"Together we have clout!"

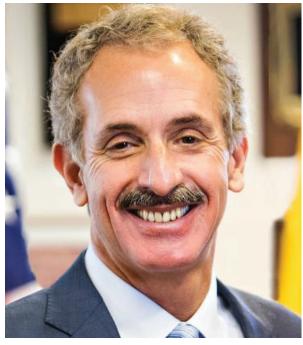


FOUNDED IN 1964

**NOVEMBER 2020** 

#### SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

ShermanOaks914.com



#### **ZOOM COMMUNITY MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 - 7:15 PM

JOIN FROM ANYWHERE - VIA COMPUTER, TABLET, SMARTPHONE OR TELEPHONE

## GUEST SPEAKER: LA CITY ATTORNEY MIKE FEUER

LA 2.0: RISING TO OUR CHALLENGES AND EMERGING A STRONGER CITY

#### **CLEANING UP CITY HALL**

## CITY LAWSUIT AGAINST FAA (BURBANK AND VAN NUYS AIRPORTS)

City Attorney Mike Feuer will be our November 18 guest speaker. Previously, he represented Sherman Oaks in the State Assembly for six years and on the Los Angeles City Council for six years. City Attorney Feuer is

considered one of the smartest elected officials in California. He received his undergraduate degree from Harvard University, and also received his JD from Harvard Law School.

City Attorney Feuer has announced that he will be running for Mayor of Los Angeles in 2022. He will discuss his vision of the new Los Angeles including cleaning up City Hall from the alleged pay-to-play and other corruption. The Los Angeles City Attorney's office has brought a lawsuit against the FAA for unilaterally changing flight paths from Burbank and Van Nuys Airports. These changes have impacted Sherman Oaks. He will discuss the status of the lawsuit and the goals to reduce jet noise in our community.

We want your questions for Mike Feuer. What is important to you? Send questions to us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com on or before Monday, November 16.

To attend the virtual Zoom Meeting, the Meeting ID is 848 0816 8596 and the Passcode is SOHA914. Please arrive at the waiting room between 7:00 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. The Meeting starts promptly at 7:15 p.m. If you are unfamiliar with how to sign into a Zoom Meeting or need help, please email us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com. We will email you instructions.

The Holiday Season and the spirit of giving is upon us. For 21 years we have collected toys for abused and foster children during our annual toy drive. Unfortunately, the 22nd Annual Toy Drive will be held virtually this year. As indicated in the enclosed letter from the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), we are asking that you send a check to the Association payable to LA County DCFS. The Association will collect the checks and give them to the DCFS to purchase toys for the children.

Send your check payable to LA County DCFS to SOHA PO Box 5223, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413, no later than November 30, 2020 or you can go to our website at www.shermanoaks914.com and click on the PayPal link set up for the Toy Drive.



Last year we collected about 1,600 toys. Hopefully we will receive funds so that DCFS can purchase a similar number of toys. Thanks for remembering the abused and foster children who will receive these toys.

### INTRODUCING...SOHA'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

SOHA now has a new YouTube Channel. You can watch the meetings on a smartphone, tablet, or computer – or even your own TV. You do not need a YouTube account. Go to YouTube.com and search for "ShermanOaksHomeownersAssociation914" to view the latest videos. You can subscribe to SOHA's new YouTube Channel by clicking on the red "Subscribe" button with your YouTube account or other account.

Your TV is the most exciting way to view our meetings. Many newer smart TVs can stream directly, or you may need a Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire Stick, or other streaming device. Find the YouTube app on your smart TV or streaming device. Then search for "soha community meeting," pick the one you want to watch, and enjoy. You can sample meetings and see how everyone has aged over the 13 years!

We would like to thank Bob Anderson and Dayna Smith for setting up the YouTube Channel. It is a great way to learn more about the Sherman Oaks Community and what is happening now.

### NEW ORDINANCE HELPS PREVENT HILLSIDE FIRES

Jay Weitzler, SOHA's liaison with the Hillside Federation, reports that Councilman David Ryu introduced legislation of immediate interest to Sherman Oaks hillside residents. The ordinance will stop all construction in hillside areas until November 30, 2020 in "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones" which are at great risk of fire and will apply only for properties located on streets with one point of entrance and exit or where Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) response time is seven minutes or more. Hillside construction is a serious risk in fire season. A spark from a saw blade or other tools could ignite dry brush and large trucks can block LAFD's access to homes on narrow streets. Our Council District has seen four small hillside fires start in the past several weeks, so we welcome this new Ordinance.

### CHECK OUT A WHOLE NEW EXPERIENCE

We welcome a new 54,000 square foot Whole Foods store at Ventura and Beverly Glen Boulevards (technically, Tyrone Avenue). Joining the new Pavilions, as well as Gelson's and Ralph's, we have evidence that Sherman Oaks is the best place to live and work.

Special features of the new Sherman Oaks Whole Foods include:

- Sherman Hops, a tap room offering 30 beers on tap from local breweries and special foods including Cauliflower Nachos, Truff Hot Chicken Sandwich and Baja Fish Tacos
- Seafood counter featuring made in-house marinated salmon, oysters from Carlsbad Aqua Farm and smoked Salmon from Santa Barbara Smokehouse
- Bakery Department offering numerous made in-house breads, desserts and pastries
- In-store cheese monger

You should definitely check out this new Whole Foods!



Do you receive our email updates?

If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at soha914@gmail.com.



## County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020 (213) 351-5602

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
SHEILA KUEHL
Third District
JANICE HAHN
Fourth District
KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

November 11, 2020

For 21 years, the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA) has sponsored our Annual Toy Drive. The Toy Drive has collected toys for distribution by the County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, an actual Toy Drive will not be possible. However, SOHA is sponsoring a virtual Toy Drive.

This year instead of contributing toys, SOHA is asking its Members to contribute money so we can buy toys for the foster youth. It is a gift in itself to see the foster youths' faces light up with happiness, thanks to your kindness.

The checks should be payable to LA County DCFS and sent to SOHA at PO Box 5223, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 no later than November 30, 2020.

Your commitment to our foster youth makes an immeasurable difference in their lives, and we look forward to you being part of our DCFS Van Nuys Holiday team.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to working together to accomplish our mission.

Sincerely,

Carla Gonzalez

Carla Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator I Community Based Liaison/Resource Coordinator DCFS Van Nuys Regional Office 7555 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys, CA 91405 (818) 904-8425 gonzacl@dcfs.lacounty.gov

# AL FRESCO PROGRAM SUPPORTS LOCAL RESTAURANTS - AND THEY NEED YOUR SUPPORT, TOO -

As the days and weeks move along so does the challenge of Sherman Oaks local restaurants to survive. More and more of them have been creative with outdoor dining and take out that has kept them in business. They depend on the Sherman Oaks community to support them to survive until such time when indoor dining once again opens up.

SOHA hopes more local restaurants will always have permanent outdoor service to enjoy our beautiful Valley weather and Jay Weitzler is happy to note the City Council's Transportation Committee approved Councilman David Ryu's motion seeking to implement a permanent version of the City's Al Fresco program, sending it to the full Council for a vote. The Al Fresco Program has received positive feedback from restaurants, diners and adjacent neighborhoods. Al Fresco supports heavily impacted restaurants by allowing them to operate outdoors. The motion approved in Committee seeks a report back on the feasibility of making this program permanent.

The City Council also approved an allocation of \$2 million in federal CARES Act funds to enable the continuation, support, and expansion of the LA AI Fresco Program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## VISIT THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL'S VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Jay Weitzler reports that the Buckley School is hosting a VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, November 14. There will be live events and you'l' hear from students, parents, teachers, and staff about what makes Buckley so special. Register to "attend" at buckley.org and get the link to be at the Open House. Buckley is also pleased to report their first-ever, totally successful, REMOTE start to the school year! Sally Sacon, the Director of Communications, indicates that their "faculty and staff have done an amazing job transitioning their classes online and a lot of fun activities to boot!" Buckley has recently been allowed to have 25% of their students attend in person and is filling those places with the youngest, K-1 and K-2 children.

# COUNCILMAN RYU CONTINUES EFFORTS TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Councilman David Ryu and the City of Los Angeles are continuing efforts to support businesses during this unprecedented time in our City's history. At the beginning of the local emergency, Councilman Ryu also allocated \$250,000 of Discretionary Funds to the Jewish Free Loan Association to help businesses stay afloat, particularly those that were unable to access the U.S. Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program or Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

#### NEW BRIGHT SPOTS AND HOT SPOTS AT THE VILLAGE

The Village At Sherman Oaks BID sports bold new lighting on the Ventura Boulevard median! The BID board is grateful to Councilman David Ryu who gave support and assistance with this project, which is the only one in Southern California.



The brightness of the lights offers increased safety as cars cannot miss it and it also offers an exciting ambiance and nighttime draw for visitors to the Village. Colors and scenes will be changed for each holiday and sometimes just for fun. The BID hopes this new lighting will provide a boost to nearby businesses and restaurants and to later nighttime strolling in the Village.

The Village At Sherman Oaks BID is also pleased to announce the opening of a new fast-casual eatery in the Village! Al's Hot Chicken opened at 14518 Ventura Boulevard and is serving delicious Nashville-style chicken on their outdoor patio. Take-out and curbside are also available and dine-in will be coming when allowed. Al's Hot Chicken location in Venice has been extremely successful and we welcome this terrific dining establishment to our community!

## **SOHA RESTAURANT OF THE MONTH -**

Mendocino Farms was founded in Southern California in 2005. They prioritize a farm-to-table philosophy by using local, seasonal ingredients at their 34 different locations, and their restaurants have always been a welcoming place for neighborhood family and friends to come together. The Sherman Oaks location opened 7 years ago in October of 2010. They are most known for their salads and sandwiches with the best sellers being their Avocado & Quinoa Superfood Ensalada, and their "Not So Fried" Chicken sandwich.

The Fall and Winter Menu arrived recently. It includes new menu items like their Black Tie Turkey Club with roasted turkey, applewood smoked bacon, Havarti cheese, white truffle aioli, pickled red onions, and arugula on a garlic butter toasted brioche bun, and others like their new Autumn Harvest Salad, and Wild Rice Salad with Butternut Squash & Apples deli side.

Mendocino Farms is open for patio dining and the health and safety of their guests and team is taken very seriously (more details on their website, www.mendocinofarms.com). You can order through their website for curbside pickup and are available on DoorDash, Postmates, and Uber Eats.





The next time you are craving a farm-fresh sandwich, SOHA hopes you will consider stopping by Mendocino Farms. You will not be disappointed!

#### **MEMBERS: WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Nancy Sogoian reports: Your Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA) has been dedicated to preserving and protecting our community (and advocating on behalf of ALL Sherman Oaks residents, homeowners and renters alike), since 1964.

Now more than ever, with so many challenges at hand, we need and are asking for your support to help spread the word about our vital contributions to Sherman Oaks – Please encourage your neighbors and friends to become members.

As a non-profit, member-supported and volunteer-run organization, strong support via membership in SOHA provides the critical resources needed to facilitate better quality of life outcomes for Sherman Oaks, whether in areas of major concern like housing (protecting our neighborhoods), mass transit (helping secure the best Sepulveda Pass option), helping save our local businesses, or safety and beautification, SOHA's work depends on strong membership.

If you are not already a SOHA member, please JOIN! Members, please share this Newsletter with neighbors/friends and ask them to become members to help support our good work. The small \$30 basic membership is a huge investment in our community (and those able to join at the \$50 Silver level or the Gold level at \$100 help provide critical added resources). For a one-page info sheet or SOHA application, write JoinSOHA@gmail.com.

Please spread the word and do your part to help keep Sherman Oaks a wonderful place to live!

Follow us on Facebook SOHA914 and on Instagram 914SOHA.

### THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER OR MEETING IN DECEMBER

We look forward to seeing you at our November 18, 2020 Meeting and then at our January 20, 2021 Meeting.

Very truly yours,

Richard H. Close, President

Newsletter Graphic Services donated by Joel Pomonik

VISIT OUR ASSOCIATION'S WEBSITE - WWW.SHERMANOAKS914.COM - FOR HELPFUL RESOURCES AND INFORMATION!



**DELIVER BY NOVEMBER 14** 

PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID VAN NUYS, CA PERMIT NO. 279

POST OFFICE BOX 5223 SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91413

Return Service Requested

#### Officers

**President** 

Richard H. Close

Vice President

Matt Epstein

Vice President

Jules Feir

Treasurer

John Isen

Secretary

Jay Weitzler

Founded in 1964



#### **SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

POST OFFICE BOX 5223 SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91413

Information: (818) 377-4590

www.shermanoaks914.com

#### **Board of Directors**

Bob Anderson
Chuck Betz
Richard H. Close
Matt Epstein
Jules Feir
Tom Glick
John Isen
Maria Pavlou Kalban
Marshall Long
Nancy Sogoian
Jay Weitzler



www.facebook.com/soha914