



THE PAPER

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS

FRIDAY MAY 6, 2022

SUNLAND STRONG - TUJUNGA TOUGHER!

A tribute to our local businesses that are re-opening.

VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 9



Elisa speaking to a full house of concerned citizens.

ELISA AT THE RISE & SHINE

On April 15th, the Rise - n Shine Cafe hosted a town hall for City Council candidate Elisa Avalos and about 30 community members were present. It was not the sort of gathering one would expect in the run up to an election, but instead one that you would like it to be. Interaction between the community attendees and Elisa was refreshingly civil, informative and downright pleasant. There was no speaking out of turn, or shouting or even an unkind word.... only concerned community members who showed up willing to help make a difference rather than trade insults on Facebook or yield to that voice in our heads that says "They are all the same, these politicians. Things will never change."

Please see Elisa at The Rise & Shine on Page 8



Some of the people who wanted to hear Elisa speak on what the community needs.

Like the Fabled Phoenix - The Chamber Rises Again!

The pandemic destroyed many lives and organizations across the nation, but in particular, our community service organizations. As the economy and amount of customers declined, needed funds, and especially, lack of people to run the organizations slowed to a stop.

BUT! It looks like that is changing. The Rotary Club who had to stop their annual 4th of July Parade is now publishing application forms for parade entries. The Bolton Hall Museum is now open for visitors, AND there are new businesses getting ready to open in Sunland-Tujunga.

The most eagerly awaited organization, THE SUNLAND-TUJUNGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has re-opened its doors. Starting with a really fun open-house attended by over 30 people and government representatives, Chamber President Hrant Vartzbedian and Honorary Mayor John Clausen greeted them with hamburgers, hot dogs, free



The most eagerly awaited organization, THE SUNLAND-TUJUNGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has re-opened its doors.

drinks and good feelings.

It's been a rough row to hoe everywhere, but no matter where you live or work, the S-T chamber of commerce is the "go to" source of information and business help for you. "We won't be doing any heavy events" said board member Stephanie Mines, "but we have quite a

few grand openings and ribbon cuttings happening in the near future." All our old favorite people were there celebrating and talking with friends. Past presidents Kathy Anthony, Joan Slater, John Clausen & Sonia Tatulian. It really brought back memories and like Christmas, something to look forward to.▪

Fire Rages at Hansen Dam-Again

Last Tuesday, the Sunland-Tujunga Evening was filled with the sounds of fire sirens as equipment criss-crossed the community and fire engines moved-up and out to cover the 10 acre fire at the Hansen dam eastern spillway.

The fire that grew in size from 3 acres to 8 to 10 acres in 3 hours required 3 Battalion Commanders, 1 command Unit, a brush



Fire and sparks light up the sky over looking the city.

patrol unit, 15 fire engines, 2 water tenders, a bulldozer and 2 ambulances

to stop the slowly moving fire. The fire was called in about 6:15 PM, but its exact location could not be determined because of the heavy brush and haze. It burned from a homeless encampment up the base of the Hansen Dam spillway.

It was called a "Knock Down" at 9 pm but resources were kept on site for an additional 9 hours to complete a mop-up.▪



COMMUNITY NEWS

Neighborhood Watch Notes, 19 April 2022 Zoom Meeting

At its height, we had 25 attendees in and out.

By Jon von Gunten

- Tujunga SLO Gloria Caloca says "Part 1" (serious) crimes were down 18%,

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and robberies were down, but aggravated assaults rose 4%. She and Officer Potter have been out at 4-5AM to cite vehicles for overnight parking, but still may not tow if it's a dwelling.

• Sunland SLO Airam ("Vi") Potter says her overall crime was up 28.5%, but rapes were 0, and personal theft was down. Shootings were up and we've had two homicides. Aggravated assaults are up. Burglaries from motor vehicle are up. Even so, our crime is low compared to many parts of Los Angeles.

Let's help officers protect our families and property by safeguarding our own homes and goods!

LAPD Communications Div. Supervisor Robert López was our very popular guest speaker! Call centers cover from Porter Ranch to the harbor, 370 sq.mi., and employ 600 staff. They handle 4.5 million calls/year, more than 12,000/day. Traffic is lower at night, but calls for domestic violence and loud parties predominate.

• 2.5 million calls came in on the 9-1-1 lines and 2 million on 877-ASK-LAPD (Dispatch). But only 30% of 9-1-1 calls were true emergencies! The goal is to route non-emergencies to the correct operator in 20-30 seconds.

• López and his team do all public contact and PR releases for the 9-1-1 system. Reach him at 911cru@lapd.org online for group tours, etc.

OUR JOB WHEN WE CALL...

- ONLY call 9-1-1 for fires, medical emergency, human injury, life in danger, or crime in progress! Always call 911 for ANY fire in a brush area.

Calling 9-1-1 for a loud party or a cat in a tree can make a desperate mom wait longer while her baby isn't breathing. See "Priority 1" in Diagram 2!

- THE FIRST words out of your mouth are the relevant address! Then describe the situation—truthfully! Having the address first lets responders start rolling while operators gather facts and dispense help.

- Then give your name. Their screen displays your phone number. If you're transferred to Fire or EMT, they'll re-ask address and phone to ensure no mistake.

- Text to 9-1-1 is now operative ONLY for emergencies and is getting more popular. For now, it's English-only.

- For loud parties, tents on sidewalks, fireworks, illegal parking, tents, etc., call 877-ASK-LAPD. All calls go into a "worst-first" queue. A street fight gets faster at-

tention than a drunk neighbor's banjo practice.

9-1-1 CALL ROUTING:

Starting in top left, follow the arrows in Diagram #1 below to see how 9-1-1 differentially routes calls for police emergencies, medical, fire, and non-emergencies.

9-1-1 calls placed on or near a freeway go to CHP, who may handle them or refer to the 9-1-1 center.

PRIORITIZING CALLS:

Diagram 2 below shows Priorities 1, 2, and 3 for all calls:

- Operators receive 6 months' training, then 6 months on-site. It starts with accurate nomenclature that describe events clearly to officers and firefighters, and that leave clear records. Spanish-speakers are always on duty. Other languages may be on duty or available through a language bank.

Tujunga SLO Gloria Caloca spent time as a dispatcher. She says the work required very high-speed multi-tasking during heart-rendingly stressful calls.

- Ongoing service improvements include a now-functioning text capability for 9-1-1 calls. (Imagine if someone is in your home and you can't safely speak!) There is faster diversion of mental health calls,

and faster rerouting for non-emergencies.

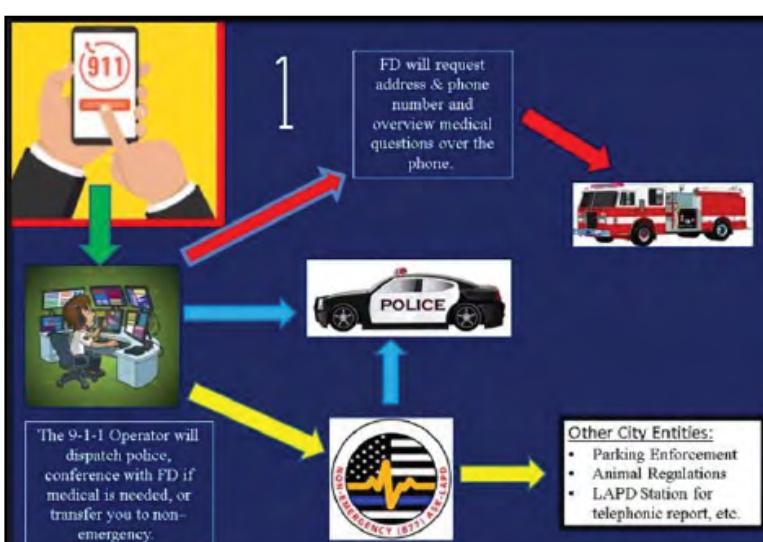
- Unlike TV shows, dispatchers can't predict an arrival time due to liability issues and the fluidity of emerging events. Conceivably, a car might be pulling up to a non-emergency event, then suddenly get rerouted to a life-endangering event.

- Communications Div. is now prepping stats such as response-time. Federal standards require an average 9-1-1 call answer in less than 15 seconds. If not, they lose federal money!

• ANSWERS to COMMUNITY QUESTIONS:

Supervisor López: During COVID-19's height, LAPD lost many dispatchers who were in the hiring pipeline. They're now 100 short. About 50% of sign-ups for the test show up for it; 20% pass. LAPD is speeding up testing, and developing novel recruiting and training strategies and processes. A dilemma is how to keep high standards while bumping throughput. They've found that waiters/waitresses are great due to multitasking skills and short-term memory.

LAPD's Community Online Reporting Service (CORS) helps eliminates pointless 911 calls.■



AND THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS...

Every other week, I check my inbox and files to see what is going into the next weeks edition. This one was really a challenge. There was literally something for everyone, and that means, lots of pre-production work for me. Since the pandemic, it's been a real "one-man" shop operation.

But a couple of things stand out here, first, it's Kathy Anthony's KATHY'S KREATIONS 50th continuous year of operation here in S-T. That's a lot of things going on that she participated in, sort of like Madam DeFarge of a Tale of Two Cities fame. Things happen and you don't think that they are something that's going to be historic.

This month has brought with it, some revelations of what's coming in the next election. Can you believe that m-rod has brought in \$1,335,220.02 in campaign donations? Now that's quite a bit of

money in my books. But what really disturbs me is the large donations such as the \$102,500. she received from the California Apartment Association. Could this be one of the reasons she wants to shut down the Whiteman Airport to allow the construction of 400+ apartments? Now don't get me wrong, it's not illegal. But for a councilwoman that does not represent Sunland-Tujunga in any shape or form, it looks sleazy.

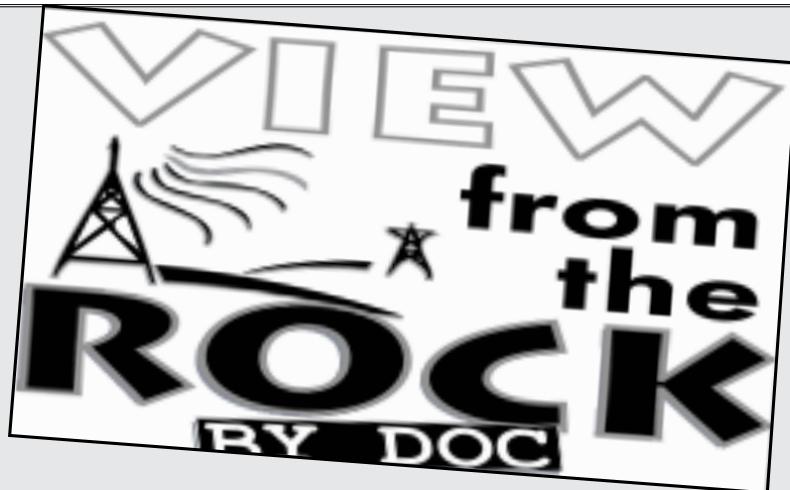
We elected Monica Rodriguez because she came across as someone that really wanted to bring Sunland-Tujunga back to its glory days. Instead, she kicked out everyone in the North Valley City Hall. She caused the food pantry to fail. She evicted the neighborhood council, made them put everything into paid storage, and brought in an area rep that if she worked any faster, we'd be 2 years behind. WHY would you appoint someone that refuses to answer the phone or correspondence? OK, yes, there are a few <females>

that have her ear, but that doesn't do us any good. Oh, d a m n , I forgot about the great mural that she had painted

INSIDE city hall, of HERSELF. I remember seeing something like that in Iraq with another self-centered person.

We can't go back, but we sure can try and stop her from further destroying our community. Think about it. And get back to me later. LOL

Has anyone seen the new low income apartments at 10140 Hillhaven? Is there any connection between them and Monica? Asking for a friend. Things are happening behind the scenes here and even our own Neighborhood Council



h a s
been kept in the dark. What does that mean for you the reader? Even I can't predict that. But in the meantime, get your Mail-In ballot or get ready to cast your ballot in person. Vote her out!

The only organization that save us and our businesses' is the revitalized Chamber of Commerce. Get ready for a roller coaster economy, and a local government that can't save itself. If the new covid doesn't get you, our politicians will. And no, you can't blame it on The Water.■

Kathy's Kreations 50th Anniversary!

Kathy Anthony is a 63-year resident of Sunland and showed an interest in sewing at a very early age. As a child she remembers that one of her favorite pastimes was watching a neighbor sew. At the age of 10 she bought her first sewing machine, an old tread-mill type that for us "old" folk was a fun thing to play with as we were growing up.

One of the first things she remembers sewing was a blue skirt for herself and a friend. At that time she had little knowledge of tailoring, and had no idea that the shirts needed a kick pleat. As a result the skirt ripped when the girls climbed up the stairs, and they were sent home to change. This may have been a minor set-back, but certainly didn't stop Kathy from continuing her sewing. After she had children of her own, she used to make all of their clothes. Between children and her sewing, her days were filled. As her children became teenagers, and she found herself needing something to do to occupy her free time, she went looking for a job. She tried out several jobs: waitress, secretary and various other positions. Kathy never felt she was any good at these things, and always felt there was something lacking in these professions. Being an independent person, she realized that she needed a job that was something special, and she turned to the gift God had given her: sew-



ing. This ability must have come from the heavens because according to Kathy, she never had a lesson, she just seemed to know what to do - and often wondered just how she did know. It was this divine guidance that, 50 years ago, led to the conception of "Kathy's Kreations." She started her business with only a domestic sewing machine. This marked the end of a hobby and the beginning of a career. Kathy's Kreations offers all types of sewing, from replacing zippers, sewing Levi patches, suits, formals, custom dresses and costumes. Throughout the year, she does alterations, repairs and tailoring. As more and more customers asked Kathy to create costumes during the summer months when business was slow, a new facet to her business began. She now creates and sews according to her customer's requirements with everything being made in her

shop to fit everyone from infants to grandmothers. "Being a mom-and-pop shop, you learn to be versatile," says Kathy proudly. Kathy feels that she has made a decent living, made a lot of friends, and that her chosen profession has allowed her to raise her family. Her son, Art, who now runs the Crow's Nest and her daughter, Diana, have given her a total of five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Kathy's business has allowed her to be active in the community, serve as a past Chamber of Commerce president, be active with the Elks Lodge and serve as president of the American Legion Auxiliary. All in all, this local "Sew & Sew" has had a full life and is looking forward to many more years of friendship with her many friends and customers. Kathy's Kreations, located at 8241 Foothill Blvd. in Sunland, is open five days a week. ■



"WE'RE ON A ROLL HERE?"

Maybe it's time for people to become more aware of what they are doing while driving their cars in Sunland-Tujunga. These rolled over cars were the product of poor judgement and could have been fatal.■



METAMORPHOSES

Oral Storytelling: Traditions

Before written language spread throughout the world, myths and epic stories were passed down from generation to generation through spoken word. Mythical stories were created in order to explain the phenomena of the natural world.

Epic stories centered on a hero who has some connection to the gods and whose actions are important to history and humanity. It is thought that epic poems derived from episodic stories that were gradually unified into a singular narrative. Both myths and epics tell tales of gods and goddesses inter-

vening in the trajectory of mortals' lives and helped to establish a common cultural vocabulary. Often, storytellers in ancient Greece would travel from town to town to tell common tales, usually setting their stories to music. Eventually, myths and epics became woven into the cultural and collective conscious of ancient Greek society. As written language began to develop, oral stories evolved into epic poetry. Written epic poetry has its roots in Mesopotamia, where in approximately 2100 B.C.E., the first written versions of The Epic of Gilgamesh began to appear.■



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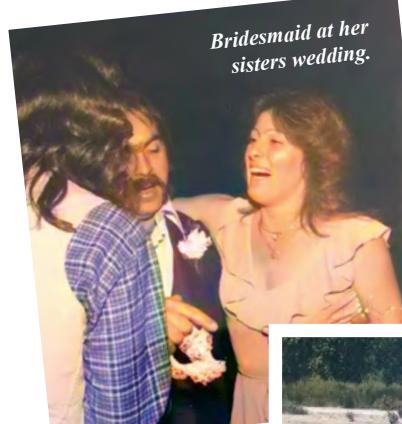
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DIANE MARIE LOPA

October 6, 1951 – April 20, 2022

A wonderful celebration of life and a testament of her life here in Sunland-Tujunga. was created. I'm printing it in whole so that you can feel the wonderment of Diane Lopa. Diane has a huge family all born here in town. She's was one of 6 children all. Our family owned a home on Denivelle Rd. in Sunland from 1955-2013. She then moved to shadow hills and eventually over in Plainview. This town was everything she's ever known, The entire family had attended all the local schools. She really was one of a kind, she had so so so many friends. On behalf of the Lopa family we want to thank you for the opportunity to let us share a tiny snippet of my aunts life.

We are sad to announce the passing of a legendary community/family member Diane Marie Lopa. Diane was born on 10/6/1951, she was raised in Sunland Tujunga and she passed on 4/20/2022 at the young age of 70 in Shadow Hills after spending her day with her new horse. Anyone who knew Diane Lopa knew she was a force to be reckoned with, she was cooler than cool. She had friends from all walks of life. She never judged anyone, she had a heart bigger than her personality. We find some comfort in knowing she's with her family that has passed, who she always talked about and how much she loved and missed them, family meant everything to her. Diane was beautiful inside and out, she loved horses and she LOVED dancing. She was LOUD. She could fight and she would. She loved old-school cars. She loved this town. She loved her kitties. She loved giving to people, any and everything she had. She could dress better than most. She was the softest, toughest of women. She was special and she was unique. Everyday Diane lived her life how she wanted to, HER way, and we love her for that. She will be greatly missed and never ever to be forgotten. A true legend. A true friend. We love you Girlfriend.

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ANOTHER DAY IN THE HOOD



CRIME MAPPING

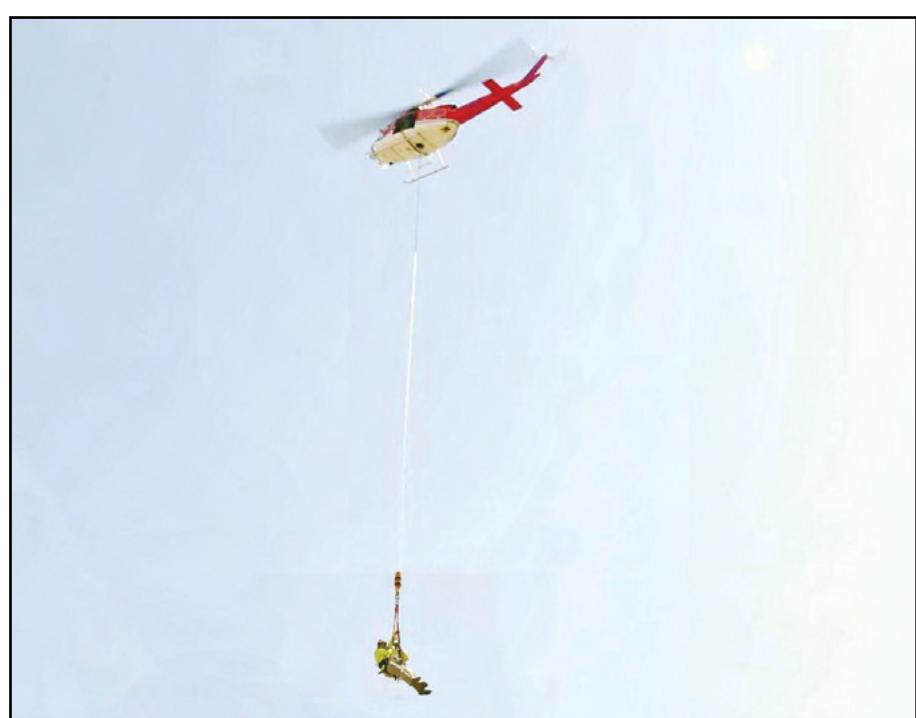
VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607803 APPERSON ST & MT GLEASON 4/30/2022 @ 10:30 PM	221607677 10500 BLOCK SHERMAN GROVE AV 4/23/2022 @ 10:00 AM
VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607796 10200 BLOCK COMMERCE AV 4/30/2022 @ 1:00 AM	THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 221607676 VALAHO DR & HIRONDELLE LN 4/23/2022 @ 5:30 AM
VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607689 10700 BLOCK NASSAU AV 4/26/2022 @ 3:00 PM	BURGLARY 221607655 7000 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL 4/25/2022 @ 3:15 AM
BURGLARY 221607682 7800 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL 4/26/2022 @ 5:26 AM	VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607644 ST ESTABAN & HILLHAVEN 4/24/2022 @ 10:00 PM
THEFT-GRAND 221607661 9800 BLOCK HILLHAVEN AV 4/25/2022 @ 8:00 AM	BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 221607637 10600 BLOCK COMMERCE AV 4/24/2022 @ 8:50 AM
THEFT-GRAND 221607656 7200 BLOCK ELMO ST 4/23/2022 @ 8:30 PM	THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 221607604 7800 BLOCK FORSYTHE ST 4/23/2022 @ 6:00 PM
THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 221607677 10500 BLOCK SHERMAN GROVE AV 4/23/2022 @ 10:00 AM	BURGLARY 221607574 8500 BLOCK WYNGATE ST 4/22/2022 @ 4:30 PM
THEFT FROM VEHICLE - PETTY 221607676 VALAHO DR & HIRONDELLE LN 4/23/2022 @ 5:30 AM	THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 221607604 - 7800 BLOCK FORSYTHE ST, 4/23/2022 @ 6:00 PM
THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 221607747 11000 BLOCK ELDORA AV 4/28/2022 @ 6:30 AM	BURGLARY -221607574 8500 BLOCK WYNGATE ST 4/22/2022 @ 4:30 PM
GRAND THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 221607745 10700 BLOCK FLORALITA AV 4/28/2022 @ 3:00 AM	BURGLARY 221607574, 8500 BLOCK WYNGATE ST. 4/22/2022 @ 4:30 PM
VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607689 10700 BLOCK NASSAU AV 4/26/2022 @ 3:00 PM	VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607448 SAMOA AV & VALMONT ST 4/19/2022 @ 7:00 PM
BURGLARY 221607682 7800 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL 4/26/2022 @ 5:26 AM	BURGLARY 221607442 7300 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL 4/19/2022 @ 1:30 AM
THEFT-GRAND 221607661 9800 BLOCK HILLHAVEN AV 4/25/2022 @ 8:00 AM	VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607384 10200 BLOCK COMMERCE AV 4/17/2022 @ 8:00 PM
THEFT-GRAND 221607656 7200 BLOCK ELMO ST 4/23/2022 @ 8:30 PM	BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 221607378 10200 BLOCK RUSSETT AV 4/14/2022 @ 10:00 PM
THEFT FROM VEHICLE -	VEHICLE, STOLEN 221607358 10500 BLOCK COMMERCE AV 4/16/2022 @ 10:00 PM ■



Mail thieves are getting more brazen, they've learned how to break open the multi-box mailboxes here in Sunland-Tujunga. These two were broken into within one week.



Another homeless fire started in an inaccessible place. 4 fire engines, a fire truck, a water tanker, 2 helicopters and 20 LAFD personnel needed to keep this fire down to 1/4 acre at the top of Bernadette across from Hansen Dam.



Would you want this job? Henkels personnel get a helicopter cable ride to the overgrown sites.

Henkels & McCoy have been retained by the Edison company to provide ongoing maintenance to the Edison company to clear trees, foliage and brush from the high voltage towers in Southern California. They began staging personnel and equipment on Big Tujunga Canyon Rd. at the Archery field. ■

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ASK RUSTY



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

Dear Rusty: My wife passed from COVID-related heart disease in 2020, just short of her 65th birthday. I will be 66 in May 2023. Do I have any recourse for a part of her benefit? Online at ssa.gov it says I can retire 4 months early due to her passing. Is that true? I'm confused on these issues.

Signed: Confused Widower

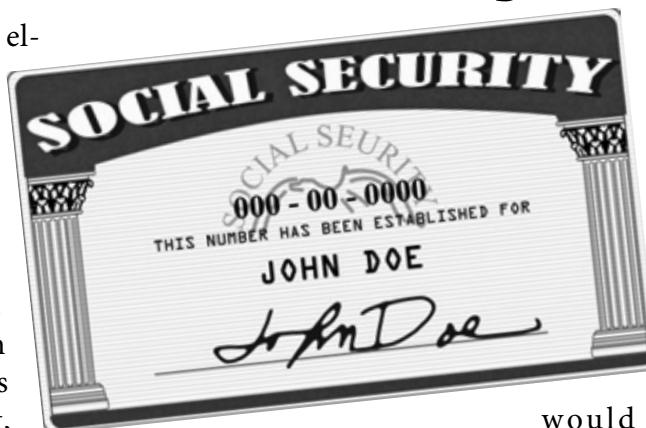
Dear Confused: Our condolences on the untimely loss of your wife. To answer your question, you are already eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your wife, but you may wish to consider a few points before deciding when to do that:

- If you claim your survivor benefit now, before your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 6 months, the amount you get will be reduced. The reduction would be 4.75% for each full year early (.396% per month early). If taken at your FRA, your survivor benefit would be 100% of the amount your wife was receiving (or was eligible to receive) at her death, but if you claim it before your FRA, it will be reduced.

Can a Widower Get Full Survivor Benefits Early?

You will become eligible for your full survivor benefit 4 months earlier than your normal FRA; in other words, you can get 100% of the benefit your wife had earned up to her death when you are 66 years and 2 months old. But, if you are still working at that time, you will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which may affect your eligibility to collect benefits earlier than your full retirement age. The earnings test applies until you reach your FRA, so if you claim your survivor benefit before your FRA and exceed the earnings limit, you will lose some of your survivor benefits. The earnings limit for future years isn't yet known, but the 2022 limit is \$19,560 per year, or \$1,630 per month for the remainder of the year if you claim mid-year. If you're working full time at a decent salary, you would probably be disqualified from receiving early survivor benefits (because your benefit amount wouldn't be sufficient to offset the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit).

It's possible for you to claim your survivor benefit completely independent of your own SS retirement benefit. So, for example, you can collect only your survivor benefit first and allow your personal SS retirement benefit to continue to grow, up to age 70 when it reaches maximum. That might be prudent if you expect at least average longevity because it



would allow you to maximize your personal benefit while still collecting your survivor benefit (average longevity for a man your current age is about 84). For clarity, you don't get your survivor benefit in addition to your personal benefit – you get one or the other (whichever is more).

Considering your circumstances, if you are now working full time and will continue to do so, it may be prudent to wait until your full retirement age (66 years and 6 months) to collect your full survivor benefit (thus avoid the earnings limit). At your FRA, you can take your unreduced survivor benefit (only) and allow your own SS retirement benefit to continue to grow, up to age 70 if you like. At age 70, your personal SS benefit would be 28% more than it would be at your FRA and would replace your smaller survivor benefit from your wife. If you're not currently working full time or if you stop working, the earnings limit won't apply and you can claim your full survivor benefit (only) at age 66 and 2 months, and still defer claiming your own benefit until a later age for a higher amount (but don't wait longer than age 70).■

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor:

Your drama piece obviously is as far from the truth as you've always been when it comes to your disdain of the Chamber that kicked you out for your felony charge, and by the way, I was not on the Board at the time, your contempt of Sonia is so childish and silly just because you could never beat her and by the way she's not on the Chamber Board, your envy of Arnie as a successful Armenian businessman is understandable, fueled by your hidden racism that flashes out every now then, you try to camouflage under the guise of news reporting but we see it, and the fact that you're not welcome to his circle anymore, knowing you'll never get ads out of him.

Oh, and Arnie is not on the Chamber Board either.

You don't have valor to retract your lies but for the fun of it I'll mention that as the current Chamber President I did organize the event at the Garden on Foothill with the Board approval without any involvement of Arnie or Sonia, also the podium, flag pole and flag are my private property and because I'll entertain the idea that you actually are a journalist I'm attaching the invoices for your pleasure, it's always fun responding to your bullshit and tantrums.

Did you steal that photo from Sonia again, you never learn do you?

This email was not a waste of time.

Hrant (cartel member, lol)

Editors Reply: Hrant, if it wasn't for me knowing you so much, I'd believe what you were saying. But it did give me a good laugh. Thank you.■

Sunland-Tujunga Photographer Earns CPP Certification

Katherine Katsenis of Panos Productions Photography joins a prestigious group as a Certified Professional Photographer (CPP) April 27, 2022.

Katherine Katsenis, CPP of Panos Productions Photography in Tujunga, CA has earned the Certified Professional Photographer (CPP) designation from Professional Photographers of America (PPA).

Ms. Katsenis earned this des-



ignation after completing an intensive program that measures her artistic and technical competence. Professional Photogra-

phers of America currently recognizes fewer than 2,500 CPPs.

"With so much content out there, it is critical that professionals maintain a standard of excellence and best practices. I decided to work for certification to ensure that my clients have a photographer who is up to speed on the latest innovations in the industry. When you hire a CPP, clients can rest assured their photographer knows what they are doing". Katherine Katsenis.■

After Being Fined \$550 Million, Edison Goes Proactive!

Southern California Edison received a fine of more than half a billion dollars in fines and penalties for its role in five devastating wildfires in 2017 and 2018, officials announced this week.

The California Public Utilities Commission approved the settlement agreement with the util-

ity during a meeting Thursday. The agreement includes fines and penalties relating to the Thomas, Woolsey, Rye, Meyers and Liberty fires, which collectively burned more than 380,000 acres and destroyed thousands of homes.

"Thomas and Woolsey fires, by any definition, were catastrophic, but

all five of them impacted communities, families, local governments and health and safety personnel," Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen said during the meeting. "We can't and should not minimize the great hardship and suffering that resulted from these fires, and from Edison's violations."

Investigators with the commission's Safety and Enforcement Division determined that Southern California Edison violated state safety regulations that govern the design, construction and maintenance of overhead electrical lines and communication facilities, which led to the ignition of the blazes, they said.■

Elisa at The Rise & Shine
continued from page 1

After an hour or so of Elisa speaking, taking questions and even more importantly, asking the community to share their ideas and concerns, the room was in full agreement...they are not all the same and perhaps there are people out there who are running for office as public servants...patriots who still care about our democratic process and who still believe that transparency, honesty and hard work should be the bar we all set and expect for our public officials.

The best part of the evening for me, was how many folks decided to stay and just talk to Elisa (and each other!), setting aside their national politics for a discussion of how we can all work together and address our local issues....the things that affect all of us on a daily basis...wealthy, poor, liberal, conservative. You know...our neighbors, our families...our community

At the end of the night, as we were all cleaning up, I heard someone ask Elisa how she thinks she could possibly win against such a well funded opponent. Elisa smiled as she does, and said to them: "With the help of people like you of course." It really struck a chord with me. I realized she was right. One vote at a time adds up to a brighter future for all of us, as we pick ourselves up and dust off the residue of those in the past who have broken promises, let us down and ignored our requests to be heard. Onward, upward...and as she often says, "Let's do this together."■

FREE TICKETS TO A PREMIERE SHOWING OF A NEW POLITICAL MUSICAL

What: ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM — a musical play

Where: Skiptown Playhouse
665 N. Heliotrope Drive
Los Angeles, California 90004

When: May 14 2022; May 15 2022; May 20 2022; May 21 2022; May 27 2022; May 28; 2022

Time: 7:30 p.m.

The L.A. showing is in preparation for an open-ended run in Branson, MO, so tickets here are free. Preference for tickets will be given to those who commit to writing a review and posting it online.



To get your free tickets, email tickets@elephantmusical.com or go to the website [ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM - Musical \(elephantmusical.com\)](http://ELEPHANTINTHEROOM-Musical.elephantmusical.com) or scan the QR code below.

In your email (to tickets@elephantmusical.com), please give your name, number of tickets wanted and dates.



FREE TICKETS TO A PREMIERE SHOWING OF A NEW POLITICAL MUSICAL

What: ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM— a musical play

Where: Skiptown Playhouse
665 N. Heliotrope Drive
Los Angeles, California 90004

When: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays
May 14 (Saturday), 15 (Sunday), 20 (Friday), 21(Saturday), 27(Friday) and 28(Saturday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

The L.A. showing is in preparation for an open-ended run in Branson, MO, so tickets here are free. Preference for tickets will be given to those who commit to writing a review and posting it online.



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Come one! Come all! To a fun and funny mind opening peaceful event and see our differences that we come to a understanding to what is right to keep our Freedom!

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITHOUT FREEDOM?