



# THE PAPER

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2021

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

VOLUME 17 • NUMBER 17

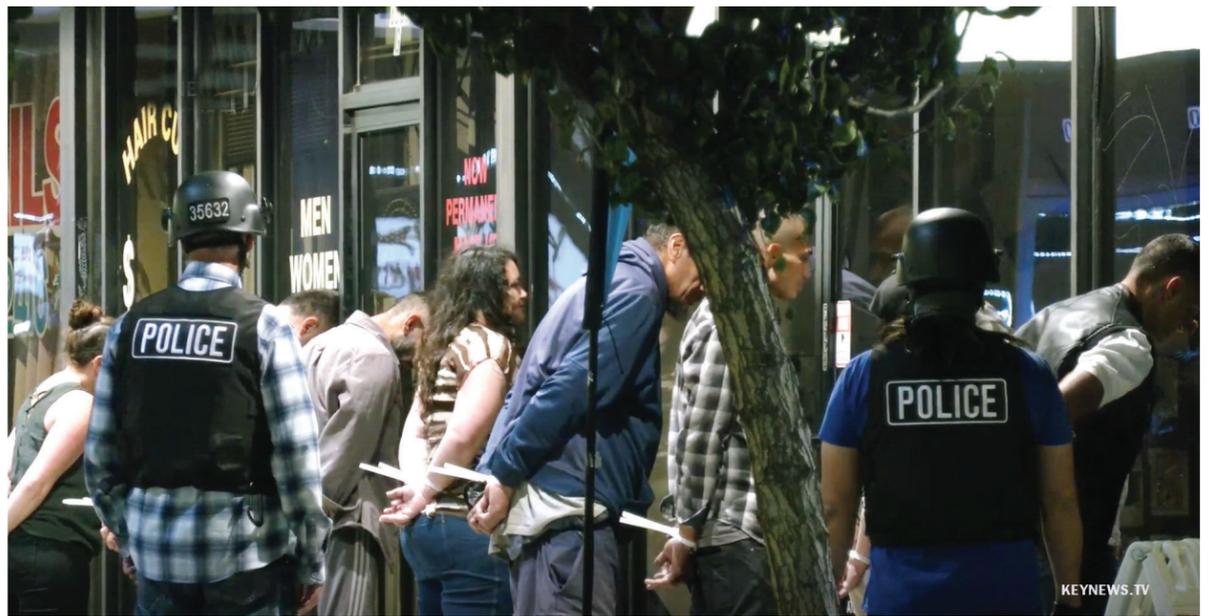
## L.A. Eviction Moratorium Continues: Rent Relief for Tenants and Landlords

Don't be confused by the expiration of California's eviction moratorium. The statewide moratorium expired October 1, but the City of Los Angeles still protects tenants from eviction. The City also offers renters protections against harassment. Assistance for tenants and landlords — including rent relief and legal assistance — is available under a long list of city, county, and state programs (see below).

If you are a renter whose income has been adversely affected by the COVID pandemic and you are unable to pay your rent, you may qualify for rental assistance.

*Continue reading on Page 3*

## ANOTHER ILLEGAL CASINO BUSTED IN SUNLAND!



*Men and women of all ages were detained and arrested by members of the LAPD Bunco Squad*

The Los Angeles Police Department conducted a search warrant on an illegal casino around 11:00 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, at a vacant business at 8530D Foothill Boulevard in Sunland. Using an "Entrance Tool, LAPD officers entered the building and confronted a group of over 20 people. After gaining entrance, LAPD officers had to request backup when the subjects inside became uncooper-

ative. Units detained multiple people and were seen taking computers and other items into evidence from the location. A larger LAPD stakeout truck was completely filled with the contraband. This reporter never saw such a large group of female LAPD officers in one place. No further information is available at this time.

## VACCINE PROOF SOON TO BE REQUIRED FOR MANY ACTIVITIES

As of Nov. 4, proof of full vaccination will be required for entry to indoor bars, breweries, wineries, night clubs and lounges (currently only one dose is required)

- Children younger than 12 are exempt
- Proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID test is required to attend large events of more than 10,000 people

- As of Nov. 1, attendees will also be required to show photo identification that matches their vaccination proof or test results (children younger than 18 do not need photo identification)

- Proof of vaccination includes the physical vaccination card, a photo of the card or a digital record as provided by the state ([get yours here](#)) or through the County's partner, [Healthvana](#)

- [More information on the County requirements is available here](#)

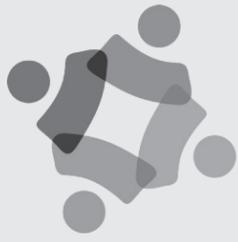
### City of Los Angeles

- As of Nov. 8, proof of full vaccination will be required for the same places mentioned above, as well as most other indoor locations, including restaurants, gyms, museums, hair and nail salons, movie theaters, coffee shops and other businesses

- Children younger than 12 are exempt
- People with a medical or religious exemption may use outdoor facilities or briefly enter businesses for restrooms or take out; if no outdoor facilities are available they must show a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours to use indoor facilities

*Continue reading on Page 3*

Check out The Foothills Paper interactive website: [thefoothillspaper.com](http://thefoothillspaper.com)



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Schiff, Fitzpatrick, Underwood, Bush Introduce Legislation to Keep Families and Pets Together in Public Housing Legislation Would Prohibit “Breed Bans” in Public Housing

Washington, D.C. – Today, Representatives Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Penn.), Lauren Underwood (D-Ill.), and Cori Bush (D-Mo.) introduced the Pets Belong with Families Act – a bill

that would prohibit vague and sweeping restrictions against dogs based on breed or size, allowing families to keep their beloved pets in the home.

“For millions of Americans, pets are cherished members of their families. But far too often, pet owners are forced to make impossible choices between their beloved companions and secure housing due to overly-broad restrictions on dog breeds that don’t make communities safer,” said Schiff. “The Pets Belong with Families Act would remove these unfair barriers for residents of public housing because no one should have to forfeit an affordable and stable home to stay with the pet they love.”

“Far too often pet owners are forced to choose between surrendering their beloved pet or securing safe

and stable housing due to discriminatory breed-specific regulations,” said Fitzpatrick. “Breed-specific restrictions have consistently proven to be an ineffective solution to enhancing public safety. Our bipartisan legislation will put an end to this unfair and inhumane practice and ensure that responsible pet owners are not forced into housing instability due to unnecessary breed bans.”

“Housing is a human right, period,” said Bush. “No family should be denied that right because of archaic rules barring certain pet breeds from public housing in this country. Our pets are often integral members of our families, and we can’t ask our neighbors to simply leave them behind. There is no evidence that breed-specific laws make apartments any safer for people or their

pets. I am grateful to my colleague Representative Schiff for his partnership on this bipartisan bill, which will eliminate a barrier that our Black and brown community members face when securing safe and stable housing.”

More than 25 million U.S. pet owners are renters, including public housing tenants. A recent inclusive housing survey found that the vast majority of rental property owners and operators face restrictions on pets – rules that often include blanket bans on dog breeds that are considered “dangerous” such as pit bulls and rottweilers, or dogs that simply resemble these breeds, regardless of more than 20 years of data showing that calculating bite rates for specific breeds is virtually impossible. At their worst, such bans can exacerbate housing inse-

curity for low-income pet owners who understandably don’t want to part with their companions. More than 70% of residents in the 2021 survey reported that pet-friendly housing is difficult to find, and 59% reported pet-friendly housing as too expensive.

The Pets Belong with Families Act would amend Section 31 of the Housing Act of 1937 to prohibit pet restrictions based exclusively on the breed in public housing, while still allowing for discretion with regard to potentially dangerous individual animals. The bill is supported by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Humane Society of the United States, and Humane Society Legislative Fund.

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**Dyan McManus, RIP**

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## VACCINE PROOF SOON TO BE REQUIRED FOR MANY ACTIVITIES

*Continued from Page 1*

- Proof of vaccination is also required for events with 5,000 or more people
- Proof of vaccination includes the physical Proof of vaccination includes the physical vaccination card, a photo of the card or a digital record as provided by the state.

### City of L.A. Vaccine Mandate

**Beginning on November 8, 2021, the City of Los Angeles will require proof of vaccination to enter certain indoor places, including:**

- Establishments where food or beverages are served** (e.g. restaurants, bars, coffee shops, breweries, wineries)
- Gyms and fitness venues**
- Entertainment and recreation venues** (e.g. movie theaters, music and concert venues, museums, shopping centers)
- Personal care establishments** (e.g. spas, nail and hair salons, barbershops)
- City of Los Angeles facilities**

*The mandate applies to people 12 and older. Those with medical or religious exemptions may use an outdoor area, if available. If no outdoor area is available, they must show a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours to use an indoor area.*

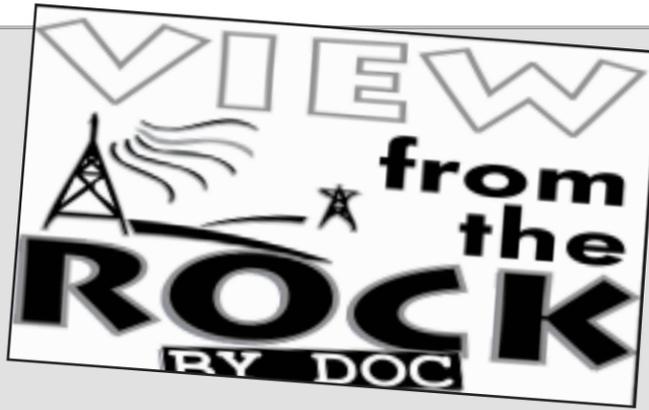


*In addition, proof of vaccination will also be required for large outdoor events with 5,000 or more attendees within the City of L.A. Outside of the City of L.A., proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is required at any outdoor event with a gathering of more than 10,000 within L.A. County. L.A. County’s mandate is currently in effect.*

Can you believe it? Thanksgiving is in 2 weeks, and Christmas coming. I hope that there will be some really great events put on by Mc Groarty and the Little Landers Society. Our councilwoman appears to really be getting things done here in S-T and keeps promoting her re-doing of the street maintenance issues. It really would be nice if she came and said hello once in a while. And by the way, when is she going to let the STNC back into the North Valley City Hall? Anyone know what pissed her off enough to kick us out this time? It's been so long, I've forgotten.

This was an interesting weekend as I worked at the ranch, repairing water lines and sorting through the accumulation of old equipment and just plain junk, and I got to thinking about the mountain "Gateway" project of a few years back and those backers that really didn't care what anyone thought, they wanted us to be a "Gateway" to something. Anything. That was when Cindy Cleghorn who was president of the chamber of commerce began to pretend that it was already happening so her friend Tomy-lynn Bowling could get credit for it. Even though no one accepted it, it was printed on all the C of C materials, and son-of-a-gun, it is now appearing on the neighborhood council materials as a given.

And nobody knows how that happened. Maybe nobody cares? For years, advocates of the Angeles National Forest becoming a federally



protected forest were pushing their congressman's buttons to get the Verdugo mountains declared a National Monument. Well, it happened. And of course, just like everything else here in our little community, the advocates got sandbagged and our part of the Angeles National Forest was excluded from the monument area. I guess we have to continue to pick up our own bright blue disposable diapers in the wash. Anyway, nothing has really changed. The attempted suicides are still categorized as "drug overdoses," rapes are categorized as "assaults," the crazy drivers continue to try to kill everything moving or parked, and our own internet version of the White Trash Hate Sites continue to be promoted by people who have nothing better to do than sit around and criticize those who are actually doing something. We lost our own resident hate monger Curtles Koesler to Arizona, and that calmed down most of the internet dots. But social media bullying continues to hurt people.

But so what? Nothing ever changes here, we just get more houses built, more trash to pick up, and of course, more Hookah Bars. But the good thing, is that competition drives out the shoddy business establishments and makes more room for the quality ones. We'll see how long that craze runs and who is left in the New Year. And that reminds me. We seem to have reached a solution with our councilwoman, to get the houseless moved out of town. I would sure hate to be a LAPD or LAFD first responder having to police Sunland-Tujunga. That's a lot of shit being thrown around here. AND there is a resurgence in Making Commerce Ave. Beautiful Again. I can just see people running around wearing green hats reading (MCBA!) and it sure would be nice if the shop owners could be responsible for their own section of the sidewalk. But if the neighborhood council can't help them, who can? (If the Armenian businesses on Foothill could receive grant money to clean up their businesses and they did so, how come the ones on Commerce didn't?)

Can you believe it? We still have one real newspaper left after 17 years of continuous operation. It makes you wonder. This is a wonderful community with some really incredible people in it. Wouldn't it be nice if we could just stop bickering and join hands to have one big community awareness/action group? But for now, the greed and avarice just continue to permeate the local service organizations and undermine the good that happens here. Think about it, is there one organization that you would really like to join and support? Think about it and let me know, and no - you can't say "It's The Water!"

## L.A. Eviction Moratorium Continues: Rent Relief for Tenants and Landlords



### CA COVID-19 RENT RELIEF

*Continued from Page 1*

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program, known as Housing is Key, will continue accepting applications until it expends the available funds under the federal relief legislation. No eviction due to unpaid rent during COVID should take place through March 2022, given the availability of rental assistance to cover this debt.

The COVID-19 Renter Protections Fact Sheet (Protections Notice) is required to be given to each residential tenant by the landlord per Ordinance 186606. The Protections Notice must be given to tenants by May 27, 2020. Additionally, effective May 12, 2020, a landlord must also include

the Protections Notice when serving a tenant a notice to pay rent or quit, a notice to terminate a residential tenancy, a notice to perform covenant or quit, or any eviction notice served during the local emergency period and for 12 months after the expiration of the local emergency period. The Protections Notice must be in the language predominately used by the tenant. For more information, visit this site. <https://housing.lacity.org/covid-19/renter-protections>



Our cozy little valley has quite some history. The area has long been a place for people who want to get away from, well from whatever they were getting away from. There were gangsters, bikers, and people escaping pollution for clean air.

And then there are the artists. In my opinion, they are the most important historical group for our community. Why? Because art lifts people up and makes them happier.

Whether you enjoy visual art, dancing, singing, writing poetry or cooking a great meal, creating art makes the artist happier and experiencing art makes the recipient happier, even if just a little bit. And when you are happier you probably like being closer to other people and feel more sociable. Art helped create our community and will help bring it back together.

One group Artists for a Better World International® was founded to uplift society by uplifting art and the artist. They encourage artists to use their art to lift the tone of their communities. Since their founder, Barbara Cordova, moved to our area the group has blossomed. They now have chapters in Florida, Nashville and Toronto with more groups planned.

This is something that any of us can do. If you create art, you can affect the happiness of people around you. You can bring people together. It may not be overnight. You might have to do a lot of art. But you and your art are valuable to us all.

"A culture is as great as its dreams and its dreams are dreamed by artists." – L. Ron Hubbard.

Let's make our community as great as our dreams. Let me know what art you do and how you might use it to uplift those around you. Contact me at [write2rowe@yahoo.com](mailto:write2rowe@yahoo.com). Visit [www.artistsforabetterworld.art](http://www.artistsforabetterworld.art).

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Just because they passed all the tests once, doesn't mean they can skate on their education. An ASE Master Mechanic has to take recertification tests once every five years. AND THIS IS CRUCIAL! Failure to renewing even one license will cause them to lose their Master Mechanic status. When you enter a mechanics shop, check to see if they are an ASE Certified Mechanic. This means that you, the consumer are assured that when Jorance Avanes works on your car, you are getting the absolute best mechanic in Sunland-Tujunga.

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# ANOTHER DAY IN THE HOOD



## CRIME MAPPING

**SPOUSAL ABUSE - AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**

Incident #: 211612982  
8000 BLOCK LE BERTHON ST |  
10/31/2021 @ 6:30 PM

**SPOUSAL ABUSE - AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**

Incident #: 211612995  
10700 BLOCK MT GLEASON AV |  
10/31/2021 @ 4:10 PM

**BURGLARY - ATTEMPTED**

Incident #: 211612980  
7100 BLOCK HILLROSE ST | 10/30/2021 @  
5:20 PM

**BURGLARY (entry of structure w/intent to commit theft or a felony)**

Incident #: 211612962  
7500 BLOCK KYLE ST | 10/28/2021 @ 5:00  
PM

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

Incident #: 211612869  
10200 BLOCK WOODWARD AV |  
10/15/2021 @ 12:20 PM

**BURGLARY**

Incident #: 211613141  
10500 BLOCK SAMOA AV | 11/4/2021 @  
10:00 AM

**THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND**

Incident #: 211613120  
7500 BLOCK MCGROARTY ST 11/3/2021  
@ 11:00 PM

**VEHICLE, STOLEN**

Incident #: 211613132  
10200 BLOCK GLORY AV 11/3/2021 @ 5:00  
PM

**THEFT - PETTY**

Incident #: 211613124  
10900 BLOCK TERCITA RD 11/2/2021 @  
3:35 AM



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## LAST WEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING NOTES:

- 26 attendees in and out.
- Most local crime is DOWN. There's one awful exception. And several excellent stats!
- A surprise address and Q&A by Foothill LAPD Captain Johnny Smith!
- Foothill has the lowest number of homicides in San Fernando Valley, about half of Devonshire et al.
- LOCAL crime stats:
- Sunland's overall crime is DOWN double digits from last year, Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Cesar Contreras reported! That translates to 35 fewer Sunland crimes. However, a month ago levels rose, so it's only

7.5% down. COVID-19 probably decreased some crime, as people were at home who would normally have been at work or school.

The highest and most regrettable increase for the month was a 400% jump in sexual assaults; they rose from just 1 up to 5. Time for extra alertness!

- Tujunga SLO Gloria Caloca related that Tujunga crime was down 17%. All types of crime are well down, but burglaries from vehicle are only down 5%. (Hide it. Lock it. Keep it!) She visits Tujunga's long-term encampments at 6500 Foothill and on Valaho nearly every day on duty. LAPD can cite for actual

crimes, but not for camping out or being unsightly. Plan your reports and proof accordingly.

If you know people who "don't bother" to report crimes, please advise them they falsely suppress our real crime stats. No call to LAPD = no LAPD report = no crime is visible...or reported. "If a tree falls in the woods..."

- Foothill Station Capt. Johnny Smith arrived at 9:08! He knows and empathizes with us because he grew up in La Crescenta, went to CVHS, is fluently bilingual English-Spanish, and lives nearby! He walked into some pointed questions and issues. His answers reassured us.

Q: Does the City Council vaccination mandate apply to police stations? Can unvaxxed people get service at Foothill?

A: No one will be denied services, but Foothill Station will enforce masks. He and his team concentrate on more serious crimes.

Q: Will you enforce any mandates against the public just because they're unvaccinated?

A: We won't deal with trespassing issues of this nature because more serious crimes must occupy

our officers' time and resources.

Capt. Smith continued...

- Other COVID-19 updates: Foothill has lost one officer to a COVID-19 death.

Citywide, 3,183 LAPD have recovered from COVID-19, so have natural immunities. About 2/3 of sworn officers have been vaccinated. 2,000 have filed religious exemption and he will work to honor those and medical exemptions. He will follow new rules and work to keep all possible officers on duty.

-Foothill officers' arrests have taken 320 handguns off the street.

Foothill Div. took more guns off the street than last year, AND more than all the rest of the Valley divisions. Guns are recovered every night. One house yielded 60! Many arrested are youngsters. One 14-year-old had a .45 in his waistband.

Regardless of the carnage his outlook and that weapon were capable of committing, LAPD can't question minors absent parents. Crims are out of jail sooner and more often than ever before, especially juveniles.

BUT they don't get their illegal firearms back!

Some of those 4-hour arrests

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## ASK RUSTY



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

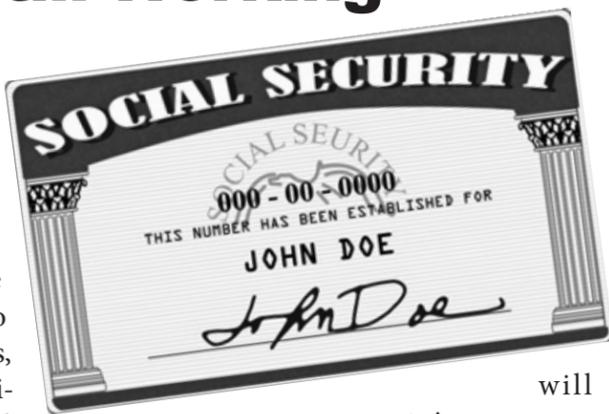
**Dear Rusty:** Upon being let go in 2009 at age 65 from my full time job of 30 years, I immediately applied for Social Security for my wife and I to live on while seeking employment. Not finding anything full time, I ended up working part time for the past 9 years driving a school bus for an hourly wage. Even though my wife and I are collecting Social Security, my wages are still being taxed for it. While I don't feel this is fair, the real rub (to me) is the fact that my Social Security payroll deductions for the past nine years do not seem to be resulting in an increase in the amount of Social Security we receive. Meanwhile, a friend, who is our age and a business owner, mentioned the amount he is taxed for SS as a sole proprietor is somehow being returned to him from time to time. Therefore, could you please explain what's happening here and whether we are due some kind of adjustment? **Signed: Working Still at 74**

**Dear Still Working:** I cannot comment on your friend's assertion that as a sole proprietor business owner his self-employment

## About Paying SS Tax While Still Working

SS tax is somehow being "returned to him from time to time." I can, however, tell you that the rules for business owners are the same as for those who do not own a business, except that a business owner pays both the employee and employer portion of Social Security employment taxes. Essentially, the only way paying into Social Security now (via payroll taxes or self-employment taxes) will increase your SS benefit amount is if your income in any recent year is more than your earnings in any of the 35 highest earning years over your lifetime used to compute your SS benefit. When your Social Security benefit was originally computed, all years in your lifetime earnings history through age 59 were adjusted for inflation and the highest earning 35 years were selected to develop your "average indexed monthly earnings" (AIME). A formula was applied to your AIME to determine your "Primary Insurance Amount" or "PIA," which is the amount you get if you claim benefits to start in the month you reach your full retirement age (FRA). If you claimed at age 65, your SS benefit was slightly reduced from your PIA because you claimed before your FRA.

Although you have been and are still working part time, and you're paying into Social Security while doing so, your personal SS benefit



will not increase unless your current earnings are more than any of those in the 35 years originally used to determine your benefit when you claimed. The inflation adjustment influences your past years' earnings more than you might expect; for example, \$50,000 earned in 1990 would require more than \$125,000 in today's earnings to change your benefit. Remember that your contributions to Social Security while you are working do not go into a personal account for you. All who work are required to pay into Social Security, and the money paid is used to help pay benefits to those already receiving Social Security. And that doesn't change when you start collecting SS – if you continue to work you must still pay Social Security tax and the money you pay goes to help pay benefits for all recipients.

Thanks for Giving



## LAST WEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING NOTES

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can be very beneficial! Many are "ghost guns," meaning they're bought in pieces and have no serial numbers. They're purchased 80% complete and require minimal drilling and assembly to home-manufacturer a working firearm.

New policies in law-enforcement: Los Angeles DA is looking for stakeholders as part of a new "COVER" program, to re-envision alternative ways to enforce law. I couldn't find more info.

LAPD doesn't invent these policies but must live within and implement them. Law enforcement's job is to arrest and report accurately, and then DA's and judges work out punishments. Accordingly, one three-car thief was re-arrested for the same crime—on the same three cars!—while the arresting officer finished paperwork on the first arrest.

A "defendant" is now termed "the accused." Shall we await the next step in court nomenclature? Will perps soon be addressed as "PNG (probably-not-guilty)" Jones?

Capt. Smith repeatedly emphasized that Foothill's #1 priority is every residents' public safety. At Police Commission meetings, he hears only anti-police POVs; no supporters attend and speak up.

News media smear LA Municipal Code 41.18 as "anti-homeless," but it's all about sidewalk clearances that allow people to walk, wheelchairs to pass, vehicles to enter driveways, and customers to enter businesses.

Those factors are in the basic 41.18 and are enforceable today, but to get prohibitions on additional sensitive in any community, each Council member must specify every specific location they want

# LAST WEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING NOTES

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41.18 to apply to! Many locations or a stretch of addresses can be included in one motion.

We have fewer tents and more RVs...sorta. Sanitation has now begun taking some things, but LAPD cannot impound any vehicle housing people except when it's a hazard. Homeless have been given exemptions from tickets.

SOME RV residents move when asked, some don't. But anti-law-enforcement people and law firms watch and video LAPD interactions, ogling for an oversight, so they can sue.

LAPD/Schools Involvement! Our SLOs and their Sgt. Ojeda met with principals of local schools. Before that, only residents had reported school zone traffic problems. Principals added their voices, saying that some parents have become antagonistic when principals tried to enforce courtesy during pick-up and drop-off. Surveillance at school intersections will increase.

Homeless Patrick was discussed, but has since come and gone, moved around, resettled, rearranged and rebranded, so there's no point covering his migrations. When released from the hospital (reportedly a drug overdose), he was given free motel housing in Sylmar. He left next morning to return to his position of greater popularity at Vons. Some people offered to retrieve his junk from "police storage" (no such thing) and return it to him at Vons so he could again pile it up around him.

Street vendors seem benign, but some of them parasite on public and private parking, dumpsters, and cleaning services. They garbage up our streets, block traffic, and trespass.

It's a very touchy issue. LA County Health formerly contacted and enforced laws on street vendors. Now only LA Street Services may do "education and outreach" only. During meetings with such vendors, Street Services sometimes requests an on-site LAPD officer.

Some unlicensed vendors have received \$5,000 in grants. LAPD can only do something about vendors who break laws...that haven't been repealed.

Officer Caloca reported that, contrary to reports, there are no children in the RVs on Valaho. Some are empty during the day, as one RV is deserted and one resident has a job. Occasionally, an RV resident cooperatively relocates,

but they just move from place to place. Reportedly, new "No Overnight Parking" signs are coming.

BECAUSE LAUSD Police have been hugely DE-funded, LAPD must pick up the slack, thus diluting LAPD street coverage. LAPD is in a similar situation with LA City Park Rangers, who aren't allowed to carry firearms on duty.

City Council passed a measure nearly two years ago allowing Rangers to carry, but Park Ranger Sean Kleckner has advised STNC that the motion remains buried in a committee run by Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez.

Capt. Smith concluded by emphasizing that all of us can help them with "the little victories," which compound and add up to big gains. Your vigilance and calls to LAPD have helped Foothill Station—and our communities—reduce crime stats!

Useful Contacts: In any emergency, always call 9-1-1!

- TUJUNGA Senior Lead Officer Gloria Caloca:

Cell: 818-634-0754 | Off.: 818-756-8866 | 35755@lapd.online

- SUNLAND Senior Lead Officer Cesar Contreras:

Cell: 818-634-0705 | Off.: 818-756-8866 | 36373@lapd.online

- LAPD VOLUNTEER MATTERS: Officer Milton Ramirez: 41625@lapd.online

- EMAILS are best way to contact them. Send photos if possible, or come into Foothill Station at 12760 Osborne St., Pacoima, 818-756-8861.

- Eve Sinclair, Monica Rodriguez' Deputy: 818-352-3287, eve.sinclair@lacity.org

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Stay alert! Don't go inert!

Jon von Gunten  
Sunland-Tujunga  
Neighborhood  
Council Region 3 Rep.

## How to Lead

Most people have neither the ability nor the will to lead. We're not talking about having power, as in the power to order others around, or to embarrass others in public, or the ability to take credit whether it is deserved or not, or the getting of one's name on plaque after plaque after plaque because of that most ugly game of all: social politics.

No, we're talking about leading, which is entirely different.

Example: without land surveyor George Washington and his associates actually morphing themselves into great leaders quickly, virtually overnight, due to the desperate need for it, we wouldn't be here.

Well, we here, on a smaller scale, in our tiny little unimportant service club, just a dot on the landscape, have watched that happen right in front of us. Two women, both of whom care for family members with debilitating health problems, took on the job of putting on a complicated and risky event, the nowfamous November 6th Boutique, and due to their unbelievable work ethic, combined with positive attitudes and a charm that crumples all resistance, they pulled it off!

Here are things people noticed about how Bea Bonk and Joan Slater operate.

They both know instinctively that leading means serving ... and helping others to do their best.

They treat everybody as equals.

They don't complain.

They were fine with getting their hands dirty, including, on the day of the event, Joan, with umpteen back and neck surgeries under her belt and a huge smile on her face, carrying long tables into the Post, and Bea, with a recently beaten-up knee, organizing table pickups, driving around getting keys made, then running around on the day of the event, helping people, always with a big smile on her face.

They never talked about their challenges during the whole process.

They were about working together, about unity, and they never spoke ill of others.

One of the more amazing results of their efforts is this: many of our vendors said as they were packing up that they want us to put on another boutique right away! Friends, that is the smell of success.

So, Beatrice Bonk and Joan Slater, thank you for the beautiful job you did for us, for our Poppy fund, and for the local arts and artisan community. You've brought our spirits up, you've given us momentum, and you've made us happy!

Your friend,  
Candace Laughlin

