

Watkyns

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Los Angeles, CA 90012-2601

**RECEIVED**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEC 30 2003  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
UNIT

Response to Canyon Hills DEIR  
ENV-202-2481-EIR

I am opposed to the Canyon Hills Development for the following reasons:

1. The development would add more traffic to two hazardous and overburdened roads.
  - A. **Tujunga Canyon Blvd.** So unsafe that a fireman at the Tujunga Fire Station cautioned me avoid the use of this road whenever possible. The firemen have seen a lot of gristly, ugly accident scenes on this road. This road is steep and full of curves, overburdened, and quite literally: a killer. Recent road improvements to try to improve the safety of the intersection of Tujunga Canyon Blvd & La Tuna Canyon have been completed, but the drivers still race around that curve like their tails were on fire. Tujunga Canyon Blvd provides the most direct route in to the Tujunga area from the 210 Freeway, and is very busy during rush hour. It is badly, badly, badly in need of widening, and needs further traffic control mitigations. If a car traveling down the hill strays over its line, the result can easily cause a combined car 80-100 mile per hour head-on collision. I have a feeling that what usually happens though, is that the cars just fly off of the road. There are tree roots that have made ridges in the asphalt, jostling your car as you try to navigate around curves. You have to try to keep your cool because some idiot is trying to climb up your tailpipe. In order to reach local elementary schools, children will have to travel east on La Tuna Canyon to Tujunga Canyon Boulevard, and travel up Tujunga Canyon Boulevard during the morning rush hour. God forbid that any of these

165-1

children would have to WALK that route because there was no one around to give them a ride to and fro. There are no busses from Foothill Blvd into the area that the children would have to go in to. They would be like ducks in a shooting gallery. There are no sidewalks to walk on. If I have made driving this road sound like a wild ride on a rollercoaster, I have made no mistake. It is already a killer road-without the addition of—how many additional cars?

165-1

2. **La Tuna Canyon Blvd.** This is another dangerous road. My daughter was passed near the top of La Tuna Canyon by the paramedic crew coming up from Sun Valley two months ago. Some one had hit a deer during the morning rush hour. It was still alive and was trying to get up.

La Tuna Canyon Road is a lot prettier than it is practical. It still looks like the old West on the top ½ of the canyon. Driving down the canyon, part of the view right in front of your eyes includes ravens and red-tailed hawks soaring over the adjacent hillsides. The road is very popular with bicycling enthusiasts who are enjoying the beauty and the challenge of the terrain. They can be encountered nearly all day, every day of the week. When La Tuna Canyon squeezes down to 2 lanes, it can be quite a trick to navigate past a bicyclist or two on a curve, with out getting hit by a car coming down the hill. Most drivers are not content to hang back behind the bike until it is completely safe to pass, and just bluster their way around them.

165-2

La Tuna Canyon is also an attraction for the hiking enthusiast. A lot of people use the trailhead at the top of La Tuna Canyon. I have seen hikers, cyclists, and even horses that have been hauled in by trailer using the trail. It is a beautiful area that could be enjoyed by many, if it is not ruined.

Unfortunately for those of us who have to use La Tuna Canyon Road to get to our homes, the road is an attractive nuisance that lures those who to have to travel from La Crescenta, or the 210 freeway to the east San Fernando Valley to get to work everyday.. La Tuna Canyon turns into Roscoe at the bottom. With easy access to the Golden State Freeway, and the Hollywood Freeway, La Tuna Canyon makes a nice short cut for those who are in the “know.” The drivers who use the canyon as a short cut do not necessarily have the emotional ties to the area that would cause them to moderate their driving behavior. The only thing that they want to do is get to work, and then get home as fast as

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possible. They are not thinking about the neighborhood dogs, cats, horses and children, let alone, the deer or the coyotes. If you live on La Tuna Canyon and want to ask your neighbor on the other side of the street to feed your pets while you are on vacation, think twice. You can get mown down trying to cross that street! If La Tuna Canyon gets the kind of traffic flow that Tujunga Canyon has, there will be for sure, another absolute "killer" road. The City of Los Angeles has lost at least three wrongful death lawsuits because the road is such a menace. If the City of Los Angeles decides to approve this proposed development there is a great potential for the opportunity for the citizens of Los Angeles to have to take money out of their pockets for yet another wrongful death suit filed by yet another grieving relative. If Tujunga Canyon Blvd is like a rollercoaster, La Tuna Canyon is like a bowling alley!

165-2

Just to add a little spice to the mix: La Tuna Canyon runs nearly due east to west. At sunrise and sunset, during certain times of the year, the sun is directly in the driver's eyes, making it very difficult to see where you are going. I have to make sure that my windshield is absolutely clean of LA dirt before I go up or down. I have had to pull off of the road several times for the express purpose of cleaning my windshield so that I could have better visibility in the face of the setting sun.

Neither Tujunga Canyon Blvd nor La Tuna Canyon Blvd are safe streets. They are a menace to those who have to drive on them. Neither street is properly engineered. **Adding more traffic to either one of these public safety hazard streets is completely irresponsible and shows a callous disregard for the well-being of local residents.**

2. Another reason to severely prune back this development is that the developer is deliberately placing homes in a **severe fire danger area**. I lived near Woodward and Mc Groarty St in Sunland for thirty years. I have no idea how many times I have been awakened up in the middle of the night by helicopters racing to dump water or chemicals on yet another fire in the Verdugos. We always knew that if the prevailing winds changed during a brush fire, we would have been goners. I always kept the animal carriers close at hand, just in case.

165-3

Everyone who lives in La Tuna Canyon fears that a major brush fire may be pushed by a wind storm into the canyon. If that happened, it would be utter chaos.

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**Evacuating** the people would be simple compared to evacuating entire kennels and stables. We have lots and lots of **animals** in this canyon. Goats, pigs, horses, dogs, cats, exotic birds, and a 4H project or two. If you can think of an animal, it is probably up here. Every single one of those animals will have to be moved. They might be able to stuff one goat in their car, but a pony, several dogs and cats, pigs, 20 goats and a flock of exotic birds? That is what lives next to my house. If the animals can't be moved to safety, a lot of **animal lovers are going to opt to stay with their animals to try to protect them.** They are going to be an absolute pain in the ass that the local fire department is going to have to deal with. There will probably be several of these people, instead of the usual lone, non-cooperating resident per brush fire. It will be a terrific challenge for the Fire Department to protect those people. I don't think that the LA Fire Dept needs any more homes or people to try to protect, let alone a **housing development in an isolated position** up in the canyon surrounded by,( HELLO!), **360 degrees of brush** all the way around it. Is the Fire Department going to be distracted by trying to help people trapped in a subdivision that, (Hello, Again), **has only one way to get in and out of?** So soon after the horrible deaths in San Diego County where people were trapped because there was only one way out, and that way was on fire. Are we just going to forget those people, and excuse their deaths because they did not pick a safe place to live? Do I want my eccentric, wonderful neighbor to burn to death along with his animals because there are not enough firemen to go around? I don't think so. If we allow an isolated housing development to be put in with only one road in and out, we are **ENDANGERING** people!

165-3

Please see insert 2A

I found a very interesting web site. [www.lafire.com](http://www.lafire.com). The La Tuna Canyon fire of 1955 was quite a fire. It took days to get it out. The winds kept twisting and turning, pushing the fire in different directions. Could that happen again? Remember Fireman Catlow who sacrificed himself so that others would be safe. Put aside the profit, and keep people safe.

3. While we are on the subject of actually putting people in physical danger, landslides and flooding is a continuous hazard in the Verdugo Mountains. Most folks

165-4

LAFIRE.COM  
Los Angeles Fire Department  
Historical Archive

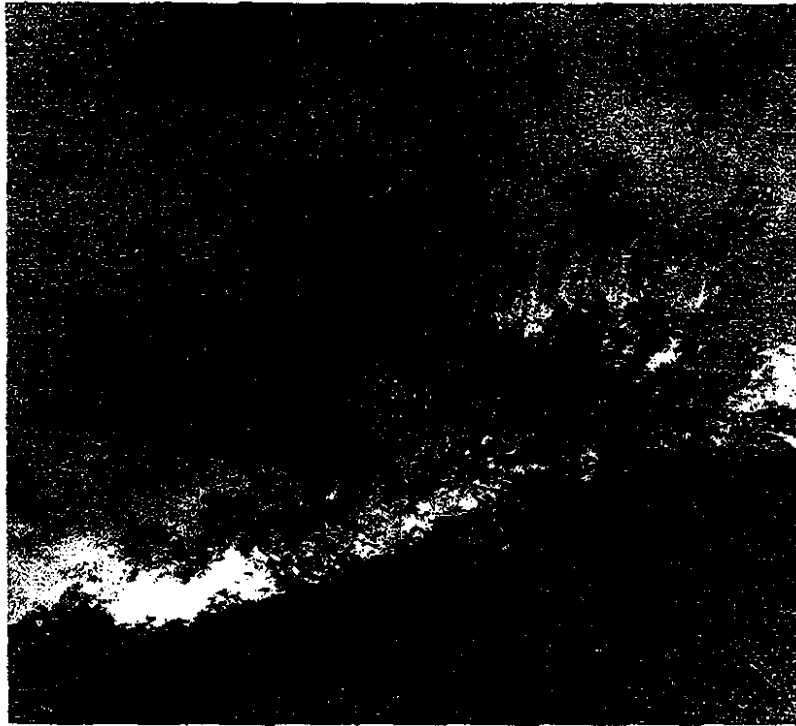
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November 6-12, 1955  
La Tuna Canyon Fire

In Memory of  
Auto Fireman James L. Catlow  
of  
Engine Company 39  
Who died of burns fighting  
This fire on November 12, 1955  
And Posthumously Awarded the Medal of Valor.

## The La Tuna Canyon Fire

By ROBERT T. DOVE  
Mountain Patrol



As nearly as it can be determined, the La Tuna Canyon holocaust had a very innocent and unspectacular birth. Two eight year old boys, in their own back yard in the 9600 block of La Tuna Canyon, and, without any malicious plans for the future, were preparing a noonday feast. A strong easterly wind carried enough of their fire across a clearing to ignite the adjacent hillside brush. One of the boy's father responded with department-like speed to their cry for help and valiantly attempted to extinguish the burning grass and brush with a garden hose. The wind quickly drove the fire through the tinder dry fuel and out of his reach. The father immediately called the fire department and the rest of the account of the fire is a matter of radio log history. The first-in Company reported a large, rapidly growing brush fire and immediately asked for additional help. This indication that a major brush fire was burning out of control heralded in five

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think only of the really big mountains when they think about landslides and flooding. It is true that the Verdugos do not produce the awesome and stupendous monster floods that the Big Tujunga Wash can produce, but our mountains are going up and coming down the same way that mountains all over the world are raised up and weathered. **The Verdugos have produced mud and debris flows year after year after year.** When we lived on Glenties Lane in Sunland (which is just below the proposed development, to the north) we were flooded in every year because the dry streambeds came to life, making the streets impossible to be driven on. I kept a pair of my father's wading boots in the back of my closet, just in case. Every year "just in case" happened. We would wade out & down Moy Lane to McGroarty St, west of Glenties Lane, to where there was a high spot that usually stayed passable. Friends would pick us up so that we could get groceries. If we were really clever, we would park on that section of McGroarty when we knew that a bad storm was coming. All of the locals would park there. McGroarty Street to the east of Glenties Lane was completely useless, as it turned into a quagmire with only a little bit of rain.

I have included newspaper clippings, mostly of the Record-Ledger indicating that there was reported local flooding in 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1984 during the period of time that I lived in Sunland, just below the proposed project site. There has not been any recent flooding that I am aware of. The climate, indeed, seems to be changing. Nobody knows if the weather will continue on changing, or whether past weather patterns will be reinstated.

Please see inserts 3 A-N

February 10, 1978 was really a day to be remembered. All hell broke loose. Unless you were there to see it with your own eyes, you could not possibly imagine the brutality and enormity of the floods and mud flows. It rained violently all night long. Thunder and lightening as I have never heard before, or since. That morning I awoke to the sound of chain saws. Someone yelled, "You should see the house across the street. They lost their whole front yard!" And we had. A lot of it was in our driveway. I tried to stand on the huge mound of periwinkle and mud. I quickly sank up to my knees, and had to be pulled out. Liquefaction. I never did get one of my shoes back. Then we had to round up kind-hearted friends to help us dig out. You have to do that yourself, you know.

165-4

Local historians who had drive to work hours to the Gasoline

**HANSEN DAM SEEN AS OIL**  
"The possible use of Hansen Dam is... for some 1964 Olympic events was... before as a meeting called last Friday... James Corbett"

**SUNLAND TUJUNGA HOLD BOARD MAJORITIES**  
"School board president Howard M... an early defeat in the first Board of Edu... Sun since the turn of the century"

**CONDO CONSTRUCTION SUNLAND, SUN VAL**  
"Work has begun to prepare prep... local yard for the construction of a 140... project"

**ANOTHER BODY FOUND BRINGS TOTAL TO 11**  
"Portions of a human body were un... labor eyes continued to drain and the... Big Tujunga dam built the Angeles Na...

**DAM RULED OUT FOR C**  
"Hansen Dam appears to have be... possible site for any 1964 Olympic eve...

**OLYMPICS ON AGAIN AT B**  
"Hansen Dam was creating wave... work - this time at the city council... committee"

**HEAT, PEACE START SEX YEAR**  
"Last year it was heat; this year... school started in the foothills without...

**NO CONTAINMENT IN ANC \$4,000 ACRES LO**  
"Pursued for the 15th stretch... above Sunland-Tujunga..."

**SENIORS TO DEDICATE 1 TUMBLER**  
"Long-awaited dedication ceremony... (Hansen Dam) in Sunland Park on..."

**FOOTHILL FEUD: CALTRANS VS. COMMUNITY**  
"When Lake View Terrace residents asked Caltrans to... the speed limit along Foothill Boulevard between... and Deborn, they were in for a big surprise..."

**STORM DEVASTATES FOOTHILL AREA**  
"It was a long, cold, and in many cases, terrifying... night for many Sunland-Tujunga residents last Thursday..."

**B-T BRAVES SECOND STORM**  
"So far, so good," was the prevailing weather opinion... at Pasadena yesterday but many residents spent several... hours managing their property Tuesday night... when the second round of hard rain hit the area..."

**LUMBER CITY JOINS COMMUNITY**  
"March 24, 1977"

**DUMP TRUCK DRIVER NAVIGATES NIGHTMARE HIDE ON APPEARSON**  
"A broken dump truck and its hapless driver manag... ed to traverse nearby the empty three-and-a-half mile... length of Apperson Street at speeds up to 60 miles per... hour yesterday morning without injuring any... bystanders, according to witnesses who watched the... spectacle..."

**CITY OFFICIALS PONDER NEXT MOVE IN VERDUGO CEMETERY AFFAIR**  
"As the bizarre case of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery... continues, city officials next Tuesday to figure out how... they can legally bury or return to cemetery remains like... purposes which were evaded not or restored from their... graves last February..."

**CEMETERY OWNERS ORDERED TO TAKE REMEDIAL ACTION**  
"April 13, 1977"

**PROPERTY TAX PROTEST MOUNTS**  
"May 21, 1977"

**HOMEOWNERS PROTEST CORROCK EXCAVATION**  
"There will be no less street and no more gravel at... in Shadow Hills even when power through happens to... harvest, according to residents near Grandditch Park..."

**BOARD ALTERS APPROVED AFTERSON PAIRING PLAN**  
"June 14, 1977"

**STRONG CHANCE OF FORCED STUDENT BUSING FORSEEN**  
"Basing of an undetermined number of Sunland-Tujunga students to schools in Eagle Rock, Los Angeles or the San Fernando Valley is an almost certain possibility if the Board of Education decides to pass on to the courts a preliminary integration report it received last Monday..."

**STONEHURST DESIGNATED AS CULTURAL LANDMARK**  
"Jan. 11, 1977"  
"March 17, 1977"

**GOVERNMENT OK'S FREEWAY COMPLETION**  
"Conceding that the completion of the 'missing link'... to the Foothill Freeway will bring about a complexity of... changes for the Sunland, Shadow Hills, Lake View Ter... race communities, the federal government gave Caltrans... final approval for construction of the remaining portions... of the Route 210 Freeway..."

**COUNCIL CANDIDATES CLASH ON TWO LOCAL DEBATES**  
"With election day right around the corner, com... munitarian candidates Jim Freeman and Bob Pinsky are... moving closer to clearly defining their local stances... and differences in a number of public forums held here... within the past week..."

**GAS PRICES UP FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
"A special fuel gauge survey by the Automobile Club of... Southern California of 200 service stations indicates that... gasoline prices for the Memorial Day weekend will be... 11.3 percent higher than those reported for the 1976... day period..."

**RONKA WINS COUNCIL RACE BY IMPRESSIVE MARGIN**  
"June 2, 1977"

**VANDALS LEAVE SCHOOL IN BIAMBILES**  
"Six local youths ranging from 11 to 17 years old were... arrested Tuesday in connection with what was probably... one of the latest vandalism cases ever in the Sunland-Tujunga area," according to Foothill Police..."

**ANOTHER REPORTED CASSET FOUND AT CEMETERY**  
"June 14, 1977"

**RAPE REPORTED AT HANSEN DAM**  
"June 24, 1977"

**LOCAL TEAM FORMULATING PROJECT TO RESETTLE VIETNAMESE IN SUNLAND-TUJUNGA**  
"A local team of churches, organizations and individuals is currently finalizing plans to bring a total of 18 Vietnamese refugees to Sunland-Tujunga for resettlement..."

**FIREMEN HOPEFUL CANYON BLAZE CHECKED**  
"After burning nearly a week and consuming close to 7,000 acres, the Pasadena Canyon fire in Los Angeles... forest was contained late Thursday night. Firemen are... hopeful that no new hot spots will develop..."

**VIKING PROBE ON WAY TO MARS**  
"The culmination of ten years of work and millions of... dollars spent came at 2:32 Wednesday afternoon when... the Viking Mars probe was launched from Cape... Canaveral, Fla. and monitored at the Jet Propulsion Lab... in Pasadena..."

**AS LITTLE TUJUNGA GOES, SO GOES NEW YORK CITY**  
"New York City suddenly has several new boosters in... Little Tujunga Canyon. The U.S. aerial vote on providing... funds to the forest service for restoring the canyon had a... rider attached to it for aid to New York City. So as Little... Tujunga goes, so goes New York..."

**WATERGATE FRAME-UP CHARGED, UNCOVERED EVIDENCE EMERGING**  
"Shocking new evidence has been uncovered in Tu... junga alleging an international conspiracy may have... overthrown President Richard M. Nixon..."

**PARADE LEADS OFF BICENTENNIAL FAIR**  
"Sunland-Tujunga's salute to the Bicentennial begins... this morning, July 3, with a parade..."

**VILLA CINZANO WILL REPLACE OLD VIENNA**  
"The Harry Wilson Family found the Los Angeles... location, in search of just the right here..."

1976

Revised - 7/20/79 - La Crescent - San Valley, Calif. 9  
THE RECORD-LEADER, Thursday, January 3, 1979

# 75 Through '79 Brought Change To S-T

OVER 6.V.  
I CENTER  
Home For Italian  
Subject of a hearing  
Friday, May 16...

May 15, 1978  
RIOT ON  
RONG CROWD  
CRUISING  
Last Monday  
County Sheriff's  
near Lucky's  
dispensing of an

June 1, 1978  
YNG PROJECT  
NAMESE IN  
NGA  
organizations and in-  
sulting a total of 16  
ngs for recruitment

July 12, 1978  
NYON BLAZE  
consuming close to  
fire in Los Angeles  
night. Firemen are  
relief...

Aug. 16, 1978  
Y TO MARS  
and millions of  
day afternoon when  
ected from Cape  
Jes Population Lab

Aug. 23, 1978  
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officials boosters in  
...

RESIDENTS IRATE OVER  
TOO MUCH MUD - AGAIN  
As the result of heavy rain Sunday night creating  
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local homeowners have "had it" and are demanding that  
some solutions be found - and fast...

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Bailing of an undetermined number of busland  
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APRIL 1, 1977  
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moving closer to clearly defining their basic similarities  
and differences in a number of public forums held here  
within the past week...

MAY 21, 1977  
GAS PRICES UP FOR  
ANNUNCIARY DAY WEEKENDS

COMMUNITY LEADER CHARGED WITH  
RAPE  
The operator of a Tujunga telephone answering ser-  
vice which employs young girls from this area was ar-  
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last Friday afternoon...

FOOTHILL FEUD: CALTRANS VS. COM-  
MUNITY  
When Lake View Terrace residents asked Caltrans to  
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It was a long, cold, and in many cases, harrowing  
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So far, so good, was the prevailing weather opinion  
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March 21, 1978  
DUMP TRUCK DRIVER NAVIGATES  
NIGHTMARE RIDE ON APPEARSON  
A broken dump truck and its hapless driver manag-  
ed to traverse nearly the entire three-and-a-half mile  
length of Apperson Street at speeds up to 60 miles per  
hour yesterday morning without incurring any  
harm, according to a statement the vehicle hit  
apartment...

MARCH 21, 1978  
CITY OFFICIALS FINDER NEXT MOVE  
IN URBANIA REDEVELOPMENT

GAS ACCELERATES AT 9 CENTS PER  
MONTH  
In fact less than a month's gasoline prices at some  
Foothill Blvd. gas stations have decreased by as much as  
9 cents a gallon, a price survey taken on April 26 shows...

FRIDAY'S LINES LONGEST EVER  
The sub-way gas distribution plant that went into ef-  
fect on Wednesday has not helped even the keepers of  
local materials who still have to wait for as long as two  
hours to buy gasoline...

HANSEN DAM SEEN AS OLYMPICS BITE  
The possible use of Hansen Dam recreation area as a  
site for some 1984 Olympic events was one of the major  
topics at a meeting called last Friday by Congressman  
James Corman...

SUNLAND TUJUNGA HOLD THE KEY TO  
BOARD MAJORITY  
School board president Howard Miller had received  
an early defeat in the first Board of Education recall elec-  
tion since the turn of the century...

CONDO CONSTRUCTION BEGINS IN  
SUNLAND, SUN VALLEY  
Work has begun to prepare property along Sunland  
freeway for the reconstruction of a 140-unit condominium  
project...

ANOTHER BODY FOUND IN DAM  
BRINGS TOTAL TO THREE  
Partices of a human body were uncovered Tuesday as  
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DAM RULED OUT FOR OLYMPICS  
Hansen Dam appears to have been ruled out as a  
possible site for any 1984 Olympic events...

RECORD-LEADER, Thursday, January 3, 1979

FRIDAY'S LINES LONGEST EVER

HANSEN DAM SEEN AS OLYMPICS BITE

SUNLAND TUJUNGA HOLD THE KEY TO BOARD MAJORITY

CONDO CONSTRUCTION BEGINS IN SUNLAND, SUN VALLEY

ANOTHER BODY FOUND IN DAM BRINGS TOTAL TO THREE

DAM RULED OUT FOR OLYMPICS





7970 GLENTIES LN  
IN 1978



# Years '75 Through '79 Brought Change To

Continued from page 11

## CONTROVERSY LOOMS OVER S.V. ITALIAN RETIREMENT CENTER

"The controversial Villa Scabralini Home For Italian Aging Persons in San Valley will be subject of a hearing by the city's zoning administrator this Friday, May 16..."

—May 18, 1975

## POLICE QUELL NEAR RIOT ON FOOTHILL BLVD. 1,600 STRONG CROWD GATHERS FOR MONDAY CRUISING

"Twenty-three persons were arrested last Monday night on various charges by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Foothill Police at or near Lacey's Market parking lot in Tujunga during the dispersing of an estimated 1,600 strong crowd..."

—June 8, 1975

## LOCAL TEAM FORMULATING PROJECT TO RESETTLE VIETNAMESE IN SUNLAND-TUJUNGA

"A local team of churches, organizations and individuals is currently finalizing plans to bring a total of 14 Vietnamese refugees to Sunland-Tujunga for resettlement..."

—July 11, 1975

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"After burning nearly a week and consuming close to 7,000 acres, the Pasadena Canyon fire in Los Angeles Forest was contained late Thursday night. Firemen are hopeful that no new hot spots will develop..."

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## AS LITTLE TUJUNGA GOES, SO GOES NEW YORK CITY

"New York City suddenly has several new boosters in Little Tujunga Canyon. The U.S. Senate vote on providing funds to the forest service for reseedling the canyon had a rider attached to it for aid to New York City. So as Little Tujunga goes, so goes New York."

—Dec. 18, 1974

## 1977

### RESIDENTS IRATE OVER TOO MUCH MUD — AGAIN

"As the result of heavy rain Sunday night creating emergency situations and heaping up mud on locations long complained as trouble spots, two separate groups of local homeowners have 'hit it' and are demanding that some solutions be found — and fast..."

—Jan. 6, 1977

### STRONG CHANCE OF FORCED STUDENT BUSING FORBIDDEN

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### GOVERNMENT OK'S FREEWAY COMPLETION

"Conceding that the completion of the 'valued link' to the Foothill Freeway will bring about a renaissance of changes for the Sunland, Shadow Hills, Lake View Terrace communities, the federal government gave California approval for construction of the remaining portions of the Route 210 Freeway..."

—April 7, 1977

### COUNCIL CANDIDATES CLASH ON TWO LOCAL DEBATES

"With election day right around the corner, council candidate Jim Anderson and Bob Runkle are moving closer to clearly defining their basic similarities and differences in a number of public forums held here within the past week..."

—May 11, 1977

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"A special fuel gauge survey by the Automobile Club of Southern California of 200 service stations indicates that gasoline prices for the Memorial Day weekend will be 15 percent higher than those requested for the 1976 holiday..."

## 1978

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"The operator of a Tujunga telephone answering service which employs young girls from this area was arraigned in Los Angeles Superior Court on charges of kidnapping last Friday afternoon..."

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—Feb. 2, 1978

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—March 7, 1978

### LUMBER CITY JOINS COMMUNITY

—March 24, 1978

### DUMP TRUCK DRIVER NAVIGATES NIGHTMARE RIDE ON APPERSON

"A broken dump truck and its helpless driver stranded in brush near the end of Apperson Street at 10 miles per hour yesterday morning without injuring any bystanders, according to witnesses who watched the spectacle..."

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### CITY OFFICIALS PONDER NEXT MOVE IN VERDUGO CEMETERY AFFAIR

"As the bizarre case of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery approaches, city officials last Tuesday to figure out how they can liquidate, but it is not clear whether the 55 graves which were washed out or retrieved from their..."

## GAS ACCELERATES AT 9 MONTHS

"In just less than a month gasoline at Foothill Blvd. gas stations have increased 9 cents a gallon, a price survey taken..."

## FRIDAY'S LINES LONG

"The odd-even gas distribution plan that took effect on Wednesday has not helped as local motorists who still have to wait hours to buy gasoline..."

## HANSEN DAM SEEN AS OLYMPIC

"The possible use of Hansen Dam is being discussed by the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee as a possible site for some 1984 Olympic events..."

## SUNLAND TUJUNGA HOLD BOARD MAJORITY

"School board president Howard McLean has an early defeat in the first round of the election to be held in the town of the century..."

## CONDO CONSTRUCTION SUNLAND, SUN VAL

"Work has begun to prepare proper bookend for the construction of a 140-unit project..."

## ANOTHER BODY FOUND BRINGS TOTAL TO TEN

"Partners of a human body were used by labor crews continued to drain and clear the Tujunga dam basin the Angeles National..."

## DAM RULED OUT FOR OLYMPICS

"Hansen Dam appears to have been ruled out for any 1984 Olympic event..."

## OLYMPICS ON AGAIN AT SUNLAND

"Hansen Dam was creating waves in the city council..."

"When you get out there you're going to be on your own."

—Assistant Fire Chief Dubely Sorenson to emergency workers



EARLY MORNING shoveling was necessary to clear Glenties Lane before residents could pass. (Record-Ledger photo by Lacy Colville)



PATH OF DESTRUCTION in Hidden Springs. The area at right shows the remains of the Gabe Hinterberg home. The proprietor of Hidden Springs, Hinterberg and his son Fred were swept away in the laundry-room first storm. Almost a month later, neither of been found. (Photo by Dan Craig, U.S. Forest Service)

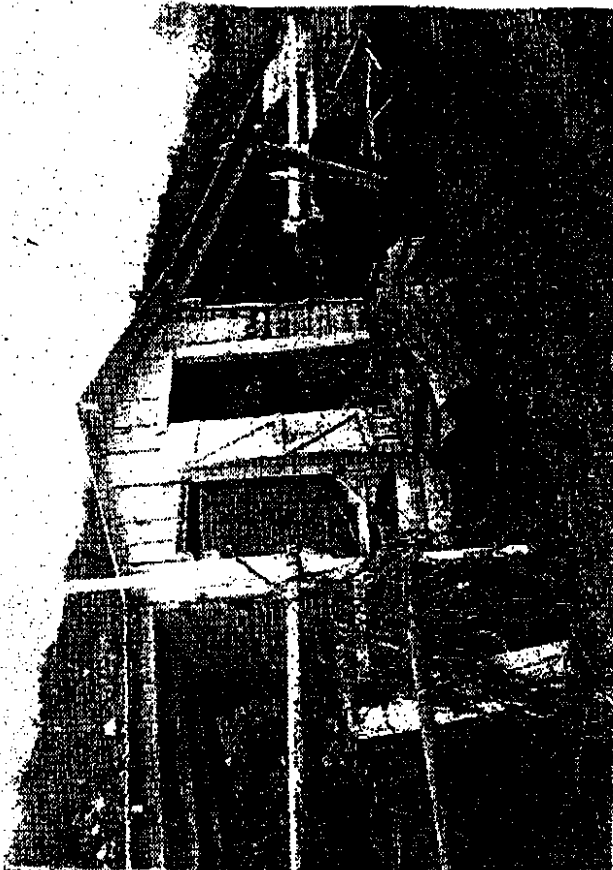


ROOM-SIZE BOULDER washed down from nowhere in Tujunga. The house shown above was completely destroyed. (Record-Ledger photo by Jennifer)

# Triumph And Tragedy



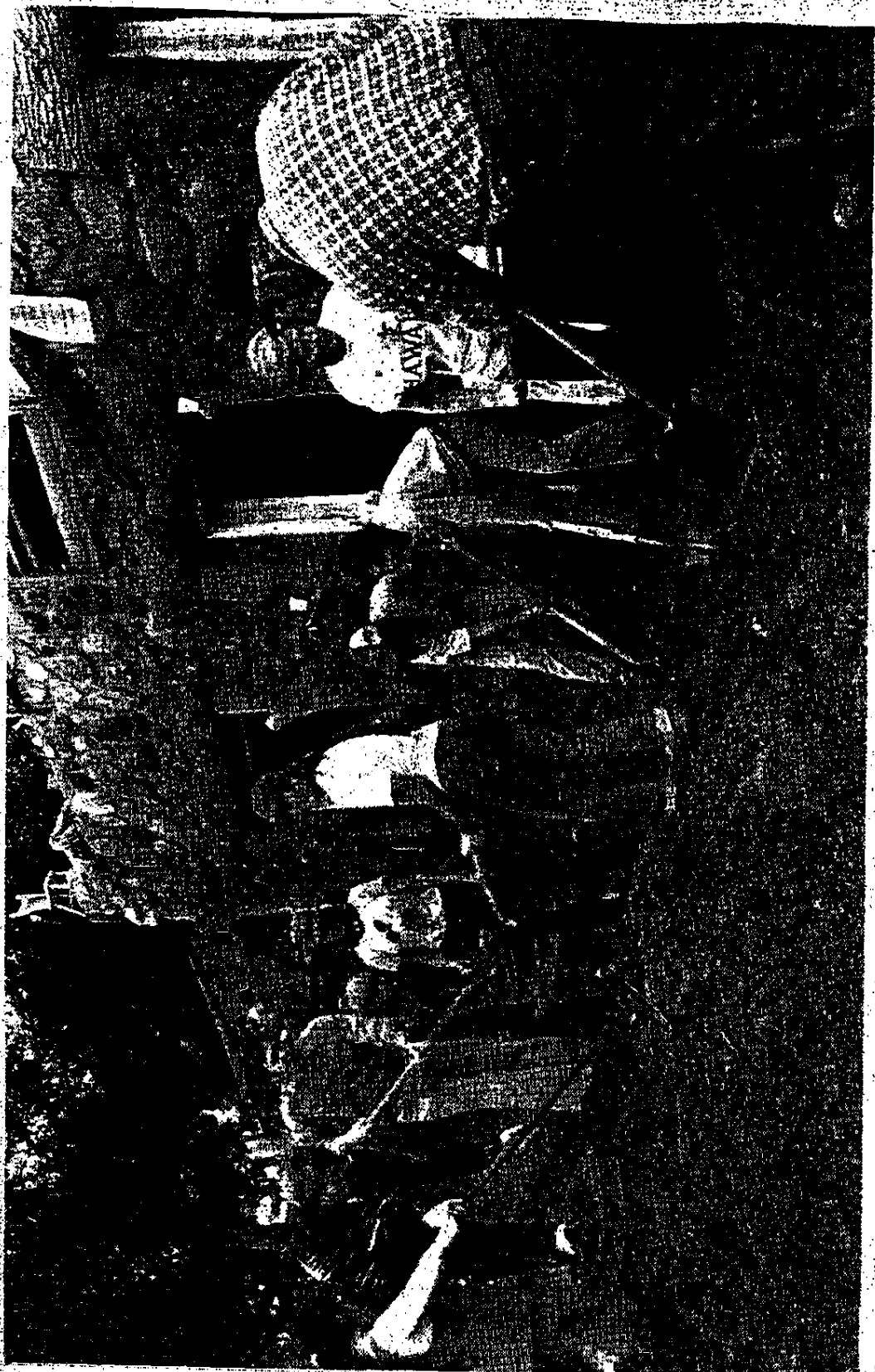
CHERISHED POSSESSIONS, including this battered and muddy doll, were removed from over one and a half feet of mud and debris which gushed through the living room window in the Ralph Gustafson home in La Tuna Canyon. Shown sitting through the wreckage are Dean Alexander from the Citizens Emergency Mobil Patrol and Civil Defense Coordinator Mike Regan. (Record-Ledger photo by Jennifer Olson)



BADLY BATTERED, this horse stall was crunched off its site by rushing water. (Record-Ledger photo by Jennifer Olson)



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WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THEIR FRIENDS, including volunteer coordinator Mike Regan and Councilman Bob Ronka, both at left, the Kalpi (Justalson clan clears a slippery path to the front door of their small stone house. Ironically, the bid stone structure apparently held up better than their more modern home, at left, which was heavily damaged in both storms. (Record-Jedger photo by Jennifer Olson)

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# Volunteers Save Horses

Thursday, Feb. 23

Sparked by both landmark of the round house and the debris basin lower down was completely wiped out. One house was reported completely flooded out and several more had mud inside.

Credited with taking out the horses are Charles Wright of Rancho De Loma, Bob Lee, of the Rocking Ranch, Debra Lynn, Jennings, Nia Travilla, and several others.



ABANDONED SHOVEL is a forlorn reminder of optimistic efforts to clear the Gustafson home. Progress was coming along at a good clip when the river shown Jennifer Olson

**TAKING A WELL-DESERVED BREAK** from shoveling mountains of oozing mud are members of the Ralph Gustafson family who threw a giant "thank you" party for people who helped bail out their home from the first torrents of mud. Volunteers came from places as far away as Redding and Encinitas. "Friends I haven't seen in 15 years came out to help," said Mrs. Gustafson. She had set a six-month goal to restore their living quarters, a job which began when someone loaned her a spare pair of boots and a shovel. "Mine were buried," she explained simply. (Record-Ledger photo by Jennifer Olson)

## Sandbags Available

Saturday, March 4

With more rain predicted, homeowners are invited to pick up sandbags at all local firestations and the one-stop Disaster Relief Center in the S-T Municipal Building.

Residents can borrow as many as 25 sandbags at one time. They may be filled with any stable material including mud but rocks are not advised. "The sandbags should lay flat when stacked on top of each other so no water leaks through," explained one Public Works official.

They do not need to be tied, either. Just fold the top and rest the sandbag on top of the fold, he advised.

Volunteer help is also available to homeowners who

ABANDONED SHOVEL is a forlorn reminder of optimistic efforts to clear the Gustafson home. Progress was coming along at a good clip when the river shown Jennifer Olson

# Foothills Begin Flood Recovery

Thursday, Feb. 16

With no rain predicted until this Sunday, flood victims throughout the Foothills were completing mop-up jobs, assessing damages, and beginning repairs this week.

To facilitate getting everything back in order as soon as possible for flood victims, Councilman Bob Ronka called a special meeting on Tuesday night at Verdugo Hills High School auditorium. Attending were an estimated 500 residents and representatives from a large number of governmental agencies and organizations concerned with flood relief.

Ronka has also established a one-stop disaster aid office in the Municipal Building, staffed with his aides, and representatives from such agencies as the County Tax Assessor, Federal Insurance Administration, and the Red Cross. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, the office is located at 7747 Foothill Blvd., in Tujunga telephone 383-3017. Residents may also contact the Sun Valley field office at 8122 Sunland Blvd., telephone 797-8200.

At press time yesterday afternoon, President Carter had not signed the necessary legislation declaring Los Angeles County a federal disaster area and releasing certain federal funds but it was expected he would do so

also urging homeowners to take whatever precautions are deemed necessary against further mudslides. "We just can't take another half inch (of rain) within

from the forest area and urge all residents with any knowledge of whereabouts of these people to contact the Sheriff's Information area.

The LAPD emergency command post is still in operation behind the Foothill Police Station in Pacoima. Officers there have been coordinating disaster relief efforts by various city agencies as well as assisting in evacuation proceedings.

**BULLETIN:** Late Wednesday afternoon President Carter signed the necessary legislation, declaring Los Angeles County a federal disaster area.

traffic control, and providing referral services to other agencies. At the storm's peak last week roughly 70 officers from as far away as Harbor Division combed the area. The police task force has since been reduced substantially to save taxpayers' money but about five officers from other Valley divisions are still in this area.

Barring another heavy rain, policemen are cautioning residents to watch for broken gas lines and water meters as well as downed "hot wires" from both homes and power poles. Since another rain is expected soon, they are

road out, have bogged down in mud. Some four-wheel drive vehicles have been managed to make their way out of the mire but, at press time, it could take

weeks to provide ingress and egress for regular cars. Firemen discouraged the possibility of salvaging Oro Vista some time ago. "It's totally washed out," says Assistant Chief J.S. Dukes. "There is just a remnant of the road left now. It wouldn't surprise me if the

ONCE A BUSY STREET, La Tuna Canyon was awash with mud and rocks after the first storm. It was quickly cleared but closed again less than three weeks later when

an hour," said one officer. "It would be disastrous." Those presently listed as missing from the Hidden Springs area are Lilla Jane (Broke) Martin; Gabe Hinterberg; Fred Hinterberg; Fred Hinterberg; George Scribner; Deloris Smith; Liza Smith, 8; Amy Smith.

Those presently listed as missing from the Hidden Springs area are Lilla Jane (Broke) Martin; Gabe Hinterberg; Fred Hinterberg; Fred Hinterberg; George Scribner; Deloris Smith; Liza Smith, 8; Amy Smith.

Both La Tuna Canyon and Parsons Trail are also open to vehicles but fire officials have issued a plea for sightseers through the area

around the entire Lake View Terrace area. "We're still working as fast as we can on it though," puffed one city employee.

area Tuesday but no projections for its opening to the general public have been announced yet, for

ing motorists to make time-consuming detours



the second onslaught struck. (Record-Ledger photo by Jennifer Olson)

around the entire Lake View Terrace area. "We're still working as fast as we can on it though," puffed one city employee.

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Sundown - Tujunga - Los Angeles - San Valley, Calif.  
THE RECORD LEDGER, Thursday, February 21, 1960

# Wettest February On Record

BY NEIL DAVID

Only eight weeks ago the area was in another serious winter drought, but the relentless rain for the past week has brought the seasonal total well ahead of the normal for the entire year. Between Wednesday, Feb. 13, and late this past Tuesday, an incredible more than 17 inches of rain fell in Tujunga making it about the wettest February on record. Normally during this month the entire total is just under five inches.

With over half of this total falling alone during the past week, the seasonal total rainfall since last July 1 was just over 20 inches as of late Tuesday. The average total for this time of year is about 15 1/2 inches and for an entire year approximately 23 inches. A few years ago the drought made water conservation a necessity but this season is the third consecutive wet year.

The torrential rains are almost approaching the amount and intensity of the floods two years ago in the months of February and March. On Saturday 11 inches of rain fell in the early morning till about late evening with no break making it the wettest day since March 4, 1958 when 8.22 inches fell. This was a very wet Jan.-Feb., but in 1969 the amounts were even greater with 28.85 inches of rain during January alone and 16.85 inches during California from a westerly

warm month as readers will recall how the high temperatures made the Christmas season seem far away. In comparing the rainfall amounts during these storms one notices that the rainfall amounts in Tujunga are higher because of orographic lifting of air masses (the effects of the mountains) than the amounts received in downtown Los Angeles and the coastal plain. Also, within the Record Ledger area the amounts of rain vary significantly from the least in the San Valley area (although still more than Los Angeles) increasing in Sunland and Tujunga to a maximum amount in the northern portion of La Crescenta.

The series of storms have been caused by meteorological factors in far distant areas from here. Up in the Gulf of Alaska there is normally a trough of low pressure during the winter months. During this storm series that area instead has been having a ridge of high pressure. Another area of high pressure in the Eastern Pacific normally deflects the storms away from here but this has been further south than usual.

As a result the storm series in the Pacific undercut the Gulf of Alaska ridge and are for the most part aimed straight for Southern and Central California from a westerly

the mountains and less rainfall here and last for shorter periods. This winter has not only been very wet but all three of winter months have been warmer than normal in temperatures especially in contrast to the cool winter last year. December, of course, was quite warm with much above-normal maxima-minima due to the Santa Ana conditions. January and February so far were also warmer than normal but in a different way. The above-normal temperatures may not have seemed obvious due to the cloudy, rainy weather but the minimums averaged higher than season and also there were quite warm periods between storms.

All of this winter it has failed to get down to freezing in Tujunga and in a normal winter it is expected to get as low as 27 or 28 degrees at least briefly on one night. Also, this year there has been so far no measurable snow on Mt. Wilson and the ski resort areas have often had rain. Some days with rain in Tujunga have reached just above 60 degrees making it rather unusual to have such high temperatures with storms in the middle of the winter.

The prediction for the period through this weekend calls for some more rain but with partly cloudy intervals, and the rain is not expected to be as

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Feb 28, 1980



WASHOUT at Creek Trail and Orchard  
in Engel Canyon. (R-L photo by Scott  
Ingraham)

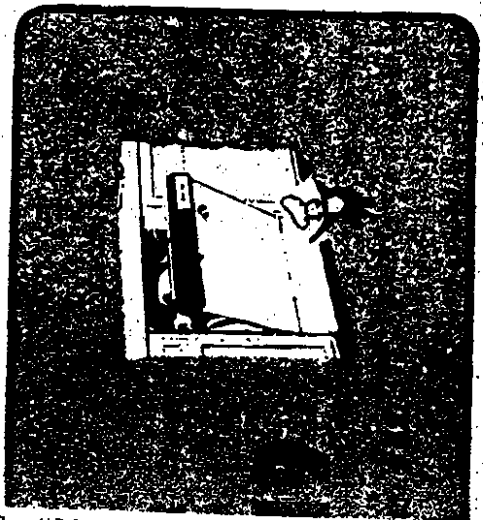


ROCK SLIDE blocked off La Tuna Co-  
sion Road for quite a while until crews  
could bring out heavy equipment to  
remove the giant boulders. (R-L photo  
by Scott Ingraham)

GENERAL ELECTRIC  
38 1/2 FT  
REFRIGERATOR  
CRYSTAL CLEAR  
FRONT

NTA  
JUL 8560

Jan 2 2004 9:52 P.18



Fax: 213-978-1343

<p>GLENDALE 8 CROSSBOW RIDGE 915 E. COLORADO 240-6554</p>	<p>NEWHALL 21405 LYONS AVE (855) 254-1210</p>
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