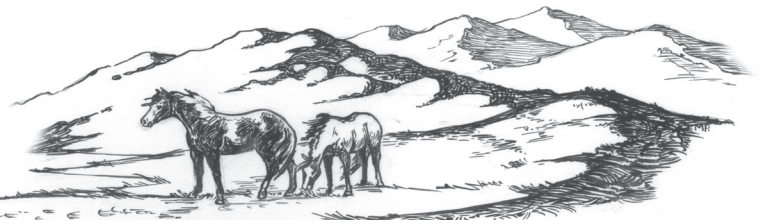


SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 45, Issue 2

SHPOA Mar-April 2022

SHPOA Recap of Jan. 11th General Meeting By Tina Eick, Board

The SHPOA General Meeting for 1-11-22 was called to order by Tina Eick at 7:00 by Zoom. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Eick welcomed everyone to the New Year and then introduced the SHPOA Board members to the general membership. Eick then turned the meeting over to Jacqy Gamble, Vice President who introduced our guest speakers for the evening, Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez (CD7) and her Area Director Eve Sinclair. Owynn Lancaster was the Zoom Master for the guest presentation.

Councilwoman Rodriguez greeted membership with well wishes and thanked us for “joining her office in partnership” to accomplish our goals. She explained that although her office has faced crisis from the onset of her term - the La Tuna, Creek Fire and Saddle Ridge fire and subsequent examination of flood and fire response policies, Councilwoman Rodriguez recounted the specific achievements, in close collaboration with the Department of Transportation, to improve the equestrian lifestyle in Shadow Hills including expenditure of 1.7 million dollars to install the hawk beacon signals; secure funding from the Athens Community Trust Fund to improve traffic conditions (speed signs and highway redesign) on Sunland Blvd and Wentworth and the 4 million federal grant for trail improvements in the Hansen Dam and throughout CD 7. Additionally, Councilwoman Rodriguez has been elected to chair the Upper Los Angeles River Tributaries Working Group which will identify areas in the park and dam for improvements. Councilwoman Rodriguez recounted her successful reduction of density of the former Verdugo Hills Golf course. Rodriguez thanked her Area Director, Eve Sinclair along with individuals in the community who have collaborated to resolve many of the specific challenges facing our community.

At this point, Owynn Lancaster asked the following questions which had been submitted prior to the meeting:

1. Can the Shadow Hills Property Owners Association enter into a contract with the City of LA to indemnify them from liability due to their voluntary efforts to repair the white fencing along Sunland Blvd? [It should be noted that there were several similar questions regarding the indemnification of SHPOA for its volunteer work on the fences]. Bill Eick elaborated on the history of the fencing: the Santa Monica Moun-

(Cont'd next column)

Join us for our virtual Zoom Meeting

March 8 - 7:00 pm

* Johnny Higginson, Director of two Non-Profits: Shadow Hills Riding Club (Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies) and Saddles for Soldiers

www.Zoom.us

Meeting ID: 894 3882 5419

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

(Cont'd)

tains Conservancy (SMMC) provided the funding and construction of the white fencing along Sunland Blvd in the 1990's. The SMMC turned the maintenance of the fencing over to the City of LA. Subsequently and due to long City delays in fence repairs, the SHPOA has volunteered to repair the fencing. Councilwoman Rodriguez then suggested that in the Department of Public Works, and within the Office of Community Beautification there is the process to indemnify volunteers through a formal agreement (as was the case to protect volunteers involved in the Median beautification program). The Councilwoman mentioned Public Works Commissioner, Paul Raich, might be able to help with the process. There is a Public Works form on-line which we can access.

2. Can LAPD fill out the necessary paperwork for all accidents along Sunland Blvd. which damage the white fencing as it is City of LA property and therefore needs a report in order to cover fence repair costs? Councilwoman Rodriguez stated that reports should be filled out on an LAPD on-line service in order to prevent overburdening PD.

3. Is there a current traffic study for Sunland Blvd and does it include more signage including radar and speed warning signs? Can the white fencing be swapped out for metal guard rails? Councilwoman Rodriguez said that those decisions will be decided on a case-by-case basis. She used La Tuna Canyon fire and the subsequent funding priorities as an example. She said that the swapping out of fencing for a more permanent protection railing system needs funding which is feasible. She also said that “speed tracking” is already in the works. Because the Councilwoman sits on various committees in-

(Please see “Meeting” on p. 2)

2022 SHPOA Board Members

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

Executive Officers

President: Tina Eick
board@shpoa.us

Vice President: Jacqy Gamble

Executive Secretary: vacant

Recording Secretary: Owynn Lancaster

Treasurer: Michael Stein

Membership: Jo Rich, Chair
membership@shpoa.us
 Michael Stein

Appointed Officers

Land Use: vacant

Equestrian and Trails: Rosey Payne (Liaison)

Special Projects: Jo Rich (Events)
 Azalia Snail

Neighborhood Watch: Vacant

Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets: Susan Wong
shpoa@shpoa.us

Webmaster: Michael Stein
webmaster@shpoa.us

Traffic Safety Coordinator: Carlos George

Newsletter Editor and Article Collection: Tina Eick
board@shpoa.us

Newsletter Advertising : Michael Stein
webmaster@shpoa.us

Newsletter Design/Layout: Cindy Bloom

Hospitality: vacant

Historian: Gerardo Barrientos

SHPOA's Mailing Address: P.O. Box 345, Sunland, CA 91041

SHPOA's E-mail Address: shpoa@shpoa.us or board@shpoa.us

Website: www.shpoa.us

Senior Lead Police Officers:

Sunland/Shadow Hills/LVT Violet Potter
35464@lapd.online

Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West Violet Potter
35464@lapd.online
 LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk
 818-756-8861

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

President: Kevin Davis
president@ftdnc.org

Area rep: Cindy Bloom
cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org

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

cluding Homeless and Poverty committee, Planning and Land Use committee, Budget committee she has been able to identify idle funds which she has then been able to direct to CD7. The Councilwoman thanked the Department of Transportation and other allies for their collaboration in identifying and mitigating areas of need throughout the District.

4. Due to the increased ambient noise levels and the new flight plans for the Burbank airport, what mitigation measures are being employed by the City? The Councilwoman has asked the FAA to consider the needs of the neighboring communities to move the flight patterns and she is committed to continue to advocate for the communities' interests.

5. Regarding the Redistricting process, how as a community can we proactively protect the entire community and its historic integrity when the process comes up 10 years from now? Councilwoman Rodriguez responded that the goal of redistricting is the equitable distribution of population throughout the districts, honoring the Voting Acts legislation, keeping communities of interest intact while preventing a district from becoming overpopulated. There was a suggestion that it may be time to add more districts to adequately represent the growing population. Councilwoman Rodriguez said that the current pressing issues throughout the district need to be prioritized and addressed.

6. Many of our dedicated horse trails throughout Shadow Hills have been closed or fenced off by neighbors (for example: the trail next to Tierra Del Sol) Can the Council office help us to handle this sensitive issue to keep and protect these trails? Councilwoman Rodriguez said that this issue could be addressed by Building and Safety or possibly Street Services. An inspector from the City can identify public right-of-ways to assist in the issue. The Councilwoman suggested that these trails be individually addressed. The Councilwoman has set up an Equestrian Advisory Board to address the equestrian issues from Sylmar to La Tuna Canyon. She encouraged us to prepare a detailed list of those trails and join the Advisory Board so that the council office can obtain the funding to better preserve the trail systems. Currently, Linda Fullerton sits on the Equine Advisory Board for Shadow Hills but is in the process of moving. Shadow Hills will need a new representative on the Board. There is a city-wide equine trust fund to continue to improve trails systems throughout. But she advised that the best way to accomplish our trail goals is to create one single list. SHPOA is asking for a volunteer to join the Equine Advisory Board in order to represent our community on trail identification and protection for the future. If you are interested, please contact Tina Eick at tinaeick@icloud.com or 818-926-1831.

(Please see "Meeting" on p. 3)

(“Meeting” cont’d from p. 2)

7. What will the City of Los Angeles do to comply with SB1383 - the organic waste law? This law is going to be challenging for many households in LA. Councilwoman Rodriguez is going to propose a pilot program (fashioned after the program in Florence) to compost community waste at a singular site.

8. What is the status of the updated code to arm Park Rangers in the City of Los Angeles? Councilwoman Rodriguez responded that the biggest problem with this department is understaffing, with only “a couple of dozen rangers” for the entire city. And so before investing in arms, providing body cameras, setting up the infrastructure and oversight committees that must accompany arming the unit, the priority now is in “ramping up the staff”, hiring not only Park Rangers but Fire Department personnel and other understaffed agencies citywide.

At this point, Councilwoman Rodriguez thanked us for inviting her and excused herself to join another Zoom meeting. Area Director for Councilwoman Rodriguez, Eve Sinclair, then answered the few remaining specific questions:

1. The Daily Fodder will address specific concerns as to why certain roads seem to get more attention than other roads for repair and rework based on specific traffic and safety incidences.

2. Recruitment for Park Rangers will be noted in the Daily Fodder, and will be part of the police academy training.

3. Resurfacing and slurry seal are two different procedures. Resurfacing process involves grinding off the surface of the road, resulting in a deep change of the street surface. Slurry seal is a sealant process used every 3 -5 years after the street has been resurfaced. The sealant protects from water getting underneath which lengthens the lifespan of the asphalt from 5 to 7 years. Many streets in Shadow Hills (including Wornom) were treated with slurry seal in December. This slurry treatment lowers the cost of continually resurfacing streets which allows the district to spend the funds elsewhere in the District. It should be noted that each district gets a certain number of “claim miles” per year. CD7 spends 80% on “fair or good” condition and 20% on poor condition. Potholes can be repaired by calling 311. Tuxford and Roscoe are not in CD7 so those calls need to be directed to CD6.

4. There is a sewer lateral repair grant available for sewage leaks. Call the council office to report. Additionally, the council office handles street light outages.

Teresa Lamb Simpson from Congressman Schiff’s office sent New Year’s greetings and reported on the bipartisan infrastructural bill including roads, bridges, highways, public transit and passenger rail.

Committee Reports:

Recording Secretary Report: Lynne Toby reported
(Please see “Meeting” on p. 4)

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association



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)

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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

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

that she had already sent out the Minutes from the November General meeting in the Daily Fodder. Lynne asked for any additions or corrections to the Minutes. There were none. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report: Michael Stein reported that currently SHPOA has \$27,812.96 in the checking account; \$10,052.53 in savings. Total cash on hand of \$37,865.49. Restricted funds are \$10,052.00 which goes to trails and \$9,503.53 for SAFE project. Our cash balance is \$18,003.09

Membership thus far is 80 renewals. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership report: Jo Rich not present. Jo reported by phone to Tina Eick that she is spending weekends at East Valley Feed collecting SHPOA memberships.

Holiday House Decorating Contest: Susan Wong announced the winners for the annual house Decorating Contest. 10446 Dotson - Most Spiritual; 10538 Art Street - Most Unique; 10144 Wheatland - Most Spectacular; 9620 Stonehurst Ave - Most Humorous; 10922 Elinda Place - Honorable Mention. Susan thanked the participants and the judges for a wonderful community event.

Land Use Report: Tina Eick reported that SB9 and SB 10 has since passed which threatens single family residential communities throughout the state of California. It is now up to our local jurisdictions to pass legislation to curb some of the negative impacts of SB9 and SB10 until such time (hopefully this November) that a State amendment is introduced on the ballot which would supersede SB9 and SB10.

Trails Report: Rosey Payne reported that SHPOA is working hard to keep open designated horse trails throughout Shadow Hills, fearing that the loss of those trails will put equestrians on streets to access the Hansen Dam and Big Tujunga Wash. Rosey was happy that Councilwoman Rodriguez was working on equestrian concerns and she will be reaching out to the council office to address specific concerns.

Traffic Safety Coordinator Report: Carlos George reported that efforts were under way to repair broken white fencing along Sunland Blvd. Carlos expressed his support of acquiring some form of indemnification from the City in order to protect volunteers from law suits. He wanted to use the on-line LAPD program in order to report damaged city property but it was still unclear about the actual procedure and the time it takes for a response from the City. Carlos, and his crew (Gerardo and Michael) were reminded of the traffic risks, Carlos reminded the City that we need radar equipment to monitor the speeding on Sunland Blvd. in order to slow down traffic. A discussion followed on the most reliable, closest fence suppliers, ProVinyl in Sun Valley.

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

Daily Fodder and Outreach Report: Susan Wong reported that she still needs articles and photos for the Daily Fodder.

Newsletter Format Report: Cindy Bloom reported that she enjoyed getting the articles and advertising in order to create the bimonthly Newsletter.

Webmaster Report: Michael Stein asked for submissions and videos to put up on the website.

Special Projects Report: Azalia Snail reported that due to the covid surge, in-person events are temporarily on hold. She has communicated with Villa Terraza Restaurant on Sunland Blvd. to arrange a SHPOA fundraiser in the spring - possibly with live entertainment. There was discussion about holding the SHPOA Breakfast and SHPOA BBQ.

With no old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



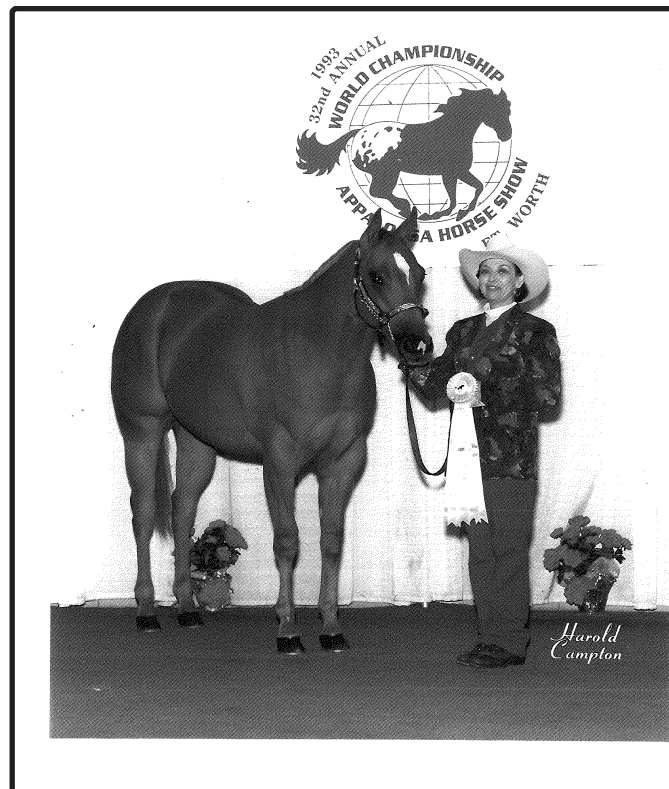
Obituary for Betty Pumpian
By Paul Pumpian, Resident

Long time Shadow Hills resident, Betty Pumpian has gone to greener pastures at the age of 86.

She and husband, Paul Pumpian, entered our community in 1971 and for years, were active in Corral 20 and on the park's riding trails.

Betty had been VP of two national ad agencies and served on several of the Executive Boards of the Appaloosa Horse Club.

The couple had been married for 66 years.



Obituary for Mike Fullerton
By Bill Eick, Board

We are sad to announce that Mike Fullerton, a former president of SHPOA, has died. He and his wife Linda have been long time activists for the community and for horses. Linda has moved up north to be with her family members. They will both be missed.



Theft Of Copper Wiring From City Street Lights
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Basic City lighting infrastructure has considerable impact on the overall quality of a street especially as it relates to transportation and public safety. Frequent thefts of copper wiring from City lighting fixtures not only results in lengthy street lighting outages, endangering the public but also costs taxpayers millions of dollars in repairs in exchange for the few dollars from scrap dealers the criminals may receive. Copper wire theft is not new to the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL) and the City of Los Angeles. In 2019 the City Council appropriated an additional \$500,000 in overtime costs to enable the BSL's copper wire theft task force to bring lights back on-line. Because the price of scrap copper has nearly doubled in the last 18 months, copper wire thefts has become more lucrative for criminals resulting in repair response times to grow to over two months. In response to this Councilmembers Paul Krekorian, Bob Blumenfield and Mitch O'Farrell presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Bureau of Street Lighting to prepare and present a report on neighborhoods most significantly impacted by street light outages especially those areas subject to repeated outages and the budget and staffing needed to assure the restoration of any street light outage within seven days of such outage being reported. In addition to that, the Motion asked that the City Council instruct the Bureau of Street Lighting to prepare and present a report on a comprehensive strategy to prevent copper and other metals from being stolen in the first place which might include such things as reinforcing the public infrastructure making the metal components less accessible and possibly affixing GPS trackers in often-stolen pieces of City equipment to enable the tracing and destination of the stolen goods which might identify patterns of organized criminal activity. The Motion further asked that the City Council instruct the City's Chief Legislative Analyst and City Attorney to report on the potential criminal liability of scrap businesses receiving property stolen from the City of Los Angeles and any options to impose a regulatory and permitting regimen on these scrap metal businesses and recyclers that would allow the City to shut down any business that fails to conduct due diligence on determining the origin of the materials that it receives. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review and recommendations.



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Shadows Of The Hills – Sunland Park
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Close your eyes to the quiet homeless encampments, tennis courts and occasional baseball games of the 2022 Sunland Park and open them up to the park's heyday years of the 1930s and 1940s when crowds gathered to enjoy the two amusement parks with their signature carnival games and ferris wheels, five restaurants/cafes, pony ride concession and for a time, even an outdoor movie theater at the site of today's Sunland Post Office. A miniature train with its Model A engine rumbled and revved around the amusement park across from the baseball field. From a northerly high embankment, train passengers could look down on swimmers and sunbathers at the swim park. There was a motorized ride for younger kids which consisted of little cars going in circles. Rice's Café, once located at the same site as today's Foursquare Church, included an open-air dance pavilion complete with juke box that attracted crowds of teenagers. Soon after the war ended, crowds began to dwindle and the attractions and cafes began going out of business. Today, a trip around the park reveals no sign of any of the old businesses that once thrived there.



The Original Funeral Parlor
By Marlene Hitt, Resident

No matter how strong men are, how good lookin' the women, or that all the children are above average, people get sick and old and leave this earth. When the population rises, the settler families can no longer indulge in do-it-yourself burials. So, in the case of the Tujunga Valley, a funeral home was built with mortuary persons available.

The first building was a ramshackle structure, touted as "with rustic charm" placed at 7257 Foothill Boulevard, opened about 1925, well after the arrival of the farmers and the homesteaders. The "Funeral Parlor, an Architect's Nightmare" was considered a masterpiece of rustic charm and was soon called Tujunga Undertakers, operated by White and Brown.

Three years or so later the place was bought by Fred Bade and moved to Tujunga Canyon Blvd. Ownership later passed on to a charitable group called United Charitable Distributing Association. In 1957 arsonists set fire to the building, not too sad since the structure was a rat's nest and fire hazard. A year later UCDA swapped the property to Boulevard Christian Church. Reverend Lavin soon sold it to Anawalt Lumber Company. Then Allan Bade followed his father in the mortuary business at the Tujunga Canyon Blvd. address until 1957 when Lou Brusseau took over. The last group to be hosted in the funeral parlor is, again, a church.

As found in the archive, Funeral Record Number One, recorded on a brown and brittle paper:

(Please see "Parlor" on p.7)

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(“Parlor” cont’d from p. 6)

“Mr. W., Conrad. White. No mother’s name. German born. Died Monte Vista Boulevard, Tujunga. Two ladies attending. Dr. Jelenik. Cause of death pulmonary tuberculosis. Mr. W. merchant, protestant, married. Died at 37 years and 7 months. Now lies in number 43 grey brocade Viconette by Hollywood Casket Company and rests in Forest Lawn. His casket and pillow one hundred and forty dollars, embalming twenty-five dollars, personal service also twenty five dollars. Paid in full. Dated May 29, 1927”.

The records, so carefully kept, are a memorial to each and every life. But there must have been more to the life of Mr. W. When a docent at Bolton Hall recorded obituaries for data entry she used the opportunity to once again remember one person’s life.

This reminds me: The Verdugo Hills Pioneer Cemetery, Hills of Peace, is being renovated and will hold a grand celebration in April of this year. We will all have another opportunity to give respect to those people buried there, to remember them and their families.




Decrease Value Of Property Theft
To Be Classified As “Grand Theft”
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

In 2014, California voters approved Proposition 47 which reduced penalties for property theft valued at less than \$950 to be classified as a mere misdemeanor. In light of the current trend toward coordinated burglaries such as smash-and-grab and follow-home robberies, Councilmember John Lee felt a great need for law enforcement and prosecutors to be provided with increased means to provide for public safety. Currently, pending before the California State Legislature is AB 1603, a Bill presented by Assemblymember Salas, which if approved would decrease the threshold for the value of property thefts from \$950 to \$400 to be charged as Grand Theft thereby hopefully serving as a greater deterrent preventing further escalation of coordinated thefts. In an effort to demonstrate Los Angeles’ commitment to protecting the well-being and property of its residents and retail community, in early January 2022, Councilmember Lee presented a Resolution to City Council asking that they support the adoption of AB 1603. One Public Comment thanked the City Council for actually attempting to do something to try to “restore some semblance of sanity in our crime crisis.” The Resolution has been submitted to the City Council’s Intergovernmental Relations Committee for their review and recommendations.

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






House and Pet Sitting

By

Krissie and Kelly Holmgren Smith

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Better a witty fool than
a foolish wit.

-William Shakespeare

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

Section 41.18 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code provides that the City Council may, by Resolution, designate specific areas for enforcement against sitting, lying, sleeping, storing/using personal property or otherwise obstructing the public right-of-way.

Beginning in early October 2021, every Council-member began presenting Resolutions asking that specific areas within their Districts fall under enforcement per Section 41.18 of the LAMC. Surprisingly, there was a great deal of public opposition expressed to the submitted Resolutions primarily arguing that the "Street Engagement Strategy" program passed by City Council in September 2021 first be fully funded and implemented being that given proper time, resources and housing-focused outreach efforts of the Strategy's "Encampment to Home" Projects of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) could put people on the path to permanent homes. Implementing enforcement of Section 41.18 without first implementing the "Street Engagement Strategy" might end up disconnecting people experiencing homelessness from the health care services they are receiving and make it difficult to re-engage this population if individuals are relocated without communication between those doing the Section 41.18 placement and service providers.

The Street Engagement Strategy will assist in preventing the disruption of the health care centers providing services to people experiencing homelessness, especially those being served through clinic street medicine programs. While not recognizing the point of Section 41.18 which is to enforce any obstruction of passage along public right-of-ways, much of the opposition expressed by the public to these Resolutions drifted away from enforcement of blockage of the public right-of-ways toward failure of the City to provide adequate affordable housing. "How is it that signs can be put up telling people where they can't be before doing the work of giving them a place to go".

Arguments were presented that the City needs to shift its focus of their homeless solutions to housing and services. There are at least 60,000 unhoused individuals in the County. Per the LA City's own web-site, between 2013-2021 only 172,613 new units of "affordable housing" has been approved for construction. This lack of new affordable housing has led to a huge growth in the unhoused population being witnessed today. Returning to actual point of Section 41.18, as of early November 2021, nine councilmembers had introduced over 300 sites for 41.18 enforcement including Councilmember Buscaino who alone had introduced 172 sites.

Further updates on this subject will be presented in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.



Special Spirit – Learning Ranch
By Eva Lund, Resident

According to the Tiger Chinese Horoscope, this is a very favorable year, Tiger year gets us ready to achieve our goals. The love life will be passionate and romantic while the tigers will prosper in the business sphere. The working professionals will receive appreciation for their hard work. «In Chinese culture, the tiger is the symbol of bravery, wisdom and strength. Oh, how we need bravery in these times of change, and to use the wisdom and strength, that we hopefully acquired during the last couple of years, now when we are finally moving forward to a “new normal.”

Recently we saw something about vibrations on Facebook, “all feeling makes you broadcast a vibration that can be either positive or negative. Be wary of our thoughts, they emit frequency to the universe, the company we surround ourselves with happy or sad, the music we listen to, what we watch on tv, our surroundings, what words we use and finally the best one, gratitude. It is all about positive or negative vibrations, and we all choose where we want to be.

At Special Spirit we choose positive. We used the time off to redo our presence in the community by creating programs suitable for the times we are living in. Welcome to The Learning Ranch!

Special Spirit–The Learning Ranch, an all-inclusive animal paradise that encompasses the spiritual bond between animals and humans. Through ground-based farming activities, horseback trail rides, and social events, we strive to provide a meaningful destination for the entire community.



(Please see “Learning” on p.10)

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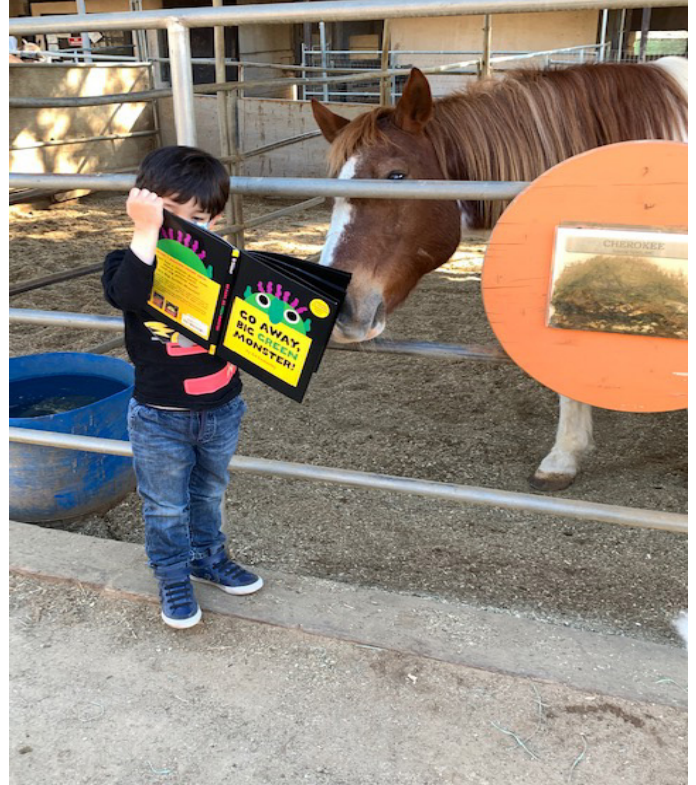
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("Learning" cont'd from p. 9)

We are proud to carry forward the legacy of Danny's Farm. Danny is moving on, (look out for his inspiring videos at dannysfarm.org). The petting zoo is open to the public Monday thru Friday from 10am to 2pm and is only \$10 per person. Come and meet our animals! We now have over 40 animals in the Special Spirit family, alpacas, horses, pigs, goats, sheep, ponies, mini horses, chickens, turkeys, dogs, cats, and a donkey. Feel free to come and visit our friendly animals and staff and learn about all the new programs and events we have going on at the Ranch.



One of these exciting new programs is "Reading at the Ranch," inspired by The Learning Ranch participants Donny and Grayson. Donny was caught reading to Cherokee after one of his Walk & Talk Riding sessions. Cherokee was very interested, and Donny read fluently to him. He changed the timbre of his voice to suit the story, matching new voices to characters as he read along. His parents standing nearby in awe, had never heard him read with such freedom and ease. Grayson was found in the alpaca's stall reading a book he found in our Free Little Library to the amusement of Rufus and Casper, our alpacas.

Special Spirit - The Learning Ranch is striving to be the most happening community center in Shadow Hills. Thank you to the SHPOA community for your continued support of our initiatives. Special Spirit and The Learning Ranch are so thankful to be part of the wonderful and supportive community of Shadow Hills.

We invite everyone to please visit our newly redone website www.specialspirit.org to learn about all the

(Please see "Learning" on p.11)

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

changes we made and to join our mailing list, so you can stay up to date on all our events.



Ultimutt Leash Guidelines - It's The Leash You Can Do
 By Susan Wong, Board

Has everyone seen a certain actors' video "warning" people who hike in Griffith Park to watch out for coyotes because his dog was attacked by coyotes? <https://www.msn.com/en-us/video/animals/actor-travis-van-winkle-warns-hikers-after-his-dog-was-attacked-by-coyotes-in-la/vi-AATb110>.

He was throwing sticks and bark down a ravine for his unleashed dog to chase ... So, this was totally preventable, had his dog been on a leash. You know, like all the posted signs in the park clearly state. And in accordance with the City and the County of LA's leash law ordinances.

Friends of Griffith Park released a statement: "ALL dogs should be leashed in the Park because Griffith Park is an "urban-wilderness" meaning, it's a shared resource. This Park is home to a variety of species including coyote, rattlesnakes, and other dangerous animals, so if you want to ensure the safety of your pet and yourself ... LEASH it while hiking in the Park!"

So, let's review....

Question: Where is it OK for your dog to be off-leash?

Answer: 1. In your own house. 2. Outside on your own private property in a properly contained area. 3. In a designated fenced off-leash dog-park where ALL dogs must be off-leash.

Question: Why?

There are many reasons why a dog should be leashed when off his owner's property.

Firstly, it is the law in LA County and the City of LA: The Leash Law (10.32.010)* prohibits dogs from running at large on any public street, park or other public areas or upon private property other than that of the dog owner. A dog must be restrained by a substantial leash not exceeding six feet and be in the control of a competent person when off the owner's property.

Now, for all the MANY other reasons.

Let's start with the safety of your OWN dog. A dog on a leash:

- is less likely to be hit by a car.
- is less likely to run off and get lost or stolen.
- is less likely to be exposed to Parvo or Distemper (you can control their sniffing other dog's

(Please see "Leash" on p.12)



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(“Leash” cont’d from p. 11)

droppings).

- is less likely to provoke the attention of coyotes protecting their territory, leading to a scary encounter or a bad outcome.
- is less likely to be bitten by rattlesnakes or scorpions.
- can be prevented from eating something dangerous, disease-producing, or poisonous off the ground.
- Is less likely to bite or injure someone, which could lead to the dog being removed from your home or quarantined, and you being sued.
- is less likely to fall off some of the steep cliffs in the area.
- is less likely to be pepper-sprayed by another dog owner wishing to protect their own dog from your loose dog. Dog owners have a right to protect their dog and do not like to hurt an off-leash dog, but may find it necessary.

Another reason to keep your dog on a leash is to be considerate of other dogs walking on a leash in the same area:

- A leashed dog often feels danger when a strange unleashed dog runs up to him. The dog has two choices in the face of danger: fight or flight. A dog on a leash knows he can not flee, so gets ready for a fight. The two dogs are not on equal footing, and the encounter has a good chance of ending badly.
- Senior dogs; those recovering from surgery, illness, or injuries; shy pups and fearful dogs may also find the attention of off-leash dogs upsetting or overwhelming.
- Even friendly dogs may not appreciate interacting with another dog in such a socially unequal situation.

Let’s continue our reasons to always have your dog leashed outside your property and being a good neighbor:

- A dog on a leash will allow you to be able to see and pick up all your dog’s droppings. This makes you a good neighbor to your human neighbors, but also a good neighbor to the wildlife in this area.

- On a leash your dog is less likely to chase, attack, and injure your neighbor or your neighbor’s other dogs, wildlife, livestock. The owner of the dog would be held liable for these incidents.

(Please see “Leash” on p.13)

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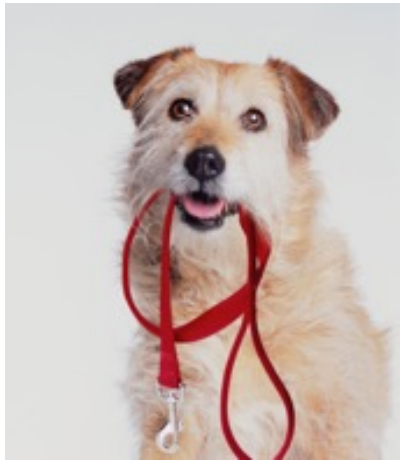


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("Leash" cont'd from p. 12)

- On a leash you can more likely control your own dog if another dog or coyote provokes your dog.
- A dog on a leash can not run into the street and cause an accident when someone swerves to avoid hitting him.
- A dog on a leash is unlikely to damage a neighbor's property.
- Your loose dog may cause one of your neighbors walking their dog on a leash to feel anxious and afraid when your unleashed dog bounds towards them, or be injured when their own properly leashed dogs try to flee your charging dog and the leash wraps around their legs, causing your neighbor to fall and injure themselves.
- On a leash your dog will not cause people to need cut a walk short or change the direction of their walk to avoid your off-leash dog.

Several neighbors have said that unleashed dogs are becoming a problematic issue in Shadow Hills, and in the nearby parks. What should you do if an unleashed dogs rushes up to you and your dog? Always know that you are within your rights to protect yourself and your dog. The first thing to do is evaluate the situation and look for an owner. Call to the owner to call his dog; if the owner responds "Oh, it is OK, he is friendly", respond quickly that "My dog is not; call your dog NOW and leash him". (Some people have had success by saying "My dog is contagious" or other creative white lies).



If there is no owner or the owner calls the dog and the dog ignores him or if the owner himself ignores (or worse, threatens) you, there are several methods that may work to de-escalate the situation. You may call out "Sit" or "Leave it" or "No" or "Enough" or "Stay". You may throw some treats toward the dog to startle him and get him to start eating the treats off the ground while you exit the area. Some people have resorted to carrying umbrellas to open them at the loose dog to startle them. Others have used a citronella spray product by Premier/Petsafe, which is safe to spray at oncoming dogs. NEVER use pepper spray, which can harm both the unleashed dog as well as yourself and your own dog. Another option is a Sport and Safety Horn, which is small but emits a VERY LOUD noise, scaring all the dogs involved enough to stop and just try get away.

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

If you see unleashed dogs without an owner or with an owner who refuses to comply when asked to leash their dog, and if you and/or your pet are injured by an off-leash dog, please call Animal Control at 888-452-7381. Take photos if safe. Follow it up with a written report, mailed to East Valley Animal Shelter, 14409 Vanowen St, Van Nuys, CA 91405.

Resources used:

<http://www.laanimalservices.com/shelters/>

<https://www.broomfield.org/DocumentCenter/View/1327/Top10ReasonsToLeashYourDog?bidId=>

<https://paws4udogs.wordpress.com/2013/07/15/dealing-with-off-leash-dogs/>

<http://animalbehaviorassociates.com/blog/put-stop-offleash-dogs-onleash-areas/> <https://iheartdogs.com/15-reasons-to-keep-your-dog-on-leash-even-when-its-legal-not-to/5/>

* § 10.32.010. Dogs—Running at large prohibited—Exceptions:

No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of any dog shall cause, permit or allow the same to be or to run at large upon any highway, street, lane, alley, court or other public place, or upon any private property or premises other than those of the person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of such dog, in the unincorporated area of the county of Los Angeles, unless such dog be restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length and is in the charge, care, custody or control of a competent person.

(Ord. 9454 § 1 (part), 1967: Ord. 8043 § 12 (part), 1961: Ord. 4729 Art. 7 § 701, 1946.



Concerns Over The Well-Being Of Griffith Park
Pony Ride Equines
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The Griffith Park Pony Rides have been a recreational activity for Angelenos since the 1940s. Over the last decade the facility has incorporated new features allowing families to enjoy farm animal exhibits and to host private birthday parties for children. However, over the last few months, the City has received numerous concerns regarding the health and well-being of horses at the Pony Ride facility by residents and animal right's groups. The Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Animal Services have inspected the facility multiple times finding no violations. In response to the presented concerns, Recreation and Parks has initiated a third-party review to report on the policies and practices of the facility to ensure that its horses are being well cared. In early December 2021, Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Paul Koretz co-presented a Motion to City Council requesting that they ask the Department

(Please see "Pony" on p.14)

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(**"Pony"** cont'd from p. 13)

of Recreation and Parks to report findings of and recommendations of these third-party evaluations on such things as:

- Any necessary changes to the Pony Ride operations to ensure the health and well-being of the horses.
- Any necessary changes to the current concession agreement to enable a more humanitarian approach to the operation of the facility.
- Research how comparable cities deal with use of horses for entertainment.
- Any necessary improvements to the regular inspection process administered by Recreation and Parks to possibly include the potential use of third-party equine experts to be responsible for inspecting the horses' health.
- The Motion further asked that the Department of Animal Services prepare and present a report to City Council on their inspection process including:
- A description of the annual inspection process for the concessionaire's annual permit.

The protocols and procedures for animal control inspections undergone when a complaint arises.

Any recommendations for inspection improvements to ensure the health and well-being of the Griffith Park horses.

The Motion has been referred to the City Council's Parks Committee for their review and recommendations. To be updated in future issues of the SHPOA newsletter.



High-Speed Rail is Picking Up Steam Again By Cindy Bloom, Board

While it appeared there was a lull in this project for us, the California High Speed Rail Authority ("CHSRA" or "the Authority") has been quietly moving forward with their plans in Southern California.

1. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section was approved by the CHSRA Board in January. While Burbank and the Burbank Airport Authority balked after the EIR was approved, they did little to oppose the project during the last 8 years. Burbank is in for a world of hurt:

- They will lose 75% of their local water supply (at least temporarily) and will need to be recertified (Please see "HSR" on p. 15)



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(“HSR” cont’d from p. 14)

afterwards

- The huge brand-new multi-building compound at the Airport will have to be demolished at a cost of nearly \$1 billion
- 133 businesses will be lost or relocated
- 12 residences will be taken
- Numerous permanent or long-term road closures
- The route would be located along an existing right of way used by Metrolink.
- A future bike path would have to be rerouted.
- Sound walls would help reduce but not eliminate significant noise impacts.
- Worries of electromagnet interference with airport operations remain


The construction in Burbank will affect all of us since most of us shop there or must travel through Burbank to get to other destinations.

2. Now for us. The Palmdale to Burbank Project Section’s Draft Environmental Report is planned to be released in late March 2022. The comment period will run for 45-60 days from its release. Per Save Angeles Forest for Everyone (SAFE)’s request, CHSRA held an information meeting for us on February 16th. While not much has changed, the construction impacts of tunneling through the Angeles National Forest are still worrisome as it may impact precious groundwater resources and wildlife habitats. Deep bore and cut & cover tunnels, at grade areas, and bridges run along the 41 mile route. The depth of the tunnels will range from 2,000 to 100 feet. It daylights along Montague Street in Sun Valley, and then dives back as it enters the underground station. While the Authority insists they are committed to “renewable energy,” when pressed on where they are going to source their electric power, Project Engineer Rick Simon admitted that they will hook up to electric company grids along the way, i.e., Southern California Edison and L.A. D.W.P. It appears that they have made a decision to go with 2 one-way tunnels instead of 1 large tunnel with 2 tracks. There will be periodic connectors between the tunnels for safety and maintenance purposes. Rick stated that there will be no electric substations on the forest floor. We urge everyone to submit their comments during the public comment period. Information will be available on the SHPOA website and Facebook page, through Daily Fooder, and at www.dontrailroad.us.

3. The Draft 2022 Business Plan was released. Total project cost is now at \$105 billion, up from \$99.9 billion 2 years ago (the budget in 2008 when Prop 1A was narrowly passed was a “paltry” \$45 billion). Please submit your comment by Saturday, April 11, 2022 at 5:00 to DraftBP2022@hsr.ca.gov or go to www.hsr.ca.gov and click on “Draft 2022 Business Plan” button for other options.

SAFE is redesigning and updating its website at www.dontrailroad.us but it will remain active during the transition. Additionally, SAFE leadership is proactive in researching its options to respond to the Draft EIR after it’s released.





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Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tuesday, March 8 @ 7:00 via Zoom

Advertiser's Index

Adrian Vargas Handyman8	Jo Rich Real Estate.....9
Airtight Pest Control14	LA Law Center.....11
Armstrong Insurance.....12	Marconi Radio.....15
Backdoor Bakery.....8	Mission Valley Bank6
Crescenta Valley Tree9	Organic Soil.....9
D&A Real Est. Consultants...15	Pampered Pets12
Dr. Beau Stocking5	Patricia Harrington, Realtor....7
David Robertson, DVM14	Paul Allen Realty Executives...7
East Valley Feed & Tack.....8	Richard's R&R Plumbing.....11
Eick & Freeborn, Attorneys5	Rodeo Cleaners11
Ellingford Brush Clearance6	Sally Hall, Realtor.....10
Grocery Outlet.....12	Seward Financial.....14
House/Pet Sitting7	SoilDirect.com5
Hungry Gardens.....14	TransAction9
In-Home Care Giver.....5	Trish Ramsey, Realtor.....9
James Sanchez Realtor10	

Community Calendar

- Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)**
 - 3rd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
 - Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center)
 - www.ftdnc.org
- FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting**
 - 1st Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
 - 9747 Wheatland Ave.
- FTDNC Equestrian Committee meeting**
 - 2nd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
 - Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- Neighborhood Watch**
 - 3rd Tuesday, Every Month 6:00 p.m.
 - Sunland-Tujunga Library, 7771 Foothill Blvd
- LAPD Community Coffee Time**
 - 1st Thursday, Every Month 8:00 a.m.
 - Rise n Shine Cafe, 9685 Sunland Blvd.
- Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board**
 - LAST Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
 - Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- 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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