, 1924, marked the dedication of the Hall for the Legion and the name Bolton Hall became Legion Hall. "The auxiliary, ever willing to render assistance to the post this year presented us with the beautiful Silk Colors so proudly displayed by our organization."

The membership in 1921 was 43 members, in 1930 it had grown to 105. The group served the community in ways such as school programs for patriotism and Americanism, creation of an addendum to the McGroarty Mission Play, honoring of veterans, collecting relics from battlefields, entrance into political matters (such as cheaper water rates, pedestrian crossing signs, a bond issue for veterans).

One member formed a boys' band, and later a drum and bugle corps was started.

The group held fireworks shows, memorial services, a fall festival (much like the street fair), elected a festival queen, held poppy dances and drives, sponsored a baseball team, gave medals to scholars, and more, much more!

As sponsors of food drives and Christmas baskets, they hit a wall one year.

There were so many needy families in 1932 that the group was overwhelmed. They couldn't fill the orders for the 300 baskets needed, so they held a dinner on December 24 in the basement of the (present) Legion Hall for those 300 families, with some families having 12 members.

We can see the vitality, idealism, and the importance of this  
(Please see **"Legion"** on p.13)



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

group as they showed the true meaning of volunteerism. By 1930 the name was changed to Tujunga Post #250. In November, 1929, the Post sold their meeting hall to the City of Tujunga to become the town hall, and with money from a bond issue, \$12,000 went to the Tujunga post, and \$3,000 was allowed for repairs and alterations. The name was again Bolton Hall.

The Legion then began plans for the building of its own hall. They expected to spend about \$6,000 on the building and \$1,000 on equipment; planned for a Spanish style, about 40X70 feet with a recreation hall in the basement. This hall, on Pinewood, is still in use by its members.



#### Permanent Slow Streets Program? By Elektra Kruger, Resident

As part of Mayor Eric Garcetti's COVID-19's Safer at Home orders, he introduced a Slow Streets Program which would allow local residents more space for neighborhood recreational activities that would still promote social distancing. Local traffic such as delivery vehicles, emergency vehicles and local residential vehicles would still be allowed to pass on Slow Streets, but non-residential cut-through traffic would be prohibited. On the whole, community feedback to the Slow Streets Program has been overwhelmingly positive citywide. The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) has, in recent years, developed similar people-centered programs going by such names as "Play Streets," "People Streets," and "Great Streets." Not only are new parks difficult and costly to develop in Los Angeles' real estate market, developers make every effort not to have to provide recreational space in their developmental projects so the concept of Slow Streets and similar people-centered programs are an emerging and efficient strategy to increase safe neighborhood recreation Citywide. Slow Streets can also play a role in reducing cut-through commuter traffic resulting from traffic navigation apps such as Waze, Google Maps and Apple Maps which have been known to direct commuters down

(cont'd next column)

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what once were quiet neighborhood streets. However, the current Slow Streets Program is only a temporary measure in effect for the duration of the COVID-19 Emergency Safer At Home Declaration. In late June, Councilmember David Ryu presented a Motion to City Council asking that they request the Department of Transportation with the assistance of the City's Chief Legislative Analyst, the City Attorney and the ad hoc Streets LA Committee to review and report on the feasibility of developing a permanent network of Slow Streets which would provide greater access to open space for all Angelenos. The report should review such things as program structure, eligibility criteria, staffing needs and a plan that would enable interested neighborhoods to implement a Slow Streets pilot program. Councilmember Ryu also recommended that the State Vehicle Code be reviewed to be sure such a program would not be against any State of California Vehicle Code. If that happened to be the case, he suggested that City Council approve a Resolution that would support the State Legislature taking any action necessary required to permit local approval of a Slow Streets Program. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will report on any updates on this Motion in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



("Task Force" cont'd from p. 11)

*stressing the double-standard of not immediately returning to historical flight paths when it was done in 2017 for a lesser safety issue than our communities have now, with hundreds of flights traversing the high elevations and fire hazard zone of the foothills and Santa Monica Mountains.*

*Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Response: On July 21, the CEO of LAWA (operators of VNY) responded to the Task Force recommendations, stating that it will "press the FAA on matters pertaining to the recommendations affecting VNY and the PPRRY waypoint...and continue to communicate with the FAA on the importance of developing and implementing a solution as quickly as possible." We appreciate that LAWA went on to say that "PPRRY waypoint issue is the number one priority for addressing noise*

(Please see "Task Force" on p. 15)

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### Homeless Count Update By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

The physical count from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) was released in June, however, the data was not broken down by geographic areas, including council districts. It is now available and here is a summary:

	LA City		CD7	
	Total	% Change	Total	% Change
Total Persons	41,290	16%	1,440	10%
Veterans*	2,120	5%	34	-44%
Chronic	15,747	38%	416	-1%

\*veterans with/in families are zero; these are all individuals

In Council District 7, most homeless are:

- Male Hispanic Individuals aged 25-54 with substance abuse/mental illness disorders.
- In terms of number of homeless, CD7 ranks near the bottom, 11 of 14.
- Shadow Hills has 37 homeless (last year was 58).

CD	Total	Unsheltered	Sheltered
14	7617	4705	2912
9	4884	2653	2231
8	4386	2049	2337
13	3907	3194	713
6	3308	1427	1881
11	3273	3165	108
1	2825	2374	451
15	2264	1934	330
10	1930	1264	666
2	1740	1700	40
7	1440	1216	224
5	1205	954	251
4	1072	952	120
12	735	659	76
3	704	606	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>41290</b>	<b>28852</b>	<b>12438</b>

For more info, go to <https://www.lahsa.org>



### Up-Date on the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance – Part 2 By Elektra Kruger

As of Fall 2017, over 9,000 of the City's then approximately 11,000 miles of sidewalks were in a state of disrepair. How did we get to this point? In the 1970's, the City of Los Angeles took on financial responsibility for repairing sidewalks damaged by trees. Previously, it was private property owners that were financially and legally responsible for maintaining sidewalks along the frontage of their property. Needless to say, it didn't take long for the City to run out of or fail to budget dedicated funding to repair sidewalks and stopped taking responsibility for sidewalk repairs. It has been over 40 years since the City has invested in any form of a comprehensive sidewalk maintenance program which is painfully evident with the deteriorating conditions of sidewalks Citywide. In 2015, the City settled a \$1.4 billion class action lawsuit known as the "Willits Settlement" which determined that the City's crumbling sidewalk infrastructure was not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a settlement which would require the City to install, repair and

(Please see "Sidewalk" on p.15)



**("Sidewalk" cont'd from p. 14)**

up-grade curb ramps, repair sidewalks damaged by tree roots, repair broken or uneven pavement, correct non-compliant sidewalk cross-slopes, etc. throughout the City over a period of 30 years. Once repaired by the City, further liability of the sidewalk will once again be released to the private property owner fronted by the now repaired sidewalk – it will no longer be the City's responsibility. This program was designated as the "Fix-and-Release" program. City Council instructed the Bureau of Engineering (BoE) to create a Prioritization System which would determine which sidewalks would first be scheduled for repair. Among the six factors that the BoE listed for consideration was a special emphasis on the Vision Zero High Injury Network (locations with the highest number of actual injuries) and locations with the highest number of 311 complaints submitted to the City calling for repair of damaged sidewalks. At its early December 2017 hearing, the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee removed consideration of the High Injury Network from the Prioritization System and called for emphasis to be placed on the level of complaints filed through the 311 system. Yeah - the City manages to screw its residents yet once again. Of course, locations known to have the highest number of actual injuries due to damaged sidewalks need not be considered at all in any System prioritizing which sidewalks are to be repaired first. Needless to say, numerous organizations and City residents submitted input encouraging City Council to retain the Vision Zero High Injury Network in the Sidewalk Repair Program prioritization methodology. To be up-dated in a future SHPOA newsletter.

*Editor's Note: Lucky for Shadow Hills, many of our streets do not have sidewalks! I wonder if pushing liability for injuries back onto private property owners will be legally challenged because the City still owns the sidewalks.*



**("Task Force" cont'd from p. 13)**

concerns." SOEQS sent a joint letter with Studio City for Quiet Skies and Uproar LA to reiterate the prioritization of immediate and long-term recommendations for both VNY and BUR airports, along with our positions on other referenced recommendations concerning noise studies and mitigation.

**Congressional Reps Response:** On July 27, U.S. Representatives Brad Sherman, Adam Schiff and Ted Lieu, who were non-voting members of the Task Force, responded to the recommendations, stating that residents "continue to face highly disruptive noise from flights" and that they would continue to work to help "achieve meaningful relief for residents of the San Fernando Valley who have experienced excessive airplane noise for too long." A few of the actions they are taking or have taken include:

- Legislation for MANDATORY nighttime curfews at both VNY and BUR airports.
- Requested an independent Government Accountability Office (GAO) review of whether the FAA's criteria for determining "significant" changes in noise levels sufficiently capture potential negative impacts, since the FAA initially had found that new routes over the foothills and Santa Monica Mountains "would not result in significant noise impacts" contradicting what we have been subject to.
- Support request for documents from the FAA related to NextGen, Southern California Metroplex, and other documents.

For more info, please visit: <https://www.quietskiesnow.org>



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**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, Sept. 8th 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
- Becky Borquez, 818-262-7764
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