



Annual Toast of the Town Awards

I'm sure that most of you reading this had no idea that there is an annual awards ceremony for Community Service held right here in Sunland-Tujunga. Well, there is. - SEE PAGE 6



The agony and the ecstasy in Tujunga

This past month has shown the agony and the ecstasy of Tujunga. Restaurants, 2 car washes, 1 new grocery store, 2 new coffee shops, 1 new cafe's, and a restaurant-caterer. They just passed the test. - SEE PAGE 8

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THE FOOTHILLS

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS

FRIDAY OCTOBER 15, 2021

SUNLAND STRONG - TUJUNGA TOUGH!
A tribute to our local businesses that are re-opening.

VOLUME 17 • NUMBER 15



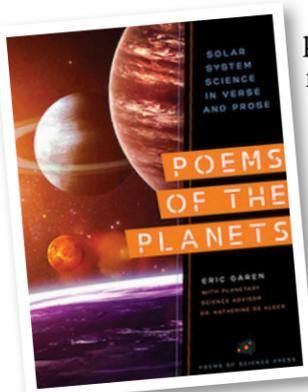
Poems of the Planets

Discover how educator and astrophotographer Eric Garen (Cal Tech '68) combined his love of language and scientific training into Poems of the Planets: Solar System Science in Verse and Prose.

In this installment of Behind the Book, Garen discusses the book during a virtual event on Tuesday, October 19, at 5 p.m. PT. While this event is free, an advance reservation is required and can be made by going to https://events.caltech.edu/series/behind_the_book/eric-garen#make-a-reservation. The book's planetary science advisor and Caltech assistant professor of planetary science and astronomy Katherine de Kleer joins Garen for his virtual talk.

Originally written with middle school students in mind, the book invites readers of all ages to delight in the wonders of our solar system, from the highly corrosive atmosphere of Venus to the wacky antics of the moons circling within the icy rings of Saturn and everything in between. Poems of the Planets is now available for purchase online.

"As the book explores the solar system, readers are introduced to important basic concepts in chemistry, physics, biology, geology, and oceanography as well as topics in geography, history and mythology," said Garen.



Hansen Dam Brush Fire probably caused by houseless arsonist!

While 2 more fires start the next day on the 210W at Hubbard & McClay



October 2: 9:30 pm to 2:30 am 10652 Glenoaks Blvd. Sun Valley.

Seventy firefighters contained two separate fires at the Hansen Dam. The brush fire burnt 2 acres, before firefighters neutralized the threat. Crews remained

on scene for over 8 hours to mop up any remaining hot spots or smoldering material. A bulldozer was dispatched and operated for about 3 hours. Fire Stations 24, 74, 77 & 98 provided equipment and men: Battalion Command 12; (13) Fire Engines. (3)

Helicopters, (4) Fire Trucks, (2) Water Tankers, (1) Ambulance (1) Fire Bulldozer were deployed.

Fires of a suspicious nature were started on the 210 W starting at Hubbard and while being fought, another one was started at the Hubbard off-ramp. ■



Check out The Foothills Paper interactive website: thefoothillspaper.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

To Our Shadow Hills Neighbors - Redistricting Update

Thursday night's meeting of the Redistricting Commission started at 5:00pm and ended at 10:45pm. Most of the meeting was an exercise in frustration. Although the public testimony lasted two (2) hours, no one from Shadow Hills was called on to speak. If it hadn't been for all of your emails, our

concerns would have been totally ignored. One Commissioner mentioned that she, as well as many of the other Commissioners, had received many emails from Shadow Hills and she wanted to make sure their concerns got addressed.

So, we were heard !!!! Through your emails!!! And at the end of the meeting one Commissioner remarked that Shadow Hills should be reconsidered in a list of issues that still required their analysis. This is a critical acknowledgment by the Redistricting Commission ... and gives us a fighting chance to survive.

The Redistricting Commissioners voted NOT to move forward with Map L, a map published prior to that meeting, and then adopted map K2.5 (which is a variation they worked on during the meeting of the map K2 that they had published prior to the meeting). However, they made a formal declaration that there would be a list of issues accompanying this K2.5 map that still needed to be worked out. This "Dialogue Guide" will have an ad hoc committee working on these issues during the month of October. Both Map K2.5 and the Dialogue Guide will be up on their website before the Oct. 6, 2021 meeting: <https://laccrc2021.org/meetings/>.

The K2.5 map still divides up Shadow Hills and it still separates our three (3) foothill equestrian communities of Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon. It also jeopardizes the future of the Foothills Trails District Neighborhood Council by splitting it into 2 - 3 districts. The Commission stated that keeping Neighborhood Councils together one of their goals.

We need to continue our fight by inundating the Redistricting Commission again. We cannot stop now! Please commit to writing 4



more letters to the Redistricting Commission - each one to arrive by the morning of the upcoming meeting dates:

Wednesday, October 6 at 6 PM, Presentation of Map

Saturday, October 9 at 10 AM, Presentation of Map

Wednesday, October 13 at 6 PM, Presentation of Map

Saturday, October 16 at 10AM, Presentation of Map

We will continue to communicate updates as this process continues. It is unclear right now if emails will be helpful or needed for the last two meetings:

Thursday, October 21 at 6PM, Adoption of Final Map

Thursday, October 28 at 6PM, Adoption of Final Report

Materials for each meeting, the Agenda, and the zoom link can be found for the next meeting a few days before each meeting at <https://laccrc2021.org/meetings/>.

Your letters do not have to be long. They should be personal and heartfelt. Remember that their decision will affect our communi-

ty of Shadow Hills for the next 10 years ... and possibly forever ... by dividing our voices into separate districts.

The following are sample points which can be used (in your own word) in your letters:

1. Shadow Hills cannot be divided up into different districts as is shown in the Redistricting map K2.5. Our community has been a recognized rural, horse keeping community for well over 50 years. The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) was founded in 1964. We have a recognized trail system throughout the community: our own Equestrian Trails Inc (ETI) Corral 20. There are numerous horse and rescue groups located in our community. Shadow Hills has a K District overlay zone throughout, which gives added protections for horses and animal keeping lifestyles. All new subdivisions in Shadow Hills must provide trails in the public access easements in lieu of sidewalks. Any new subdivisions in Shadow Hills must provide horse keeping set asides for the housing of horses along with wide

access to those horse keeping areas. Our common interests of Shadow Hills are those of a historically rural, animal oriented, horse keeping community. We are a diversified community with common objectives and goals.

The border lines for the Shadow Hills community, which need to be kept together, are as follows:

- The 210 Freeway on the EAST
- The Ridgeline between Sunland Blvd. and La Tuna Canyon Road on the SOUTH
- The Big Tujunga Wash on the NORTH and NORTHWEST
- The Landfills along Glenoaks and Sheldon on the WEST. This boundary does not sever off Stonehurst Ave. and the residential streets west of Stonehurst (Wealtha, Allegheny, Dronfield, Fenway, Bromont, Peoria, Elinda, Hershey, and N. Clybourne) which have historically been considered part of Shadow Hills.

2. The three (3) foothill communities (abutting the Verdugo Mountains, the Angeles National Forest and the Big Tujunga Wash) of Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon must remain in one district, as they currently are in CD7. All three rural communities have an equestrian heritage and agrarian lifestyles. All 3 communities are located in Mountain Fire districts and high fire zones. Over the years, these three communities have developed fire protection and evacuation plans which have helped save human and animal lives and properties during our various wildfires (ie. La Tuna Canyon and Creek fires).

Please see **To Our Shadow Hills Neighbors** on Page 3

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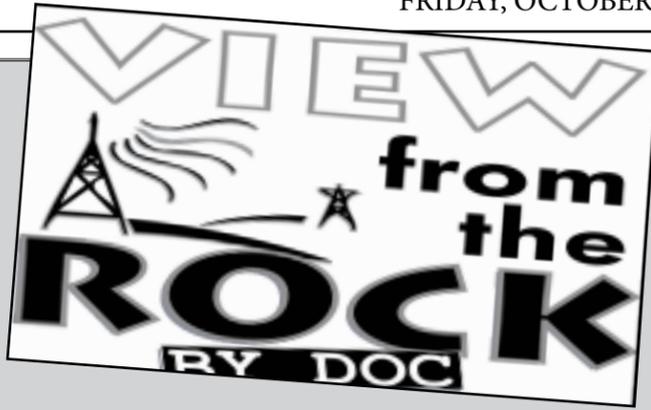
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When every thing seems to be running smoothly, that's when you get a chance to stop and look around at what's happening here in S-T. I know I used the term "Bitter-Sweet" in an article somewhere here, but I can't remember when or where. But, that's what it is – Bitter & Sweet.

So many people here complained about our communities houseless, but of course, they couldn't take the time to write letters, emails or even just go to the North Valley City Hall to complain. Our councilmember just doesn't care. For some reason, I've been getting flyers from her saying how wonderful she's being in Arleta, Sylmar and Pacoima. WHY is she sending that to me? Is she trying to show how much she hates Sunland-Tujunga?

We seem to pretty hard on our elected officials. In fact, the last 3 have been really pissed off at us. Back in the day when we actually had a North Valley City Hall to hold our neighborhood council meetings in, people went to the meetings to watch the circus. When you have a board of 26 members, and they kowtow to a vociferous gaggle of women that pretend to know everything that

is going on here, but don't, nothing gets accomplished. I had to laugh

when one of them got arrested for assaulting one of our community members and had to pay him \$1,500 in damages.

Yup, boys and girls, it's been a real circus here for a really long time. But, things are changing, maybe not in the manner we were expecting, but change never the less. The complainers were all up in arms about our houseless face of the community - Patrick, who just wouldn't take the hint that he wasn't wanted on the corner of Foothill & Machrea. And of course, our councilperson said that her hands were tied and nothing could be done. Oh well, that's what she said.

Well, last week Patrick and his friend Marco got a bad batch of dope laced with fentanyl. So, nature took care of it's own. Both of them O'd with one dying and Patrick being sent to the hospital. In the meantime, Von's who has been suffering the loss of patrons be-

cause of the houseless on their corner, moved in and renovated the sidewalk, water-blasting all the area, and planting beautiful drought resistant cactus plants where the destroyed box plants had been. (See Page-8)

We came up with a slogan "Sunland Strong – Tujunga Tough." And it's more than just words, it's a reality. Just like flowers and plants regrow after a devastating forest fire, our local businesses are coming back. In just these past weeks, we've gained 5 new businesses and Arnie was creating businesses like people swat at flies. It is going to be heady times for us in this coming year. 3 new restaurants, 1 new market, 2 new Deli's, 2 new carwashes, 2 new hookah cafe's and 1 new caterer. Now that tells me that there is an upswing in hope. Enjoy this edition of The Paper, I enjoyed putting it together – Maybe it was the water?■

To Our Shadow Hills Neighbors
continued from page 2

During major floods of the Big Tujunga Wash Lake View Terrace and Shadow Hills have worked together to provide shelter to flood victims and protect neighborhoods from flooding. There is a historical cooperation between these three communities due to their common interests and goals. If they were to be separated into different communities, their unified voice and actions would be muted.

3. The Foothill District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC) was specifically created to represent the equestrian and agrarian lifestyles of Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon. If it is split up, as is shown on Map K2.5, the FTDNC would no longer have a unified voice in its representation of these communities. It would become irrelevant. The Commission has stated that keeping Neighborhood Councils together one of their goals.

These are just some points which you may want to use ... or not. Remember, your letter does not need to be long ... The emails or spoken comments at any of these meetings needs to be personal ... and it need to oppose the current map (K2.5) under consideration.

Contact information:

Redistricting Commission Email: redistricting.lacity@lacity.org
Redistricting Commission Phone: (213) 263-5765

Please copy any email you send to our current councilwoman and her Shadow Hills Outreach Coordinator:

Councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org
eve.sinclair@lacity.org

Here is the list of some of the Redistricting Commissioners that we can find reliable email addresses for:

- fred.ali@lacity.org,
- david.hyun@lacity.org,
- sonya.diaz@lacity.org,
- richard.polanco@lacity.org,
- richard.katz@lacity.org,
- alexandra.suh@lacity.org,
- elizabeth.saldivar@lacity.org,
- miguel.martinez@lacity.org,
- edward.anderson@lacity.org,
- michele.prichard@lacity.org,
- andrew.garsten@lacity.org,
- maria.brenes@lacity.org,
- [wendy.mitchell@lacity.org](mailto>wendy.mitchell@lacity.org)
- carlos.moreno@lacity.org

Again, SHPOA wants to thank each and every one of you who wrote in to voice your concerns. Every email you sent added up with all the others to help our neighborhood be heard. It worked ... so far ... now we just have to stay together, as one voice, to make them redesign their map to include all of Shadow Hills as one, as well as maintaining our neighboring communities in one district.

Tina Eick
SHPOA President
Board@shpoa.us

Heart of the Valley

By Senator
Bob Hertzberg



Last week, Governor Gavin Newsom signed two more of my bills. I am thrilled that the governor signed 100% of my bills from this legislative session into law. The variety of measures I offered this year, that are now law, help deliver a future that works for all Californians, and address critical issues such as the drought, affordable housing and worker protection.

Here are the two additional bills the Governor signed:

SB 267 - Solar Tax Cleanup: Incentivizes more clean energy projects in the state by clarifying tax exclusions for solar energy systems.

SB 539 - Implements Proposition 19 (The Home Protection for Seniors, Severely Disabled,

Families, and Victims of Wildfire or Natural Disasters Act): Permits seniors, disabled Californians, or those who have lost their home due to wildfire, to transfer their property tax base to another qualifying home.

We are already hard at work on legislation we hope to pass during next year's legislative session. Stay tuned!

Make sure to scroll down for important information regarding P-EBT cards, LAUSD Choices applications, community activities, online Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations and information, along with a new Hertzberg's Hero.

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The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), in partnership with the California Department of Education (CDE), received approval to operate the P-EBT program in response to COVID-19 related school and child care closures. P-EBT provides food benefits to help eligible families with young children (under age 6) and school age children. Below is brief information about eligibility. For more details, including about the mailing schedule, visit Pandemic EBT (ca.gov).■

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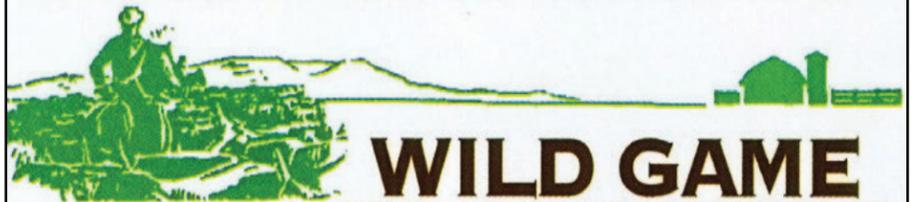
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Incident #: 211612174

7700 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 10/4/2021 @ 9:00 PM
Los Angeles Police

ASSAULT, AGGRAVATED: ADW, PEACE OFFICER - OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON

Incident #: 021-01780-1299
8600 BLK FOOTHILL BLVD, SUNLAND, CA 91040 | 10/4/2021 @ 10:05 AM
Los Angeles Sheriff (unincorp.)

VEHICLE, STOLEN

Incident #: 211612116
8100 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 10/4/2021 @ 9:00 AM
Los Angeles Police

BRANDISHING WEAPON, EXHIBITING DEADLY WEAPON

Incident #: 211612103
FOOTHILL BL & HAINES CANYON | 10/2/2021 @ 5:40 PM
Los Angeles Police

BURGLARY (entry of structure w/intent to commit theft or a felony) INCLUDES VESSELS
Incident #: 211612101

7000 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 10/1/2021 @ 9:10 PM
Los Angeles Police

VEHICLE, STOLEN

Incident #: 211612055

8400 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 9/21/2021 @ 4:00 PM
Los Angeles Police

VEHICLE, STOLEN

Incident #: 211612054
8400 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 9/21/2021 @ 4:00 PM
Los Angeles Police

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE

Incident #: 211611972
10800 BLOCK ELDORA AV | 9/27/2021 @ 12:30 PM
Los Angeles Police

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND (\$950.01 & over)

Incident #: 211612241
10400 BLOCK MOUNTAIN AV | 10/6/2021 @ 7:00 PM
Los Angeles Police

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (ADW) (likely to produce great bodily injury)

Incident #: 211612223
7600 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL | 10/6/2021 @ 6:45 PM
Los Angeles Police

THEFT - PETTY (plain theft-petty) (\$950 & under)

Incident #: 211612271
10300 BLOCK MT GLEASON AV | 10/5/2021 @ 4:00 PM
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Annual Toast of the Town Awards

By Lallah Rowe

I'm sure that most of you reading this had no idea that there is an annual awards ceremony for Community Service held right here in Sunland-Tujunga. Well, there is. Each October, The Toast of the Town Awards are presented by Foothills Community Toastmasters.

About seven years ago, Richard and Susan Stewart decided to start a Toastmasters club in their home. Both are experienced Toastmasters and they wanted to bring the benefits of the program to our community. I was lucky enough to be one of the first people to sign up when they announced the new club. The club is unusual in that it is one of the very few Toastmasters clubs to meet in a member's home, giving it a comfortable, friendly feeling that goes well with our Foothills community.

Toastmasters has a two-pronged program. You probably have heard that the program helps members to improve their public speaking skills. The other side of that program is the development of leadership skills. People who can competently lead a company, club, community, or nation to a good result are actually pretty rare. Toastmasters helps its members to learn the skills needed to be a leader.

Soon after its inception, members of Foothills Community Toastmasters realized that there were many people in the community doing a pretty good job of public speaking and leadership already and these people should be acknowledged. Thus, the Toast of the Town Awards were born.



"We knew that when you acknowledge someone, it not only validates the person for their actions, but points them out as a good example for the rest of the community to follow," said Richard Stewart. "With all that has happened in the last year and a half, we need leadership in our community more than ever."

Every October, in celebration of the anniversary of our club being chartered, we honor two Foothills Community members for Public Speaking and Leadership in Service to the Community. One awardee is a uniformed service recipient and the other a civilian.

This year we honor long-time community volunteer, Cindy Cleghorn for her extensive history in helping to found and run the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. While anyone who is aware of the Neighborhood Council knows about Cindy, few people are aware of the extent

of the work that she has done for our community.

Our uniformed awardee this year is Fire Marshall and Trail Life Troop Leader, Joseph Morelli. Trail Life is a faith-based program similar to Boy Scouts that helps young men develop both their competence and integrity.

The ceremony will take place both on Zoom and at the home of Richard and Susan Stewart, 10700 Hillrose Circle, Sunland, CA 91040. The time is 6:45 - 9pm - October 25. The Zoom Meeting ID is 936 110 838. As always, guests are welcome both in person and on zoom. For those attending in person, please follow mask and social distancing protocols.

It is our hope that, using these awards as a vehicle, we can encourage more community service and help our community come together again. ■

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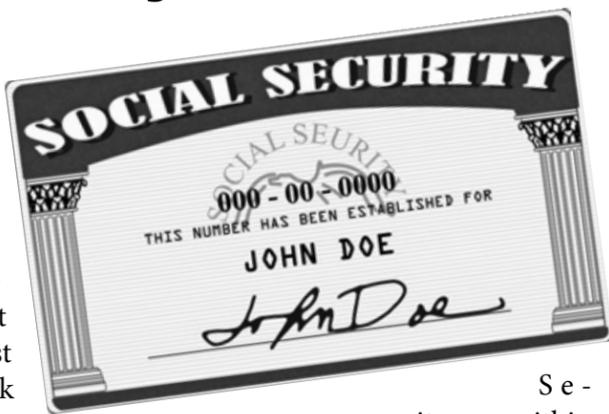


By AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor, Association of Mature American Citizens.

If I Die, What Happens to the Social Security Taxes I Paid?

curity, those now working and paying into the program will help pay benefits to you and your wife.

You may be interested to know that studies show most workers get back everything they've personally contributed to Social Security within about 3 to 5 years of starting their benefits. One study I'm familiar with looked at how long it would take the average Social Security recipient who starts benefits at full retirement age (FRA) to get back money equal to what they paid into SS. That study looked at four different hypothetical earners – one who earned only half of the national average wage index (AWI) for their lifetime; another who earned 100% of the national AWI for their lifetime; another who earned 150% of AWI for their lifetime; and yet another who earned the maximum annual payroll tax cap for their entire lifetime. The study then figured how much each of those individuals would have paid in Social Security payroll taxes over their 35 highest-earning years (which is what SS benefits are computed from). Then, the study looked at what their SS benefit would be at full retirement age and calculated how long it would take for each to recover the Social Security FICA taxes paid over their lifetime. The analysis revealed that the lowest earning beneficiary would get back everything paid into Social

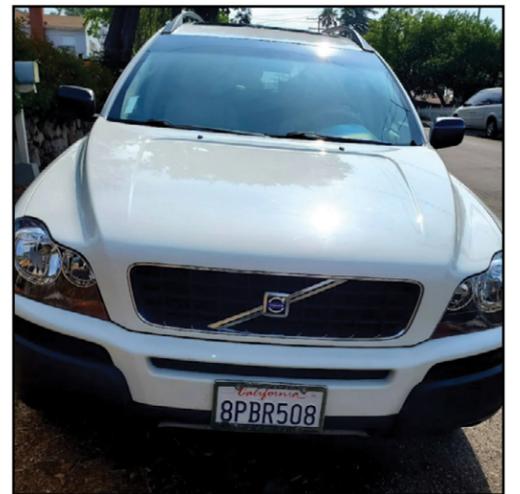


Security within about 34 months, and the highest earning beneficiary would get back everything paid within about 63 months. For clarity, this study looked at employed workers who pay Social Security FICA taxes; those who are self-employed and who must pay both the employee and employer portion of SS tax must collect benefits longer to break even.

So, the answer to your specific question is that the money you and your wife contributed to Social Security while you were working has already been used to pay benefits for others who were getting benefits at the time you paid into the program. Hopefully, by the time you and your wife pass you both will have received considerably more in Social Security benefits than the taxes you paid into the program while you were working. If you were an employee, you only need to collect benefits for about 3 to 5 years to be ahead of the game.

One final note for those who contend they could do better investing that money on their own: Not paying Social Security tax on employment earnings isn't a personal option. ■

CLASSIFIEDS



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The agony and the ecstasy in Tujunga



Houseless encampments on Foothill Blvd.



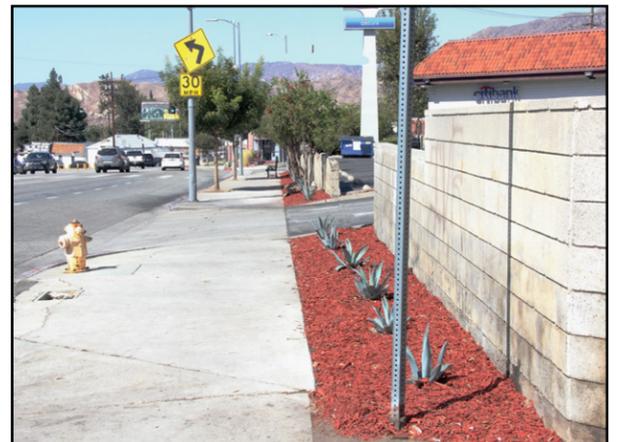
A business that died.



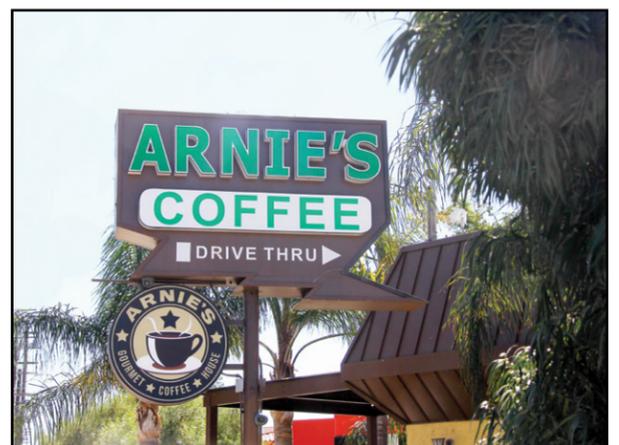
A gully full of trash.



A camper that died.



A SIGN OF NEW GROWTH IN TUJUNGA!



Something is new here in Sunland-Tujunga, something we haven't seen in a long time. NEW businesses. This past month has shown the creation of 3 new restaurants, 2 car washes, 1 new grocery store, 2 new deli's, 2 hookah cafés, and a restaurant- caterer.

They just popped up.

And they are a sign of the revitalization of Sunland-Tujunga and some great places for us to try now that pandemic seems to be under control. Of course, we still have the houseless living on our streets, but they are thinning out. With 3 deaths from various causes, they are becoming less socially visible. One of the most visible was Patrick who was camped at the corner of Marnice and Foothill Blvd., who refused all offers to move to provided housing.

Last week, Patrick and his friend Marco got a bad batch of drugs and O'd. Patrick went to the hospital and his friend went to the morgue. Long an eyesore on Foothill, the problem has been solved – for the moment. Von's corporate decided to do something about the trash in front of their property and did a really good clean-up of the area, including water blasting and disinfecting the sidewalk and re-planting the damaged foliage. Something that our councilwoman just couldn't seem to get done with all the "King's horses and all the king's men."

Sunland-Tujunga has survived the pandemic and the future looks bright for its citizens and local businesses. Now it's time to support those people who put their money where their mouth is. The pandemic hit everyone, and those who are left are the new:

SUNLAND-STRONG, TUJUNGA-TOUGH!