

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

Volume 33, Issue 5

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



September-October 2010

SHPOA Yard Sale

Saturday, September 25 - 8 a.m.

by Carol Roper

In an effort to raise money to support your newsletter and other SHPOA services (such as court battles discussed in a recent newsletter regarding land use) "we the people" of Shadow Hills (you and I) are having a yard sale Saturday, September 25 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. **The Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church** has graciously offered their parking lot for the sale site.

A profitable and useful sale requires the assistance of the community. We need your donations of good, useable items to sell. Sale items may be dropped off or picked up. Prior to Friday, Sept. 24, if necessary, drop them off at my house (please call first: 818-353-5534). After 9:00 a.m. on Sept. 24, items must be dropped at the church (call first: 818-353-5534, and we will meet you there).

We are also looking for people/volunteers to pick up items on Friday, September 24; to help set up tables (early Saturday a.m.), to work at the sale on Saturday (all or part of it) and the all important clean up at 2 p.m. We need everyone else to come by and buy our items!

Water Conservation Ordinance Amendments: Part 1

by Elektra Kruger

Various issues were raised by City Councilmembers regarding the Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance at their July 14, 2009 meeting. In mid-September 2009, the Department of Water and Power offered some responses to those issues. One issue was the possibility of exempting Los Angeles City Parks from water-rationing schedules.

The DWP worked with Recreation and Parks and other large landscape area customers to prepare amendments to the initial Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance adopted by City Council on July 24, 2009. Amendments would allow large landscaped areas the option of deviating from the specific watering days if approved weather-based irrigation controllers are installed so as to still obtain the sought after monthly reduction in water use and that recycled water would be used if available.

The second issue under discussion in City Council was the possible exemption for High Fire Severity Zones. The DWP met together with the LAFD on numerous occasions to discuss the impacts that the Conservation Ordinance could have on properties in High Fire Severity Zones.

Continued on page 8

Dear Shadow Hills, Thank you!

On behalf of the SHPOA Board, I wish to thank the many residents of Shadow Hills who so graciously showed their support with their generous donations to the 9/25 garage sale. It is this that gives us the incentive and initiative to continue the ongoing fight to help preserve the lifestyle we have all come to know and love.

Elektra Kruger, President, SHPOA

Sheldon Speed Limit Raised to 40 MPH

by Elektra Kruger

At its mid-August 2009 meeting, the Board of Transportation Commissioners approved an Ordinance to increase the 35 MPH speed limit on Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Blvd. and Roscoe Blvd. in Sun Valley to 40 MPH as a result of a required periodic traffic study required to maintain radar enforcement.

Can anyone go over that bumpy road even at 35 MPH? The California Vehicle Code requires traffic studies every seven years to re-establish legally posted speed limits for local jurisdictions to legally use radar enforcement. The studies include current prevailing speeds, collision history and risk conditions not immediately apparent to a passing driver - all in an effort to provide an objective basis for setting speed limits and precluding speed traps.

Continued on page 7

There's more in store ... in this issue:

Getting to Know You - New Feature	2
S.H. Presbyterian Church Pre-School Update	3
Sheriffs to Patrol Mitigation Bank	3
Automatic Teller Machine Security	4
"New Heaven On Earth" Ranch Board	5
Pet Safety Tips for the Fall Season	5
Dog License Fee Increase?.....	6
Demolition of Historic Sites (Part 2).....	6
Pedestrians/Bicycles to be included in Traffic Studies?	7
DWP Transfer of "Surplus Funds" to General Fund	8
Penalties for Illegal Dumping.....	9
Fines for Nuisance Calls.....	10
Harvest Time at Tierra del Sol	11
Understanding the Public Right-of-Way	12
Bolton Hall Announcements / Call for Recipes	12 / 14
Register Up to 5 Cats and Dogs?.....	12
History of the U.S. Mail aka The Pony Express.....	13
Los Angeles Children's Museum (Part 1)	14
Solar Zoning Ordinance.....	15

2010 SHPOA Board Members

Executive Officers

President: Elektra Kruger 352-6220
 kalkrulers@earthlink.net
 Vice President: Dave De Pinto 352-7618
 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com
 Executive Secretary: Kellie Kozonis
 kozonis@ca.rr.com
 Recording Secretary: Katherine Dayen
 Dayenight1@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Gerhard Kruger 352-6220
 Membership: Roberta Cole 353-4633

Appointed Officers

Land Use: Bill Eick (W) 248-0050
 (H) 353-6191
 weeick@pacbell.net
 Trails: James and Andrea Gutman
 353-5974
 Special Projects: Karen Burdett (W) 970-1995
 kkburdett89@gmail.com
 Neighborhood Watch: Sue Mansis 352-3966
 suemansis@shpoa.us
 Outreach: Chris Arlington 353-5534
 "Lost/Found Pets" Shpoa@shpoa.us
 Webmaster: Carlos George
 webmaster@shpoa.us
 Newsletter:
 Editor: Dave De Pinto 352-7618
 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com
 Article Collection: Carol Roper 353-5534
 carlington@ca.rr.com
 Ad Collection: Dana Stangel 446-0284
 dana@herpfreak.com
 Layout: Colleen Caamaño-Keppler
 Historian: Vacant
 Hospitality: Martha Hankins 951-1669
 marthahankins@msn.com

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

Website: www.shadowhillspoa.com

Printer: Wright Color Graphics
 246-8877

Senior Lead Police Officers:

Sunland: Larry Martinez 634-0705
 16A65@mycingular.blackberry.net

Sun Valley: Michelle Rodriguez 634-0755
 31020@lapd.lacity.org

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

West Shadow Hills/Stonehurst:
 Terry Kaiser area5rep1@ftdnc.org

East Shadow Hills/East LVT:
 Mike Carpenter lamikec@yahoo.com

Emergency Animal Hospitals	
Animal Specialty Group	www.asgvets.com
4641 Colorado Blvd. (Off 5 Fwy) Los Angeles 90039	
(818) 244-7977	Mon-Fri: 2pm – 8am.
	Weekends: 24 hours
Animal Emergency Centre	www.valleypet911.com
11730 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604	
(818) 760-3882	Mon–Thurs: 6pm – 8am
	Weekends: Fri 6pm – Mon 8am

Getting To Know You

by Sue Mansis

Fred and Shirley Cooper were destined to go around the block...twice. Shirley jokes that she was born '30 years too late' for the type of music that she loved. As a kid, Shirley was listening to the big band, swing sounds of Frank Sinatra and Les Brown, fancying herself as a singer on their stage. But after an early marriage, move to Chicago, five kids and a subsequent divorce, singing aspirations were put on hold but she never gave up the passion. Then in 1971 she met Fred Cooper, a professional woodwind musician who, with smooth and sultry ease, crooned his baritone sound right into her heart. Fred traveled worldwide USO tours with Bob Hope and Les Brown's 'Band of Renown.' During the ten years they were together, Shirley accompanied Fred to the band's performances, wistfully imagining herself as their singer.

Gifted from birth, Fred joined the musicians union at 14 and played at the Starlight Bowl at 15. After the Air Force, Fred continued to play Big Band sounds of swing and jazz while working as a music copyist for Universal Studios. He also toured Brazil regularly with Ray Coniff's orchestra till 2002. Fred and Shirley split in 1981 and Shirley finally settled in Chicago in 1999. When Shirley's former church in Riverside asked her to help with a jazz fundraiser in 2001, Shirley called Fred to be the saxophone soloist. He agreed and that began the romance once more. Determined not to lose her again, Fred flew to Chicago, brought her back to L.A. and they were married that same year.

While on their honeymoon in Big Bear, Fred was scheduled to play in a Les Brown concert. At the last minute, Fred suggested that Shirley stand in for the no-show singer. Finally Shirley got to sing onstage with the Les Brown band! Now retired, Fred restores old cars and tinkers in his yard off Wornom Way, while Shirley volunteers with her church and the Sunland Womens' Club. Ironically, years before they moved to Shadow Hills, Fred drove here weekly to play with composer Dick Cary's Rehearsal Band, who lived on the other side of Wornom Way. You might say Fred and Shirley's lives have come full "swing!"



Newsletter Staff Needs Layout Support

As we strive to regularly produce our newsletter and control newsletter costs, we find a need for backup support for our newsletter layout person – this is the step where completed articles and advertisements are organized and manipulated to fit into these 16 pages of space in a file format compatible with commercial printing requirements. Somewhere out there in this community of over 2,500 homes, we are hoping there is someone with knowledge of InDesign or QuarkXPress and a little time to volunteer. If you would like to discuss the opportunity further, please email Colleen at cccaamano@yahoo.com or call Linda at 818-246-7788.

Teller Machine Security

by Elektra Kruger

In response to the large number of crimes committed in the proximity of ATM Machines, in early September 2009, Councilmember Greig Smith presented a Motion to City Council requesting that the LAPD be instructed to prepare a report noting systems that banks currently have in place for customer protection, whether banks are currently using some form of a PIN duress system, the feasibility of implementing a PIN duress system where one does not currently exist and any jurisdictional issues that may arise out of implementing a PIN duress system.

The Motion was referred to the City Council's Public Safety Committee which, in turn, directed the LAPD to prepare said report. The report was submitted in late October 2009 by the LAPD to the Board of Police Commissioners for their review and further recommendations with a further comment that the LAPD would support any Ordinance that would increase public safety at ATM locations even with the understanding that this might entail modification of current State laws. The Commission approved the report in mid-November 2009 and forwarded it to the City Council's Public Safety Committee for their review and further recommendations. The report provided answers to questions such as the following put forth in the original Motion:

What systems do banks currently have in place to protect customers?

- Placing ATM Machines in public and highly visible locations
- Increased lighting around ATM Machines with adjacent parking
- Modification of landscaping, decorative partitions or any other barrier that could serve as a hiding place for criminals
- Installation of wide-angle transaction cameras or continuous surveillance cameras
- Withdrawal limits of \$200-\$400.

Do banks currently use some form of Personal Identification Number (PIN) Duress System?

- No. The technology does exist, but there are currently no known financial institutions in the United States that have implemented the system.

What is the feasibility of implementing such a system?

- The technology exists with software available by the name of ATM SafetyPIN Software.

As of early February 2010, the file was pending with the Public Safety Committee. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this Motion.

NHOER Board is Organized

by Michael Carpenter

The "New Heaven on Earth" Ranch has received their IRS EIN# and is in the process of the final submission for their tax exempt status to fully operate as a California-based 501(c)(3). The Officers of the board are Lee Diebold, President, Randy Horton Vice President, Phyllis Hines, Treasurer, and Katherine Carpenter, Secretary.

NHOER was created to honor the legacy of the late Johnny Carpenter - actor, stuntman, and cowboy - whose original "Heaven on Earth Ranch" stood on Foothill Place in Lake View Terrace for almost 25 years. Johnny created an authentic western town and taught physically and mentally challenged children and young adults how to ride horses.

All Nations Church eventually acquired the property where the ranch once stood and has donated an area off of Foothill Place for NHOER to build, maintain and operate

Back-to-School Pet Safety Tips

by Denise Fleck (www.sunnydogink.com)

As the school bell rings, don't let your pet go back to school too. Dogs and cats may become lonely and try to tag along. Keep your pet confined when children leave for school, and don't bring pets along if you drop off at school or the bus stop. Animals learn quickly and may try to retrace the steps later on resulting in them becoming lost or injured. For severe separation anxiety, place the t-shirt your child slept in the night before in your pet's bed -- as long as he doesn't rip it to shreds, it will make your pet feel like his boy or girl is there with him.

With school in session, Mom and Dad may now have more time to spend with the canine and feline family members. This is prime time to teach doggie manners by getting involved in an exercise and obedience training program. When training is done for the day and you need a little time to yourself, you won't want Fido or Fluffy acting like a velcro pet, sticking to your side every second of the day. Interest dogs in interactive toys to entertain themselves. Toys filled with treats, tennis ball launchers and chicken scented bubble machines are just a few novelties on the market. For cats there are electronic mice, bungee cord and laser light toys.

Just know your pet and supervise him. Don't believe labels claiming products are indestructible! Do remember that a sudden change of schedule can lead to stress in your animal resulting in behavioral issues, vomiting, diarrhea or skin problems to name a few. Your pet may eat too much, not eat at all or eat strange objects, so brush-up on your emergency skills. A Pet First-Aid and CPR Class will be offered at the nearby Burbank Animal Shelter on October 2. Don't wish you HAD learned what to do. If your four-legged friend still seems bored, consider adopting a second pet to keep it company. The duo will play and exercise together, and you will have saved a life.





TIERRA DEL SOL FOUNDATION'S EIGHTH ANNUAL

FALL FESTIVAL

Family Fun Day

Saturday, October 16, 2010

FREE 10 am - 3 pm

ADMISSION

FOOD ● FUN ● GAMES ● PRIZES

PUMPKIN PATCH

MARKETPLACE CRAFT & FOOD BOOTHS

BARBECUE LUNCH

PRIZE DRAWINGS

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES... & MORE!

Location: 9919 Sunland Blvd., Sunland, CA between the I-5 and 210 freeways
FREE PARKING! General parking available @ Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church

For more information, tickets, or to volunteer:
fallfest@tierradelosol.org or (818) 352 - 1419
Proceeds benefit persons with developmental disabilities within our local communities

Dog License Fee Increase?

by Elektra Kruger

In late June 2010, the City Attorney's Office submitted to the City Council - at the Council's request - a Draft Ordinance amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code to increase the cost of an annual dog license for an altered dog from \$15 to \$20. State law requires there be a public hearing prior to adoption of any new or increased fee.

SHPOA will notify those signed up with the SHPOAE-Blast database at shpoa@shpoa.us when such a hearing is scheduled. If amended, an annual dog license will be \$91.50 + tax for unaltered dogs or \$16.50 + tax (\$20 with tax) for a spayed female or neutered male or any dog certified by a licensed veterinarian to be incapable of breeding or being bred.

Per this Draft Ordinance, if an owner were to fail to pay the required license fee within 45 days of an annual renewal date or within 45 days from the mailing of a notice informing a dog owner of the need to secure a license, the Department of Animal Services shall impose a \$500 civil penalty upon the owner. If this penalty is not paid and the owner continues to fail to obtain the required license within 15 days of being notified about the imposition of the civil penalty, the continuing licensing violation will become classified as a prosecutable misdemeanor.

The Draft Ordinance was referred to the City Council's Public Safety Committee for their review and recommendations and they approved it as written in mid-July 2010. It was scheduled to be heard in City Council on August 3, 2010. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the outcome of the Council vote and the date when the Ordinance becomes effective.



Discretionary Demolition of Historic Sites? Part 2

by Elektra Kruger

Los Angeles is embarking on a Citywide "Historic Resources" survey to provide an informational database of Los Angeles' Historical Resources that can be referred to in the event that Los Angeles chooses to make demolition of structures aged 45 years or older a discretionary option. The Office of Historical Resources will report survey findings to the Cultural Heritage Commission on an annual basis between the survey period of 2008 and 2011. Whether or not a structure is classified as a "Historical Resource" will then be entered into the ZIMAS Profile, much like whether the structure is located in a high fire hazard area, a high wind hazard area, an earthquake hazard area, etc.

The survey will be led by the consultant team of Jones and Stokes - the same consultant team that oversaw the survey of Stonehurst. For as long as it took them to complete the survey of Stonehurst's 66 remaining Historical Stone Structures, I hope we don't have to multiply that time for them to actually complete the survey for the entire City of Los Angeles. During 2008, rather than working on the actual survey itself, they will develop a "Field Guide to Survey Evaluation" which would outline

continued on page 10

Sheldon Speedway

continued from page 1

The intent of the study is to ensure that the greater number of reasonable motorists will not be subject to arbitrary citations.

The survey conducted on Sheldon St. between Glenoaks Blvd. and Roscoe Blvd. indicated that “a speed limit of 40 MPH is consistent with traffic conditions and Roadway Characteristics (my highlight) and will facilitate the safe and orderly movement of traffic.” The average critical speed for Sheldon was determined to be 39.75 MPH - guess I was wrong. People do go over those bumpy roads at 40 MPH and greater.

Given that “critical speed” level, if the current 35 MPH speed limit were to be retained, 46.3% of the motorists would be considered speed violators. The LAPD has no objection with the proposed revision in speed limit. Representatives of Department of



Transportation met with the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council in mid-June 2009 at which time Neighborhood Council Boardmembers expressed concern about a rise in speed limits due to the location of the Sun Valley High School (the Byrd Middle School in my day), but they were told that this could be addressed with “25 MPH When Children Are Present” postings and “25 MPH Ahead” warning sign postings.

The City Attorney had already submitted a Draft Ordinance to the Board of Transportation Commissioners in early June 2009. In mid-June 2010, the City Council’s Transportation Committee submitted a report to the City Council concurring with the raise in speed limits and on June 23, 2010 the increased speed limits were unanimously approved by City Council.

Pedestrians/Bicycles to be Included in Traffic Studies?

by Elektra Kruger

As part of the majority of new proposed development projects, traffic impact studies are required to comply with environmental laws and/or City regulations. The purpose of a traffic study is to determine the potential traffic impact one can anticipate from the development if constructed and identify mitigation measures to minimize impacts.

The Department of Transportation’s Traffic Studies Policies and Procedures manual provides standards, guidelines, objectives and criteria to be used in the preparation of a traffic study. Currently, the studies tend to be vehicle-focused concentrating on automobile traffic. In a time where “smart growth” should become a prime concern for the City, in early June 2010 Councilmember Bill Rosendahl presented a Motion to City Council recommending that the DOT’s Traffic Study guidelines be required to include pedestrian and bicycle intersection counts as a part of all traffic studies.

The Motion was forwarded to the City Councils’ Transportation Committee for their review and consideration which approved the items in early June 2010. SHPOA will keep you abreast of whether this requirement actually makes it to the guideline manual.

Water Conservation

continued from page 1

Together they concluded that if property owners remain in compliance with brush clearance requirements, properly maintain vegetative growth on and around their property and plant fire resistant plants, risk of fire spreading to structures would be minimal.

Properties located in High Fire Severity Zones utilize about 12% of the City's water, so it was decided that a broad exemption for these residents would impose an unfair higher water conservation level effort on other City residents. Together, the DWP and LAFD have developed a Variance process for extreme hardship cases in which residents are located directly adjacent to a natural hillside and may still have a high fire risk even after implementing Brush Clearance Requirements. Together the DWP and LAFD will conduct case-by-case site inspections in order to recommend a Variance if it is warranted.

Third, what if a private citizen used a large amount of water for an active fire-fighting event? The Conservation Ordinance already does not restrict water usage for fire-fighting purposes, so a DWP customer will not receive a citation for exceeding their water allotment under these circumstances; however they will still be responsible for the costs involved with the water used. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.

DWP Transfer of "Surplus Funds" to General Fund

by Elektra Kruger

"Surplus Funds"? If the DWP has "Surplus Funds", why are they demanding a rate-increase? If the DWP has "Surplus Funds", why are they not using these funds to upgrade the City's ancient and crumbling infrastructure - some of which dates back to the early 1900's? "Surplus Funds"?

If you want to call it a tax, if you want to call it an operating fee - OK, but DO NOT tell me that the multi-MILLIONS of dollars that are transferred annually from the DWP to the City's General Fund are "Surplus Funds" that the DWP doesn't really need.

In 2010, the DWP stepped back and refused to transfer monies to the General Fund. That led to an immature "mine-mine" battle between the City and the DWP with the City demanding their "rightful due". Was there an Ordinance in place requiring this transfer of monies? Apparently not. It was just something "regularly done".

So to assure that the City would have in place a "mechanism" to provide the "budgetary certainty" of the transfer process, three Councilmembers co-presented a Motion to City Council - Councilmembers Jan Perry, Greig Smith and Bernard Parks - asking that the City Attorney together with the City's Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst prepare and present documents necessary to place a proposition on the March 2011 ballot that would define the concept of "surplus" as it should relate to the annual DWP Power Revenue Fund transfer.

The Motion was forwarded to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee and Rules and Election Committee. How much you wanna bet this gets on the Council agenda before we even know it? SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this Motion.

Administrative Penalties for Illegal Dumping - Part 3

by Elektra Kruger

In early 2008, the Bureau of Street Services submitted a proposed amendment to the LAMC. The amendment would provide for a graduated administrative penalty for subsequent illegal dumping violations on public right-of-ways up to and including criminal prosecution for flagrant repeat violations as well as having any identifying information/documents found within an illegally dumped pile of rubbish serving as sufficient evidence for the responsible party.

Currently, a dumper must be OBSERVED by one WITH LEGAL AUTHORITY to be cited. The proposal did suggest that a violator would have the right to appeal all fines through an administrative hearing. The Department of Public Works does not currently employ Administrative Hearing Examiners as they do in the Department of Transportation to adjudicate parking citations. A hearing system would need to be established within the Department of Public Works or some form of agreement would need to be established within the Department of Transportation to extend their authority to hold administrative hearings for parkway (public right-of-way) violations.

The proposed administrative penalty fee would then be used to offset Department of Transportation costs related to these administrative hearings if this route were considered. The hope is that this program will improve the appearance of City streets, reduce blight and enhance quality of life through more effective enforcement. At their meeting in late July 2008, the City Council's Public Works Committee approved these recommendations and recommended that the full Council do the same which it did in early August 2008. A Draft Ordinance was prepared and presented to the City Council's Public Works Committee for their review in late January 2010 by the Office of the City Attorney.

Update: At its mid-June 2010 meeting, the Public Works Committee reviewed the City Attorney's Report and Draft Ordinance relative to amending the LAMC to authorize administrative penalties for illegal dumping of non-combustible trash. According to the City Attorney, the Ordinance would add two new subsections to the Code which would create administrative penalties for the illegal dumping of rubbish on the public right-of-way. The Committee recommended that the City Council adopt the Ordinance.

Update: The item was unanimously approved by the City Council on June 22, 2010, and was forwarded to the Mayor for his approval, due by July 6.



Discretionary Demolition *Continued from page 6*

field methodologies that would ensure that the large survey teams would apply essentially the same standards and criteria in their classifications of structures as they perform the survey throughout the City.

Once the Guide is complete, there will be a few "Pilot Surveys" of locations yet to be determined to test the Guide before entering into a full Citywide Survey. That way, if the Guide needs to be "tweaked" a little, it can be done without having to flush too much time and energy and data down the toilet. An effort may be made to prioritize survey areas where the work would complement City Planning's Community Plan Update activities.

Suggested pilot survey areas include the Street Car Commercial Development era, circa 1910-1930, the boom of the San Fernando Valley suburbs, circa 1945-1965, and Boyle Heights, circa 1870's-1940's. Much of Los Angeles' early commercial corridors bordered the city's extensive streetcar system - the Street Car Commercial Development survey will test the Survey Guides' intended use in evaluating commercial properties. A large portion of the San Fernando Valley's residential tracts dates from the post WWII era. Selected blocks of the Valley will be surveyed in the Pilot Program. The Boyle Heights survey will test survey application to a localized area that developed as an early suburb of Los Angeles rich in cultural history.

This survey will contribute to the Planning Department's Community Plan Update for Boyle Heights and thus test its value as we update our own Community Plan.



Fines for Nuisance Calls?

by Elektra Kruger

Most Angelenos are respectful of their neighbors, but there are always a few repeat offenders requiring police to be called in repeatedly to deal with complaints. These residents place a heavy burden on our law enforcement resources. Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Tom LaBonge feel the City might recover costs incurred by requiring payment when officers are forced to "show for cause" at a specific residence an unreasonable number of times in any given year.

It is hoped that this will: 1) discourage repeat offenders; and 2) force those who do not appreciate the strain they are placing on our public safety system to reimburse them for their services. Such regulations are already in place in other jurisdictions such as Lancaster where those requiring police to be "called for cause" more than five times in any twelve month period must pay a fine.

Councilmembers Koretz and LaBonge have co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that the City Attorney be requested to prepare a Draft Ordinance that would call for the imposition of a fine against an owner or occupant of a property in the City of Los Angeles when that property has been visited by the Police Department or any other City Department due to excessive and substantiated "calls for service" and would also set up an appeal process. The Motion was forwarded to both the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management Committee and Public Safety Committee for their review and recommendation.

Harvest Time at Tierra Saturday, October 16 - 10:00 a.m.

Tierra's Harvest Festival returns Saturday, October 16. It has been an annual event since 2003 and our local friends and neighbors keep coming back for all the fun and enjoyment! Hours will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on our Sunland Boulevard campus. We serve a hearty meal of barbecued beef, multiple side dishes and pumpkin pie from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We've managed to keep our meal prices at the same level for eight straight years – adults, \$12 and children under age 12, \$6 – that's a rare feat for fundraising events!

The Kids Zone will be more fun than ever this year with a petting zoo, skill games, jumping boxes, face painting, storytelling, and lots of other activities, as well as a children's stage with live entertainment. There's more!

A Massive Pumpkin Patch Marketplace ala Tierra



Wildlife on Wheels

Bake Sale

Prize Drawings

Homemade Quilt Raffle



We've heard from many of last year's guests that they had a wonderful time, and we're working hard to make this year's event even better. However, we need sponsors and volunteers!

Sponsorship Opportunities

A variety of sponsorships are available, ranging from \$150 (to sponsor a scarecrow decorated by Tierra clients) up to \$5,000 for the signature sponsorship. If you or your company, organization, church group or club would like to sponsor an activity and/or help out at the Festival, please call Gail Peters at (818) 352-1419, ext. 250 or visit www.tierradelsol.org



Keep Your Home Fire Safe

by Elektra Kruger

Roof

1. Use fire-resistant roofing materials
2. Cover chimney outlets and stovepipes with non-flammable maximum 1/2" mesh screen
3. Remove all branches within 10' of your chimney
4. Remove all branches overhanging your roof
5. Remove all dead leaves and needles from your roof and gutters

Access

1. Clear flammable vegetation at least 10' from roads and 5' from driveways
2. Cut back tree branches overhanging roads
3. Be sure your street name is clearly posted at each street intersection
4. Be sure your address is clearly visible from the street
5. Design access roads/driveways with width to allow access for large emergency vehicles and two-way traffic.

Bolton Hall Announcements

by Marlene Hitt

Museum personnel will be presenting a new exhibit in September called "Out to Lunch: dining in Sunland-Tujunga Restaurants: Then and Now". We are looking for information such as menus, photographs, and objects which can be loaned to us for display in glass cases for 6 months. Please E-mail landmhitt@Cs.com and specify "recipes" as the subject in your mail.

Bolton Hall museum is host to a research project for a Ph.D. student investigating the local library from the years 1913 to 1951. Do you have or know of any information or memorabilia about our library, old or new? Please E-mail littlelanders@verizon.net using the subject "Angie". Also, enjoy the web site of the Bolton Hall Museum at www.LITTLELANDERSHISTORICALSOCIETY.org



Understanding the Public Right-of-Way

by Elektra Kruger

Part of every owners' land usually becomes dedicated to the City as part of a public right-of-way system. For most of us, this is a strip of land fronting our properties – the strip where the City provides public sidewalks, trails, storm drain facilities, public street benches, etc. While this "public easement" area still technically belongs to the property owner, the City of Los Angeles has the right to determine what is placed there – for example, a sidewalk.

It is very important to understand that the public easement be reserved for public use and that installation of large scale private improvements such as fences and walls are not permitted. It is equally important however to understand that it is the responsibility of the private owner to aesthetically maintain the easement strip.

A private owner may even install sidewalks or may select from a list of City-approved trees for planting – but even these improvements do require permits that are issued by the Bureau of Engineering just as permits would be required for construction projects on one's own private property. Something else to keep in mind – many improvements that one often looks upon as an undesirable weekend chore involving any public right-of-way improvements such as tree pruning, tree removals, tree planting, construction of tree wells and curb painting also require a permit before proceeding.

The permitting process is not difficult and can even be applied for over the internet at <http://www.lacity.org/BOSS>. On the right side of the screen under "on-line Services" click on "Automated Permit Applications". The application is simple and easy to fill out. If anyone still has any questions call 213-485-5666 or 213-485-3711 for further information.

Register up to 5 Cats or Dogs? - Part 1

by Elektra Kruger

Since the start of the recession, there has been a marked increase in the abandonment rate of dogs and cats. These factors have resulted in an increase of some 20% in animal impounds. A number of steps have been undertaken by the City in recent years to reduce the number of stray animals on our streets and to increase the number of pet adoptions. Among these have been the Spay/Neuter Ordinance requiring all cats and dogs to be spayed or neutered after the age of 4 months and the creation of the "Adopt a Pet" program designed to assist animal rescue organizations with pet adoptions.

Councilmember Bill Rosendahl saw the possibility of an additional means of reducing animal euthanasia with an early June 2010 Motion he presented to the City Council suggesting that the City raise the current Code limits of 3 dogs or cats per household to 5 without requiring a kennel permit.

Many did not like this idea – one of the most vocal organizations among them being the Animal Issues Movement. They brought up arguments like "imagine living next door to 5 pit bulls or any other animal-aggressive breed and having them jump over fences into your yard to kill your pets or escaping through gates into your community." They reference the possibility of increased noise issues stating that even Chihuahuas can "create tremendous noise when in multiples". They stated that barking is contagious and the increased potential for noise would be highly undesirable in an otherwise quiet residential community.

They further argued that a large number of dogs cannot safely be kept on single properties because of their territoriality or tendencies toward animal-aggression. They quoted times past when efforts to increase dog limits had been made only to be staunchly fought by many homeowner associations, apartment associations, and realtors.

These past efforts were also opposed by the Zoning Department because of potential dangers, noise, enforcement problems and reduction in property values. The Animal Issues Movement suggested that if the City Council wished to have Animal Services explore the feasibility of a program for micro-chipping, spay/neutering and registering 5 INDOOR-ONLY cats, to let them do that although the need for increased staffing to maintain records and perform inspections as needed might hardly be considered "feasible".

The Animal Issues Movement believes this still would not increase adult cat adoptions anyway - it would only create a larger market for kittens which would most likely remain unaltered. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this Motion.

Do Tell ...

Information to Share?

Do you have a story to share, helpful information, or an open "Letter to the Editor"? Let us hear from you!



U.S. Mail

by Marlene Hitt, Sunland Archivist Bolton Hall Museum

In the past, communities did not have aircraft, trains and trucks for mail delivery, so they had carts, wagons and ponies. Though the Pony Express mail service did not last long or function well, it was a way to transfer mail from one point to another.

As Anthony Belli points out in his article in *Around Here Magazine*, the Western frontier around 1850 was considered to be anything west of the Missouri River. California, nearly 2000 miles west of the Missouri, presented strategic problems for the Union Army during the Civil War. Communication between east and west took months. Therefore, swifter communication with the west, and the protection of the Pacific Coast, became two of the most important issues facing the Union.

It was under those extreme conditions that the Pony Express came into existence. After California became a State, it was necessary to secure it, for it would play an important role in preserving the Union. The stagecoach lines gleaned profits large and small, but not the Express. It was successful, however, as an overland courier by delivering mail cross country in just 10 days.

The Pony Express' employees numbered about 80 of the toughest and bravest men, 500 mounts of the finest horses and some 400 other support employees – station keepers, stock tenders, and route superintendents. Existing stage stations were upgraded to host the riders and horses, supplied with feed, hay, and provisions for the workers. Tenders cared for the horses and saddled them, readying them for the riders.

The want ad for the riders was honest: "The First Run Wanted! Young, skinny, wiry fellows, not over 18. Must be expert riders, willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferable. Wages \$25 a week."

Steps in the delivery of the mail were: offload the pouches from the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, rush them to the post office to be prepared, and then rush the pouches to the young boy/man and his horse. With a roar from the crowd, the rider and his horse, with the mail pouch firmly anchored, would begin his gallop over 1,966 miles of trail through Indian territory, deserts, mountains (often through inhospitable weather), to Sacramento. Waiting at the stations every 10-15 miles would be a fresh saddled horse. At Sacramento, there would be a cheering throng, bands and gunfire. Pony Express operations ceased with the last run on November 21, 1861.

Our White Elephant Museum - Part 1

by Elektra Kruger

The LA Children's Museum (LACM) originally opened in 1979 and was located downtown in the Civic Center for some 21 years. It shut its doors with the intent to seek out a new location in which to construct a new and larger building so as to accommodate the ever-growing number of visitors. The new museum was to move to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area and was scheduled to complete construction in Sept. 2007.

We are now looking at an estimated date of June 2010 for completion of construction. So what is going wrong? Things started going awry when it became obvious the Museum was experiencing a construction budget shortfall at a point when construction was claimed to be 85% complete. Falling short in its own private fundraising efforts, the museum risked losing its basis for obtaining matching funds at county, state and federal levels.

So in mid-May 2007, Councilmember Richard Alarcon urged the City to help close the construction budget gap making it clear that increased private funding would be required to demonstrate community support for the museum. Councilmember Alarcon presented a Motion to City Council asking that it approve a loan transfer of \$1.75 million from the City's Reserve Fund into a new account to be entitled "Children's Museum of LA". This transfer was to be conditioned upon the Museum receiving pledges of \$1.75 million from private sources within 30 days.

The City would release \$ for \$ from the new account in an amount not to exceed \$1.75 million as a loan for costs associated with construction of the new Children's Museum when evidence could be presented that private contributions had actually been received. In the long run, no funds were to be dispersed to the Museum on the basis of pledges alone.

I have yet to understand how, given that the loan was "not to exceed \$1.75 million", by the time the City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst finished with the contract, it allowed for "\$350,000 in advance payments" in addition to the \$1.75 million for an allowable cost "not to exceed \$2.1 million - (\$1.75 million plus \$350,000 = \$2.1 million). Any funds loaned were to be repaid within 12 months. (That sounds like late 2008. We are now looking at an extension of that to June 2009 with the option of extending it even further to June 2010 if necessary. The City extended the agreed upon repayment period once - who is to say that another Motion will not simply be presented again in the future to extend repayment yet further if the Museum still stands incomplete in 2010).

At any rate, Councilmember Alarcon's initial Motion for a loan out of the City's Reserve Fund was adopted by City Council and was concurred with by the Mayor in mid-May 2007.

Recipes!

The historical society at Bolton Hall Museum announces the creation of our newest book, a three-in-one: cookbook, handy hints reference and business directory. We invite anyone in the community who wishes to be included to send a recipe to the museum for the collection. For those of you who don't cook, just tell us your favorite food and we will find a recipe for it.

We will not include Walrus Stew or Bear Feet eaten with seal oil. Our recipes and handy hints will be up-to-date, tested and proven to be useful. We won't include altered brownies or margarita recipes either. For you who garden, let us know how you cope with the last-of-the -season squash and tomatoes, apricot excess and peach overstock. How do you partner tomato soup and something else to make a hearty and nutritious meal? Tell us how you cook!

My dad used to love 'glue pudding' which consists of flour and milk cooked to thick oatmeal consistency, eaten hot and covered with cream, nutmeg and brown sugar. He also liked hot vinegar and sugar poured over his spinach.

The book will cost \$12.00 for those sold before the book comes off the press and \$15.00 after November 1. The deadline for contributions is September 1, 2010.

Please send your recipe, its importance to you, and a bit about yourself to landmhitt@Cs.com or to littlelanders@Verizon.net. Restaurants, too, are encouraged to send in recipes, old or new. Please specify recipes as the subject in your E-mail. Or mail to Bolton Hall Museum, Box 203, Tujunga 91013.

East Valley Animal Shelter

East Valley Animal Shelter is now located at 14409 Vanowen in Van Nuys, 1 block east of Van Nuys Blvd. at the corner of Vanowen and Lennox. Toll free 1-888-452-7381 (menu option 1 then 4 then 5) inside line 1-213-485-8613 or 1-818-756-9323.

Solar Zoning Ordinance

by Elektra Kruger

California Code provides that cities and counties must approve applications for installation of solar energy systems unless the proposed system will have a specific adverse impact on public health or safety. The LAFD has adopted spacing requirements for solar energy panel arrays to facilitate emergency responses sometimes preventing property owners from installing as many panels as they would like. Some property owners have expressed interest in building new structures to accommodate solar panels. These new structures may or may not comply with existing zoning or building codes.

Installation on existing structures has no streamlined regulations. Installation in Historic Preservation Overlay Zones has no streamlined regulations. Seeing a need to streamline the permitting process for solar energy panel structures, Councilmembers Eric Garcetti and Ed Reyes co-presented a Motion to City Council requesting that the Planning Department with the assistance of the City Attorney's Office, Department of Building and Safety and Fire Department prepare and present a Draft Solar Zoning Ordinance for the City Council to take into consideration. This Motion was forwarded to the City Council's Planning and Land-Use Management Committee for their review and recommendations.

I'll share our experiences with solar panel installation:

Permits went fairly fast, approval by Building and Safety was fairly fast - within about 1-2 weeks. But the system could not be turned on and hooked up to the grid until the DWP installed a "net-meter" and added their magic signature to the paperwork. Seven-and-a-half months later (and just 2 weeks after we complained to Councilmember Krekorian) DWP finally decided to show up and sign off on our solar system and hook us up to the grid. Did they finally arrive because the Councilmember rattled some cages or just that the timeframe for getting an inspector to come out had just run its course and that was coincidence? Either way, for a City clamoring to go "green" and clamoring for new and renewable energy sources, why does the DWP make it nearly impossible to get a private residence's solar system on the grid? No wonder people are so reluctant to even begin what could be such a positive and worthwhile project.



S.A.F.E. Collection Center

S.A.F.E. Centers are open every weekend. Our local Center is open Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Sun Valley S.A.F.E. Center is located at 11025 Randall Street. Go down Sunland Boulevard towards I-5, turn right on Tuxford then right at the first street. Proceed to the end, turn left on Randall and the Center is on your right. It is easy and quick. You are not allowed to get out of your vehicle so have the stuff available for easy access.

**New CRA Plans Impacting
Stonehurst/Shadow Hills**
Guest Speaker
Albert Santillanes
Project Manager
East Region
Community Redevelopment
Agency of LA

EAST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER NEEDS - BLANKETS/TOWELS/TOYS/TREATS FOR CATS AND DOGS
PLEASE BRING TO EAST VALLEY FEED/TACK

Mark your calendar . . .

SHPOA General Meeting - September 14 - 7 pm • Tierra Del Sol

Guide to Advertisers

Page		Page
8	Airtight Pest Control.....	6
11	Armstrong Insurance	13
7	Bill Eick, Attorney.....	4
11	Century 21- Fran/Ray Notaries....	13
10	Chimney Cleaning	4
3	Corky's Bookkeeping.....	8
9	Dale's Automotive	7
13	Dave Robinson	6
11	Digital Doctor, Don Delson	9
3	Don Dunham, Attorney	13
14	Eagle Plumbing	5
9	East Valley Feed.....	5
6	Elizabeth Rubenstein, Tutor	15
15	Joe's Bar & Grill/Champs	5
8	John Nelson Plumbing.....	7
10	LA Law Center	7
4	Mary Ann Geyer Real Estate	
	Michael Rich Real Estate	6
	MicroArtisans	13
	Mission Valley Bank.....	4
	Natalie Blancardi Realtor.....	13
	Paul Mattox Hardwood Floors	4
	Protectarps	8
	Randy's Property Maintenance.....	7
	Richard's R.R. Plumbing.....	6
	Sharon Yoho-Realtor	9
	Sparkle & Shine.....	13
	Tierra del Sol Fall Festival	5
	Tree/Brush Clearance	5
	Trish Ramsey Real Estate	15
	Trubey Construction	5
	WRD	7
	Wright Color Graphics	7

Key Community Locations & Contact Information

- All Nations Church: 10000 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace
- Bolton Hall: 10110 Commerce Ave., Tujunga 818-352-3420
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center: 11075 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace
- Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church: (Johanna at Sunland, Shadow Hills) Pastor Janet Winslow.353-3500
- Stonehurst Park: 9901 Dronfield, Sun Valley, 818-767-0314
- Stonehurst Elementary School: 9851 Stonehurst Ave., Sun Valley
- Tierra del Sol: 9919 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills
- Village Christian School: 8930 Village Ave., Sun Valley
- City of LA East Valley Municipal Building/ Office CD2
Councilman Paul Krekorian, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland

Community Calendar

- Saturday, September 18 - 6:30 p.m. - midnight
 - ETI Corral 20's Harvest Moon Barn Yard Dinner Dance
 - Becky Borquez 818-352-3634
 - Linda Deckard 818-352-5057
- Saturday, September 25 - 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 - SHPOA YARD SALE
 - Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church (address below)
- Saturday, October 16 - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 - Fall Festival and Pumpkin Patch
 - Tierra Del Sol (address below)
- 1st Tuesday of Every Month
 - FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting, 7 pm
 - 9749 Wheatland
- 3rd Tuesday of Every Month
 - Neighborhood Watch, 7 pm
 - North Valley Municipal Building (address below)
- 4th Tuesday of Every Month
 - Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board, 7 pm
 - Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center (address below)
- 3rd Thursday of Every Month
 - FTDNC General Meeting, 7 pm
 - Check website for location www.ftdnc.org

SHPOA General Meeting - November 9, 7 pm

IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

- Dial 311 - Info on all City Services
- L.A. Dept. of Water & Power:
 - (800) 342-5397
- Street Service (800) 996-2489
- Large Item Pickup..... (800) 773-2489
- Abandoned Car (800) 222-6366