



THE PAPER

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2023 **SUNLAND STRONG - TUJUNGA TOUGH!** VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 46
A tribute to our local businesses that are re-opening.

Parson's Trail Possum Massacre

From an innocuous posting of a questionable event that Tomi Lyn Bowling stated on a local forum. Although it loses its spontaneity and validity because of the various edits, it's still a fun read for the X- Files fans of Tujunga.

THE "SORT-A" ORIGINAL POSTING.

"Someone posted on Facebook that teenagers are shooting BB Guns around Hillrose and Pinyon. They're shooting at animals there including horses. Scary stuff. Those guns are capable of doing great damage: taking out a human eye, killing small animals and maiming horses or causing them to bolt with riders on them, etc. If you see anything like this around that area please call police. If you're able, without endangering yourself, photograph or video.

This is the original post. It's a "heads up", "keep your eyes open", "watch out for this if you're in this area".

All of you posters that chose to belittle the thread, the posters and even argue the validity of whether or not a BB can do this.....don't have to read it....you don't have to heed it. You don't even have to be on this forum if it bothers you so much. The original post is valid. It does not need to be locked.

Please see Parson's Trail Possum Massacre on Page 8



Veterans and the community showed up to show their respect AT 2 Strike Park.

A Joyus and Solemn Event!

By David "Doc" DeMulle'

Bunting and flags were blowing in the warming morning as groups of revelers, were gathering at two-strike Park in La Canada last week. It looked more like a 4th of July get together than a solemn occasion. What made the almost 100 happy participants stand out were their American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars uniform caps, hats with campaign pins and a steel fire pit filled with burning logs. This was the annual La Canada American Legion Veteran's Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony. This year, flags that were to be

retired were cut into strips of red white and blue and carried by the Boy and Cub Scouts as well as participants that brought their own American flags to the park for a proper and dignified retirement. It was a beautiful day. The program began with the pledge of allegiance and the singing of the "Star-Spangled Banner." Lt. Col. David Worley, with the Crescenta Valley High School Junior Air Force ROTC, spoke of the commitment it takes to be an ROTC commander and the amount of years he served in both the US Air Force and National Guard before he came to the Crescenta Valley High School. The memorial was set up ear-

lier in the day and the ceremony was held from 08:30 to 10:00 a.m. when the ceremony began to draw people toward the front of the memorial's center. This year, the presentation was directed to those men and women who served in our five branches of the armed forces, in the present and in the past. Congressman Anthony Portantino gave a short dedication and honored the seven WWII servicemen from La Crescenta and Glendale. Breakfast was prepared and served at the La Canada Legion Hall and it was great to see so many "Ol Timers" show up to relax and enjoy the camaraderie of their friends and fellow servicemen.■



Preparedness company with Tujunga origins helps families prepare for disaster!

She calls it "doom-free preparedness."

Jenny Piper, who founded West Coast Prepared, helps regular women take the preparedness plunge – women who don't have the time or inclination to become doomsday preppers or hardcore homesteaders. Once a month for a year, a box

arrives on her customers' doorsteps with themed mini-kits and educational materials about preparing for west coast disasters, including earthquakes, wildfires, flooding, and more. After 12 months, the customer has built a comprehensive disaster kit.

In September of 2009, Piper traveled from Seattle, Washington to visit her sister in Tujunga, to await the birth of her nephew.

Please see Preparedness company on Page 8

Check out The Foothills Paper interactive website: thefoothillspaper.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

How do we Put a Price on Life and Recovery?

By Jacklyn Campbell and
Karime Rodriguez Ayala

When the topic of mental health and unhoused individuals arose, I had a quick interview with a retired Los

Angeles Police Department detective. He reflected on an unhoused individual who would continually find him on Skid Row and bluntly ask to be arrested for anything so he can receive proper health-care. At the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new mental health center on Skid Row, Jerry Bardo, age 45, shared that for two years of living on the streets with anxiety and depression, he could not find a therapist that would accept MediCal, so he went untreated for those two years.

This is a few of the many stories of individuals not getting proper mental health care not because they do not want it, but because it is not affordable nor accessible with the insurance provided for these individuals. It is not a secret that many of these individuals turn to self-medicating with drugs and alcohol just to cope with the symptoms of their illnesses and situations including depression, stress, feeling abandoned, lack of safety, hallucinations, and delusions. While many homeless are camped out on Skid Row, we are seeing more and more unhoused individuals making Sunland-Tujunga their “home” because of easy access to the local forest and the Big Tujunga wash with its trees and running water.

Realistically, we put it in the hands of our doctors that we find to prescribe medication accordingly and, on the individual, to take the medication as prescribed on their own. However, when it comes to the houseless population who have less money, less opportunity, less resources, and less quality insurance plans, what is the solution? The solution is that there is none, which is what you see on the streets of Skid Row along with every other houseless and mentally ill individual. As a society, we face the repercussions of the



We don't treat animals this way – why should we treat humans like this?

challenge between having affordable proper access to mental health services and what most if not all individuals on Skid Row consider their reality, typically resulting in “self-medicating”; this only adds addiction to the snowball of barriers to living a successful life. However, for those that have gotten treatment, but have nothing to follow up with for after care, they have been seen dumped on the streets in their hospital gowns miles away from where they were picked up. This situation is known as “patient dumping” which is so inhumane. We pick up stray dogs and care for their wounds, yet we dump human beings out in their hospital gowns. Just? I think not.

The Los Angeles Daily News recently released a 2022 study by the RAND Institute that found that 54% of unhoused Angelenos reported having a mental health condition, that is over half of the unhoused, one of those individuals being a family member of mine. As a person who has a family member on the streets, it is important to understand that it is not as simple as “if they want the help, they will get it”. That is not the case for these unhoused individuals with a mental health condition. When mental illness is at the forefront of their issues, their level of thinking is not where a non-mentally ill person is. Some of these individuals will give up their warmth of shoes, clothes, jackets, just to feed their self-medicated habit. The town homeless individual that is on Foothill picks up items such as baby strollers

and car seats without having a child. Why? Because he is mentally ill. He also spreads his treasures, which some consider to be “trash”, across business fronts which causes an eyesore for people simply driving down Foothill. Why? Because he is mentally ill.

When people ask the question of “where are their family members to help them out?”, once again it is not that simple. They all have families. They are someone's child, brother, sister, family member, and loved one period. Many family members do not have the resources nor the expertise to assist them with their mental health issues including depression, PTSD, stress, schizophrenia. It is inappropriate to request family members to take on that hardship when there are possibly other children in the home, trust issues, trauma, and simply to avoid resentment among family members. Yes, I hear some people saying, “well it's not the responsibility of the community to help your family members”. While I understand that, mental illness is not something that they chose to have and is not something we choose to pass to our offspring. So saying that is an insensitive way of thinking and should be put on the policies to support healthcare workers when an extended level of care is necessary.

Just this past week Sacramento's top prosecutor sued California's capital city for allowing it to “Collapse into Chaos”. Starting December, in San Diego and Los Angeles

County, there is a new plan that has been approved on a one-to-two-year basis. This plan is called CARE Court, where it brings mental health care into the courtroom. Judges will order individuals who have untreated psychotic disorders to receive mental health services and counties will have to provide it. CARE Court Forces counties to take responsibility and emphasizes consequences. It essentially holds individuals against their will for three months to get their mental health stable as well as give the medication time to start working and resources established. If the individual denies treatment, they will be referred back to court for conservatorship, which will begin a while with different issues. Yes, this will cost billions of dollars, which according to Newsom, there is space in the budget for it as it will be saving money in the long run.

So next time when you see a person on the street who is naked, screaming, talking to themselves, or just organizing all their things in their shopping carts over and over again, whether it be here in our community, on Skid Row, in Venice Beach, or Echo Park, just know that person is not well and to no fault of their own, but because of the policies and standards we have in place for those individuals who do not have money or care resources. It is our job to be the change and help in the movement towards affordable mental health services and holding each county accountable for those who have little to no income. ■

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all our volunteers
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Whoo-ee Baby the old-time song goes, and that describes this year in S-T. Looking back through the papers archives, we find a series of events that started out with a bang and ended with a fizzle this year.

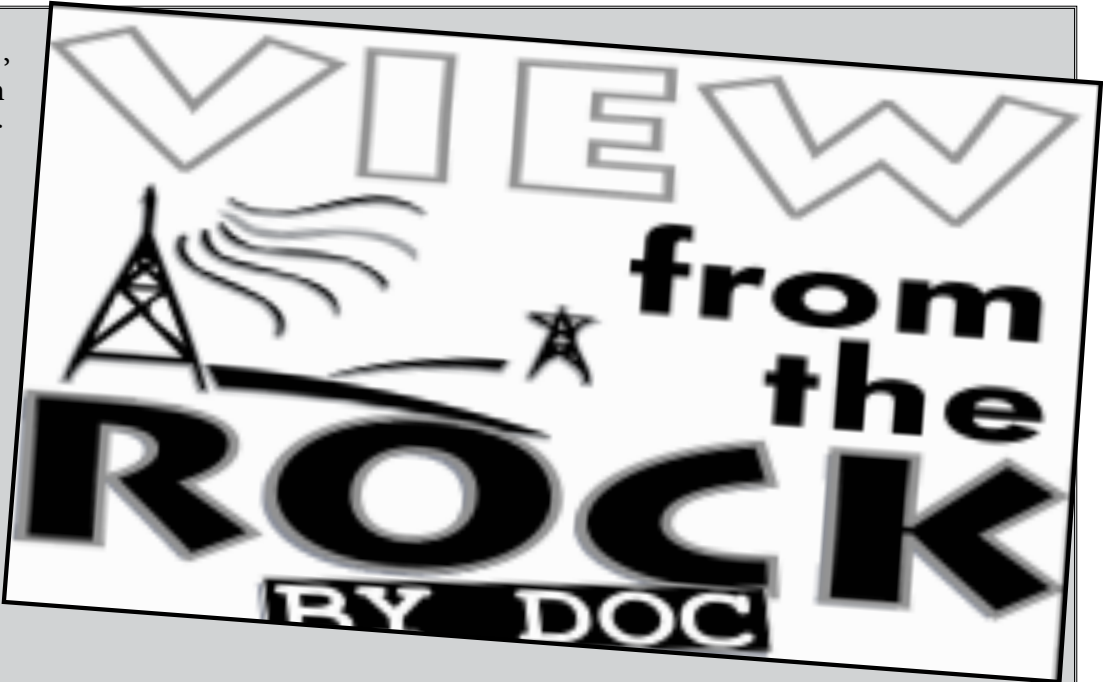
Hookah parlors seemed to be opening in a torrent. Our local oligarch Arnie seemed to be putting up signs promoting non-existent businesses on Foothill Blvd. and doing photo ops, but this time, WITHOUT Ms. Monica, our pathetic councilman that flows and blows in the wind about the fate of our neighborhood council.

She came out in favor of the new ARNIEVILLE with its cannabis security force, it's pizza shop that was touted as a bakery, his auto sales and of course his potshop connections as President of the Cannabis Chamber of Commerce. And all the remnants are all that's left like the shops that started the fire under the 10 freeway last week.

Now don't get me wrong, the prodigy of cartel chief Sonia Tatulian, Arnie learned how to lie, cheat and steal as a way of life could be profitable. Tie this in with his friend ex-sheriff bailiff Sandy Caps, and you have a direct road to perdition. Wow! If you like that, wait for the next "Son of STARS" book coming out.

The writing was on the street this last 4th of July when Ms. Monica fixed the parade for the almost defunct Rotary Club. It hasn't met its membership requirements for over 7 years. It can't pay its dues to National, and except when threatened with a discrimination and violation of civil rights law, the past president Sabrina Swofford-Godinez (who is part of the Scientology mission to take over Sunland-

T u j u n g a) , backed down and let her minion Roger Klemm take the heat and the suit was stopped. Ahhhh yes, everyone wants to take over out little plot of land and build mega-townhouses on our once pristine community. And our neighborhood council hasn't a clue about what to do, or they say. Now don't get me wrong, the Scientologists are a definite asset where ever they plant their flag, but like our Ms. Sonia, they have the ethics of a Tom Cat. We've lost our Lion's Club and its Watermelon Festival because they refused a "Special Ed" student his rightful position as King of the Watermelon Festival. We lost our chamber of commerce when it was taken over by the cartel. We lost our hallowed place in the North Valley City Hall because of their fight with our councilman. We lost the OLL Family Festival because certain individuals decided NOT to advertise in the local paper and it went down from thousands of participants to hundreds, and then nothing. Its subsequent loss of revenue to the almost defunct Knights of Columbus. They created their own failure, and we all



suffered.

Has anyone seen the high school swimming pool filled in the past 5 years?

When offered a safe and sane remedy to move the houseless off the streets of S-T, it was fought tooth and nail by the neighborhood council.

It makes you wonder if everyone was drinking the water here. Yup, perdition here we come. Our LAPD lies to us. The Chief of the LAFD stepped down because of his lies to the community and state. Our councilman is doing everything to sell out our community to the developers. What's going on here?

AND NEVER FORGET, we are in a high fire danger zone and our communities below Foothill Blvd. have been designated as non-defensible. Are you ready for another La Tuna Canyon fire? And it really is all about the water.■

What if Hamas invaded America?

Dr. Glenn Mollette

What would happen if several thousand members of ISIS or a group similar to Hamas invaded our Southern border? What if a group of 5,000 terrorists with semi-automatic weapons stormed our border? What would it look like? It might look like the Southern border of Israel – horrific.

We were totally caught off guard on September 11, 2001. That was a horrific day for America and the world. The terrorist group who attacked us brought about much death and suffering for our nation. Israel, totally caught off guard, will forever be scarred by the recent surprise attack led by Hamas that resulted in the horrific slaughter of families.

We must wake up in America. We do not have a secure border. Hundreds of thousands are coming every month into our nation. How many of these people are members of ISIS? How many of them are members of hate-filled terrorist groups? Their only mission is do whatever it takes to bring about mass casualties and to inflict as much pain and suffering as possible.

They have proven to us that they

will bide their time. They are patient. Hamas reportedly has been planning this attack on Israel for two years. How many people are already in the United States who are waiting for a command from someone to go into action?

We must fortify our border and stop the siege of our nation. We must secure our border and allow only an orderly, legal entrance into our nation.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called Hamas, ISIS. We have seen what ISIS is all about. They want to cut people's heads off and broadcast it on social media and world-wide television. They want to mutilate women and children and burn people alive. We must be committed in America to doing whatever it takes to keep our freedom. There is a satanic mentality in the world that is like a slithering poisonous serpent waiting to strike our country just as Hamas has struck Israel.

Any form of religious expression that binds or enslaves people is evil. There is nothing good about any religion that oppresses people. Jesus said, "And you shall know the truth

and the truth shall set you free." John 8:32. The true heart of God is love and freedom in Christ. It does not seek to bring about enslavement, torture or pain. This is the work of Satan.

There are innocent civilians in Gaza. Let's hope that they find a way to escape. Let us pray that as few lives as possible are killed in this Israel, Gaza war. By the time you read this there may not be much of Gaza left as Israel will not play patty cake with

Hamas. We pray for the innocent to escape and the hostages to survive and be freed. We must surely also pray for the success of Israel to root out and eliminate Hamas. The only cure for such evil is for it to be eliminated.

Visit Glennmollette.com to learn more. Look for books by Glenn Mollette on Amazon.com and all book dealers. Uncommonsense is published in over 700 newspapers and blogs in all fifty states.■

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| | Cash* Aim for at least \$200 in small bills | |
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| | Pets and pet 120 hour kit(s) | |
| | Preparedness binder | |
| | Warn neighbors ~ check on elderly/disabled | |

*Add to your 120-hour kits leaving time to grab more valuable items.
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ANOTHER DAY IN THE HOOD



CRIME MAPPING

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613459
8600 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
10/28/2023 @ 6:00 PM

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (ADW) 231613444
APPERSON ST & WHITEGATE BL
10/28/2023 @ 11:25 AM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613449
FOOTHILL BL & SHERMAN GROVE AV
10/28/2023 @ 10:30 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613483
10200 BLOCK TUJUNGA CANYON BL
10/27/2023 @ 12:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613527
10700 BLOCK SEVENHILLS DR
10/30/2023 @ 8:00 PM

ARSON 231613504
10000 BLOCK COMMERCE AV
10/30/2023 @ 5:00 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - PETTY 231613512
10500 BLOCK REDMONT AV
10/30/2023 @ 3:40 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613520
10600 BLOCK FITZROY AV
10/30/2023 @ 10:00 AM

THEFT- 231613517
7900 BLOCK WENTWORTH ST
10/29/2023 @ 3:00 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613536
7500 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
10/21/2023 @ 10:00 AM

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (ADW) 231613659
7700 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
11/1/2023 @ 6:00 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - PETTY 231613643
8600 BLOCK WYNGATE ST
11/1/2023 @ 5:22 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613646
8000 BLOCK WENTWORTH ST
10/31/2023 @ 10:30 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613647
11000 BLOCK SEVENHILLS DR
10/31/2023 @ 4:00 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613648
10600 BLOCK SAMOA AV
10/31/2023 @ 12:30 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613650
KYLE ST & TUJUNGA CANYON BL
10/28/2023 @ 5:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613652
APPERSON ST & TUJUNGA CANYON BL
10/20/2023 @ 10:00 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613641
PARR AV & WYNGATE ST
10/18/2023 @ 6:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613674
10200 BLOCK HILLHAVEN AV
11/2/2023 @ 10:40 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613701
10300 BLOCK SCOVILLE AV
11/1/2023 @ 7:00 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613687
10900 BLOCK SEVENHILLS DR
10/31/2023 @ 2:45 AM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613713
6500 BLOCK TOKAY RD
11/3/2023 @ 4:59 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613728
10300 BLOCK ODELL AV
11/2/2023 @ 11:30 PM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 231613730
10100 BLOCK MT GLEASON AV
11/2/2023 @ 8:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613757
10700 BLOCK MCVINE AV
11/2/2023 @ 11:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613770
7900 BLOCK HILLROSE ST
11/5/2023 @ 1:00 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613814
8100 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
11/6/2023 @ 4:00 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613808
10500 BLOCK FLORALITA AV
11/6/2023 @ 7:30 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613813
10400 BLOCK LAS LUNITAS AV
11/5/2023 @ 5:15 AM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 231613803
10400 BLOCK SHERMAN GROVE AV
11/5/2023 @ 4:16 AM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 231613802

10400 BLOCK MCVINE AV
11/5/2023 @ 1:30 AM

BURGLARY 231613851
10400 BLOCK GLORY AV
11/7/2023 @ 4:30 PM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 231613836
10400 BLOCK MT GLEASON AV
11/6/2023 @ 6:30 AM

BURGLARY 231613819
10300 BLOCK WILSEY AV
11/3/2023 @ 10:00 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613859
10200 BLOCK ODELL AV
11/7/2023 @ 9:30 PM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 231613858
6600 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
11/7/2023 @ 5:10 AM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 231613899
7900 BLOCK HILLROSE ST
11/8/2023 @ 9:00 AM

THEFT - PETTY (plain theft-petty) 231613888
10200 BLOCK ORO VISTA AV
11/7/2023 @ 6:22 PM

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (ADW) 231613918
8200 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL
11/9/2023 @ 4:40 PM

THEFT - PETTY 231613942
10300 BLOCK WESCOTT AV
11/8/2023 @ 2:41 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 231613930
11100 BLOCK LEOLANG AV
11/7/2023 @ 7:00 PM

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ASK RUSTY

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

Social Security Disability vs. Spouse Benefits vs. Survivor Benefits (and COLA)

Dear Rusty: I retired from working in June but will not sign up for Social Security until age 70 and, to do that, I plan to draw from my IRA for the next 3 years. My wife is receiving Social Security disability benefits and will reach her full retirement age in March of next year. I know that my wife simply reaching her full retirement age will not mean an increase to her benefit – except for COLA. What I’m wondering is, can my wife get spousal benefits of any sort based on my Social Security benefits - either before I draw or after I am drawing - apart from her benefits at my death? Her Social Security disability amount is only a fraction of my maximum benefit. **Signed: Baffled Husband**

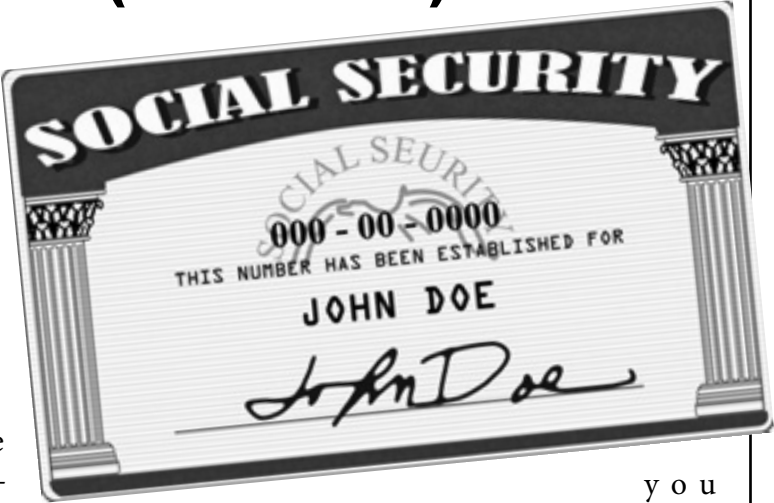
Dear Baffled: Looks like you’re confused about your wife’s Social Security disability benefits, retirement benefits, spousal benefits, and survivor benefits. Here’s what you need to know:

When your wife reaches her full retirement age (FRA) next year, her current Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

benefit will automatically convert to become her regular SS retirement benefit at the same amount she was receiving on SSDI (disability). The amount stays the same because your wife’s SSDI amount is based on her FRA entitlement.

Your wife cannot get any spousal benefits from you until you claim your own Social Security retirement benefit. Since you plan to delay claiming until you are 70 several years from now, after your wife’s SSDI converts to become her regular retirement benefit at her FRA next year, she will continue to receive her own SS retirement benefit until you claim. At that point your wife will get a “spousal boost” added to her own SS retirement benefit. The amount of her spousal boost will be the difference between her FRA entitlement (same as her SSDI amount), and 50% of your FRA entitlement (not half of your age 70 amount - spouse benefits are always calculated using FRA amounts, regardless of when Social Security is actually claimed).

Your wife cannot get a spousal benefit from you until you start your Social Security, but after



you claim she will receive her higher spousal benefit (her own SS retirement benefit plus a spousal boost) for the rest of her life, or until you predecease her. If you die first, your wife will get 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death (e.g., your age 70 amount), instead of the smaller amount she was receiving as your spouse while you are both living.

Regarding COLA, after becoming eligible for benefits, everyone gets the annually awarded COLA increase whether they are already collecting SS benefits or not. The next annual COLA increase will be added to your wife’s SSDI at the end of this year and added to her SS retirement amount each year thereafter, and then to her higher amount as your spouse after you claim. And even though you are waiting until age 70 to claim, the annual COLA will still be added to your Primary Insurance Amount (PIA) each year, and you will receive that past COLA in your monthly payments after you later claim.■

Bobbie Lamb
(1949 - 2023)

UT-Bobbie Lamb, 74, of Los Angeles, CA, passed away peacefully on September 5, 2023. She was born on August 21, 1949 in Murray, Utah. Bobbie is survived by her loving husband of 48 years, Jon, her son Christopher Mansfield, her daughter Sommer Cripps, and her grandchildren Nico, Henry, and Maggie. She was preceded in death by her father, Calvin, and is survived by her mother, Marjorie, and her brother, Michael Flanders.

Bobbie attended Bingham High School in Copperton, Utah, and furthered her education at Pasadena City College, where she earned a nutrition and culinary arts degree. She had a successful career as an Executive Chef at National Medical Enterprises, Inc. from 1980 to 1993.

Private memorials will be held to honor Bobbie's life in Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that contributions be made to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, www.nbcf.org

Bobbie will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she touched. Her memory will live on through her loved ones.

Seat Fillers Are Bringing the Arts to Life in Los Angeles

You live in the glitzy world of Hollywood and Los Angeles, where entertainment takes center stage and the arts and culture scene dazzles visitors and locals alike. But in an era where ticket fees are soaring, the dream of experiencing live entertainment might seem out of reach.

But, is it? Fortunately, there's a thrilling new solution in town – OTL Seat Fillers, now in LA to turn your entertainment dreams into a reality!

AN EXCLUSIVE VIP EXPERIENCE

While seat fillers have long been rubbing shoulders with celebrities at televised events like the Academy Awards, OTL Seat Fillers brings a fresh twist to the game. They're not filling seats for VIPs; they're transforming seat fillers into VIPs themselves. OTL seat fillers receive private invitations and free tickets to a wide array of live performances, including plays, musicals, comedy shows, and more.

This membership club is all about fun, and it's taking Los Angeles County by storm. Launched after nine successful years of operation across the US and in London, OTL is now making waves in the City of Angels. Lu Ann Wall, Chief Entertainment Officer of this family-run service, couldn't be more thrilled, saying, "We've launched in 15 cities over the past nine years, but we've never received such an overwhelming response from an enter-

tainment community as we have in Los Angeles. We're securing new LA-area partners weekly and are excited to spread the word to future seat fillers who love theatre, comedy, and special events."

THE OTL EXPERIENCE

The concept is brilliantly simple: event promoters who anticipate some empty seats extend private invitations for complimentary admission to OTL for its seat filler members. OTL then compiles a reservation list and sends it to the venue. Just before the show, seat fillers check in at the will-call, and voila! They're in for a night of entertainment magic.

What sets OTL apart is that no money or tickets exchange hands between OTL and its entertainment partners. And, to avoid negatively impacting regular ticket sales, OTL keeps the identities of those partners under wraps.

Seat fillers pay nothing more than low monthly membership dues, which are less than the cost of a single movie ticket. They can claim up to four seats per show - guests and all tickets included.

Imagine this: a fantastic new musical is playing, and the general public is shelling out \$50 per ticket and another \$30 in ticket fees! But you, as an OTL member, can snag two free tickets, valued at \$130, and all you've invested is \$11.99 for an entire month! You're treated like every other audience member - you and your guest get to enjoy the show together, with no need to

move around, no coupons to print, and no extra trips to make to pick up your comp tickets.

SUPPORTING THE LOCAL SCENE

While OTL Seat Fillers members relish the benefits of free admission, they're also dedicated supporters of the local arts and entertainment community. Many theaters and venues heavily rely on concessions, merchandise, and beverages as major sources of revenue. OTL members often indulge in these extras, helping to sustain these cultural institutions.

But even with those event-day purchases, the benefit of free tickets and no ticket fees makes it possible for families to unplug and enjoy!

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL

With OTL Seat Fillers, the thrill of live theater, comedy, and musical performances is no longer a luxury for the elite. It's an accessible reality for everyone. This innovative organization is injecting life into the arts, revitalizing the cultural landscape of Los Angeles, and making sure that entertainment is within reach for all.

Whether you're a seasoned theater enthusiast or excited to try all kinds of new things to do, OTL Seat Fillers is your golden ticket to a world of thrilling entertainment, right at your doorstep. Don't miss your chance to dive headfirst into the enchanting arts scene of Los Angeles!■

Preparedness company continued from page 1

While she was here the Station Fire broke out in the Angeles National Forest.

At first the fire was too far away to worry about. Then the neighborhood started getting a little smoky.

"We sat looking out the kitchen window one night, watching the fire advance over the hills towards us. Each day as the fire got closer and the baby hadn't yet arrived, we talked about the decision to evacuate, which would take my 9-month pregnant sister far away from her birth plan."

Finally the decision was made for them. When the official order came, Piper says, "I watched in amazement as my sister brought out a three-ring binder with their evacuation plan. She was so organized and the plan told who in the family was responsible for packing which items and taking care of pre-evacuation duties around the property."

After the baby was born, Piper returned home to the Pacific Northwest and launched her own preparedness journey, with in-person and online training. She developed a preparedness workshop for foster parents. "I learned a lot from my students," she says. "They first and foremost taught me why people don't prepare for emergencies."

West Coast Prepared's subscription boxes are designed to address five common reasons people don't engage in preparedness:

1. Time - Few of us have the time to research, plan, buy, and organize our kits and plans all at one time.
 2. Cash flow - Many people can't or don't want to spend hundreds of dollars on preparedness in one pay period.
 3. It's overwhelming - Googling "preparedness" returns endless checklists of supplies. Piper's subscription boxes deliver a module each month to keep customers engaged but not overwhelmed, building a kit one month at a time.
 4. It's not rewarding - Buying emergency supplies doesn't tend to increase dopamine, as shopping for something you want does. In order to combat this, each box includes at least one thing that Piper calls "fun or cute or pretty," and is also functional as a preparedness item.
 5. Lack of urgency - We hear about potential disasters; maybe we've even experienced them. But many people say, "well, it probably won't happen this week. I've got time." Piper designed the boxes to cut through that resistance by creating the boxes with a low barrier to entry. Boxes start at \$35.99 a month.
- Subscriptions can be purchased at www.westcoastprepared.com. Piper also offers a personalized preparedness consultation.■

Parson's Trail Possum Massacre continued from page 1

Then of course, Robin Meares, had to upgrade this posting into a world of mayhem and possum slaughter.

"The shooter is a 12 year old boy who is unsupervised after school. This is a horrible situation. This boy killed 10-15 possums and a raccoon about 6 weeks ago. He also shot a horse.

Animal Cruelty Officer have been alerted by the horse owners. I instructed the person who found the possums to report this to Animal Cruelty too."

Read on dear reader, you can't find comedy

like this on TV.

The posts on this topic are sketchy. I believe the details are very sketchy too. I live very close to this area and have been really interested in this matter. I have experience with BB guns, pellet guns, 22 rifles, and more. A BB gun will not kill a racoon or opossum, it will make them run away. A very good pellet gun may kill a mammal with a perfect shot. The "facts" reported by these posts show that "a 12 year old boy killed 15 possums and a racoon with BB gun, shot a horse, shoots at dogs, and we know who he is". Opossums are nocturnal, not running around Parsons Trail after school. To kill one opossum with a

BB gun would be quite an accomplishment. To leave a pile of 15 dead critters is not kid with a BB gun. If this Kid has a high velocity pellet gun with a night vision scope I might believe he killed something. I have never seen a opossum in daylight, except for roadkill. To take 15 opossums with a BB gun would be a story that would make headline news. We are missing some important facts here. I believe the people with information on this "kid with a BB gun" are not giving the facts, accurate information or details regarding the killing of 15 opossums. We all know that a BB gun can hurt or even blind a human, but the people here

posting "FACTS" should give real information, and not sensationalize the issue with details of their own experience with BB gun wounds. It would seem that the person that learned the age of the boy, would also have more information on the location, identity, priors. I imagine a necropsy would cost money. Who is the person paying for 15 of these? Inquiring minds want to Know. Just the facts please. Thanks.

I relayed all information accurately and correctly. I am not a liar and neither is the person I spoke to about this.

Please see **Parson's Trail Possum Massacre** on Page 9

Parson's Trail
Possum Massacre
continued from page 8

As I remember on the infamous 'gun thread' you accused me of horrible things when I said my husband was shot with a BB gun.

The worst thing I said on that thread was that he almost lost his "successful" career" The word "successful" really got to you, Rusty. You have also stated that you hate my "facts filled posts". So get it straight either you think I am a liar or you think I post too many facts. Bottom line..nothing I write is OK to Rusty.

Rusty's post is the reason I, and most people I speak to, do rarely post here anymore. Facebook is a lot nicer.

This is becoming ridiculous. WATER can kill you!!! Aspi-rin can kill you.

The government statistic is for both BB guns and pellet guns. Many "BB guns" also shoot pellets. Nowhere does it state what projectile was responsible for the deaths.

There are cases of people having bullets inside them for years, never even knowing that they had been shot. I personally know of a person who was shot with a .22 in the head. The projectile penetrated his skin and went around his skull without penetrating it. It was not a major injury. I personally have been shot with BB's from high powered guns and they bounced off my skin. That being said I have no doubt that there have been people killed and seriously injured by a BB. If you told anyone who has any experience with firearms or hunting that a kid had killed 15 possums with a BB gun they would question the accuracy of the information, which is how this all started out. The original topic of the post is very important but had information that knowledgeable people would question. I believe the questions were based on attempting to understand just exactly what type of person we are dealing with and what type of weapon he is using.

I'm sure the person who's relative was seriously injured by a BB feels that BB's are incredibly dangerous and deadly and their FIRST HAND experience can in no way be altered by some person on the internet telling them that BB's aren't all that dangerous. Their opinion is just as valid as anyone elses.

My first hand experience would tell me that something more like a pellet is responsible for those animals deaths, but that is just my opinion. I don't believe the horse that was shot had any injuries, that would say to me that it was shot with a BB not a pellet. So, who knows. Most .177 air guns can shoot BB's and pellets.

At this point this thread has become of absolutely no use. Should some first hand information become available, it is of great use to the community to post it. Don't let the B.S. stop you from doing that.

As pointed out by previous posters...this thread is B.S.

Ya see my uncles once removed cousins brother in law, yup he was removed for drinking too much, George was sittin by Bills store sipping a grape ne hi when a stranger walked by with 15 dead possums in a tater sack and a racoon on his back (not a monkey) carrying a daisy bb gun for sale. The price was so low George became suspicious and called the local pawn shop to get a value on the strangers daisy bb gun as well as the sack of possums. Ray at the pawn shop called out to the Sheriff who ordered the local volunteers to surround George and get him to drop that cool refreshing Grape ne hi. Yup, a grape ne hi can be deadly.

I wanna believe all posted here

I know somebody who knows somebody that was killed by Grape Ne-Hi. Or was it Orange Ne-Hi?

Anyway he slipped and fell on a puddle of the vile stuff and broke his neck but that didn't kill him outright. He laid there all night and a pack of rabid possums led by a one-eyed raccoon wielding a machete beheaded him.

I imagine if he had a BB gun he could have held them off.... at least for a while. But we'll never know.

You get the "Best of Posts" award for this thread "Lead-donotfollow" yup yup.

I just had to come back out of temporary retirement (again) to comment on this one. Keep up the good work.■

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Forgive and forget? Not in this world

Dr. Glenn Mollette - Some people try to forgive but they never forget.

The people of Israel will never forget the October 7th massacre by Hamas which barbarically took the lives of over 1400 people. The goal of Israel now is to eliminate Hamas by whatever means it takes.

In the process of Israel now avenging their rage, innocent civilian Palestinians are being killed by Israel's aggression. Thousands are being killed. What is this doing to the minds of the Palestinians? Palestinians who survive Israel's aggression will forever have an internal malice and hate toward Israel that will never be forgotten. Most likely many if not all of the Palestinians already hated Israel. If there were any Palestinians who had any love for Israel, they don't have it any longer.

For years and ages to come there will be Palestinians who will hate Israel more than ever before. How many of these will act out their hate in terroristic ways? Israel will never forget, nor will the Palestinians. This is a lousy way for neighbors to get along with each other. The goal of Israel is to eliminate Hamas. Their goal is not to kill the Palestinians. Unfortunately, thousands of Palestinians are being killed.

Have you ever been to Pearl Harbor? Take the tour out to the USS Arizona where 1171 of our soldiers are buried there in a watery grave. Around Pearl Harbor there are other sunken ships and the remains of buried Americans. Even today it will invoke serious feelings of ill will toward the Japanese and what they did to us on December 7, 1941. We will never forget. Can you imagine how the Japanese feel about Americans? We obliterated Hiroshima and Nagasaki killing as many as 226,000 innocent civilians with our two atomic bombs on August 6 and 9, 1945. Do you think they will ever forget? Never. Our country and Japan have made great strides in international relations. However, nobody has forgotten what took place on both sides of the Pacific.

I often see shirt tags that say made in Vietnam. I have a hard time using anything made in Vietnam because of the thousands of American lives that were wasted in that country. It's in the past but how do ever forget such a senseless war?

How do they people of Afghanistan and Iraq feel about America? They hate us. Regardless of any good that we might have done they see us as a bunch of murderous thugs who don't mind our own business.

Ukraine will forever hate Russia. Do you think Jewish people have feelings of love for the Germans and what happened to them during the holocaust?

We live in a world of an eye for eye and a tooth for a tooth and it isn't changing or going anywhere. You can talk about forgiveness and loving your enemies until you are blue in the face but the world doesn't operate this way. It's wonderful if you have truly forgiven someone who has wronged or hurt you. ■

Birmingham Hospital Veteran's Hall



A group of U.S. veterans in the San Fernando Valley who work to support and bring attention to veterans' causes. Recently, the group led an effort championed by L.A. City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield to designate the Veterans Hall a city landmark.

Event attendees, had an opportunity to see an indoor exhibit about the armed forces, learn about the special USMC birthday cake-cutting tradition, see a tribute to the POW/MIA or Missing Man Table, and enjoy lunch, live entertainment, as well as other family activities.

During the event, Jerry Watts, a Purple Heart recipient and BHVH Commander, and prior Commander, Philip Nathan (posthumously), were both recognized for their service by local elected officials including: L.A. City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, the Office of L.A. County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, the Office of Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, and the Office of U.S. Congressman Brad Sherman.

Watts, who joined the U.S. Army in 1966 at age 21 and served as a door gunner in UH-1 military helicopters called "Huey" at the height of the Vietnam war, said the event was meaningful. "Being recognized was emotional for me," said Jerry Watts, a BHVH honoree. Most of

us who returned from the Vietnam war...felt like in our minds, we were heroes, but came home to find out that we were not; that people shunned us. This made it very hard and contributed to a lot of veteran suicides and not being able to be a part of the community. Today is the first day of our lives changing that, so that veterans can now contribute and be heard from," added Watts.

Watts and other veterans, plan to outreach to local veterans to let them know there's a place in the valley where they can find support.

Located at 6543 Corbin Avenue, in Woodland Hills, the Birmingham Hospital Veterans Hall, also known as Disabled American Veterans Birmingham Hospital Chapter 73, and five-acre land were purchased and donated in 1947 by World War II disabled American veterans, their families and friends. Donors included 1930s child star and former U.S. ambassador, Shirley Temple Black, whose brother was wounded in the battle of Iwo Jima. The property, which includes the 8,000 square foot hall, additional buildings, swimming pool, and picnic area was recently added to the City of Los Angeles's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments, an effort championed by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield.

Today, chapter members lead veteran-to-veteran volunteer efforts that include donating 13,500

servings of soup to New Directions for Veterans, and delivering canned goods, sandwiches, clothing and more to homeless veterans living on the streets. In recent months, the BHVH helped house a veteran on the property. Additional efforts to support veterans include offering the facility as a quiet, supportive, and comfortable study area for young veterans in college, and as an open mic space for veterans interested in stand-up comedy and entertainment.

By hosting events at BHVH, veterans hope to continue to raise awareness about and generate community support for veterans' causes. "Our Veterans Hall is an important community asset, a historical landmark and special gathering place for veterans," said Bob Akre, a local veteran and BHVH executive board member. "Thanks to the generous donation of this property made by WWII vets and their families, we're able to host events like this special ceremony acknowledging those who have served in the U.S. military and live in our community, as well as their families. The BHVH is a part of our neighborhood, our lives – and it's where we gather to be of service to others," added Akre.

For more information about the Birmingham Hospital Veterans Hall, visit the website at www.bhvh.org or call us at (818) 938-9118. ■

The Verdugo Hills Chorus is Coming to Arcadia!

Do you love listening to live music? If so, the Verdugo Hills Chorus is the group to hear. They will be performing their acapella style Christmas show for the Arcadia Community Coordinating Council on Monday, December 4, 2023.

Verdugo Hills Chorus, founded in 1954, is a membership organization of 50+ female singers, who sing four-part harmony in the barbershop style and is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines International. They rehearse weekly, compete in annual competitions and perform at community events, family gatherings and for civic, business and social groups of all kinds. In addition to performance shows, they also deliver Singing Valentines and Singing Holiday Cards. For more information visit verdugohillschorus.org



To hear the Verdugo Hills Chorus, join the Arcadia Community Coordinating Council on December 4, 2023 for lunch at Villa Catrina Restaurant, 251 N. Santa Anita Ave. Lunch is \$17.00.

For reservations contact Linda Clelland, President, ACCC.

arcadiacommunitycouncil@gmail.com ■