

# SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association  
Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

Volume 33, Issue 6

*A Neighborhood Where Families Grow*



November–December 2010

## Just a Little Whine

*By Marlene Hitt, Sunland Archivist, Bolton Hall Museum*

What did the grape say when the elephant sat on him? Nothing. He just let out a little wine. There weren't any resident elephants in the old days but there sure was wine. Tom Theobald wrote in a speech for the Little Landers H.S. that practically everybody made wine here in the foothills.

Grapes were grown all over the hillsides and the valley. All of Hillhaven was covered with vineyards; Breidt and Day streets, Tokay Road, Samoa, Pinewood, Tujung Canyon Place, Haines Canyon, the Begue property, that of the Zittos, Petrottas, and Fehlhabers in Tujunga, all were blanketed with vines. Grapes grew over most of Sunland's land.

Up the hill, according to Theobald, "We would make a big time of it. We had a 500 gallon concrete vat. We would get a bunch of men together and the women would cook up a pot luck meal. We would go pick grapes in the morning.

"We had an old cider mill. We'd get somebody there cranking. Someone would drop a bunch of dried grapes in the mill and BOY would they back up! Then the next Sunday we'd do the same thing only we would press the grapes, and put them into barrels. We'd add 5 gallons of honey to each barrel of wine. That didn't make it sweet, but it brought the alcohol content up. Then we'd put it in the blacksmith shop until it quit working—with water seals on it. "We didn't drink any until it was a year old. We'd transferred it down to the basement of the house. I'm telling you, it was a year round process."

The old timers had their own grapes and bees and, even though sugar was rationed during the war, they had the honey. Tom mentioned that cleaning and lining the barrels, extracting the juice, storing, bottling, and, of course, waiting, was an ongoing job. Then consider the growing and husbandry of the vineyards. I remember acreage east of Day Street behind Scoville where neighborhood youngsters would wander in play. Often we would see

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## Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church Update

*Note from the Editor: thanks to the team at the Church for working with SHPOA to allow us to conduct our yard sale on church property. We appreciate it!*

What's happening at Shadow Hills Presbyterian Preschool? It's the holiday season and of course that means lots of activity at the preschool. Our special, annual Thanksgiving celebration will take place on Wednesday, November 24. Each class prepares a part of our feast - corn muffins, green beans, applesauce, and, of course, we can't forget the turkey. Then all students come together dressed as Pilgrims and Native Americans (with handmade hats) as they enjoy a turkey luncheon and a most enjoyable celebration of Thanksgiving.

Then we have our annual Christmas Performance on Wednesday, December 15. Again, all students come together for this event. Students learn special Christmas and holiday songs and they are the stars of our program. Family and friends are invited to attend and experience Christmas through the eyes of these small children. It is most entertaining and guaranteed to get everyone in the Christmas spirit! Come by and see for yourself at 11:30 on Dec. 15 at Shadow Hills Preschool at the corner of Sunland Blvd and Johanna Ave. We look forward to seeing you.

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to all!

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## Thank you – Thank you – Thank you

SHPOA THANKS the residents of Shadow Hills for the wonderful donations to this year's yard sale.

Your efforts to provide us with treasures to pass forward were very profitable to the SHPOA bottom line.

We also want to thank Laura Barker and Andy Crone from Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church who went above and beyond to ensure our successful event. **GREAT JOB Shadow Hills !!**

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*East Shadow Hills/East LVT:*  
 Dale Gibson 968-8670

**Just a Little Whine** *continued from page 1*

coyotes helping themselves to the ripe bunches. Grapes were a good crop for many years which provided income for the citizens who lived here before the 1940’s.

Some of the Sunland-Tujunga produce was used by the San Antonio winery in Los Angeles. The nearest commercial winery was at the end of Dunsmore in La Crescenta.

**The Lucky Duck Rescue and Sanctuary**

*by Dave De Pinto*

A few months ago, we had a presentation at our general meeting by one of the most interesting local residents we’ve come across in years. Carol Crisong, aka “Duck Lady”, spoke to our members about her charitable work related to duck rescue.

Located on 9135 Wheatland Avenue in Sun Valley, California, Duck Lady operates a duck rescue and sanctuary unlike anything you’ve seen before and with a love and passion that is rare. Carol has some musical and lyrical credits to her career, but we think her most important work is that of local guardian and rescuer of ducks – some are abandoned, some are wayward, and some are displaced or endangered by natural disasters such as recent fires and flooding in nearby mountains and foothills.

If you are an animal lover, please keep a spot in your heart for the not-so-lucky ducks that need help via Carol’s organization. You can learn more about this wonderful animal and community service organization by visiting their website: [www.luckyduckrescue.org](http://www.luckyduckrescue.org) or calling Carol at 818-767-7778. Her organization is a registered 501 (c) (3) organization so your donations are very helpful and are tax deductible.

To view a video of a Duck Rescue conducted in the Haines Canyon area (and involving local residents) please visit the following site on YouTube:

**<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=af9aSR2luxM>**



Thank you and good luck Duck Lady!

**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 [ccaamano@yahoo.com](mailto:ccaamano@yahoo.com) or call Linda at 818-246-7788.

**Emergency Animal Hospitals**

**Animal Specialty Group** [www.asgvets.com](http://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](http://www.valleypet911.com)  
 11730 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604  
 (818) 760-3882 Mon–Thurs: 6pm–8am  
 Weekends: Fri 6pm–Mon 8am

### Make a List and Check it Twice...Holiday Pet Safety Tips

By Denise Fleck

Put yourself in your dog or cat's paws...at the end of each year, boxes are dragged from the garage and unusual things happen. A tree (seen by males as their "outhouse") is brought INDOORS! Shiny, dangly things are hung, food is in abundance, bells jingle and people sing. These sights, smells and sounds can be exciting to our four-legged friends, but their perspective on how to deal with this upheaval differs from ours.

Placing the tree or candle display in the window Fido regularly watches the mailman from is not an option. Pick an out-of-the-way location and anchor the tree to a wall or ceiling hook in the event your cat considers it a feline jungle gym. Once in place, leave the tree undecorated for a day or two. A quick squirt from a water bottle as pets approach may lessen their interest. Cover tree water to prevent pets from drinking it which can result in severe stomach upsets.

When ready to decorate, keep it critter-proof! Cats are attracted to shiny balls, ribbons and tinsel. Sadly, veterinarians report an increase in emergency treatments during the holidays since animals often ingest these objects. Never tempt your pet by placing food under the tree or by hanging dog biscuits, candy canes or popcorn garlands. Gifts with a scent (even candles or cologne) could entice Rover to unwrap and consume the contents.



Tape wires to the floor or baseboards and conceal them under the tree skirt. Better yet... never leave plugged-in wires unattended. Chewing on wires can electrocute your pet making it necessary for YOU to perform Rescue Breathing or CPR before you reach the veterinarian!

Keep holiday plants out of sniffing range as poinsettias, holly berries and leaves, pinecones and mistletoe can cause stomach upsets and intestinal blockages. Although a stress-filled time of year, take care not to leave headache or stomach medicines around for pets to consume. If you suspect Fido or Fluffy has ingested anything harmful, call your veterinarian or Animal Poison Control immediately (888) 426-4435, and know the quickest route to your Animal ER.

Holiday parties bring an influx of people who can disrupt your pet's stable environment. Devote time to play before

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## Shadow Hills Property Owners Association SHPOA

### Membership Form

Residents in the Shadow Hills area  
Join SHPOA for the 2011 calendar year!

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

**Membership = \$20**  
**Newsletter only = \$10**  
*Donations Welcomed*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:      New     Renewal   
  Newsletter Only

Mail check to:    SHPOA, P.O. Box 345  
  Sunland CA 91041-0345



## Water Recycling

by Elektra Kruger

The United States Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Title XVI Program was created in 1992 by the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act which was designed to investigate and identify opportunities for water reclamation and reuse, to design and construct permanent facilities for reclamation of and reuse of wastewater, and to research means of reclamation of wastewater including impaired ground and surface waters and desalination. In 1996 that authorization was limited to a total of \$20 million for the City by the Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act of 1996. Those \$20 million supported the East Valley Water Recycling Project and the Terminal Island Water Recycling Project.

In May 2008, the DWP released a Water Supply Action Plan for creating sustainable sources of water in the future to meet increasing demand through a combination of water conservation and water recycling. The City has been using recycled water for irrigation and industrial purposes since 1979. The DWP's water recycling program includes a "purple pipeline" network, upgrades for existing treatment plants and use of treated wastewater for groundwater replenishment. (I hope they don't pump untreated water from overburdened treatment plants into our groundwater as they currently do into our oceans.)

The total cost of the water recycling program is estimated to be approximately \$1 billion over the next ten years. To meet this substantial financial estimate, the DWP must actively seek all available sources of external funding, one of which could be more Title XVI funding. In recognition of this, in late May 2010, Councilmember Jan Perry presented a Resolution to City Council asking that the City of Los Angeles include, in its 2009-2010 Federal Legislative Program, support and/or sponsorship of legislation that would increase LA's existing Title XVI authorization from \$20 million to \$200 million to support further water recycling efforts.

The item was approved by the City Council on August 13, 2010. The Mayor failed to sign the approved Motion within the required time period which deems it automatically approved. Official final approval date was August 30, 2010.

Thus, should there ever be any federal legislation recommending increase in LA's Title XVI allotment from \$20 million to \$200 million, LA would fully support it. Now the Federal government just needs to get a Bill to that effect introduced for federal approval.



## Your COMMUNITY—Your SHPOA

SHPOA needs you if you have concerns, opinions, desires for your neighborhood. With your involvement, in any way, SHPOA can make even greater strides in protecting the very special community and way of life that we all cherish. If you would like to join SHPOA and put your talents to work, SHPOA is in need of you!

The nomination process for our board of directors is ongoing NOW. Please call either Elektra Kruger (president; 818-352-6220) or Dave De Pinto (vice president; 818-352-7618), or visit our website (<http://www.shpoa.us/>) if you want to volunteer or if you have any questions. Nominations will again be entertained at the November meeting when elections will take place.



### **Dying on the Vine: Vines Could Root Out Graffiti**

*by Elektra Kruger*

Graffiti on walls, buildings and other structural features is a serious impediment to the quality of life for residents citywide. While a number of City agencies continue to ensure timely removal of graffiti from our neighborhoods, it remains an on-going problem requiring other creative approaches to fight this perpetual battle. In recognition of the need for a creative “think-tank”, in mid-May 2009, Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented a Motion to City Council asking that they call for the Department of Public Works and the Office of Community Beautification to submit a report to the City Council and its Public Works Committee with recommendations on the feasibility of and means to implement a program involving the planting of vines to cover walls instead of merely repainting graffiti.

In late June 2010, the Office of Community Beautification of the Board of Public Works submitted a report to the City Council’s Public Works Committee explaining how it was standard procedure for them to contract with Community Based Organizations for graffiti removal services. Graffiti removal is usually done in one of three ways depending on the type of surface - repainting with color-coordinated paint, sand or water blasting, and chemical removal.

Where there are sites that are repeatedly tagged, the Office of Community Beautification will supply paints or other appropriate supplies to local constituents. The Office has also already implemented a “vining program” to proactively combat graffiti in the community and has planted vines at over 240 locations throughout the City. Successful “vining” however, does require community involvement and commitment especially in the initial growing stages when vines need to be watered to survive. Vines not only limit vandals from accessing walls, but also help beautify the landscape. The Office of Community Beautification has found that the vining program not only serves as a proactive means of deterring future acts of graffiti, but also adds oxygen to the environment.

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## Register up to 5 Cats/Dogs? Part 2

*by Elektra Kruger*

The current recession has resulted in a marked increase in the abandonment rate of cats and dogs, a notable increase in shelter populations and ultimately animal euthanasia. The City has been developing a number of programs to deal with the problem. In early June 2010, Councilmember Bill Rosendahl presented another Motion hoping to deal with the situation requesting that the City Attorney's Office be asked to amend the LAMC to raise the allowable number of cats and/or dogs that a City resident may own from three to five.

That led to a very vocal protest from the Animal Issues Movement with scare tactics about "aggressive breeds" and how they would jump fences and attack other pets and roam the community being a danger to residents and the unacceptable noise level such an increased residential dog population could lead to. This led Councilmember Rosendahl to request a change in his Motion asking not that the LAMC be changed to reflect an increased allowable ownership level of dogs or cats but to ask the Department of Animal Services, the City Legislative Analyst and City Administrative Officer to review the potential benefits and potential consequences of increasing the number of dogs/cats a resident may own from three to five.

In public testimony at the mid-July 2010 Public Safety Committee Meeting, two persons spoke in opposition of the change to the LAMC. The Committee referred the Motion to the Department of Animal Services to review and submit a report back to the Committee. Long before any report every came from Animal Services, piles of arguments both pro and con flooded in from the public.

A lawyer claimed that prior to taking any action on the Motion the City is required to analyze the potentially significant adverse impacts of the action on the environment per the California Environmental Quality Act otherwise known as CEQA. CEQA is a process requiring public agencies to consider potential environmental impacts of discretionary actions prior to their approval. This lawyer felt that amending rules regulating the number of animals residents may lawfully own should be viewed as a "discretionary project" per CEQA because raising the number of domestic animals a resident may own could and most likely would increase the overall number of domestic animals in the City thereby increasing impacts of those dogs and cats on the City's environment.

Surprisingly, this lawyer was less concerned about the increase in the number of dogs stating that they would have less of an impact on the City's overall environment because they must be confined to properties or restrained on a leash. Cats would have a greater environmental impact because the City has no regulations preventing cats from roaming off properties. Increasing ownership allowances would significantly increase the number of outdoor cats whether free-roaming, owned or feral. SHPOA will let you know what others had to say in future issues.

## **Our White Elephant Museum—Part 2**

*by Elektra Kruger*

In mid-May 2007, the City of Los Angeles provided a maximum \$2.1 million loan to the Los Angeles Children's Museum out of the City's Reserve Fund to help finance completion of its construction. Construction efforts had ceased due to budget shortfalls. It was agreed upon that the City would only actually release dollar for dollar matching funds to funds received from private sources—sources which would serve as a show of community support for the museum.

The City Controller audited the Children's Museum and released its final report in late August 2007. The primary objective of the audit was to evaluate funding sources and the intended uses of those funds as they related to the construction of the Museum. The report resulted in nine audit recommendations that were then categorized as "urgent", "necessary", "desirable" or "not applicable". The "Los Angeles for Kids Steering Committee submitted responses to the various recommendations presented in the Controller's audit.

Recommendation #1: There must be a review of the Los Angeles Children's Museum's plans for raising the remaining \$22 million needed to complete the entire project. This was based on Finding #1 of the Controller's audit. The Controller found that the Children's Museum had been unable to raise sufficient private funds resulting in inadequate funding for the Museum Project. While construction supposedly nears completion, if the Museum fails to raise an estimated \$22 million within the next year to complete the entire project, including fabrication of the exhibits and other items, we can reasonably well anticipate the Museum to come to the City for more money or the Project will be further delayed.

The City Engineer, Chief Legislative Analyst and City Administrative Officer are to work together to complete review of the plans. As a part of this review process, and with the assistance of the City Attorney's Office, alternative plans are to be developed in the event that the Museum does fail to raise the needed funds. That alternative Plan should include evaluations of a number of options including such things as whether or not the City itself should take ownership of the Project or should it form a partnership with the Museum or some other foundation/organization to help make the Museum a reality. This recommendation was rated as "Urgent".

Saga to continue in our next issue.



### **Mitigation Bank – Sheriff's Phone Number**

If you are in the Mitigation Bank area of Hansen Dam and need assistance, the number to call is 800-834-0064. They WILL respond!

The boundaries for the Mitigation Bank are: Foothill Boulevard to the east, past Wheatland to DWP power lines to the west, Wentworth Ave. to south, to Foothill Blvd. to the north.

## Holiday Pet Safety Tips

*continued from page 3*

guests arrive, and stock up on toys you can fill with low-fat peanut butter or cream cheese mixed with chopped carrots or apples to keep dogs busy.

Despite your hectic schedule, keep pets on their routine for bathroom breaks and meals, and notice any changes... Is your pet unusually thirsty, lethargic, vomiting or lacking an appetite? These symptoms could signal poisoning or another urgent problem.

When packages are unwrapped, remove tags and cut nylon whiskers from stuffed toys before they scratch your pet's eyes. Squeakers, stuffing and plastic buttons can be problematic if swallowed, so always supervise your pet around his new playthings.

Choosing a pet is a personal decision. Do not give an animal as a gift. Instead, prepare friends to become responsible pet parents with a book, class or supplies, and when they're ready...encourage them to save a life by adopting from their local shelter.

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## LAPD Senior Lead Officer Safety Tips

*By Senior Lead Officer Larry Martinez*

I want to thank the community for supporting LAPD Foothill Division this year. We have worked hard to reduce crime and increase the quality of life of each neighborhood. We look forward to working with everyone to continue to "Protect and Serve" our communities.

The following Safety Tips were compiled, in cooperation with the LAPD Crime Prevention Section, to contribute to the safety and security of people during the holiday season. The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors. The Los Angeles Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

### Safe Driving Tips

- Avoid driving alone or at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car.
- If you must shop at night, be sure to park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages on the seat of your car. This creates a temptation for thieves.
- When approaching and leaving your vehicle be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Ask mall or store security for an escort before leaving your shopping location.



**Dying On the Vine***continued from page 5*

In early July 2010, the City Council's Public Works Committee noted and filed (away) the report submitted by the Office of Community Beautification as did the City Council in early August of 2010. Yeah. The Office of Community Beautification "found a vining program to be the best proactive approach to deter future acts of graffiti on walls". Did the City make an effort to develop and support an active "vining" program? No. They filed a piece of paper away in a box.

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**Proposed Amended Fees for Animal Services—Part 1**

*by Elektra Kruger*

In late March 2009, the Office of the City Attorney submitted a draft Ordinance to City Council related to amending a number of sections in the LA Municipal Code dealing with fees charged for a variety of services rendered by the Department of Animal Services. The draft Ordinance evolved out of a convoluted mass of reports, documents, Motions, and interdepartmental memos that date back to 2007. Amendments were recommended for methods of setting fees, means of collecting fees, revisions and increases in a number of fees regularly charged including an increase of spay/neuter fees from \$28 to \$40 and an increase in breeding permits from \$100 to \$120.

The revised adoption fees, kennel permit fees, exhibition permit fees, etc. would also include a method to allow for modifying those fees from time-to-time. This would enable the Animal Services Department to more effectively recover costs of care, food and medical treatment at Department shelters for adopted animals. It also would enable more effective recovery of administrative costs associated with processing kennel permits, holding animal exhibitions, and a variety of other services offered by the Department.

The proposed amendments would hopefully allow for periodic modifications of various fees and permit costs as needed while still retaining Board and Council oversight. The Board of Animal Services Commissioners would periodically determine verifiable costs incurred by the City in connection with animal impoundment and animal adoption, and would recommend reasonable revised fee schedules to City Council for their approval based on those costs. The Board would also be required to establish a calendar of adoption events and periodic times within a fiscal or calendar year in which the Department's General Manager may reduce adoption fees by up to 50%, may reduce or even waive micro-chipping fees, etc. in order to promote pet adoptions.

Currently, the LAMC allows the General Manager to waive all or part of adoption fees on 3 days in any calendar year. The proposed Ordinance would expand authority of the General Manager at his/her discretion to reduce any or all adoption fees on certain annual events such as Mother's Day or Valentine's Day. The actual calendar days in which the discounts could be made available would be established by the Board subject to approval of the City Council. To be continued in a future issue.

## Watch That Ficus Tree - Don't Trip - Part 2

by Elektra Kruger

In mid-January 2010, the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) provided a report to the City Council's Public Works Committee in response to a Motion introduced by Councilmember Jan Perry in mid-October 2006 regarding the conflict between Ficus trees, sidewalks and other infrastructure. At the time of the report, it was estimated that the City had some 700,000 trees overall planted in public right-of-ways, more-than-likely one of the world's largest City street tree populations. These street trees provide for reduction of storm-water runoff, trapping of airborne particulate matter, minimizing ambient temperatures over streets and parking areas, reduction of green-house effects by absorbing and storing carbon, improving air quality, providing a more pleasant pedestrian environment and providing some level of wildlife habitat in an urban environment.

Ficus trees are evergreen, fast-growing, hardy, drought resistant, nearly indestructible, adaptable and capable of thriving in hostile street tree environments. But like any large stature tree, the Ficus can come into conflict with sidewalks, walls, utility poles, street lights, street signage and other forms of infrastructure. It was for this reason that the Bureau of Street Services was requested to prepare a report exploring the possibility of extending the voluntary 50/50 sidewalk repair program to include commercial sidewalks (this request was made in 2006 when the residential 50/50 program was still viable - in 2010, with the budget crisis even the residential 50/50 program was no longer in existence), determining what amount of root pruning a Ficus tree could sustain to minimize sidewalk damage and developing a program allowing Council Districts to issue twenty annual Ficus tree removal permits adjacent to their properties as long as it was included with a sidewalk repair project.

The BSS reported that conflict with walls, utility poles, street lights, etc. would best be dealt with by increasing tree pruning frequency. At the time the Motion was first introduced in 2006 there was already a notable level of deferred tree maintenance on record - with the budget crisis of 2010 and the marked reduction in service personnel, how in the world could anyone expect an increase in tree pruning frequency? According to the BSS, conflicts between sidewalks and the Indian Laurel Fig tree (the Ficus tree), or any large stature tree for that matter, is mainly due to the "large size" vs. "available space" ratio. To be continued in a future issue.



### Small Animal Rescue Team

There is a group called "Small Animal Rescue Team Los Angeles" which is excellent at rescuing small animals (including wildlife). They are a dedicated group of animal rescue officers who are well trained, caring, well equipped, etc. These people are the ones to call, not the police fire department or animal regulation services. They can be reached at (213) 305-4095, [animalrescueteamla@yahoo.com](mailto:animalrescueteamla@yahoo.com), or the following website: [http://www.laanimalservices.com/about\\_smart.htm](http://www.laanimalservices.com/about_smart.htm).

## Flood Control District Fees

*By Elektra Kruger*

The existing Los Angeles County Flood Control Act which established the Los Angeles County Flood Control District authorized the District to control and conserve flood, storm and other wastewaters within the District. The District was given the authority to levy taxes to cover expenses of District Projects and/or operations related to improvement of water quality and reduction of stormwater and urban run-off pollution. These taxes would be levied and collected together with taxes for other County purposes with the revenues paid into the County treasury credited to the District.

Currently, the District is not authorized to raise monies by any means other than the issuance of bonds or levying of taxes on assessed value of real property. In mid-February 2010, Assemblymember Brownley presented a Bill to the State Assembly asking that the District be allowed to raise monies by issuing bonds, levying taxes or imposing a fee. The Bill passed the State Assembly in early June 2010 and was forwarded to the State Senate. It was scheduled for a third reading on the Senate Floor in mid-August 2010 at which time the Bill passed the Senate. It was forwarded to the desk of the Governor awaiting his signature in mid-September 2010.



## Powered 2-Wheeled Vehicle Parking

*by Elektra Kruger*

The City of Los Angeles is making an effort to increase walking, bicycling, carpooling and use of public-transit. However, thus far, little effort has been made to encourage use of powered two-wheeled vehicles (PTW's) such as motorcycles, scooters and mopeds. These types of vehicles are becoming more popular as a source of transportation, but no designated parking spaces exist in the City. Therefore, these vehicles end up using full-sized parking spaces designed for full-sized vehicles thus wasting a lot of an increasingly limited commodity that we have in this City - parking space.

On-Street metered parking often ends up with tail-ends not large enough to accommodate parking for a full-sized vehicle and, as such, becomes wasted space that could easily be striped to accommodate PTW's thereby freeing up the larger spaces for full-sized vehicles. In recognition of this, in mid-July 2010, Councilmember Tony Cardenas presented a Motion to City Council asking that they instruct the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to develop a plan to re-stripe any unused remnants of on-street curb parking to accommodate PTW's. He also presented an additional Motion asking that the City Council instruct the Department of City Planning to develop new on- and off-street parking standards for PTW's to further encourage use of these types of vehicles and to maximize available parking.

Both Motions were forwarded to the City Council's Transportation Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of these Motions.

## Amendments to Water Conservation Ordinance – Part 2

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 DWP offered some responses to those issues. Three of the issues were covered in a prior SHPOA Newsletter. A fourth item discussed by City Council was a possible exemption to the Conservation Ordinance for hillside properties recovering from the 2009 fires.

A new provision added to an amended Ordinance in late 2009 gave allowances to hillside areas recovering from fire to be replanted and watered as needed for a limited time to give vegetation a chance to reestablish itself and to prevent erosion. A blanket exemption for all hillside residences would have imposed an unfair, higher water conservation level to other City residents.

Experts indicate that in times of drought, the best irrigation method is deep-root watering done less frequently thereby encouraging vegetation to grow deeper roots, therefore the DWP recommends homeowners to practice deep-root watering using the most efficient irrigation system practicable. For those plants requiring additional water, a homeowner may hand-water as needed using a hose with a self-closing shut-off device before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

A fifth issue discussed by City Council at their July 14, 2009 meeting was the possible exemption to the Conservation Ordinance for customers owning weather-based irrigation controllers (WBIC). While WBICs do help in an effort to conserve water overall, they are designed to provide the optimal amount of water to each specific plant which may include plants that require a lot of water. Thus, in order to ensure adequate water conservation, all irrigation systems are still being required to comply with watering-day restrictions with the exception of large landscaped areas such as parks and sports fields.

A sixth issue discussed in City Council was children playing with hoses. The Conservation Ordinance targets water waste and plant irrigation, it does not address restriction of use for children's play activities. Per the Ordinance, customers may continue to use water in outdoor water activities including, but not limited to, filling kiddie pools and supplying water to various water toys such as water slides and water soakers.

To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA Newsletter.



### Delay Utility Payments?

by Elektra Kruger

Councilmember Tom LaBonge put on his thinking cap regarding potential opportunities for restoring City services such as library hours and park programs. His latest idea was a Motion presented to City Council asking that they request the City Attorney, the DWP, the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Library Department to collectively report on the feasibility of allowing the DWP to delay collection of utility payments until such time as “the economic environment changes”, this to allow the various Departments to offer expanded services to the residents of Los Angeles in the form of hours and/or programs needed by the people.

There are major budgetary problems with the City that need to be addressed. Bandages such as this ain't gonna do it. But as long as we are considering bandages, can I delay payment of my own utility bill so I can keep up with the mortgage payments on the seven bedroom house that my husband and I live in? This Motion was referred to both the Energy and Environment Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee for their review and recommendations in early September 2010. SHPOA will keep you abreast of the progress of this Motion.



### 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.

## **Enforcement of Rooster Ordinance**

*by Elektra Kruger*

In September 2009, the City Council adopted an Ordinance limiting the number of roosters allowable on any one property. The intention was to balance the rights of those wishing to keep roosters with the rights of their neighbors who object to the associated noise.

The Department of Animal Services is responsible for enforcing this law; however, due to budget crisis driven personnel reductions, Councilmember Janice Hahn felt it might be prudent to authorize any City department with enforcement power to this also enforce this ordinance. Thus, the LAPD, Dept. of Building and Safety, and Dept. of Animal Services cover the Rooster “beat”.

Currently, notice is required to correct a situation in violation of the issuance of a citation for the first three violations and does not permit prosecution as a misdemeanor unless there are repeated failures to comply. To more effectively utilize enforcement authority, Councilmember Hahn feels the Code should be amended to provide latitude to prosecute even first time violations as a misdemeanor. She presented a Motion to City Council in February 2010 asking that the City Attorney be requested to prepare a Draft Ordinance to that effect. The Motion was referred to the City Council’s Public Safety Committee for review and recommendation. Public testimony at an early June 2010 Public Safety Committee meeting favored the amendment. The City Attorney presented a Draft Ordinance to the Public Safety Committee in August 2010 providing other departments enforcement authority by means of a Notice to Correct, by Administrative or Criminal Citation in the amount of \$50 for the first violation, \$100 for the second violation and \$250 for a third violation or the authority to prosecute as a misdemeanor even for the first offense if it is felt that it is warranted. SHPOA will keep you abreast of this Motion.



## **Fee for Noise Variance Application?**

*by Elektra Kruger*

As requested by the City Council, in early August, the City Attorney presented a Draft Ordinance which would add a section to the Los Angeles Municipal Code establishing a fee for noise variance applications. Establishment of a new fee was first recommended in late March 2010 by the Board of Police Commissioners. In early June 2010, the City Council adopted a budget which included a request that the City Attorney draft an Ordinance establishing a \$233 fee for noise variance applications. Per State law, prior to adoption of any new or increased fee, there must be a public hearing. The Draft was referred to the City Council’s Public Safety Committee for their review and recommendation. SHPOA will let you know if and when this Ordinance becomes effective.

## Plastic Bag Ban?

*by Elektra Kruger*

Approximately six billion single-use plastic and paper bags are used each year in Los Angeles County, few of them ever being recycled but ending up littering our streets, waterways, wetlands and beaches. The widespread use of reusable bags would save trees, water and natural resources while reducing air and water pollution. A bill was introduced in the State Legislature, AB 1998, which - if approved - would have prohibited supermarkets, convenience stores and large retail stores from providing single-use bags to customers at the point-of-sale requiring them to make reusable bags available to customers for purchase or recycled paper single-use bags for a price not less than five cents.

AB 1998, as written, would have pre-empted any local regulation on bags. The City usually opposes any State bill that would pre-empt local control, however in this case Los Angeles supported the bill such that there could be a state-run program which would relieve the City of creating an administrative and enforcement program of its own while still benefiting from a reduction in litter and pollution associated with the use of single-use bags.

Unfortunately, this bill failed to pass State Legislature despite widespread public support. Given that the State failed to pass this bill, in early September 2010, Councilmember Greig Smith felt that the City of Los Angeles should pass its own local ban and presented a Motion to City Council asking that they request the Bureau of Sanitation to provide a report on the necessary steps to implement a citywide ban on single-use plastic bags, including in the report a reference to the status of the County's Environmental Impact Report as it relates to single use plastic bags and the State's Master Environmental Assessment that was prepared regarding single-use plastic bags.

The Motion was referred to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you abreast of this Motion.

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## Increased Impounded Vehicle Release Fee?

*by Elektra Kruger*

As requested by the City Council, the City Attorney prepared and presented in early August 2010 a Draft Ordinance which would amend the Municipal Code increasing the impounded vehicle or pocket bike release fee. Currently, the Municipal Code imposes a vehicle release fee of \$100 per vehicle or pocket bike redeemed from an official police garage. In early June 2010, the City Council adopted a budget which included a request that the impounded vehicle release fee be increased from \$100 to \$115. Prior to adopting any new or increased fee, the City Council must conduct a public hearing. The City Council may impose fees so long as they do not exceed the expected cost of implementing the service. The Draft was referred to the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee for their review and recommendations. SHPOA will keep you abreast of if and when this Ordinance becomes effective.



## Hot Water Recirculation Technology

*by Elektra Kruger*

As our population grows, potable water resources will continue to be strained. Technological advances in water conservation help to assure continued availability of potable water resources for the city's residents. One technology, the recirculation pump, is estimated to have the ability to save an average family of four between 11,000 and 13,000 gallons of water per year. Recirculation pumps are installed on hot water plumbing systems. In a typical plumbing system, water is piped from the water heater through pipes to the tap. Once the tap is shut off, water remaining in the pipes cools down and the next time the tap is turned on, cold water goes "down the drain" – wasted – during the wait for warm water to reach the tap. The recirculation pump causes a small amount of warm water to continuously flow from the furthest fixture through the plumbing system back to the water heater so water in the pipes remains warm; thereby reducing water waste. But, what is the cost of the energy required to maintain a circulating system versus the amount of water lost? It might be worthwhile in commercial and multi-family buildings, especially if the circulating system is placed on timers or manual switches. For a commercial building, the circulatory system could be shut off when the building is not in use. In a multi-family building, it could be shut off during minimal-use water hours such as 11 p.m. through 5 a.m. This would minimize the energy required to maintain an on-going circulatory system. In June 2010, Councilmember Tony Cardenas presented a Motion to City Council to request the City Attorney ( in consultation with the Department of Water and Power) to prepare and present an Ordinance that would require inclusion of hot water recirculating technology in new construction and major remodels of single and multi-family residential buildings. In addition, the DWP would review methods to encourage adoption of hot water recirculation technology or other technologies that provide equivalent or greater water efficiency. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee, scheduled to be heard on September 21, 2010. SHPOA will keep you abreast of progress on this issue.

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
GLENDALE, CA  
PERMIT NO. 1587



Do you have a "White Elephant" looking for a home? Wrap it up "pretty" & bring it to our November meeting and laugh until you hurt watching your friends & neighbors try to dump their white elephants & gifts on you.



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

## Elections and Free Pizza!

*Mark your calendar . . .*

**SHPOA General Meeting - November 9 - 7 pm • Tierra Del Sol  
(1st meeting in 2011 will be on January 11)**

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### 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.353-2500**
- 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, 818.352.8287  
Councilman Paul Krekorian, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland**

### Community Calendar

- Sunday, November 21**  
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church: new weekly gathering includes your pets
- Sunday, November 21 & Sunday, November 28**  
Alternative gift market 10 a.m.–noon (see article SHPC)
- Saturday, December 5**  
Ho Ho Ride  
Contact Linda: 818.352.3693
- Wednesday, December 15**  
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church preschool  
Christmas performance, 11:30 a.m.
- Sunday, December 19**  
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church Caroling Christmas.  
Info at 818-353-2500
- 3rd Wednesday, Every Month**  
"Prime Timers 60+". Call the church at 818-352-2500
- 1st Tuesday, Every Month**  
FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting, 9749 Wheatland, 7pm
- 3rd Tuesday, Every Month**  
Neighborhood Watch. East Valley Municipal Bldg. 7pm
- 4th Tuesday, Every Month**  
Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board. Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center, 7pm
- 3rd Thursday, Every Month**  
Location variable, check website for location  
www.ftdnc.org, 7pm

### 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