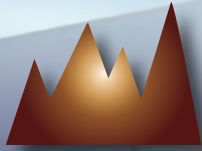


SUMMIT LIFE

VOLUME V, #46



OCTOBER 2017

**KEEP ON TRUCKIN...
BUT NOT ON WOOLSEY CANYON ROAD**

An Editorial:

IGNORING CEQA COULD PRODUCE NOISE, AIR POLLUTION FOR AND WEST HILLS

**SANTA SUSANNA
FIELD LAB**



F Street

**SUMMIT MOBILE
HOME PARK**



Woolsey Canyon

Dear Summit Residents: We are pioneers up here in the Santa Susana foothills. Unlike the city streets below us, there is far less pollution, crime, and traffic. But the right to a better, safer environment for ourselves and our children comes with a price that must be paid.

In early September, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) released a draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the cleanup of Boeing's Santa Susana Field Laboratory located on Woolsey Canyon Road above our park. It is the latest of several governmental studies aimed at dealing with nuclear and chemical waste largely remediated by Boeing on what was formerly a Rocketdyne test facility.

This new report, covering thousands of pages, ignores California's Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by only considering excessive cleanup alternatives that will not make people safer, and would unnecessarily require our local community to live with decades of transportation and air

quality impacts.

These impacts would include clogged local roadways from as many as 96 field lab excavation trucks making daily trips up and down Woolsey Canyon while spewing carbon-based diesel pollutants into our atmosphere. The cleanups could also destroy critical wildlife habitat and disturb Native American artifacts in the process.

Putting to rest any question of the future use of the Santa Susana Laboratory site, the Boeing company earlier this year recorded a conservation easement that ensures that at least 2,400 acres will forever be preserved as open space habitat for the benefit of wildlife and the local community. Now, more than ever, it is important for a cleanup to be chosen that is protective of human health and the environment for the actual future use of the land.

Unfortunately, the DTSC's draft PEIR seems to ignore evaluating this easement, thereby denying an opportunity to consider a cleanup based on a protective future for the land's open space habitat. We believe that rather than focusing on extreme remediation methods to address past scientific failures, area

stakeholders would be better served if the DTSC paved the way for California's enlightened scientific future. That means opting for clean air legislation and open space protection from land developers.

The Santa Susana site can continue to be safe for our neighbors, site visitors and the wildlife and Native American artifacts that call it home during and after the cleanup. But for this to happen, The DTSC needs to hear from all of us at the Summit and Mountain View mobile communities and from the surrounding communities of Chatsworth, Simi Valley and Westhills to prevent decisions with negative environmental impacts from being handed down in the near future.

In the pioneering spirit of those who live on this mountain and love this mountain, please send a letter to the DTSC today urging the protection of people and wildlife during and after the Santa Susana site cleanup in conformity with CEQA and with Boeing's in situ conservation easement. ❖

SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES OF CHATSWORTH, SIMI VALLEY



Send written comments to:

**SSFL CEQA Comments
Department of Toxic Substances
Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826**

**Send E-mail via the following web
links:
<http://SSFLDTSC.commentinput.com>**

Comments must be submitted in writing, and postmarked by or received by DTSC, on or before December 7, 2017. The Department of Toxic Substances Control's draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) can be found online at: www.dtsc.ca.gov/sitecleanup/Santa_Susana_Field_Lab.

CHATSWORTH PARK SOUTH OPEN AFTER 9 YEAR SHUTDOWN

Getting the lead out” is a phrase that means different things to different people. It’s a term designed to get you moving rapidly, and it’s also an act of remediation that closed down Chatsworth Park South at 22360 Devonshire Street for almost a decade.

Last month, the park finally reopened. It took the city and the California Department of Toxic Substance Control since the Spring of 2008 to get all the lead out. We’re talking about tiny lead pellets that dotted the park’s hiking trails from skeet and trap shooting activities that were popular 40 years ago.

So now you can spend some quality time with your family in a wonderfully reconstituted public park less than five miles from here.



But, alas, in the three trips our photographer Diane Brown made to the park over the weekend and during the week, hardly a person was there. As you can see from her photos, the park offers just about everything a park should, from a kiddie playground to basketball and tennis courts to a picnic area and hiking trail.

So this is to remind you to get the lead out and come back to the 100-acre park, renovated at a cost of about \$9 million in funds raised in part by Los Angeles City Councilman Mitchell Englander. “I grew up here and often came here with my family. Western films were made here and many locals recall seeing Hollywood legends like Lucille Ball and Roy Rogers horseback riding on the park trails,” he recalled. ❖

An Occasional Column:

WE ARE GOING BRICK-LESS INTO A CLASSLESS FUTURE AS AMAZON GROWS AND HIGH FASHION DEPARTMENT STORES FAIL

By Garry Wormser

I was surprised the other day to find that the Promenade Shopping Mall in Woodland Hills had closed. It was small but classy, once anchoring high-fashion department stores such as Saks and Robinson's and – more recently – Macy's.

We can thank Amazon for that. With their on line, competitive merchandising and rapid delivery service anywhere in the US., Amazon is killing brick and mortar retailing as we once knew and loved it.

At least I loved it. How in the world can you buy a pair of pants on-line without first trying them on? Same goes for shirts and coats and shoes. Being waited on, having a tailor measure your instep, having someone carry your purchases around the store and into a cab. These are the things I loved about those big, solid, bank-like structures that sprayed perfume on you when you came in the door and made you feel like you were comfortably comfortable.

Not to worry. On Brompton Road in Knightsbridge, London, there's a million-square foot, 166 year-old department store named Harrods that was recently purchased by the Persian Gulf State of Qatar. I predict that long after Amazon is gone, Harrods will most likely remain as firmly planted on British soil as Westminster Abbey.

I was in the neighborhood once and stopped in to pick up a wash cloth. Harrods's sales personnel are mostly young, attentive and smartly outfitted like students in an exclusive school. I explained to



the sales lady in Bath Accessories that my third class hotel did not supply wash clothes and that I felt uncivilized without one.

"Indeed," she said. "We can't have that." She disappeared for a few minutes and came back with a substantial embroidered cloth that was way too fancy for my backside.

I predict that long after Amazon is gone, Harrods will most likely remain as firmly planted on British soil as Westminster Abbey.

"How much," I asked. "\$180," she answered. "You've got to be kidding me," I replied.

With a straight face, the young lady explained that what she was holding in her manicured hand was not so much a wash cloth as an heirloom, to be handed down

in my family from generation to generation.

The Wormser Wash Cloth. Now that's class. There's not a marketing whiz at Amazon or any other on-line retailer that could come up with a sales pitch like that. I instantly belonged. There will always be an England and I was part of the club.

But I demurred. She was gracious about it, giving me detailed instructions on how to find the men's room. A uniformed attendant came up to me as I was washing my hands and offered a towel. It was small for a towel, but just right for a wash cloth.

"Would you mind if I kept this as a souvenir of Harrods," I asked. "Certainly, Sir," he replied. "And if you plan to carry it in your pocket, please let me get you a dry one." ♦

YOU CAN'T WIN! LAST WINTER'S RAINS BROUGHT LUSH GRASS THAT COULD BE FUEL FOR WILDFIRES THIS FALL

By Marci Wormser
Staff Writer

This year, Southern California enjoyed one of its wettest winters in recent memory, leaving its formerly brown hillsides covered in lush green grass and other vegetation. But that same foliage could provide fuel for wildfires this fall after it dries out, especially when Santa Ana winds begin to pick up, fire officials warn.

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, "This fall, the potential for large wind-driven fires will be higher than in recent years due to the abundance of grass across the southern portion of the state." Higher-than-average temperatures are also a contributing factor.

Although no one can predict whether a wind-driven blaze will ignite along the Santa Susana foothills as it has in years past, it's time to plan now for an orderly exodus from the park, especially for new residents who haven't been through the drill before, local fire officials say.

According to the Los Angeles Fire Department, "If you're told to evacuate, leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be told by authorities to leave. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. If you think it's time to leave, don't wait – get out."

"If you see smoke or fire in your area, immediately report it by dialing 9-1-1," they urge. "Remember to take note of the location so that the dispatcher can send emergency equipment to the correct location before you hang up."

Since evacuation may be necessary, the Fire Department recommends the following steps to prepare:

1. Back your car in your carport or garage facing out with windows closed. Keep your keys with you so you can evacuate quickly if necessary.
2. If applicable, close your garage door, leave it unlocked and disconnect automatic door openers in the case of a power failure.
3. Keep a flashlight and portable radio with you at all times and stay tuned to your local news station.



The Department recommends preparing your yard and outdoor area by moving combustible yard furniture away from your home; covering windows, attic openings, eaves, and vents with less combustible material, such as ½-inch or thicker plywood; closing window shutters and blinds if they're fire-resistant; attaching garden hoses to faucets and placing them so that they can reach all areas of your home; and placing a ladder against your house on the opposite side of the approaching fire for access to the roof.

While indoors, the Department urges you to:

- Close all windows and doors around your home to prevent sparks from blowing inside.
- Close all doors within the house to slow fire spread inside the house.
- Turn on the lights in all rooms of your house and on the porch. Your home will be more visible through the smoke or darkness.
- Move furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors to avoid ignition from the radiant heat of the fire.

In addition, the Los Angeles Fire Department also recommends that residents:

1. Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy for a night evacuation.
2. Keep the six "P's" ready, in case an immediate evacuation is required:
 - People and pets
 - Papers, phone numbers and important documents (including insurance papers)
 - Prescriptions, vitamins and eyeglasses
 - Pictures and irreplaceable memorabilia
 - Personal computers (information on hard drive and disks) and cell phones
 - "Plastic" (Credit cards, ATM cards and cash)
3. Lastly, it's important to have a contact list containing the cell phone numbers of friends and neighbors in the park. Keeping in touch is one of the best ways to get up-to-date information about the fire and when you can return home.

News reports tend to lag behind what is actually happening in a fire, and telephone lines to first responders can be busy. Nevertheless, you should try the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station for situation updates. That number is (818) 878-1808. ❖

AROUND THE TOWN, OCTOBER 2017

Underwood Family Farm Harvest Festival

All October. 3370 Sunset Valley Road, off of Tierra Rejada Road, Moorpark. General Info: <https://underwoodfamilyfarms.com>.

Admission: \$14/\$20 for the weekend festivals, \$6 on weekdays. Kids under 2 free. Parking free, check local papers for coupons.

Calabasas Pumpkin Festival

October 21-22, 2017 -10:00am to 5:00pm

Info: <http://www.calabasaspumpkinfestival.com>.

Call 818-222-5680.

Juan Bautista De Anza Park, 3701 Lost Hills Road

Corner of Lost Hills Road and Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas. Event entrance at Los Hills Rd. & Agoura Rd. Admission \$5. Kids under 2 free.

Reign of Terror Haunted House

September 30 – October 31, 2017. Friday-Sat October, last 2 Sundays and Halloween week (times vary, starting at 7 pm.) \$15, express VIP \$35 (see website for coupons and more options) <http://rothauntedhouse.com/> The Janss Marketplace, off the 101 freeway at the intersection of Hillcrest Drive and Moorpark Road, 197 Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks.

Haunted Adventure Tour at the Starlight Bowl

Friday – Saturday, October 13-14, 20, 2017, 7-9pm. <http://burbankusa.com>

Or call 818-238-5440. Tickets \$5, refreshments available for purchase. Ages 6+, An adult must accompany children under 12-years old.



THE GREAT PUMPKIN: Every year for the past 25 years, Summit resident Kit Berini has painstakingly carved and displayed a huge pumpkin like the one pictured above. We're talking about a 200 pound plus pumpkin that never fails to attract and delight Halloween-costumed children trick-or-treating in the park. Kit, a landscape architect, plans to carve another big one again this year. And he's got some new Halloween goodies that are guaranteed to really really scare you. Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.

SUMMIT LIFE

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Real estate at the Summit is subject to
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Please visit us at

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