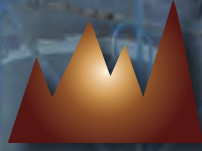


SUMMIT LIFE

VOLUME V, #41



FEBRUARY 2017

CLEANING UP POLLUTION AT THE SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY. WHEN IS ENOUGH ENOUGH?

(see page 2)

**NO
SMOKING
EXCEPT
IN DESIGNATED AREAS**

**HARD HATS AND
SAFETY GLASSES
MUST BE WORN**

An Editorial:

THE TIME IS NOW TO GIVE THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY YOUR VIEWS ON THEIR LABORATORY. A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CAN BE FOUND ON

Sisyphus, as you may know, was an ancient ruler cursed by Zeus to forever push a huge boulder up a hill, only to have it fall back again. The toxic cleanup at the nearby Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) can only be described as Sisyphean in nature or as a project that seems never-ending.

It took scientists several decades to investigate the chemical and radiological impact of military and space vehicle tests at the SSFL site. In 1996, after purchasing the property from Rocketdyne, the Boeing Company worked diligently to restore most of the site, removing or treating 45,000 cubic yards of soil, dismantling over 300 structures and building three storm water treatment systems. Regular Boeing bus tours of the refurbished area are now available to nearby residents.

But like that Sisyphean boulder, it seems that Boeing's remediation effort over 21 years was merely an

uphill exercise. The real cleanup is now beginning all over again. Under a consent order signed in 2007, Boeing, NASA and the Department of Energy committed to investigating and cleaning up soil and groundwater at the site. Some of the remediation measures outlined in the Department of Energy's recently published draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could extend the cleanup for another decade or more. Painstakingly researched and released for public comment in mid-January under the 1970 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the remediation EIS looks at the impacts of three possible cleanup levels, the first option being more expensive and elongated than the other two.

Option #3, the least invasive, would call for 148,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil removal from the SSFL site over a 2-year period involving 18,400 truck trips down

Woolsey Canyon Road or, hopefully, down an alternative route yet to be decided. Option #2 would call for the removal of 192,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil over a 2 ½ year period involving 23,800 truck trips. Option #1 would call for the removal of 933,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil over a period of at least ten years involving 116,000 truck trips. It is estimated that the plan would use 2.8 to 8.2 million gallons of fuel for the truck trips and for the operation of heavy equipment, would generate 28,000 to 84,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases and would further deplete the State's water supply by the usage of 40 million gallons of H2O for dust suppression.

When is enough enough? It is up to you to decide by reading the Department of Energy's Environmental Impact statement and forwarding your comments before the public comment period ends on March 14. You can read the

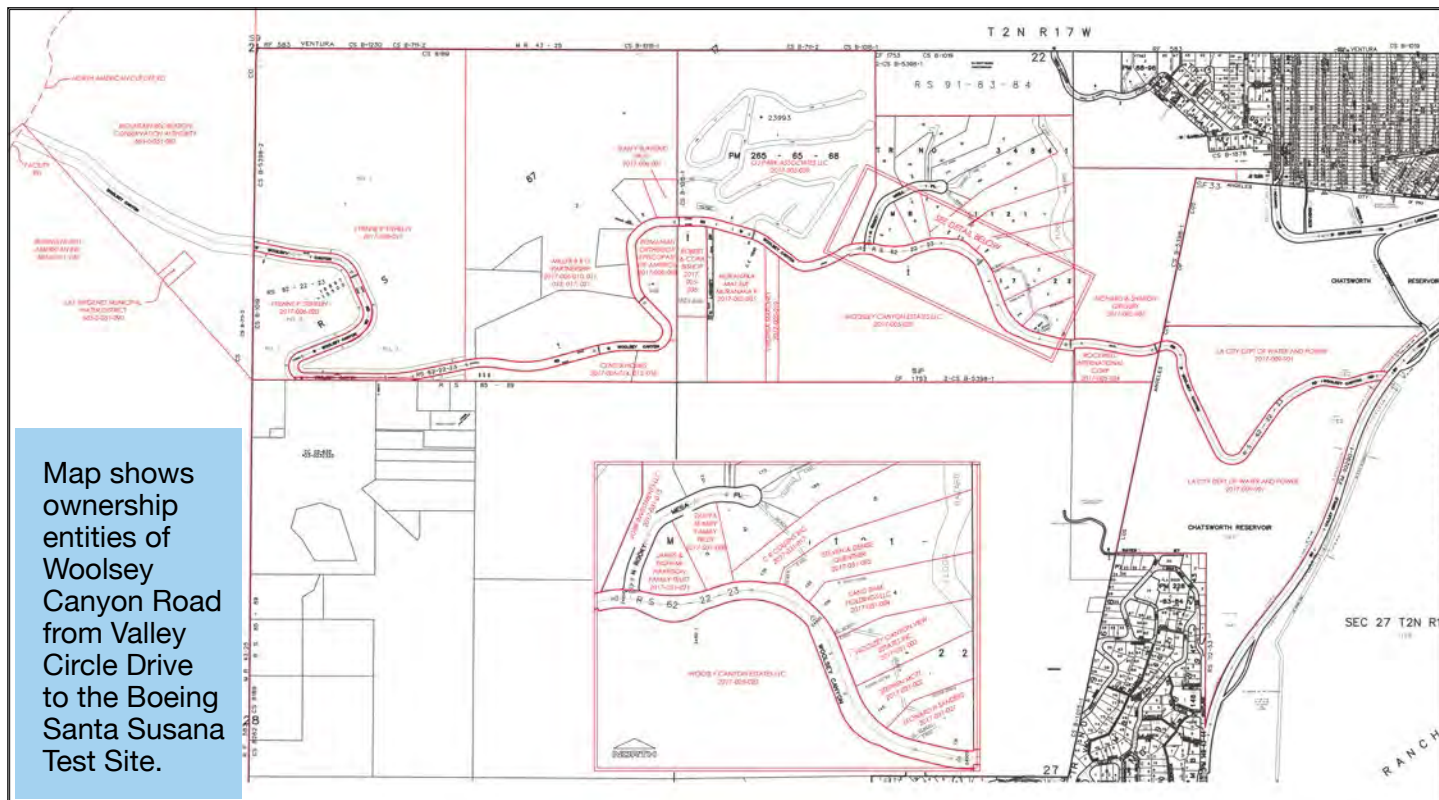


More than 100 West Valley residents crowd the ballroom of the Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys, to hear government plans for the continued cleanup of Boeing's Santa Susana Field Lab.



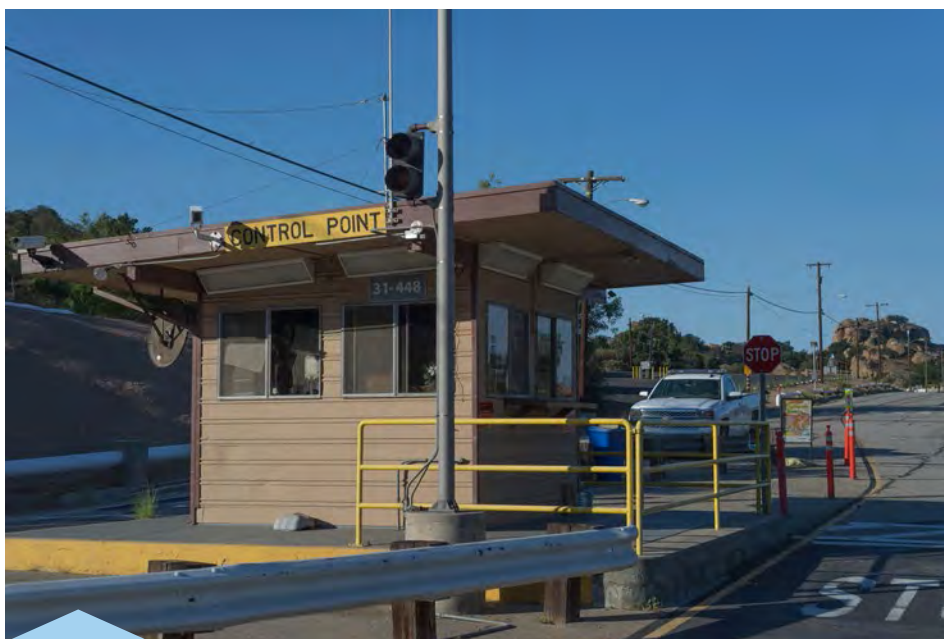
Stephie Jennings, DOE/NEPA Document Manager, and John Jones, Director of the DOE's Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC), address concerned residents at a February 21 public hearing in Van Nuys. The pair announced the details of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for remediation of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, currently operated by Boeing.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED CLEANUP EVALUATION FOR THE SANTA SUSANA FIELD ONLINE WITH A DEADLINE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT SET FOR MARCH 14



EIS or a summary of it and submit your comment on-line at www.SSFLAreaIVEIS.com. To leave a request for further information, please call (805) 842-3864.

And one last thing. Boeing IS a good neighbor. By the time you read this, Boeing may have already filled all the potholes on Woolsey Canyon Road from its base at Valley Circle Drive all the way up to the Lab itself. Summit Life will contact the company for you if you find a spot that's been missed after the initial work is done. Just call (818) 884-1190 or email garrywormser@gmail.com. That's me, and as you may have guessed, I'm a Boeing fan. I've traveled safely and comfortably on the company's jet planes for thousands of miles over many years. If the President thinks his fleet of 747's are too costly, let him fly on a Russian Aeroflot Ilyushin I1-96 for a change. ❖



Behind this entrance gate at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in West Hills, space age rocket testing and chemical experiments eventually created a toxic environment, one that's still being studied for various remedies by a host of government agencies. Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.

UNCLE ERNIE CAME TO VISIT ALMOST THREE DECADES AGO. HIS TASTY PIZZAS, DELIVERED TO OUR DOOR, HAVE MADE HIM THE SUMMIT'S FAVORITE UNCLE

Unlike an unwanted visiting relative, Uncle Ernie is every bit as welcome at the Summit today as he was 25 years ago.

We're talking about Uncle Ernie's Pizza, a 975 square foot, five-table pizzeria that has faithfully advertised in Summit Life since 2014. The restaurant's fresh pizza, Italian dinners, sub sandwiches and salads, coupled with its "We Deliver" advertising have made the store a household friend to

the hardworking residents of Summit City.

Of course, there is no real Uncle Ernie. The restaurant's owner is Steve Apostolof, 60, a rough, gruff California native who's been making pizzas since 1975. "It started as a summer job," he said, "but here I am, 40 years later, still making pizzas. If you own a pizzeria, you have to work at it every day to be successful."

Whether it's a single pizza or

catering orders for 300, uncle Ernie's employees (about 24 in multiple shifts) work long and hard seven days a week to offer pizza combinations that are almost endless with 26 different toppings, four sauce options and four crust options. About 15 orders a day find their way up the winding road to the Summit. According to Steve, more than 175 Summit families order from Uncle Ernie's on a regular basis.



Uncle Ernie's owner, Steve Apostolof, second from right, is shown with five members of a 24 person staff that cranks out 10 different pastas, 24 sub sandwiches, Foccia sandwiches and 10 different salads seven days a week. The hard working team from left to right are Oscar Umana, Autum Staack, Katie Ferney, Faith Farberman and Michelle McKenzie. Diane Brown/Summit Life photo.

Even though the menu offers over ten different pasta dishes, 24 sub sandwiches, Foccia sandwiches and 10 different salad, Steve refuses to call his place an “Italian restaurant.” I’m a pizza man first, last and always. I’ve been making pizza since I was 18 and have never stopped.”

When you call to place an order at 818-709-3663, you’re in for a surprise. A tough talking Brooklyn wise guy will answer. “Hheeeeey, thanks for calling Uncle Ernie’s.” Before you can say “hello,” he’ll pitch the weekly

special. It could be Italian style meat-loaf, stuffed Portebello mushrooms or even a regular menu item at a steeply discounted price.

“People ask me all the time, how did you get the name?” Steve says. The answer is actually somewhat mundane. In 1985, Steve and his ex partner bought a closed down pizzeria in Canoga Park. With barely enough money to buy the store, the partners opted to keep the Uncle Ernie name rather than go through the expense of replacing \$4500.00

worth of Uncle Ernie signs. Since then, by virtue of hard work, good food and creative promotion, the Brooklyn wise guy has become an invaluable marketing tool. Besides, who would want to eat at a place called Uncle Steve’s? ❖

Woolsey Canyon Road, a street of many owners: THE COMMUNITY OWES A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO WHOMEVER CLOSED OFF THE TRASH RIDDEN TURNOFF SITE ON WOOLSEY CANYON RD. WAS IT THE LONE RANGER?

So who gets the good neighbor award for finally blocking off the view site on Woolsey Canyon Road opposite the gated enclave of Mesa Place? The site had become the nightly office of drug dealers and revelers who left a morning calling card of beer cans and hamburger wrappers.

The turnoff mess simply became too overwhelming to clean-up. As you can see from the Woolsey Canyon map on page three, a lot of individuals and corporate entities own sections of the road. But which owner called what agency to get the problem solved overnight? The Sheriff’s office had nothing to do with it, and neither did the CHP. We haven’t heard back from Supervisor Barger’s office, so there’s a good chance she had nothing to do with it.

Now take a good look at the top left corner of the site map. What you see are the words “Mountain Recreation Conservation Authority.” Hey, that must mean the folks at Sage Ranch Park. And the only folks at Sage Ranch Park are Rangers. Prior to this writing, we sent a reporter up to



the park with orders to knock on the Ranger’s cabin door and get the facts about the cleanup.

As it turned out, there was no Ranger’s cabin to knock on. We were hoping that we could credit a tall, lanky Ranger for solving the problem. But the subject still remains

a mystery. If you think you can solve it, please, please let us know. ❖

It's Coyote Pupping Season Again

COYOTES ARE MOTHERS AND FATHERS TOO. REMEMBER TO BE RESPECTFUL OF THEIR YOUNG FAMILIES

By Bill Kreke, Owner,
Kahuna Dog Walking; LLC,
(818) 806-WALK

Over the next few weeks you may notice an increase in coyote yips and yelps during the evening and early morning hours. Their increased activity is because we are entering what is called coyote pupping season. Since the coyotes are also our neighbors here at The Summit, it is important for us to be aware and respectful of their behaviors.

Coyotes only mate once a year starting around February through March. After just a 9 week gestation period, the pregnant females will sequester themselves in their den a few weeks before the pups are born. The average coyote litter is 4 to 7 pups with a survival rate sometimes as low as 5 to 20 percent. After 4 to 5 weeks, the pups are ready to leave the den and will usually remain with their pack, hunting and learning for

the next year.

We have now entered a period in the coyote realm where the males are going to become more visible as they protect their dens and territory from intruders and also as they hunt for food for their sequestered females. Of course, we need to be mindful of our pets all year round. Never leave your small to medium dogs unattended, keep your cats indoors, always walk your dog on a short leash, carry a flashlight, and throw away those retractable leashes! With a determined coyote, a retractable leash is no good if your dog is more than an arm's length away. However, owners walking their larger dogs should be mindful of protective male coyotes as well. During this time of year, it is not uncommon for male coyotes to approach and attempt to nip at your dog's hindquarters. This is not an attack but more of a way to encourage your dog to move out of their area.

Be aware of your surroundings while walking your dogs. Don't be

distracted by talking on your phone or having ear buds blasting away your favorite tunes. If you see a coyote on your walk, go in the opposite direction. If you have a coyote come within 50 feet or less, DO NOT RUN, running will trigger their hunter / prey instinct. The best way for dealing with a coyote is to: stop, stand tall, look the coyote in the eye, and yell / clap / stomp your feet. If you have small dogs, pick them up and continue to make yourself look as large as possible. At this point, the coyote will usually run away. If the coyote does not run away, he may be protecting a den. If that's the case, maintain eye contact and slowly back up and walk away. Flashlights and small rocks or pebbles are also good distractions but, the goal is to spook coyotes, not hurt them. Arming ourselves with knowledge not only overcomes any fear of these animals, but will keep us sharing these foothills as good neighbors. ❖

MAYO CLINIC NEWSLETTER: SECOND OPINION

QUESTION: I'm flying to a family reunion this winter and my doctor suggests I take supplemental oxygen with me on the airplane because I have COPD. I don't normally use supplemental oxygen, so why would I need it on an airplane?

ANSWER: People who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or diseases that can cause low oxygen levels may need in-flight oxygen supplementation even if they don't use oxygen at home.

As a plane takes off and gains altitude, surrounding air pressure - the weight of the atmosphere

pressing against the earth - decreases. Pressurized cabins limit the decrease considerably but not entirely. Federal regulations require cabin pressure altitude to be below 8,000 feet above sea level. This pressure level is manageable for most people, but is still about the same as being a quarter to a third of the way up Mount Everest. If you have lung disease, this could cause problems.

Low air pressure decreases the rate at which oxygen is absorbed into your bloodstream. If you already have low oxygen levels on the ground, as is often the case with COPD, even

a small decrease in oxygen flow can have an effect. Any increase in your body's demand for oxygen - for something as simple as getting up and walking to the bathroom - can elevate that effect, potentially leaving you with breathing problems on the plane.

Commercial airlines have varying requirements for bringing oxygen on a plane, so check with your airline. Also, flights within other countries may have different rules. Most airlines require notification at least 48 hours before the flight, even longer for international flights. You'll likely need written documentation of your need

AROUND THE TOWN: MARCH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Nightlife in Universal City
Date(s): 03/17/2017
Day(s): Friday
Time(s): 5:00PM-2:00AM
Address: 1000 Universal Studios
Blvd, Suite 216
Phone: 8187559970
Cost: \$10

Let the luck of the Irish shine down on you at Howl at the Moon this St. Paddy's day.

We know that this holiday isn't just about green beer and shamrocks – it's about having a celebration. And if there's one thing we're good at, it's celebrating.

Join us for all kind of St. Paddy's Day shenanigans. We're featuring Green Beers, Leprechaun Bombs, Car Bombs and more. 21 and Up

JADE MARLIN SPRING AND SUMMER FASHION SHOWCASE

Fashion & Style in Universal City
Date(s): 03/25/2017
Day(s): Saturday
Time(s): 6-10:00pm
Address: 555 Universal Hollywood Dr. Universal City, CA 91608



ROMEO AND JULIET

Theater in NoHo Arts Dist.
Date(s): 02/18/2017 to 03/19/2017
Day(s): Friday Saturday Sunday
Time(s): 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat.; 2 p.m. Sundays
Address: 10509 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601
Phone: 818-980-7529
Cost: \$30

Archway Theatre's Resident Company production of Shakespeare's immortal classic, starring Will Holbrook and Kei'la Ryan in the title roles. Directed by Steven Sabel. This is not your grandmother's "Romeo and Juliet." This show is as hot as a Verona Summer! 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays - February 18 - March 19. General admission: \$30. Not suitable for children under 13.

SCREENING OF "THE AGE OF CONSEQUENCES"

Parks & Gardens in San Fernando
Film in NoHo Arts Dist.
Date(s): 03/21/2017
Day(s): Tuesday
Time(s): 7:30-9:30
Address: 5240 Lankershim Blvd, North Hollywood
Phone: (310) 478-3836
Cost: \$12

Join us for a screening of the documentary film "The age of consequences" which investigates the impacts of climate change on increased resource scarcity, migration, and conflict through the lens of US national security and global stability. We will have a Q&A after the film.

If you have time, please meet us for happy hour at "The Fat Dog" in the NoHo Arts District around 5:30 too!



for oxygen from your doctor.

Some airlines provide in-flight supplemental oxygen systems. You also can rent a battery-powered portable oxygen concentrator (POC) to bring with you, which means you have it during layovers and when you arrive at your destination. A

device must be approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for domestic flights, and the International Civil Aviation Organization for international flights.

Give yourself enough time, preferably weeks or even months ahead, to confirm you have

everything you need and to answer any questions you might have. If you bring a POC, be sure you bring enough batteries to comfortably last more than the length of the trip, in case there are unanticipated delays. ❖

TEN WAYS TO HELP KEEP THE SUMMIT SAFE AND PRISTINE

1. Obey all speed limits and stop signs.
2. Do not toss cigarette butts into the street.
3. Barbecue with gas fuel.
4. Keep pets leashed and walk at night with a stick or flashlight.
5. Keep your house doors and car doors locked.
6. Have your neighbors collect your newspapers and mail while you're away.
7. No doggy poop on the streets, use containers provided.
8. No clutter in carports.
9. No street clothes in pool and spa.
10. No ads on the entrance gate.

UNCLE ERNIE'S PIZZA



**PIZZA, PASTA
SALADS, SUBS
& MORE**

818-709-3663

WE DELIVER

Delivery Fee applies

Check out our huge menu at

www.UncleErniesPizza.com

9841 Topanga Cyn. BLVD



FREE
Antipasto Salad

with purchase of any Large Pizza. Offer #93. Not valid with any other offer or promotion. Must present coupon when ordering. One per customer. Exp.4/20/17

\$3.00 OFF
Any Large Pizza

Offer #92. Not valid with any other offer or promotion. Must present coupon when ordering. One per customer. Exp.4/20/17

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24425 Woolsey Canyon Rd., West Hills
(818) 340-7546

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23221 Saticoy, West Hills
(818) 346-5117

CHATSWORTH LAKE MARKET
23400 Lake Manor Drive
(818) 888-8555

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Real estate at the Summit is subject to
the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968
and its amendments.

Please visit us at

www.summitmobilecommunity.com