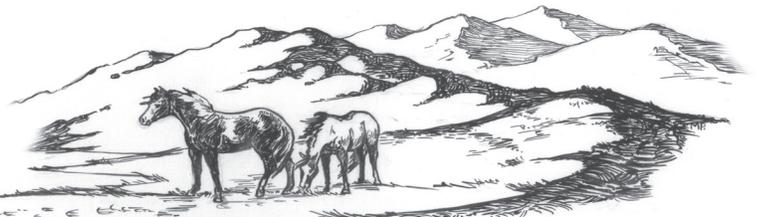


SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 44, Issue 2

SHPOA March-April 2021

Recap of Our First SHPOA Meeting of 2021 By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

Greetings to all! I hope this new year finds you in a healthier, happier place than 2020.

The first SHPOA Zoom meeting of the year went smoothly ... thanks to you all (and my son, the “gate-keeper”). Jacqy Gamble, Vice President, presented our hardworking and beloved outgoing President, Cindy Bloom, with a beautiful plant arrangement along with a gift certificate to the Backstreet Bakery in thanks for her extraordinary community leadership over the past two years. Cindy has consistently worked to strengthen our organization in its efforts to support and protect our rural lifestyle for future generations. She is a blessing and we thank her again for her dedicated involvement in our Shadow Hills community.

We also enjoyed a musical video review of many of the beautifully decorated homes during the holidays for the “Celebration of Lights” contest. It was a wonderful way to come together as a community to celebrate the season and we look forward to even more participants next year. Cindy announced the winners and presented them with gift certificates to our locally owned BackDoor Bakery.

Along with our detailed and informative minutes, financial and committee reports, we also heard from Eve Sinclair, Area Director for Councilwoman Rodriguez, 7th District. She gave a detailed report on the traffic issues and possible solutions for a few streets in our area and she has offered to work with us to resolve them. We are so fortunate to have her expertise and incredible energy. I believe she is not only a valuable asset for the Councilwoman but for our community as well.

This new year has brought us some much needed rain and our hills are most grateful. Fond Park is a fine example of the wonders of nature, right here in our own “backyard!” If you have the chance and want to experience a peaceful adventure in the wilderness, you might consider a visit to the park. The easiest access is at Teazle Canyon. Teazle Canyon (at Sunland Blvd.) is located across the street and just a few 100 feet west from the intersection of Johanna and Sunland Blvd. Drive south on Teazle to the end and park your car. The park is clearly delineated with a welcoming sign, announcing your entrance. The trails lead south and then to the west ... so you’re paralleling Sunland Boulevard. Most

(Cont’d next column)

**Join us for our virtual Zoom Meeting
March 16th - 7:00 pm**

*** Folks from the Fond Park will update us
on lots of exciting plans**

**Link will be sent out via
Daily Fodder, Facebook, NextDoor, and
website www.shpoa.us.**

(Cont’d)

of the trails are 3 feet wide or better; and most are not too strenuous. At the top of the ridgeline, which is somewhat parallel to Shadow Island Drive and Shadow Island Way, you’ll have a choice to keep going to the west (to the right) ... which will eventually lead you to Ormond Street at the southern end of Wheatland Avenue. Or you can turn towards the east (left) which eventually leads towards the 210 Freeway Sunland Blvd. on-ramp. This trail is more strenuous and will take a bit longer. No matter your choice, you will be able to enjoy the utter peace and quiet of the wilderness. The only sounds you’ll hear is the chirping songs and chatter of our resident birds and wildlife. Please feel welcome to share this experience with your family and friends.

The Fond Park includes approximately 600 acres of ridge line between Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon. It runs from the 210 Freeway on-ramp at Sunland Blvd all the way south westerly to Wheatland Avenue. The Fond Park is the southern boundary of Shadow Hills ... as is the Tujunga Wash the northern boundary for our small community. When you think about it, we are so fortunate to have these two natural boundaries for the majority of our community which will provide the buffer needed to protect our unique lifestyle from over-development.

As the Park development continues, we will be providing signage and maps to better inform you of the Park’s perimeter boundaries, trails, wildlife and plant life. Depending on the COVID vaccine distribution, our Docent Program is gearing up to offer docent workshops in early Spring. If you are interested in joining the Fond Park Docent Program, please contact me at tinaeick@icloud.com. In the meantime, please visit the Park for a most enjoyable experience.



2021 SHPOA Board Members

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

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President: Tina Eick
board@shpoa.us

Vice President: Jacqy Gamble

Executive Secretary: Owynn Lancaster

Recording Secretary: Lynne Toby

Treasurer: Michael Stein

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membership@shpoa.us
 Michael Stein

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 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: Cindy Bloom 818-445-5602
cbloom571@gmail.com

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Newsletter Design/Layout: Cindy Bloom

Hospitality: vacant

Historian: Gerardo Barrientos

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Website: www.shpoa.us

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36373@lapd.lacity.org

Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West Rich Wall 818-634 -0755
30204@lapd.lacity.org

LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk
 818-756-8861

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

President: Kevin Davis
president@ftdnc.org

At large rep: Cindy Bloom
cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org

**Update on Fence Repairs and Fire Hydrant
 By Carlos George, SHPOA Board**

As I'm sure you've all noticed, we have a lot of broken fences in our community, most of which were destroyed by car accidents. SHPOA's Vice President Jacqy is chasing down the insurance companies to file claims, but in the meantime, we decided to get a head start.

In early February, Gerardo Barrientos and I fixed a few fences along Sunland Blvd. We counted parts we needed and I took a picture of the "No Stopping" sign that was damaged by the accident near La Canada Way.

I then called Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to request to have the sign replaced, and like magic ... they did it on the same day!

We then traveled to the Rangers Station to get fence parts. Being fence fixer novices, we were lucky enough to get training on "How to Remove Posts and Install New Posts 101" taught by Mr. James Gutman. It was one hell of an experience but we both learned quite a bit. We then moved on to fix the accident site on the corner of Stonehurst and Sunland Blvd. and replaced all the fencing that was taken out months ago.

There are 3 more accident sites to fix on Sunland Blvd and a couple of other parts here and there. I will send out an email when we plan do the next big accident site which is near La Canada Way; we would need a couple of more volunteers to help since it will involve several posts and beams. The



After many years, our beloved sign is back

more volunteers we have the faster we go and we can remove the debris as well. We will need cones on this one to slow and divert traffic but SHPOA has cones!

People are throwing trash into the dam area along Wentworth where the fences are short. I will try to find out if it is L.A. City Parks & Recreation or Army of Engineers who would be responsible to clean this up. The idea would be to install an 8ft high chain link fence to deter people from throwing bags of trash/marijuana and many things over. I'll contact the appropriate department to get this ongoing problem resolved.

(Please see "Fences" on p. 3)

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

To make it easier for you to join or renew your membership, please find an envelope stitched to the center of this issue. No time to mail? **No problem!** Send an email to Jo Rich at membership@shpoa.us and SHE WILL COME PICK UP YOUR CHECK PERSONALLY! Even Amazon won't do that. We know times are tough and we appreciate your commitment to paying your annual dues. More than ever, your dues help us pay for insurance, website, outreach email (Daily Fodder), meeting expenses (virtual or in person), the newsletter, and more. Please spend the less than 2 minutes it will take to fill out the form (to the right) and write a check for \$25 today (that's 7 cents a day!), or renew online via Paypal or by credit card at www.shpoa.us and click on the "Online Member Payment" button. **It is easier than ever to renew. Thank you!**



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

LADWP advised me the hydrant knocked out on Stonehurst and Sunland Blvd. will NOT be replaced, instead, they plugged it up. They were scheduled to remove this fire hydrant a long time ago and the accident helped them do it faster. They have another fire hydrant on the other corner that would handle that whole area, so they made decision it was no longer necessary.

Then, on Sunday February 21, 2021, our "Little Fence Crew" (Gerardo Barrientos, Michael Stein, and I) worked from 9 am to 1 pm fixing fences on Sunland Blvd. and Sunland Place. The poles were a little challenging to take out but we did it. This was the accident site where the car hit the fire hydrant and continued to destroy a line of white fences. The neighbors were appreciative that we were fixing the fences, in fact, a neighbor had asked all over to see who would fix the fences and we told her SHPOA does them, she was happy and offered us chocolates for energy. Perks!

Also on Monday, February 22, 2021, LADOT finally installed the Shadow Hills sign on a new pole near Stonehurst Street. Because the old sign was very "vintage," they crafted a new sign for us. It only took about 14 years to replace this sign--but it looks nice, it is next to old wood post that held the old sign.

We still have several patches and one small accident site. Then, the last one we will tackle is near La Canada Way. We will need more volunteers and I will check with LAPD traffic to see if they can deviate traffic for this lane to make it easier and safer for us while we install the fences.

Not surprisingly, one of our lovely speeders on Sunland Blvd. took the time from his drive to stop and insult us because we had laid out cones to slow down traffic. Gerardo told him to take a hike and to slow down.

We will continue slowly with the parts that we have to get more done on the weekends. We welcome volunteers to help with this ongoing effort.



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: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check one: New Renewal Newsletter Only
For Paypal, www.shpoa.us "Online Member Payment" OR
Mail this form with your check to:

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Benefits and Value of SHPOA Membership

Preserve Country Lifestyle

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

Protect Public Safety, the Environment and Property Values

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

Promote Shadow Hills

- ✓ Market unique lifestyle and real estate properties
- ✓ Conduct SHPOA membership drives
- ✓ Hold general member meetings with guest speakers, helpful information and entertainment
- ✓ Bi-monthly newsletter
- ✓ Daily email outreach and information
- ✓ Website information
- ✓ Special events and signage

**High Speed Rail Update - \$100 Billion! \$100 Billion! \$100 Billion! The Nightmare Continues
By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board**

It was August 2014 when our area learned that the high speed train would be barreling through the communities of Kagel Canyon, Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills, and Sun Valley. Since then we have waged an ongoing fight with the California High Speed Rail Authority which continues to waste billions of dollars, is mightily mismanaged, and continues to push public untruths about the project.

So far, the budget set in 1996 at \$16.5 billion is now at \$99.9 billion, according to their reworked Revised Draft Business 2020 Business Plan. You may recall that the California Legislature, fed up with the Authority's rubber stamping approval of its ridiculous cost overruns, unsubstantiated projected ridership revenue, and overall mismanagement, told the Authority to redo its 2020 Draft Business Plan presented to them last spring. The Authority just released its Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan and will allow public comments through March 12, 2021. You may submit your public comments by visiting their website at www.hsr.ca.gov and clicking on "Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan," then on "Submit Comments." Best way is to send an email to: DraftBP2020@hsr.ca.gov

In January 2021, Tutor-Perini-Zachry-Parsons, the largest contractor with a \$2.3 billion contract, thoroughly disgusted with continuous delays by CHSRA, wrote a scathing 36-page letter. They allege that a multitude of problems have remained unresolved for years, including rapid turnover of state officials, continuing delays in obtaining land for the rail and the state's failure to secure agreements with outside parties, including utilities and freight railroads. The delays will result in idled work sites and layoffs of field workers.

According to the Los Angeles Times, "As of mid-November, construction teams cannot build on more than 500 parcels in the Fresno area because the California High Speed Rail Authority still lacks possession or proper documentation, according to the Jan. 4 letter. The company has completed all the work that could be done efficiently and as a result is now operating at other sites at a slower pace. 'It is beyond comprehension that as of this day, more than two thousand and six hundred calendar days after [official approval to start construction] that the authority has not obtained all of the right of way...' wrote Tutor Perini Vice President of Operations Ghassan Ariqat to Garth Fernandez, the contracting chief at the state rail authority.

Meanwhile back at the ranch, the Authority will seek a \$4.1-billion appropriation to complete construction in the Central Valley, as costs and schedules continue to grow. This will essentially completely deplete the \$9 billion bond issuance narrowly approved by voters in 2008. The last appropriation was made in 2012.

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

The Central Valley segment won't be operational until 2030, and won't connect to Los Angeles, including our Palmdale to Burbank section, until at least 2031.

Assemblywoman Laura Friedman (D-Glendale), the new chair of the Transportation committee, signaled that the Central Valley investments will get closer scrutiny than in 2012.

Pete Buttigieg, the new Secretary of Transportation, has mentioned high speed rail as a component of combatting climate change but given the decades-long wait to achieve any reduction of greenhouse gasses from this project hopefully will defer to quicker and cheaper means such as focusing on electrical vehicles, electric charging stations, electrifying already-existing passenger rail, etc. Save Angeles Forest for Everyone (SAFE) is currently crafting a letter/report to Secretary Buttigieg to update him on the difficulties of relying on California's high speed rail project as a means to combat climate change, especially since any positive net impact wouldn't occur until 2060 (it will take at least 30 years of operation to offset the greenhouse gases emitted during the construction process).

Meanwhile, the LA Times reported in its February 22, 2021 edition that for its King County segment, it awarded the contract to the lowest bidder — a Spanish company named Dragados — which promised \$300 million in "cost savings" by altering the design that the authority had proposed to regulators. Seven years later, these changes have been largely abandoned and have contributed to more than \$800 million in cost overruns for this segment. That figure is 62% above the contract price tag, which the rail authority has agreed to pay, according to interviews and technical and contractual documents reviewed by The Times. As of now, Dragados has not started construction on about half of its bridges and viaducts, four years after the original deadline of 2017, and it had completed less than 50% of its planned work by December, according to rail authority progress reports. The rail authority bears a share of responsibility, having failed to deliver 278 of 998 parcel land purchases needed for construction. The ballooning in cost is due to change orders. California has approved 273 change orders for the Spanish contractor — about one every week since mid-2015. These changes covered items that included extra insurance premiums, delay costs, route changes and land shortages.

This project continues to be the textbook definition of "boondoggle" with no end in sight.



**Me And My Shadow Hills: Take a Walk!
by Azalia Snail and Dan West,
SHPOA Board and Residents**

One of the best and healthiest things we can do during this pandemic time is to walk in nature.

(Please see "Walk" on p.5)

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

Here in Shadow Hills we are lucky to have an abundance of hidden hikes, winding scenic streets, and close access to astonishingly gorgeous places like Angeles National Forest, Tujunga Canyon, Placerita Canyon, LaTuna Canyon, and Vasquez Rocks.

It's a delight to walk down streets like Johanna or McBroom and get to know the horses, watch the bunnies scurry up and down the hills, and witness the elegant peacocks strut their stuff on a rooftop, or sauntering across the road.

It's wonderful to see the wide variety of homes: ranch houses, stone structures, unique mid-century, and the occasional modern masterpiece.

Varieties of custom landscaping provide for even more eye-catching fun. Some prefer to keep their front yards sparse, while others have an intoxicating amount of native plants, odd and delightful desert succulents, deer sculptures, gnomes, multicolored flowers, wild grasses, and arty decor.

Thanks to the strict zoning laws, we can really appreciate the space and the tranquility of this very special neighborhood.

We came up with a little verse we recite when viewing the natural wonders here off of our back terrace every morning:

"While owls hoot and horses bray, Shadow Hills is here to stay."

Let's remember to do all we can to keep it that way.



**Foodware Accessories Upon Request Only?
By Elektra Kruger, Resident**

In the U.S., billions of unused foodware accessories including utensils, straws and condiment packets are being tossed away annually, so much more so with the increased reliance on food delivery or take-out during the dining restrictions associated with Covid-19. This trash is clogging our landfills, polluting our streets and waterways, and adds to the global glut of non-recyclable plastics. Restaurants are currently providing these foodware "accessories" regardless of request even though customers utilizing delivery or take-out orders are frequently consuming the meals at home where they have their own reusable utensils, straws and condiments. Moving on to an "on-request" model such as the Straws on Request Ordinance already effective in the City of Los Angeles would reduce this waste as well as save the businesses money – a win-win for establishments and the City. My husband and I let our servers know that we do not need dressing for our salads, eating utensils, straws, condiments, napkins, etc. – all items which we have at home. Our favorite restaurant already knows this and I don't have to repeat myself there every time I go there for take-out. I already feel so guilty about the increase in single-use items that has been on the

(Please see "Foodware" on p.8)



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REMODEL / REPAIR EXPERTS

An Update from your Friends at
AHEAD With Horses

By Michelle Newman, Executive Director

We remember last March when the pandemic started, and we went into our first lockdown. It was unlike anything we had been through before, and

(con't'd next column)

(con't'd)

we thought, "We have to close for 2 weeks?! Well, we must do what is right to keep everyone safe. We will make it work." And then 2 weeks turned into 2 more, and the short closure of lessons ended up going until June 9th. 2020 when we finally got to see our first students back.

Slowly but surely, we were able to increase how many kids we could see and how many volunteers we could take here at AHEAD With Horses. We were only able to get back up to about 40% of our students. Some we still have not seen in a year because they have too many pre-existing conditions that make them too vulnerable, or are unable to wear a mask, or need too much assistance. And then, at the end of last year, the COVID numbers kept going up and we had to go into our second closure of lessons. We simply cannot maintain 6 feet of social distance from our disabled students while they are sitting on a horse. This time, the closure went from December 8th, 2020 until we were able to have our first students back again on February 16th, 2021.

While we have had some time to spend in the office during the pandemic, we have been working on how to improve our program, which has been going on for 53 years now. If you would like to help AWH be the best that it can be, we would love to have you volunteer with the program (either with the horses and the students at the current location, or landscaping and weeding at our new location on Foothill Blvd.). You could also help out by joining our Fundraising Committee which is looking to come up with new and exciting ways to help raise funds for our program. We had our first Bingo event in February and are thinking we might make it a monthly happening. (It was a hit with those who attended virtually, and Bingo is fun for the whole family!) We are also inviting everyone to come to one of our open Board Meetings and give your advice. Our Board Meetings are currently held by conference call on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am. You can call 818-767-6373 or email aheadwithhorses@yahoo.com if you would like more information on how to listen in or any of the volunteer options above. You can also get more information at www.AWHLA.org.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of the wonderful SHPOA community. We hope to meet more of you in person soon. Stay safe and may we all be able to get together in person in less than another year's time!



COOK'S CORNER
Submitted By Bob Renna, Resident
Chicken Breasts a la Jekyll

Once upon a time, In a land very far away, there were the Golden Isles of Georgia. These ten islands along the coast of Georgia between Savannah and Brunswick are among the most beautiful in the world. Special among them is Jekyll Island. In the early part of the 20th Century, a colony of millionaires built vacation homes on Jekyll Island and it was once called "the richest, the most exclusive, the most inaccessible club in the world." These society families included: William Vanderbilt, E.V. Macy, J.P. Morgan, William Rockefeller, Joseph Pulitzer, Marshall Field, and Richard T. Crane of toilet bowl fame.

Eventually abandoned because the U.S. Government believed that German submarines during WWII had intentions of torpedoing ¼ of the world's wealth, the expensive "cottages," as they were called, became uninhabitable and the island was left to return to its natural state. In the 1970s, however, the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!) was granted permission to produce an outdoor historical drama by Paul Green. I was privileged to be a part of this endeavor called, "A Collection of Culinary Gems from the Golden Isles of Georgia" in 1978. Here is one of the recipes included in that cookbook originally submitted by Mrs. Elna Sullivan):

Chicken Breasts a la Jekyll

8 to 10 chicken breast halves skinned and boned
 Sliced ham
 2 cans cream of mushroom soup
 ½ pint sour cream
 ½ cup sherry (not cooking sherry) optional
 2 cans sliced mushrooms

Line bottom of casserole with ham. Mix sour cream, mushroom soup, and sherry. Pour over chicken which has been placed in casserole

Bake in 200 degree oven for 4 hours. Add mushrooms

Curious about Jekyll Island? Check out their website: www.jekyllisland.com

Editor's Note: I used the pressure cooker for 20 minutes and it turned out great (add the canned mushrooms after pressure cooking though)

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

unfortunate rise as a result of dining restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic. In recognition of the additional "zero-use waste" of such things as plastic utensils (zero-use referring to items that are never used because there are re-usable utensils available in our households), in mid-January 2021 Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Paul Krekorian co-presented a Motion to City Council requesting that the City Attorney in consultation with the Small Business Commission be asked to draft a Foodware Upon Request ordinance that would require restaurants and other food service providers including "virtual restaurants" – also known as Cloud or Ghost Kitchens – to provide all disposable foodware accessories such as straws, utensils, condiments, napkins, etc. only upon request of the customer using the existing City's Disposable Plastic Drinking Straws ordinance as an enforcement model. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Environmental Justice and River Committee for their review and recommendations.



More Stinky California Bills and How to Fight By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

SHPOA Prez Tina Eick is actively participating in a group, United Neighbors, which is mobilizing folks in California to fight the unrelenting slew of zoning legislation that basically overrides any and all local zoning. How would you like to have ADUs, duplexes, and a 6-unit apartment building(s) erected on YOUR street (sometimes on the same lot)--and you have NO RECOURSE?

Below is the text of one of two active Senate Bills (the other is SB 10 and its language is pretty much the same).

What we need for all of us to do. Go to the end of this article for very EASY instructions on how to get your letter submitted. This portal will AUTOMATICALLY send your letter to the correct committee(s) so you don't need to figure out which committee is hearing it, and who's on which committee. Please go to our website, www.shpoa.us (Legislation tab) to get a pdf of our letter(s). You can then copy & paste, and edit it to make it your own.'

While SHPOA is always watching our/your back, it's important to fight back in numbers--so please, take a few minutes and let our legislators know that we OPPOSE this legislation and others like it that will ruin our community character and destroy our single dwelling neighborhoods.

January 23, 2021

State Senator Portantino
State Capitol, Room 5050
Senior District Representative Vickere Murphy
Vickere.murphy@sen.ca.gov
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to SB 9

Dear Senior District Representative Murphy,

Shadow Hills is a small community located within the city limits of Los Angeles. The community, consisting of approximately 2,500 homes, is unique

(Please see "Stinky" on p.15)



Artists for a Better World By Barbara Cordova, Resident

With a rise in violence, crime, and discrimination, the organization Artists for a Better World has been uplifting people through the arts and spreading happiness!

The group's founder Barbara Cordova, a Tujunga resident, decided that the best thing to do was to uplift others and give them hope and inspiration.

Every year the group celebrates World Art day, in honor of DaVinci's Birthday in April. Last year they

(Please see "Artists" on p.9)

“Artists” cont'd from p. 8)
had to do it virtually – and got artists from around the world to submit poems, songs and art work – and made a video out of it and posted it far and wide.

Last May, the group distributed thousands of The Way to Happiness books – a common sense guide to better living. AFABW has a custom cover with their logo. In addition, several of their members have their own artistic covers. The group went out to the 3rd Street Promenade every weekend for 9 weeks. They also left the books in several local stores in the Sunland-Tujunga area where many members reside. The books were well received and the group was thanked for spreading joy and happiness, even by the National Guard and police. They participated in Tujunga’s National Night out by reading a special poem to the police, and giving them books.

This year AFABW will be continuing their Los Angeles area distribution of The Way to Happiness, and is raising funds for more books with custom covers.

For “Art Day” they are encouraging artists to send in positive works that promote one of the precepts in the book which is “Flourish and Prosper” to continue to remind people of their goals and purposes and not to give in no matter the obstacles and the rough times.

For more information, visit: Artistsforabetterworld.art.



**Valley Electricity Generating Plant
to be Decommissioned
By Elektra Kruger, Resident**

A Los Angeles City Ordinance having become effective January 17, 2021 authorized the DWP Board of Commissioners to award an agreement based on a competitive proposal basis for a Demolition Project for the Valley Generating Station Units 1 through 4. The maximum allowable bid would be \$1,000,000. Proposals will be solicited by the issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) published in the same manner as notices for public works contracts performed by the DWP. The RFP will state the time and place where the proposals will be received by the DWP. Criteria for awarding the contract for the project which includes system decoupling, hazardous material abatement, demolition and removal of Units 1 through 4 and other structures around the Units would call for the bidder to contain within his proposal such things as:

- Proof of experience in decoupling, demolition and removal of hazardous materials from similar projects
- Proof of experience in organizing, planning, scheduling and managing similar projects to assure achieving Project objectives
- Proof of a good safety record for similar projects
- Proof of having financial, labor, material and

(Please see “Decommissioned” on p.10)

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“Decommissioned” *cont'd from p. 10)*

- equipment resources needed for the project
- The proposal should also contain proposed contract terms and conditions such as:
 - Proposed cost and schedule of payments
 - Insurance, labor and material bond requirements to manage the risk
 - Warranties and guarantees to make corrections due to damage of adjacent facilities and equipment
 - Ensure that fair practices are used in the selection of subcontractors and selection of business enterprises run by minorities or women
 - Proof that the bidder would meet all local, State and Federal regulatory requirements
 - Employ the services of authorized inspectors to inspect and test equipment, material and workmanship

SHPOA will let you know when a contract has been awarded. Also see related article on page 12.



Weather the Storm!

By Eva Lund, Director of Special Spirit, Inc.

A couple of weeks ago, the news warned of a severe storm coming through our area; enough rain to flood our stalls and arenas. We prepared. A week before the forecasted storm we rallied supplies, filled and placed sandbags, replaced old railroad ties, etc. The topic of conversation each day was always about the impending rain and how prepared we felt for it. Then ... the storm largely passed us by. In past years we might have been a little annoyed that we spent the time preparing and nothing came of it, all that work for naught.

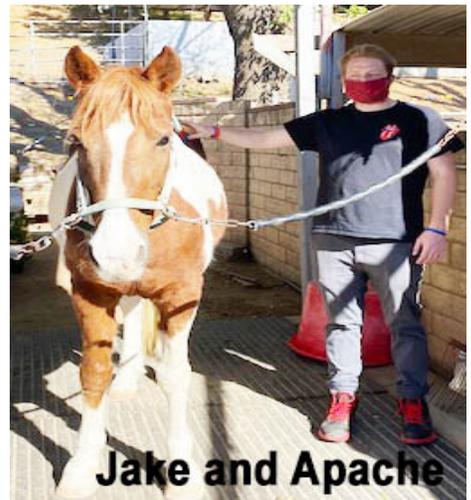
However, this is not like past years. There is an interesting parallel between the storm and the pandemic. The pandemic was not something expected or forecasted. We had no idea how to prepare. We just survived. Now after having dealt with the unknown of the pandemic, when warned of rain, we now take heed of this with more urgency and understand the need to be prepared, whether needed or not.

2020 taught us that “what ifs” can actually happen. We are all learning to be ready and willing to adapt. Having those preparations in place will help us to weather whatever storms we may face together, as a community.

In the coming weeks, we will be opening the ranch for a limited amount of farm visits. By following COVID guidelines, we are permitted to have groups of up to 6 people, come for farm tours. Therapy riding is slowly commencing for our independent riders.

We had the honor of having Jake here to help our farm workers. Jake is the inspiration for the Special Spirit organization. A few years ago, Jake was required to do an Eagle Scout project; he asked if he could build a greenhouse.

Of course, we gave permission for that. Jake, being a very resourceful young man, went to work and raised all money needed for the greenhouse building. Since the beginning of this year, he has been helping the



Jake and Apache

Danny’s Farm workers, ETTA & Tierra Del Sol employees with their daily jobs at the ranch. Jake always works incredibly hard and is such a wonderful person and part of the Special Spirit family. He

(Please see “Weather on p.11)

(“Weather” cont’d from p. 10)

returns home to Maryland soon, but we hope he will come back very soon!

Another amazing volunteer of ours, Noah Schneider, has been doing such incredible work for us! He is an exceptionally talented graphic designer who has been dedicating his spare time at the ranch to work on our projects. He is helping us design a flyer for the summer camp we will be hosting at the ranch, which will include arts & crafts activities, something Noah is deeply passionate about. Quote from Noah: “Volunteering for Special Spirit & Danny’s Farm has been amazing for me. I love coming to the ranch, it is such a nice and peaceful place for me, it has been great for my mental health.” Noah has been with us for almost 2 years now and we are so grateful to have him a part of the Special Spirit family.

Christopher Pine’s (a horse) owner Linda raised \$1,000 for her birthday fundraiser benefitting Special Spirit. We really appreciate her support for our cause, and a big thank you to all of her friends. Many of you know that Linda is a very talented painter. Look out for an invite in a few weeks from Linda and Special Spirit; she will start a “Paint and Sip” in our new art studio. We are so lucky to have such great people part of our community who help us continue our vital work. Happy Birthday Linda!



Prohibit Inhumane Treatment of Animals at Rodeos?
By Elektra Kruger

The City of Los Angeles has taken a leadership role in banning the use of bull hooks in the handling of elephants at traveling circuses or exhibitions and the sale of fur products. Similarly, action to address inhumane treatment of animals at rodeos is long overdue. Numerous American cities already have rodeo prohibitions/restrictions in place including Pasadena, Irvine, Napa County, Fort Wayne in Indiana, St. Petersburg in Florida, Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, Southampton in New York, etc. These prohibitions/restrictions include such things as any act which would “induce or encourage” an animal through the use of any practice or technique be it mechanical, electrical, manual device, etc. that may cause, or is likely to cause, physical injury, torment or suffering to an animal partaking in a rodeo or rodeo-like event. Rodeos have often been known to utilize a number of inhumane implements such as electric prods, flank straps, and spurs to aggressively encourage a desired behavior in an animal. Animals have been known to suffer significant injuries during events associated with rodeos such as bull and bronco riding, steer wrestling and calf roping. It can happen that animals must be put down as a result of injuries sustained during these events. In recognition of this, in early December 2020, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield presented a Motion to the Los Angeles City Council asking that it request the City Attorney to prepare an present to the Council an Ordinance that would prohibit the use of electric prods

(Continued next column)

(Cont’d)

or shocking devices, flank or bucking straps, wire tie-downs and sharpened or fixed spurs or rowels at all rodeos or rodeo-related events in the City of Los Angeles modeled after a similar Ordinance banning the aforementioned implements which became effective in the City of Pittsburgh in 1992. The Motion was referred to the City Council’s Animal Welfare Committee for their review and recommendations.



Quickies!
By Cindy Bloom, SHPOA Board

1. **COVID-19 Cases:** As of February 23, 2021, Shadow Hills’ cases are now 368, up 133% from 158 cases reported in the January-February 2021 newsletter. Shadow Hills has had 3 deaths. The case rate per 100,000 is 8,285. Compare this to Sunland at 10,594, Lake View Terrace at 17,132, and Sun Valley at 17,145.

2. **Vaccinations:** Vaccination Rate (unsure if this is for single or double doses) As of February 23, 2021, Shadow Hills: 565 (15%); Sun Valley: 4,448 (11.2%); Sunland: 2,608 (15.3%); Lake View Terrace: 1,326 (13.2%). To quickly get onto a vaccination notification list, go to <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

3. **Penalties Increasing for Illegal Dumping:** Dumping waste, materials, packaging, and equipment on L.A. streets, sidewalks, and alleys or in public bins is a crime and is subject to increased fines or criminal prosecution. Penalties for violations under City and/or State law are punishable from \$200 to \$25,000 fines and/or jail time. Surveillance cameras are installed across the city—along with private cameras—will be used to pursue violators. Undercover and uniformed officers have been deployed. Citizens may report using the MyLA311 app. Report offenders!



Need a Fender Bender Traffic Accident Report for Your Insurance Company? Good Luck!
By Jacqy Gamble, SHPOA Board

At the recent Sun Valley Coffee Time with the LAPD, Traffic Officer Flores filled us in on the new “car accident reporting” criteria.

The Los Angeles Police Department has expanded the use of the Community Online Reporting Service (CORS). CORS was established to allow community members to report minor incidents through the online reporting service. The Department has expanded the types of traffic collisions that can be reported through CORS. This will eliminate the dispatching of police resources to investigate these traffic collisions. The following types of traffic collisions shall be filed through “CORS” (https://www.lapdonline.org/home/content_basic_view/60409)

1. Minor Damage
2. Complaint of pain
3. Other Visible Minor injury

(Please see “Reports” on p.12)

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

4. Hit and run Misdemeanor

As a result, the Los Angeles Police Department will only conduct at-scene investigations involving the following types of traffic collisions:

1. Fatality
2. Serious injury
3. Hit and run with injury
4. Some city property involved with possible city liability
5. Driving under the influence

Officers shall not complete these reports to avoid any preferential treatment of services. Community members should be directed to their insurance company, public library, relative or City council field office if assistance is needed in filing the report.

This will also negatively impact SHPOA's ability to recover damage costs to the white fencing on Sunland Blvd by filing claims through the drivers insurance carriers. This now puts the additional burden on all of us as residents of this neighborhood to see that whenever an accident causes damage to the white fencing to call LAPD Valley Traffic Division to make sure a traffic report is filed at the time of the accident.

SHPOA tested this new criteria . . . There is no

(Continued next column)

(Cont'd)

way to place a Traffic Division damage call in the evening when most of these accidents occur. We have already had difficulty getting the accident reports for fencing damage. This will make getting the accident information almost impossible.

Please direct any questions and concerns regarding the new reporting criteria to the following:

Mayor Eric Garcetti : 213-978-0600
 LAPD Chief Moore: 213-486-0150
 Deputy Chief Blake Chow 213-486-0690
 LAPD Valley Traffic Division 818-644-8000

We need anyone seeing accidents that damage the fencing to collect the following info at the scene of the accident:

1. License plate numbers of all vehicles involved.
2. Names and insurance carriers of the vehicle drivers.
3. Date, time and address of the accident.
4. Report info and a picture to SHPOA.

Editor's Note: My insurance company required an accident report for an uninsured motorist's claim in order to waive my \$1,000 deductible. Due to LAPD's requirement, I was unable to provide it. Eventually, they accepted this fact and waived my deductible.



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Council District 7 COVID-19 Vaccine Mobile Locations

The City of Los Angeles is offering COVID-19 Pfizer vaccinations to **Healthcare workers** and **seniors 65+**. Must make an appointment by calling the corresponding office phone number below.

Requirements:

Healthcare workers must present 2 forms of ID and seniors are to present their ID. Must be a Council District 7 resident (Pacoima, Sylmar, North Hills, Mission Hills, Lakeview Terrace, Sunland, Tujunga, Shadow Hills). All vaccine locations are walk-up only.

Week #1

- Tuesday, March 2, 2021 to Friday, March 5, 2021
- Time: 9AM to 3PM
- Location: Valley Crossroads Seventh Day Adventist
11350 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331
- Appointment Required: Call Pacoima Office (818) 485-0600

Week #2

- Tuesday, March 9, 2021 to Friday, March 12, 2021
- Time: 9AM to 3PM
- Location: Sylmar Recreation Center
13109 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342
- Appointment Required: Call Sylmar Office (818) 756-8409

Week #3

- Tuesday, March 16, 2021 to Friday, March 19, 2021
- Time: 9AM to 3PM
- Location: North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd. Tujunga CA 91042
- Appointment Required: Call Sunland-Tujunga Office (818) 352-3287

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“dewatering” would have to be implemented which would require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. If the polluted water is discharged into the sanitary sewer system, an Industrial Waste Permit issued by the Bureau of Sanitation would also be needed.



Update on the Sidewalk Repair Ordinance – Part 5
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Prior to composing the actual Sidewalk Repair Ordinance, it would be necessary to evaluate the environmental impacts of, and thus limitations to, proceeding with the program itself in any given area. One such impact would be that of any impact the program would have on Cultural Resources which includes such things as any significant negative impacts on a historic, tribal, archaeological or paleontological resource. If any section of the sidewalk repair project were to cause a substantial negative impact to any item of historic value, the Secretary of Interior’s Guidelines for preserving, rehabilitating, restoring, and reconstructing historic buildings are to be followed. Were there to be a substantial negative impact of an archeological resource, the City must prepare an archeological treatment plan (ATP) that would ensure the long-term protection of, proper treatment of and documentation of any archeologically significant items. Were any section of sidewalk repair to cause substantial negative impact to a paleontological resource, a qualified paleontologist shall be retained by the City to develop a plan for the monitoring and treatment of fossil remains (PMTP). At any point in time during sidewalk repair activities, if any unexpected items of archeological or paleontological interest were to be encountered, repair activities are to cease immediately until the ATP/PMTP has completed its designated plans for preservation. Prior to composing the actual Sidewalk Repair Ordinance, it would also be necessary to evaluate any potentially negative geological and/or soil impacts. If the repair project were to require an excavation greater than 5 feet to accommodate existing underground utilities, a Shoring Plan may be needed. Also prior to composing the actual Sidewalk Repair Ordinance, it would be necessary to evaluate the project for the possibility of encountering hazards and/or hazardous materials. If any section of sidewalk being repaired is found to contain contaminated ground water, the practice of



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The Toyon and Mexican Elderberry Officially Declared a Los Angeles “Protected Shrub” Effective February 4, 2021? Too Many Exemptions! By Elektra Kruger, Resident

After a very long-term and controversial battle in the many chambers of City Hall, in mid-December 2020, City Council approved Ordinance No. 186873 adding the Toyon (*Heteromeles Arbutifolia*) and Mexican Elderberry (*Sambucus Mexicana*) shrubs to the



Toyon

Los Angeles list of “Protected Trees and Shrubs.” The Ordinance became effective February 4, 2021. The definition of a “Protected Tree or Shrub” per the new Ordinance now reads, “any of the listed Southern California indigenous tree species or indigenous shrub species measuring four inches or more in cumulative diameter four and one-half feet above ground level” shall be classified as a “Protected Tree or Shrub” in the Los Angeles Municipal Code. Listed as “Protected Trees” are any tree of the Oak genus indigenous to Southern California (with the exception of the Scrub Oak, the Southern California Black Walnut, the Western Sycamore, and the California Bay) and now the “Protected Shrubs” of the Mexican Elderberry and the Toyon. No “Protected Tree or Shrub” may be relocated or removed without meeting certain requirements permitting its relocation/removal. The term “removed,” aside from deliberately removing a “Protected Tree or Shrub,” would include any act that would cause it to die by inflicting damage to the root system or any other part of the Tree or Shrub whether by fire, use of toxic substances, use of any structurally altering equipment or by changing the natural grade of the surrounding land. However, permission to remove a “Protected Tree or Shrub” may be granted if “its continued presence in its existing location prevents the ‘reasonable’ development of the property.”

Sorry, but to me that sounds like a carte blanche get-out-of-free card to any developer to remove any existing tree – “Protected or not” – from any location on the land he/she wishes to develop. So why even bother having a Protected Tree and Shrub Or-

(Please see “Protected” on p.15)

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(“Protected” cont’d from p. 14)

dinance? If anyone sees that I am misinterpreting this, please help me better understand this. Then there is the section that says removal of an otherwise “Protected Tree or Shrub” may be granted if it is showing a “substantial decline of normal health and vigor.” That part I can accept if it were to stop there, but the Ordinance goes on to say “and its restoration through appropriate and economically reasonable preservation procedures and practices is not advisable.” Does that again give a developer carte blanche to designate a Protected Tree as unhealthy and claim it to be inadvisable to attempt to restore it? Again, I may need help to understand and accept this section as written.



Mexican Elderberry

(“Stinky” cont’d from p. 8)

for its rural lifestyle with horse and animal keeping protections. The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) founded in 1964, is a volunteer organization committed to the preservation of this lifestyle. SHPOA has successfully protected and promoted our community as a respite and an alternative to the bustling atmosphere of the vast metropolis of Los Angeles.

After careful consideration, SHPOA is opposed to SB 9 which would allow duplexes and lot splits by right. This proposed legislation would destroy our unique community which we have defended for over 50 years. Please consider that the elimination of zoning, which in effect is what this bill would do, is incompatible and inconsistent with the Community Plans. These Plans were specifically designed, with volunteer input from each community, to create protections to reflect the best planning design for that given community. A blanket proposal such as SB 9 would eliminate the Community Plans city-wide, which when initially written were promised to be the prevailing guideline for all proposed future development in the City of Los Angeles.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,
Tina Eick, SHPOA President
818-926-1831

(Continued next column)

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(Cont'd)

What We All Need To Do

(Note: these instructions will be posted on our website www.shpoa.us):

1. **Create Account** <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/faces/index.xhtml> (create user name & password)
2. **Login.** Then, use pulldown menu to select the bill (you can only submit one bill and to one committee at a time).
3. Hit **search**.
4. **Select Committee.** A pulldown menu will appear with the appropriate committees.
5. **Select button** with your stance: Support or Oppose
6. **Copy & paste, or write directly into text box.** Alternatively, you can upload a letter from your computer. Word or pdf works.
7. Hit **Submit**.

If there are additional committees, please repeat.

It's also a good idea to separately email or mail your letter to: Sen. Anthony Portantino (senator.portantino@senate.ca.gov); Assemblywoman Luz Rivas (assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov); Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez (Councilmember.Rodriguez@lacity.org).



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Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tuesday, March 16th @ 7:00 via Zoom

Community Calendar

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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

ETI C20

- 1st Monday, Every Month
- Becky Borquez, 818-262-7764
- ETINational.com

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)

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