



St. Patrick's Celebration
 By Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

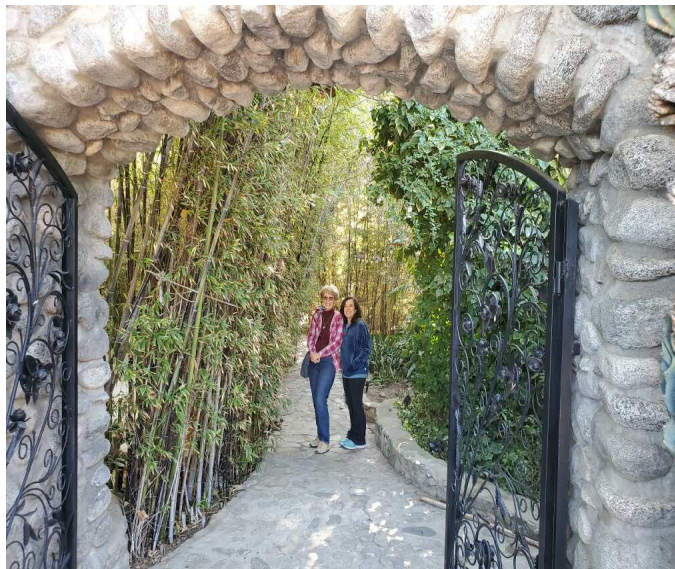
The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association cordially invites you to our St. Patrick's celebration on March 11, 2023 from 2-5 pm. The celebration will be held at the beautiful Stonehurst venue at 9485 Stonehurst. (If you missed the January tour of The Stonehurst this is your chance to enjoy this beautifully restored and preserved historical site). The party will be featuring the live Green Ashes Irish Band and Celtic Irish Dance Academy. I have included their bios in the following articles. They will be performing inside the 150 year old barn. You will be able to sit inside the barn or on the lower terrace adjacent to the barn and enjoy the lively entertainment along with your meal.

We have also arranged to have booths set up for representatives from various city agencies (CD7, DWP, DOT, Bldg & Safety, LAPD) to answer any local concerns you might have.

Delicious food and beverages will be served. Suggested donation ticket prices are \$10.00 per person. Children 5 and under are free.

Free valet parking is on site. No parking permitted off site.

Because there is a maximum capacity of 150 guests, we are inviting you to make your reservations early at shpoa.us. If the maximum guest capacity of 150 is not reached, there will be suggested donation tickets (cash only) available at the gate.



SHPOA's St. Patrick's Celebration
Irish Band! Celtic Dancers!
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Entertainment & Outreach
Saturday, March 11, 2023

The Stonehurst (corner of Stonehurst and Sunland Blvd.)
2 - 5 pm
 \$10 per suggested donation ticket - kids 5 and under are free

Maximum guest capacity is 150 so RSVP early
 Go to shpoa.us or scan code below
 Read the article (left) for more info.



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

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SHPOA's E-mail Address: shpoa@shpoa.us or
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Shadow Hills Reps: Oma El
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A Good Time Was Had By All
 By Susan Wong and Tina Eick, SHPOA Board

On January 11, 2023 over 100 people enjoyed the afternoon SHPOA meeting and tour of the beautiful grounds and restored barn and greenhouse at The Stonehurst in Shadow Hills. Our gracious hostess, Nancy Kwong provided a delicious variety of foods and drinks for the community visitors. Local representatives from Councilwoman Rodriguez's and Congressman Adam Schiff's offices were in attendance along with State Assemblywoman, Laura Friedman. The "meeting" was a long overdue celebration of our community renewing old friendships and making new acquaintances. Despite the rainy day, everyone was thrilled to see each other and share in the joy of touring the elegant gardens, river rock paths, terraces, various outdoor picturesque venues and the beautifully restored and preserved 150 year old barn. There were three different tours that day over the rainy grounds, but much of the time was spent inside the "Greenhouse" enjoying our host's generous "refreshments" and sharing in new memories.



SHPOA Pres. Tina Eick with Assemblywoman Laura Friedman at our January SHPOA meeting



Representative from Monica Rodriguez's office Ricardo Flores brings attendees up to date on what's going on in our area



Green Ashes Irish Band
By Mark Serridge, Resident

For over 13 years now, Los Angeles based Green Ashes has been playing high energy, dance compelling Irish Folk, Celtic Rock, and other traditional music forms, including bluegrass and Americana. One night they'll show up with acoustic guitars, mandolins, banjos and upright basses. Other nights they'll wind everything up to 11 and roll in with Stratocasters and Fender Twins blazing.

They are one of the hardest working Irish bands in Los Angeles, mastering their craft playing pubs, cafes, weddings, special events, and even ancient cruise ships (they played the Queen Mary Irish Festival on 2 consecutive years). They've played most of the Irish Festivals in Southern California and they are still the band of choice for the LA Scotch Whiskey Festival – The Peatin' Meetin'. They've held multi-year residencies at The Irish Times in Culver City and have played St Patrick's Day gigs there for the last 13 years. Indeed, CBS News called Green Ashes at Irish Times "one of the best bets for live music on St Patrick's Day".

Their latest CD release "Cannery Row" marks a subtle yet significant move away from traditional music to a truly authentic sound.



Irish Band Green Ashes will be performing at the March 11 SHPOA event



Celtic Irish Dance Academy
By Maeve Croke, ADCRG

The Celtic Irish Dance Academy (CIDA) based out of Los Angeles is an Irish Dance School under the direction of Riverdance star Maeve Croke. At CIDA we strive to bring out the best in each dancer through inspirational and creative teaching. We nurture each student's unique abilities and talents, engrain a love of dance and encourage elevated individual standards. Our dancers gain self-confidence, discipline and learn the importance and benefits of teamwork while preparing for various performances. These events and performances range from local community events to the World Irish Dance Championships. Our motto is "Be An Athlete, Be An Artist, Be a CIDA Star."

(Please see "CIDA" on p. 4)

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SHPOA

Membership Form

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

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- ✓ Support equestrians and equestrian organizations
- ✓ Advocacy with government and law enforcement agencies
- ✓ Assisting families impacted by fires or other natural disasters

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- ✓ 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
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("CIDA" cont'd from p. 3)



The Celtic Irish Dance Academy Rehearsing



The Celtic Irish Dance Academy Shows Off Their Costumes



Creation Of A Horse Evacuation Trailer Account
by Elektra Kruger, Resident

The San Fernando Valley is prone to widespread fires. Council District 7 is home to a large equine-keeping population that could be significantly impacted by such fires. Being prepared for an evacuation were a disaster to strike in our area would require specific equipment. The adopted Los Angeles 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget funded the purchase of three horse evacuation trailers for the Emergency Management Department. The trailers would be integral to the speed and capacity of equine emergency evacuation. In mid-December 2022, Councilmember Monica Rodriguez presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Controller to transfer \$200,000 from the City's Unappropriated Balance Fund, Horse Evacuation Trailers Account to the Animal Services Department Fund. The City Council approved the Motion at its January 10, 2023 session. The Mayor approved the Motion January 17, 2023.



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Griffith Park Pony Ride Concession
Discontinued Dec. 22, 2022
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The Griffith Park Pony Ride Concession was officially discontinued on December 22, 2022 in response to public and animal rights group concerns over the well-being of the participating equines.

In early January 2023, a Public Comment was submitted to Mayor Bass and the Los Angeles City Council informing them that to that date over 7,100 signatures had been submitted to the website change.org asking to save the Griffith Park Pony Rides. The website presented the arguments noted by the savegriffithparkponyrises.com concerning the unconscionable sudden shutdown of the pony rides given that every City report stated there was no abuse or neglect of the ponies observed and, in fact, that they were well taken care of.

In addition, there was no input by the LA Equine Advisory Committee or the Griffith Park Advisory Board prior to the refusal to renew the pony ride concession. It was hoped that the pony rides would be reinstated. Upon the seating of the newly described City Council Committees and the new Councilmembers serving on each of these committees in early 2023, the Motion dealing with the discontinuation of the Griffith Park Pony Ride Concession was referred to the newly formed "Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee".

Numerous public comments were now being submitted following this re-referral of the Motion to committee review. Such things as "Please bring back the live ponies to the Griffith Park Pony Ride and upgrade the facility". It was not until this point in time that comments were entered into the file from the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee. Bringing back live ponies to the Griffith Park Pony Ride would allow children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds to have experiences with horses.

An equestrian submitted a public comment obviously supporting the return of the live Griffith Park ponies but also that this should be under the direction of an oversight committee which would be a group of licensed or otherwise certified equine professionals. The facility should be inspected on demand or at least quarterly. Any mandated corrections needed should be made in a reasonable amount of time set by these professionals:

- Licensed Equine Veterinarians
- Animal Services Certified personnel
- A pony trainer and stable management professional with documented experience
- The Griffith Park Heritage Committee
- County of Los Angeles Health Inspectors responsible for overseeing a mandatory retirement age for all animals

This matter will be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



Zircon's Story
By Cristy Bird, Resident

The story of Zircon the Siamese cat begins in the spring about two years ago. Our lively, talkative boy fell ill with what initially seemed to be a common dietary problem, Inflammatory Bowel Disease triggered by a food allergy. He had some anemia, which was a bit puzzling. But an ultrasound scan looked normal, other than some thickening of the intestinal walls.

He went on prednisolone, started a new diet, and at first seemed to get better. He was back to eating well, his stools looked great, and the anemia cleared up.

But by year's end, Zircon began to have more problems. First, it was constipation, but constipation did not seem too unusual for a 13-year-old cat. Next, Zircon's anemia returned, and the vet thought he could feel a lump on one side of Zircon's belly, which at a later appointment oddly shifted to a different location. He began talking about the possibility of cancer.

And yet Zircon's blood tests, other than the anemia, looked normal, and he continued to eat well. He seemed to feel energetic and happy, actually. The vet and I argued a lot, but I won't go into everything we discussed or the treatments we tried.

Zircon continued to eat well. But I noticed he needed more and more food in order to maintain weight, and he was eating more slowly than before.

I took Zircon to a different vet for a second opinion. The second vet owned his own ultrasound machine, and could do another ultrasound scan on the spot. He found a very large, smooth mass that was hollow inside. He tried to do a needle biopsy, but only obtained a bit of grayish fluid. This vet insisted it must be cancer, and the prognosis was poor. Now I had two vets telling me they could do nothing. They wanted me to take Zircon to one of the big commercial vet hospitals because only those could deal with all the internal bleeding that might result from an exploratory surgery involving an invasive cancer. The alternative was unspoken. We could euthanize Zircon, given the poor prognosis.

And now Zircon had suddenly stopped eating. This was ominous, but I found I could feed him three big meals per day of pureed food with a syringe without difficulty. He was happy to be fed and remained fairly active and full of personality. He was able to keep the food down without any trouble. To me that was strange – a cat with an allegedly advanced "cancer" that was not nauseous and simply needed help with eating and constipation. Also, Zircon's blood tests remained surprisingly normal, except that the anemia had gotten worse.

I tried calling some vet hospitals about Zircon's case. Some were too busy to take Zircon. The one that wasn't insisted he must be checked in at the start of the weekend and held "for observation." Nothing would be done on the weekend, and they

(Please see "Zircon" on p. 6)

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

were not sure what they would do the following week. They said they could not simply agree to proceed with an exploratory surgery, but instead would do their own assessment. The cost of Zircon's stay and procedures would be a minimum of \$10,000.

Now you have to understand that I had had a lot of bad experiences with the large commercial vet hospitals. Once your cat checks into one of those hospitals, especially during the pandemic, you can't see the cat. You depend on strangers to feed and care for him – and most of the time the cat is alone and frightened, confined to a cage. Moreover, the big companies that own the commercial vet hospitals have a rigid protocol they expect their vets to follow that tends to promote profit. The owner does not have much say in what is done, nor does the owner's regular vet. Among other things, I did not have confidence that harried hospital staff would take the time (syringe feeding slowly three times a day) to keep Zircon well fed, and the last thing I wanted was for our Siamese to die in a vet hospital after days and days alone.

As luck would have it, my regular vet's younger partner called me to report lab findings for one of my other cats. After he was done, I asked if I could talk to him about Zircon. He could tell I was upset, and he encouraged me to go on. I told him that Zircon's situation had become desperate, and yet I was still puzzled by Zircon's case. It did not look like cancer to me. Unless you lived with him every day, you couldn't see it, but I did live with him.

This younger vet paused for a moment, and then he said something wonderful. He said we all die one day, and the least we can do is try to help each other while we are here. He suggested that we get another ultrasound scan done because he thought the private vet who did a scan for me was not a specialist in ultrasound. Wouldn't an ultrasound done by the local specialist take weeks to arrange? But, no, the vet said he would call the specialist and try to make it happen quickly.

We got the appointment right away. The ultrasound specialist said the "lump" was not a big tumor. It was Zircon's stomach. Yes, it was poor Zircon's stomach which was so distended it filled half of his abdominal cavity by then. The second opinion vet who had tried to get a needle biopsy had unknowingly inserted his needle into Zircon's stretched out stomach!

We did not know WHY the stomach was so distended. Perhaps there was a tumor inside of it – but the ultrasound specialist said it was suspiciously like foreign body. Yes. Yes. After well over a year, we finally heard someone suggest that it might be a foreign body and not cancer.

Because of the urgency of Zircon's situation, the junior vet volunteered to do the exploratory surgery himself. He warned me that the surgery might not go well. I will skip talking about how worried I was for hours on the day of the surgery. I will tell you what was in Zircon's stomach.

(Please see "Zircon" on p. 7)

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

Grass.

Yes, what came out of Zircon's stomach were two dense balls of partially calcified grass, about 4 1/2 inches by 2 inches.

But not just any grass. It was Mexican feather grass (*Nasella tenuissima*). About ten years ago that was all the rage – sold in nurseries all over California as a drought resistant grass for landscaping. We had some growing in the outdoor enclosure we built for Zircon. Never thought anything of it. Our cats had been chewing it for years, and it did a great job cleaning their teeth.

The trouble is, Zircon didn't just chew a little and cough it out. Zircon ate whole long strands of it, and he obviously had been eating it daily for a long time.

The huge mass of hardened feather grass had been swinging around inside Zircon's stretched out stomach like a heavy bag of potatoes.

The mystery of the anemia seemed to be solved. The grass was rough. It had scraped the inside of Zircon's stomach like a scrubbing pad. The lining of the stomach was slowly bleeding – ulcerated.

It took a while for Zircon to recover from the surgery. He had a long incision that covered most of the length of his abdomen. He was sore on the outside and sore on the inside. We had to treat the stomach ulcers after the grass balls had been removed. But he did recover, and slowly got back to being a happy cat again.

That was not entirely the end of Zircon's story, but the grass is what I came here to tell you about.

I did some online research. I discovered that Mexican feather grass is now classified as an invasive species in California. The state is trying to discourage nurseries from selling more of it here, and environmental groups are trying to eradicate it where they find it.

The second thing I discovered is that Mexican feather grass has been classified as INEDIBLE by agricultural research scientists. The researchers had first learned about it in Argentina. Ranchers there have for decades found balls of undigested grass in the intestinal tracts of sick cattle and horses. It is considered a terrible weed and a danger to many different animals.

While they know that down there, it is still not well known in the United States. The shopping center by Bud's Donuts in Sun Valley has new landscaping which includes a lot of Mexican feather grass. There are also wholesale nurseries still selling Mexican feather grass in the Los Angeles area.

My advice to everyone is, don't grow Mexican feather grass on your property, and for heaven's sake, don't let your horses, your cats, or your dogs near it.

See photo on next page

(Please see "Zircon" on p. 8)



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



Do not let your pets eat this Mexican Feather grass!

Tincup
A Bit, More, a Cupful
By Marlene Hitt, Resident

Some of our grandparents have left stories about their past experiences, many housed in the Bolton Hall Museum. The stories of each of us are more important to the understanding of history than we realize. Those who leave the tales of small incidents show the real life that was lived right here beneath our feet. Dates, sites, reports of events, news items and photographs give a starting place but we aren't really inside that picture until we hear the stories. After a few tales we feel that we have been sitting with those folks, as our friends during their time. One old timer wrote this incident as he remembered it.

"It was 1936 and things were still tough in California. Hamburger was ten cents a pound and men were begging on street corners. Franklin Roosevelt was president and W.P.A. projects were going up everywhere. A big day was to go to town to window-shop the five and ten cent stores like Kress and Woolworth's. One Saturday a four year old boy stood just outside the entrance to the store where his mother and his aunt were shopping His father and uncle stood by. Bored, as men can be to stand outside Kress on the sidewalk, the boy's father had an idea. He pulled off his old, well-worn sweater and slipped it on the boy. The sleeves covered his hands and hung down to his bare feet. Uncle Del placed a tin cup in his hands and put a couple of yellow pencils inside. Standing there by the door holding his cup, it wasn't long before a lady dropped a nickel in it. Suddenly, Aunt Grace and Mother came outside with a small bag in each hand and scurried out the door. It was obvious that Auntie and Mother had seen him, a small boy wearing a sweater hanging to his feet holding a tin cup, a poor little beggar boy but they walked on by without a glance or a word. Dad and Del smiled at each other knowing that there would be trouble that night at home".

Why is this simple moment in time of importance? One more tale may show the answer.

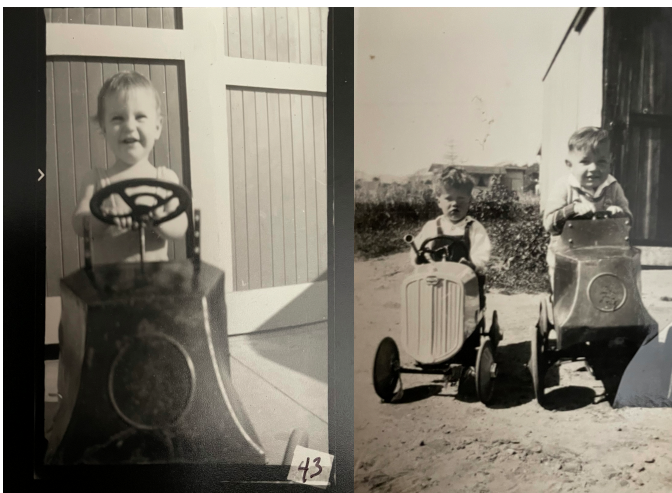
(Please see "Tincup" on p. 9)

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

During World War Two the people were still trying to survive the Great Depression. Then, after war had been declared, we were all rationed for gas, sugar, cigarettes, meat, butter and were patriotically saving oil and paper and whatever they could to help the boys overseas. The social mainstay, shopping, was now frivolous. Not many could afford toys for the children so they made use of everything,

At that time, another small boy lived on an American aircraft repair base. For Christmas his father used trashed wooden cases once used for airship parts and made a race car for the kids. It was sturdy and as well used as a Razor 24V Dirt Squad SX. To hear this memory bite reveals a different world - and one not so far away. What can we learn? From a quotation of Jonathan Yardly, Victoria Magazine, "We are seeing yesterday through the eyes of today." and "All of us need touchstones. Since the 1890s gave us the first definitions of modern life, we look to those now as we again seek our place in the world with respect and gratitude.

I, the curious one, would like to read some of the local reminiscences of SHPOA residents. Hope someone will jot down a few.



Children During the Depression Made the Most of What They Had



In Memory of Jo Rich
 By Tina Eick, Jim Chatten, Lynne Toby,
 Cindy Bloom
 Residents and Board

It is with great sadness that we have to report that long-time resident and activist, Jo Rich has passed away. Jo was the Membership Chairwoman for the Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) for the past 2 years and active on the Board for many years prior to that. She was a local realtor who took great pride in finding horse keeping properties for new comers to Shadow Hills. Her consistent goal was to promote and preserve the lifestyle of this community by pairing the interests and dreams of homebuyers with compatible homes in the neighborhood. Jo will be missed both

(Cont'd next column)

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(Continued)

personally as a dear friend and from a volunteer's perspective. She was a blessing to our community.

Jim Chatten, longtime resident shared these memories:

"I am her neighbor of 27 years and a good friend. I have spent the last 4 months at her side helping her get past the loss of her son John, who was her caretaker. Like Debby Reynolds, after hearing her daughter Carrie Fisher had passed, days later she also just let go of this world. Jo is survived by her other son Ian Rich, a Paramedic at Burbank airport. He is married with 2 young children, and will administer her estate.

Jo was a fascinating woman who worked 35 years in Shadow Hills as our local Realtor. Her late husband, John and Jo ran a Sports Car and Motorcycle Yamaha dealership in Glendale thru the 70's. John passed years ago leaving her son John to stay with her and help her thru life. He was my friend too. His passing caused her great grief, so I spent these last months as her companion and friend.

Jo was born and raised in Hollywood and graduated from Hollywood High School in the 50's. She was a neighbor and friend with Ozzie and Harriet Nelson and constant friend of Ricky and David. She was a neighbor to Betty Davis. She knew many actors and people of that era and grew up at Catholic school. She loved all animals having chickens, roosters, cats and dogs.

Jo was always there to help her friends, neighbors, and clients in Shadow Hills, working as the membership organizer for the SHPOA organization. Jo was always in a good mood and loved to laugh and enjoy life. She loved all of her friends and

(Please see "Jo" on p. 10)

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

constantly helped them with any matter she could. Sadly, she will be missed. She was one classy lady who was proud to call Shadow Hills her home.... I am proud to call her "My Friend."

God Bless her soul. My friend Jo Rich. I will miss her greatly. Things won't be the same around here."

And from Lynne Toby, longtime resident and SHPOA Board member:

"I can't believe it!! She was so wonderful and gave so much to this area. I didn't really know her outside SHPOA but she always had a positive attitude and anyone who's willing to stand outside East Valley and drum up membership is excellent in my book. She loved this area and was a real booster. She will be missed."

Cindy Bloom, SHPOA board member and Shadow Hills resident states, "Jo sold us our house here in Shadow Hills back in 1993. She was a joy to work with and made the transaction a super smooth one. I was thrilled a few years ago when Jo reached out to me about joining the SHPOA board. Her ready smile and always joyful attitude always lifted my and others' spirit. She was a shining star in our community and is a true loss."



Designating the Coastal Live Oak as an
 Official City Tree
 By Elektra Kruger, Resident

We are all aware of the classification of the "Protected" trees and shrubs of the City of Los Angeles:

- Any oak species including the Valley Oak indigenous to California (the Quercus Lobata), the California Coastal Live Oak (Quercus Agrifolia), exclusive of the Scrub Oak (Quercus Herberidifolia)
- The Southern California Black Walnut (Juglans Californica)
- The Western Sycamore (Platanus Racemose)
- The California Bay (Umbellularia Californica)
- The Mexican Elderberry (Sambucus Mexicana)
- The Toyon (Heteromales Arbutifolia)

But what about an "official" tree? The Coastal Live Oak (Quercus Agrifolia) has long been the unsung hero of the Los Angeles urban forest, being the City's most common native tree and historically an integral part of many native community material cultures. It sustained indigenous inhabitants with its edible acorns. Southern California's native Gabriellino (Tongva) people prepared the acorns by pounding them in stone mortars, leaching the powder of its tannins and then eating the acorn meal as a cold mush or baking them in ashes to make bread. Oaks and the acorns they provided were so essential to life that several indigenous communities placed them at the center of their creation myths. In the 18th century, settlers used its wood as fuel for charcoal to fire kilns for the making of adobe. Even today, the

(Please see "Oak" on p. 11)

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

oak is befitting LA's evolving ecosystem serving as a cool refuge to help curb the urban heat-island effect. Its leaves are small and cupped to reduce exposure to the sun and the hairs on their undersides help preserve moisture. These water-saving techniques allow the tree to go without rainfall for up to nine months of the year. The bark grows on average one inch thick allowing the oak to withstand most low-to medium-intensity fires with its inner tissue intact enabling new branches to sprout later. Even in high-intensity fires like the 2003 Cedar Fire which can be catastrophic for many species, mid-sized and large oaks retain relatively high survival rates. The ability for oaks to resprout rapidly post-fire also provides valuable habitat which accelerates post-fire recovery. Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell believes the Coastal Live Oak to have flourished in Los Angeles long before the City was established and that as such should be recognized for its historic, cultural, and symbolic value to the region. In early December 2022 he presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Bureau of Street Services and the City's Cultural Heritage Commission to report on the feasibility of designating the California native Coastal Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*) as an "official" tree of the City of Los Angeles.



Expansion Of The Wildlife Ordinance
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

On June 29, 2022, the Los Angeles City Council approved a Motion that was initially co-presented by six Councilmembers including our own Councilmember Monica Rodriguez. The final ruling was that the Council was to instruct the Bureau of Sanitation in partnership with the Bureau's Biodiversity Expert Council and the Department of City Planning to participate in convening local and regional jurisdictions and conservation and environmental justice stakeholders for the purpose of sharing best practices, information and resources with the aim of developing a Regionwide Wildlife Connectivity Plan. This plan would encompass LA County and Ventura County, connecting the Rim of the Valley to the LA River, the Arroyo Seco, the Verdugo and the San Gabriel Mountains and beyond. Nothing has been acted upon on this very important issue since the date of the Council approval of the Motion. If the Expansion of the Wildlife Ordinance is of any interest to you, you might contact Councilmember Rodriguez, as being one of the movers to blow the dust off the Motion.



Pet Chip Reader
By Susan Wong, SHPOA Board

Our SHPOA Pet Chip Reader is available for use if you find a lost pet. Please contact Jacqy Gamble at 818-426-5226 or email: jacqyagamble@gmail.com or board@shpoa.us





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Donation Of 12 24-Inch Box Trees To Hansen Dam By Elektra Kruger, Resident

There is a proposed park improvement project at Hansen Dam Recreation Area for the installation of twelve 24-inch box trees to include four Shumard Oaks, five Coast Live Oaks and three Torrey Pines along with a two-year maintenance plan under the Los Angeles Parks Foundation's (LAPF) Los Angeles Park Forest Initiative donated to the City of Los Angeles' Department of Recreation and Parks through a \$25,000 donation by Wells Fargo. The two-year maintenance plan is to consist of monthly as-needed maintenance including deep-water irrigation, weeding and pest abatement and tree replacement in the event of tree loss, but not to include tree removal except of dead, damaged or deceased trees or limbs. The LAPF will be responsible for the selection of, purchasing of and installation of the trees and will be responsible for implementing the Project through its contractors including the two-year maintenance plan of the planted trees. The "Park Forest Initiative" was established by the LAPF and involves the solicitation of donations to support the planting of clusters of new trees within existing parks. Similar donations have been accepted for other parks throughout the City. These projects provide multiple environmental benefits such as improvement in air quality, increasing biodiversity and wildlife habitat, increase in tree canopy coverage and shade, mitigation of the urban heat island effect and supporting groundwater recharge. The Hansen Dam Recreational Area tree planting was scheduled to occur in the month of November 2022.



Ordinance #187716 – Promotes The Use Of Reusable Bags By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Plastic waste appears to have reached every corner of the Earth having been detected in melting Artic Sea Ice and the deepest point of the ocean floor. Single-Use Plastic Bags are consumed in large quantities in the City of Los Angeles each year negatively impacting the environment by leaching harmful chemicals into landfills and creating a blight of litter pervasive in the public landscape including parks, streams, beaches and streets. Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags are non-essential, non-recyclable and are easily replaceable with reusable and durable alternatives. In June 2013, with the goal of reducing litter and its adverse effects to stormwater and subsequently to marine quality, the City adopted an Ordinance promoting the use of reusable bags and the banning of the use of Single-Use Carryout Plastic Bags at drug stores, grocery stores, and other specified retailers – Los Angeles being the largest City in the Country to implement such a ban. Since passage of the City's Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bag Ordinance there has been a noticeable reduction in the number of Plastic Bags collected at beach and City river clean-up events, but Plastic Bags are still widely used contributing to on-going litter and environmental/marine pollution.

(Please see "Bags" on p. 13)

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

To extend the Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance, more prohibitions would meet the goal of addressing environmental concerns by further reducing the amount of waste entering our landfills, oceans and impacting our communities with the ban to include additional retailers such as apparel stores, farmers' markets, food and beverage facilities, hardware stores and open-air markets. Ordinance #187716 which became effective January 23, 2023 added SEC. 195.10 to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) which now prohibits use of Plastic and Paper Single-Use Carryout Bags:

- SEC. 195.10.A No shop shall offer or provide to any Customer a Plastic Single-Use Carryout Bag for the purpose of carrying away goods or other materials from the point of sale
- SEC 195.10.B No shop shall offer or provide to any Customer a Paper Single-Use Carryout Bag for the purpose of carrying away goods or other materials from the point of sale except as provided in Section 195.11.

Ordinance #187716 which became effective January 23, 2023 added SEC.195.11 to the LAMC describing permitted uses related to Single-Use Carryout Paper Bags:

- SEC. 195.11.A Shops shall offer or provide Reusable Bags to Customers either for sale or at no charge for the purpose of carrying away goods or other materials from the point of sale
- SEC. 195.11.B Shops may provide to their Customers Recyclable Paper Single-Use Carryout Bags for the purpose of carrying away goods or other materials from the point of sale based on a number of caveats one of which being a Customer shall be charged ten cents per Bag provided
- SEC. 195.11.C Nothing would prohibit a Customer from using a bag of any type that they bring to a shop themselves or from carrying away goods that are not placed in any bag

(Cont'd next column)

(Cont'd)

- SEC. 195.11.D All monies collected by a Shop pursuant to Subsection B shall be retained by the Shop and may only be used for costs associated with complying with SEC. 195.11 such as eg the cost of providing the Recyclable Paper Single-Use Carryout Bags



Prevent Speculative Buying Of Affordable Single-Family Homes
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

On November 12, 2021, the City Council adopted instructions related to a Motion presented by former Councilmember Nury Martinez to address real estate speculation by private equity firms and tech companies such as Zillow, OpenDoor, Rockethomes, Redfin, etc that has effected housing affordability across the nation and has resulted in the displacement of long-term residents in the City. The Council instructed the City's Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Attorney to report on strategies the City can use to prevent large tech and private equity firms from engaging in speculative practices that involve purchasing affordable single family housing in the City, flipping them in the same condition or with minor cosmetic repairs and selling them to incoming residents at a profit. Responding to the Council's instructions, the Office of the City's Chief Legislative Analyst reviewed news reports, research, programmatic proposals in other jurisdictions and past City policy proposals and considered:

- Expansion of homebuyer assistance programs offered by the City
- Legislation that prevents the displacement of long-term residents
- Legislation that limits real estate speculation by private equity and investment firms
- Past and current Council efforts that address housing affordability, displacement of residents and corporate ownership of residential real estate

(Please see "Buying" on p. 14)

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

The Office of the CLA recommended that the City Council:

- Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) to report on the feasibility of applying for CalHome grants from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to fund first-time homebuyer counseling and technical assistance to support home ownership, especially for low- and very-low-income individuals and households
- Instruct the LAHD to review the Los Angeles County Assessor property rolls and report on an estimate of single family homes owned by investment firms including real estate investment trusts, partnerships, corporations and limited liability entities in the City as well as any limit to the amount of properties that a single entity is permitted to own. To be up-dated in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



Benita Bike's DANCEART at
Los Angeles Mission College
By Benita Bike, Resident

Los Angeles Mission College's AGS Honor Society and its Department of Arts, Media & Performance presents a free program of dance at Mission College's Recital Hall, AMP Theater, on Thursday, March 16, 7pm. Join members of the community, students and faculty members for this unique dance event, where you'll see wonderful performers and share your thoughts with artists and attendees. The AMP Theater is located at 13356 Eldridge Ave., Sylmar, 91342. This FREE performance is supported, in part, by the City of Los Angeles' Department of Cultural Affairs. Benita Bike's DanceArt provides inspiring and engaging dance shows in community sites throughout Los Angeles. The Company introduces concert dance to new viewers and enriches the experience of those already familiar with the dance art. Like a chamber music ensemble, the dancers of Benita Bike's DanceArt perform with uncommon sensitivity to one another, bringing intense beauty and vibrancy to each delicately crafted, expressive movement.

At Mission College the Company will present "Plugged" and "Schoenfield Dances." "Plugged" explores our relationships to machines and how they affect our sensitivity to nature, quiet, and the earth. "Schoenfield Dances" melds early 20th century popular dance styles with a classical movement sensibility.

For program information, call 818-470-5734 or see www.danceart.org.



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Prohibit Inhumane Treatment of
Animals At Rodeos
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

In early December 2020, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance that would prohibit the use of electric prods or shocking devices, flank or bucking straps, wire tiedowns and sharpened or fixed spurs or rowels at all rodeos or rodeo related events in the City of Los Angeles. I have NEVER seen a larger file of public comments submitted in response to a proposed Ordinance. A great many of them argued that rodeo and equine events are a very important part of our heritage and history and needs to be preserved with no mention of the abusive instruments in use to induce or encourage aggressive behavior. The proposed Ordinance requests nothing in the line of eliminating rodeo events, only the elimination of using any inhumane technique or device that very likely might cause suffering or injury to an animal. A number of public comments specifically even said that they do not oppose retaining the sport of rodeo, but do support banning the use of inhumane implements.

Then there are the many public comments opposing retaining rodeos in total. One such comment letter stated that many animals are injured and even killed in rodeos. Animal cruelty investigators are only able to attend a small percentage of rodeos each year, therefore only a very small percentage of injuries or deaths are documented. Rodeos frequently try to cover up animal injuries and even deaths, injuries ranging from minor to life threatening that may not be immediately visible especially from the distance of the bleachers. These injuries may include sprains, broken bones, muscle pulls, saddle blisters and spur and flank strap wounds. If the animal doesn't drop dead in front of the bleachers, the audience usually doesn't know anything is wrong.

In the last few years, rodeos are banning video and still cameras from their events in an effort to thwart documentation of rodeo cruelty and any resulting injuries and deaths. Another comment stated that animals should not be injured or killed for entertainment and that is what rodeo is. It bears no resemblance to ranching. This comment came from a veterinarian that grew up on a cattle ranch in North Dakota spending eight years serving ranching clients. Her clients did not ride bulls, speed rope calves or make their expensive horses buck. Rodeo is not an American "tradition." As a large animal veterinarian, she has both the experience and autopsy proof that rodeo injures and kills animals. Autopsied roping calves found hemorrhages, torn muscles, torn ligaments, damage to the trachea, throat and thyroid. Calves that were "only injured" never get a chance to heal before they are used again.

To be further up-dated in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.

Send Billy To A Sanctuary
Elektra Kruger, Resident

Billy, an Asian bull elephant has lived at the Los Angeles Zoo for decades much of the time in conditions meeting only minimum standards set by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). In late September 2022, then Councilmember Paul Koretz presented a Motion to the City Council asking that they instruct the Los Angeles Zoo to report within 30 days on steps necessary to begin the process of safely relocating Billy to a suitable sanctuary environment. Councilmember Paul Koretz is no longer a Los Angeles City Councilmember. Councilmember Bob Blumenfield seconded the Motion, so any communication we may need to make relative to this Motion must now be made with Councilmember Blumenfield to assure that consideration of the Motion remains active. As part of the original Motion, Councilmember Koretz also asked that the Mayor and City Council create an animal welfare oversight committee of bonafide experts in animal welfare and health to advise the Mayor, the City Council, the Zoo and the Board of Zoo Commissioners on issues relating to the safe and healthful care and housing of elephants and all other animals at the Zoo. Just exactly which City Council Committee will now oversee the Motion I do not know because in late September 2022 the Motion was referred to the then existent Animal Welfare Committee. Effective 2023, the Council no longer has an Animal Welfare Committee but there have been numerous public comments submitted supporting the release of Billy to a sanctuary. Billy was captured and sent to the LA Zoo from Malaysia when he was four years old. He has since endured many deprivations and zoonotic conditions among them a lack of space. Billy now shares around three acres with three other elephants but much of the time had been isolated in his own space never much more than one acre. Minimal ranges for Asian elephants in the wild are approximately 61,750 acres. No Zoo can claim an exhibit nearly large enough or complex enough. According to a recent study on exhibit space for elephants, an elephant can walk across a two-and-a-half acre enclosure in one minute. Billy, like all elephants at the zoo, are prevented from experiencing any natural stimulation and adequate nourishment as they are prevented from browsing on the vegetation surrounding the zoo due to electric fencing encircling the enclosure.



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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
- FTDNC Public Safety Committee meeting**
- 2nd Wednesday, Every Month 6 p.m.
 - Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- 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
 - Nikki Ahten, 818-489-6527
 - 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
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