

ONLINE
EDITION



THE ROUND UP

Where the HHCA News Gets Penned

Volume 27, Issue 10 | October 2020

THE ROUND UP

**Volume 27, Issue 10
October 2020**

IMPORTANT DATES

- 10/1** Food Truck | **4:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/2** Landscape Committee Meeting | **8:45am**
 - 10/5** Theater Committee Meeting | **10:00am**
 - 10/5** Food Truck | **11:00am to 2:00pm**
 - 10/5** Architectural Meeting | **7:30 pm**
 - 10/6** Farmers Market | **3:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/8** food Truck | **4:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/12** Office Closed Columbus Day
 - 10/12** Food Truck | **11:00am to 2:00pm**
 - 10/13** Parks & Recs Committee Meeting | **11:30am**
 - 10/13** Farmer's Market | **3:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/14** ESC Committee meeting | **6:30pm**
 - 10/15** Food Truck | **4:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/16** Drive In Movie Night 'The Addams Family' | **7:00pm**
 - 10/17** Drive In Movie Night 'The Addams Family' | **7:00pm**
 - 10/19** Food Truck | **11:00am to 2:00pm**
 - 10/20** Farmers Market | **3:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/20** Board of Directors Executive Meeting | **5:30pm**
 - 10/20** Board of Directors Meeting | **6:30pm**
 - 10/22** Food Truck | **4:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/26** Blood Drive | **10:00am**
 - 10/26** Food Truck | **11:00am to 2:00pm**
 - 10/27** Farmers Market | **3:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/29** Food Truck | **4:00pm to 7:00pm**
 - 10/31** Food Trucks: Vivace - Pizza & 8E8 Thai Street Food - Thai | **4:00pm to 8:00pm**
- Online ordering only, no walk-ups**

Thank you to Hidden Hills residents Andrea Ashley and Lilian Darling Holt for their photography and photos throughout this edition of 'The Round Up'.



PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING ADDRESS!

We will be mailing out ballots and assessment invoices in the next few weeks and need to make sure we have your correct mailing address. If you have a non-Hidden Hills mailing address, please LOG IN to your dwellingLIVE account, click on MY ACCOUNT, scroll down, and make sure the "ALTERNATE ADDRESS" box is checked and the correct address is reflected. **Any errors or changes should be reported to the office ASAP. We really appreciate your efforts to help us maintain accurate records!**

ELECTION UPDATE

As a reminder, the 2020-21 Annual Meeting and Election of Directors will be held on December 15, 2020 via Zoom. This year we have 6 candidates for 4 openings. The candidates (in alphabetical order) are: David Brien, Mitch Jacobs, Debbie Kulik, John McGinnis, Liz Moses and Jay Ritt. The Candidates' Statements and official meeting reminder will be mailed out by October 14, and ballots will go out before November 13.

Please call the office if you have any questions.

STRATEGIC PLAN ADOPTED BY BOARD

The Board of Directors is proud to announce the adoption of a Strategic Plan for the community. The plan defines the character of the community, establishes its core values and sets forth a path for the future. We invite you to review it and contact us if you have any questions.

The document can be downloaded from the website:
<https://www.hiddenhills.org/important-documents>

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR DOG POOP!

Given the stay at home order, there are many more people walking their dogs. As a result there is much more dog waste on both the parkways and trails. Please may we remind residents to always pick up after their dogs. This is especially important now as the rain season comes to an end and it begins to get warmer.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE ASSOCIATION OF ISSUES IN THE COMMUNITY

The Board would like to urge all residents to contact the Association office to report violations of the Governing Documents (i.e., filming, Private Security Officers not following rules, etc.). Staff cannot investigate possible rule infractions if they are not notified. In addition to the phone call or email, photos are very helpful.

We do take action on each and every issue reported to us! Thank you!

HALLOWEEN IN HIDDEN HILLS

The Board would like to remind residents that the County has already issued rules for Halloween, and it urges all residents to fully comply with them.

The full County Health Order is attached; the highlights are as follows:

- Trick-or-treating is not recommended, as it's difficult to socially distance or to ensure germs are not spread through passing candy.
- Gatherings involving people outside of your household are prohibited. In years past, there have been large gatherings in the vicinity of Round Meadow and Wingfield Roads as well as in other areas. We would like to ask residents to avoid gathering in the streets, and in order to discourage people from doing so, we will not be closing any street sections or erecting any barricades or lights.

The Gate Manual already has a rule for entry on Halloween, and this will be in effect. As a reminder, no call-ups will be made and no call-downs will be accepted by the gate officers after 5:00 p.m. on Halloween. If you are expecting guests after 5 p.m., you must enter them in dwellingLIVE.

Ultimately, the best way to safeguard your family is to stay inside your home/on your property and to not hand out candy. We realize this will be difficult, as Halloween is beloved tradition in Hidden Hills. But if we could just get through this while staying safe this year, hopefully we will be able to enjoy the holiday together next year. Thank you for your cooperation.

Your Board of Directors



HIDDEN HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

EQUESTRIAN SERVICES TIP OF THE MONTH

COLIC TIPS

As we head into Fall and temperatures start to fluctuate savvy horse owners know it is time to keep an even closer eye on their horses. Along with many other things, fluctuating temperatures seem to trigger a rise in the number of colic cases vets see, perhaps because horses haven't kept up with their water needs. Lots of other factors can also lead to colic: a change of diet (new batch of hay, too much grain) sand ingestion, lack of exercise, bad teeth, access to cool clean water, gas, impaction and stress.

Signs to look for include leaving food uneaten, standing quietly, stretching out as if to urinate without actually urinating, looking at their sides, restlessness and pawing at the ground, kicking at their stomach, lying down at an uncharacteristic time of day, rolling or attempting to roll, sweating and increased breathing rate, elevated pulse, lying down and reluctance to get up.

What to do first depends on your level of expertise. If you are comfortable taking your horse's temperature, checking their heartrate, and listening for gut sounds, these are valuable pieces of information for your vet. **Please call your vet as soon as you realize that your horse isn't feeling well – it is usually easier (and less expensive) to treat a colic sooner rather than later.** A seemingly mild condition can quickly become severe and untreatable. Your vet will probably ask you to remove all food, and may also suggest that you take your horse for a walk. Do not administer Banamine or other medication unless the vet instructs you to. Medication may complicate getting an accurate diagnosis. If you do not have a trailer, make sure someone who does is on call just in case you need to take your horse to the hospital.

Things you can do to reduce the risk of colic. Always have plenty of **fresh** water available, feed good quality hay on a regular schedule, make any feed changes **gradually**, make sure to have your vet check your horse's teeth regularly, make sure your horse gets regular exercise, minimize the amount of sand and dirt your horse eats by feeding on a mat or in a feeder. Follow your vets recommendation for regular parasite control.

PLEASE REPORT:

WORKER HARASSMENT

Several female residents recently reported unwelcome verbal comments and attention from workers on construction sites.

The Board takes this issue very seriously, as does the City. If you or anyone you know is experiencing uncomfortable looks, comments, cat-calling, etc., from anyone in the community, please contact both the Association office and the City's manager.

Action will be taken with the contractor to stop the bad behavior.

This topic has been added to the list of expectations that are discussed with owners and contractors at the required pre-construction meeting that occurs before the start of every new project.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

GATE ACCESS FOR GUESTS

It has been brought to the associations attention that some guests are being denied access at the gates.

Just as a reminder that it is important that your guests use the property address and not the last name of the resident to gain access to the community.

As there are many residents with similar last names with different spellings, this creates confusion when the guest is denied access under a misspelled last name.

NEIGHBORS

All of us want to keep our Hidden Hills SAFE for our families and their horses and other animals. Especially while we're all here 24/7 minding our "stay-at-home" orders, for safety, please take note of this:

There have been many reports of danger risks because of forbidden bicycle, scooter and motorized vehicle-riders on our trails. As noted by well-posted signs, our trails are exclusively for the use of pedestrians and equestrians.

PLEASE, as is documented in our HH Rules and Regulations (Section 3.2), share with your families and particularly your children this pertinent part of our Rules:

"Operating any motorized vehicle, including but not limited to motorcycles, automobiles, trucks, go-karts, go-peds, golf carts, gas-powered scooters, on the bridle trails is . . . strictly prohibited unless expressly permitted by the Association . . . Riding a bicycle on any bridle trail is prohibited in all instances."

Thank You for your anticipated cooperation. Be safe.

NOTARY SERVICES

The HHCA staff will again be offering notary services to residents, by appointment only. The services will be provided using social distancing and single-use thumbprint stamps, and with all parties wearing masks. If you need a notary, please call the office to schedule an appointment.

Please note: Notary services are for residents only.



2020-21 ASSESSMENTS

At its meeting of September 15, 2020 the Board of Directors voted to keep the assessment rate the same as the last several years, \$.25 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Assessment invoices will be mailed out shortly. There are a few very important things you need to know:

If you have received a Decline in Valuation from the assessor, please send it to us right away. Per the CC&Rs, only those Declines in Valuation that are dated September 4, 2020 or earlier will be used for the 2020-21 assessment. There will be no adjustments made (nor refunds issued) for Declines in Valuation obtained after that date.

If you have a mailing address different from your home address, PLEASE check your dwellingLIVE account to verify we have the current information. You are actually required by law to fill out the attached form and send it to us every year, but as long as the information we have in dwellingLIVE is current, you don't need to update us.

As a courtesy, this year we will be emailing invoices as well as sending them through snail mail, so please also verify that your email address in dwellingLIVE is correct. We will use the address associated with the person marked "Owner" in dLIVE.

PLEASE NOTE: *you are responsible to pay your assessments whether you receive the invoice(s) or not. If you do not receive your invoice by the end of October, please call the office and request a duplicate. Assessments are due on November 10, 2020 and late if not received or postmarked by December 10, 2020. Late payments will result in a 10% penalty and 12% interest until paid, so please make sure you pay your assessments on time.*



PROPOSED NEW RULES - FOR REVIEW/ APPROVAL AT THE OCTOBER 20, 2020 MEETING

VII. Proposed Addition of a Section 1.14 to the Rules & Regulations, Drones

1.14 Drones. As used in this Rule, the term "Drone" means any type of aerial vehicle or flying machine operated remotely or autonomously without a human pilot onboard. By way of example, the term includes, but is not limited to, quadcopters, micro aerial vehicles and model airplanes.

Further, as used in this Rule, the terms "operate," "operates," "operated" or "operation" refer to (within the context where those terms appear) the operation of a Drone or causing, allowing, hiring or otherwise authorizing another to operate a drone.

Operation of a Drone is restricted as follows:

a. Prohibited Operation in HHCA common areas. No Member may operate a Drone in the airspace above or otherwise within any part of the Hidden Hills Community Association common areas, except with the Board of Directors' prior written approval.

b. Restricted Operation Within or Above a Member's Building Site. No Member may operate a Drone in the airspace above or otherwise within the Member's own Building Site to the extent it invades another Member's Building Site, including the airspace above that other Member's site.

c. Indemnification. Notwithstanding the Board's prior written approval pursuant to paragraph (a), above, any Member who operates a Drone above or within the Hidden Hills Community Association shall indemnify and hold harmless the Association as well as its officers, Directors, Committee members, employees, and agents against any liability, loss, injury or damage caused by operation of the Drone.



NEW Association WEBSITE!

We are very excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website.

Need to know the date of a committee meeting so you can sit-in and learn about your community?

Yearning to get the email address for one of your wonderful board members?

Looking to read the Minutes from the last Board meeting?

YOU CAN FIND IT ALL & MORE
on www.hiddenhills.org



If you were registered on the old site but haven't yet registered on the new site, enter your username and click "forgot password." The office will confirm your residency status and email you a link, which will enable you to log on and create a new password. As always, call us if you have any problems! Please take a look, get familiar with the new sections + be sure not to miss the RESIDENT portal.

We will be updating the site WEEKLY! ~ Information *will* be current.

Spread the word and get into the habit of going to your new site as the first place you look for answers + information.

SHARE HOUSEKEEPER

Our housekeeper has openings on Tuesday and Saturday all day, and Wednesday mornings.

If interested, please email Liz at
elizabeth3frazee@gmail.com

NEEDED

We are looking for a responsible, Covid safe, sitter for a very active 7 year old girl. We live in Hidden Hills, and would want a person willing to come to our home to swim, jump on trampoline, play games, outdoor fun. Having a driver's license is a plus, but not mandatory.

Want someone who can work up to 3 times a week , 4-5 hours per day.

Please Contact Hilary at [818-304-4569](tel:818-304-4569) or Hilaryw3@gmail.com

FALL DISTANCE TUTORING

Professional tutor. Specializing in writing (I am a writing specialist), reading comprehension, language arts, science, social studies, Common Core math (through 5th grade), organizational skills, homework help and much more. One-on-one personal attention via Zoom or FaceTime. Once restrictions are lifted I can meet in your home, Calabasas Library or Barnes & Noble. I have over 16 years of private tutoring experience and can provide you with many excellent references. Academic success is my goal. MA Education, BA Child Development, also degreed in Early Childhood Education.

Please contact Maureen @ [818 915-4567](tel:818-915-4567) or email meblm@aol.com

HORSE BOARDING

Available to board 2 horse stall and tack room with turnouts adjacent to city's riding arena. Outdoor pipe corals available next to enclosed stalls. \$350.00 per month each.

Call Karen (818) 888-1195





RELAX, REJUVENATE, AND RE-ALIGN WITH YOGA!

Come reset, unwind, and take some time for yourself with a distance yoga class!

Offering individual and group classes via Zoom. Also open to practicing yoga with you outdoors, at least 6 feet away of course.

About me: 200-hour yoga teacher training certified with experience in India, Belize and Los Angeles.

Contact Megan for more information [818-857-9494](tel:818-857-9494)
Meganelizabethsweeney@gmail.com

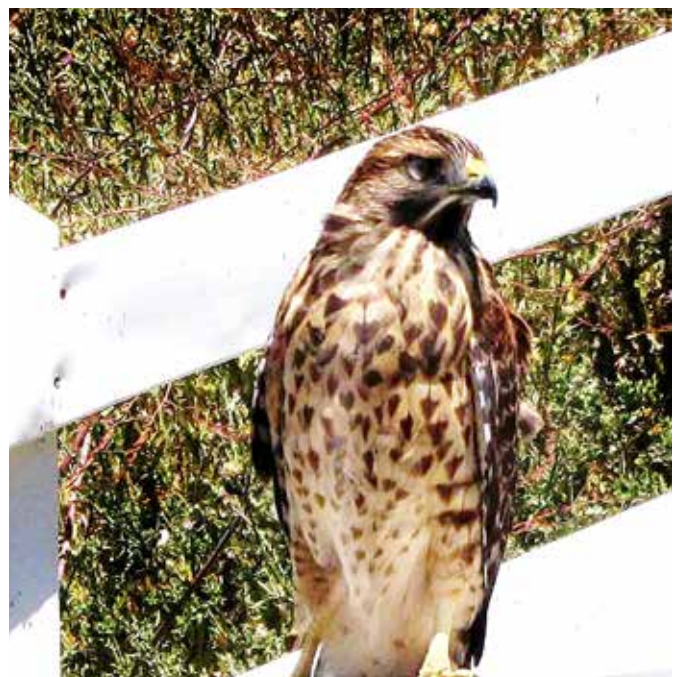
NANNY AVAILABLE

Are you looking for an extra set of hands during the day? Would you like to have a great night's sleep while your baby is cared for?

Experienced (20 years), trusted night nurse and babysitter, with ages from newborn to teenager.

Currently available for night nursing and some day care. Great references available.

Contact Megan [818-857-9494](tel:818-857-9494)



'CAUSE WE
DON'T STOP

OUTDOOR
WORKOUTS

RepEFX

MORE INFO?
PHONE: 818 917 2915
deb@spellbound-body.com

TUESDAY THURSDAY AND SATURDAY 8AM
WEDNESDAY AT 9AM

DEAR HIDDEN HILLS FRIENDS:
 Maintaining your health and wellness is my top priority. That is why we are having our workouts offsite and outdoors. We are following the social distancing guidelines and have a limited capacity. Extra classes can be added!

Please reach out for availability.

ALL MY BEST
DEB SPELLMAN

COVID-19 Antibody Testing with Select Blood Donations.

Blood Drive

Hidden Hills Community

Monday October 26

11 AM - 4 PM

**URGENT NEED
FOR BLOOD**

Due to the effects
of COVID-19

Hidden Hills Community Center

24549 Long Valley Drive, Hidden Hills, CA 91302

Appointments are Highly Encouraged

To schedule an appointment go online at **www.ucedonor.com**

Click **Blood Drives** and enter **HH** in Zip Code or Account Code box

Eligible Donors will receive a ***Promotional Item***

Please bring
photo ID

Remember to eat well and increase your fluid intake a couple of days before and the day of your donation.

To schedule your lifesaving blood donation visit us at www.uclahealth.org/gotblood or call (310) 825-0888 x2

HALLOWEEN IN HIDDEN HILLS

Hidden Hills Drive In Movie Event

THE ADAMS FAMILY - 2 Nights

Saturday Oct 17th and Sunday Oct 18th - 7pm Start time
- gates will open at 6pm to select your spot!

Tickets are \$10 per car....Reserve on Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hidden-hills-drive-in-movie-tickets-123392868391>

**Due to viewing issues we are discouraging SUV's or Trucks, however we will have the back 2 rows reserved for these larger vehicles for larger families or SUV only families! No Golf Carts permitted per LA County orders. All movie goers must remain in their cars.*



Hidden Hills Halloween House Decorating Contest

Decorate your home and win prizes! The winners will be tallied on Oct 30th & 31st and released Nov 1st!

The 2 categories are:

- Professional
- Amateur Decorated

Sub Categories: Scariest House, Most Kid Friendly House, Most Creative & Unique Decorations



Halloween Costume Contests - Virtual

Adults, Children by Age Group 0-18, Family Costumes, and Animal Costumes by Size

Pumpkin Decorating Contest - Virtual

1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes!



Halloween Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt

Details will be released on October 15th

Make sure to watch your email for sign-up forms.

Hidden Hills' own

Drive In

MOVIE
NIGHT

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCT 17 & 18
7 - 9 p.m. - Gates Open at 6 p.m.

on the vacant lot at
25225 Bridle Trail Road

SUVs/Trucks Discouraged / Limited to Back 2 Rows. No
Golf Carts Permitted. Must remain in vehicle at all times.



Featured Film

ADAMS FAMILY

\$10
ENTRY

HORSE EXERCISER/ THERAPEUTIC TRAINER

There's nothing better than a horse who's in shape and behaves well! I'm Rachel and I'd love to help your favorite equine get back to optimum. I have a foundation in dressage, jumping and western pleasure. I was trained in Europe with an emphasis in Natural Horsemanship. My gentle demeanor, combined with a firm but loving approach, will keep your horse happy, sound and responsive. I'm honest, flexible, and I enjoy collaborating with my clients. Many references are happy to recommend me, and I offer new clients a complimentary session in order to get to know you and your horse.

\$35 per session (60+ minutes) 661-309-5217

HORSE BOARDING

Hidden Hills resident looking for an established barn with one extra stall. To retire our daughter's champion show jumper. She is beautiful, well-mannered and very easy to work around. She can still be ridden on the trails, but needs turnout space too.

Please contact Karen @ karenfunnyfarm@yahoo.com or (818)642-5739.



SAFETY NOTICE

FIRE SEASON IS UPON US

PREPARE

- Make friends with multiple people who have a trailer and are willing/able to haul out your animals in a fire. During an emergency, not everyone may be available, so make sure you have a backup. Our ESC has a list of professional haulers if you need to make preparedness arrangements ahead of time.
- If you're going out of town, assign one or two neighbors to be responsible to get your horses to safety if there is a fire while you are gone.
- Make sure your horse has proper identification and keep it handy. Consider a microchip and I.D. tags on a halter.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

- Make sure your animals have been trained to load easily. Practice loading and trailering during non-emergency situations. Every minute counts during an emergency, so make sure your horses don't hesitate to load up. If your horse can't load, the horse will be left behind.

LEAVE EARLY

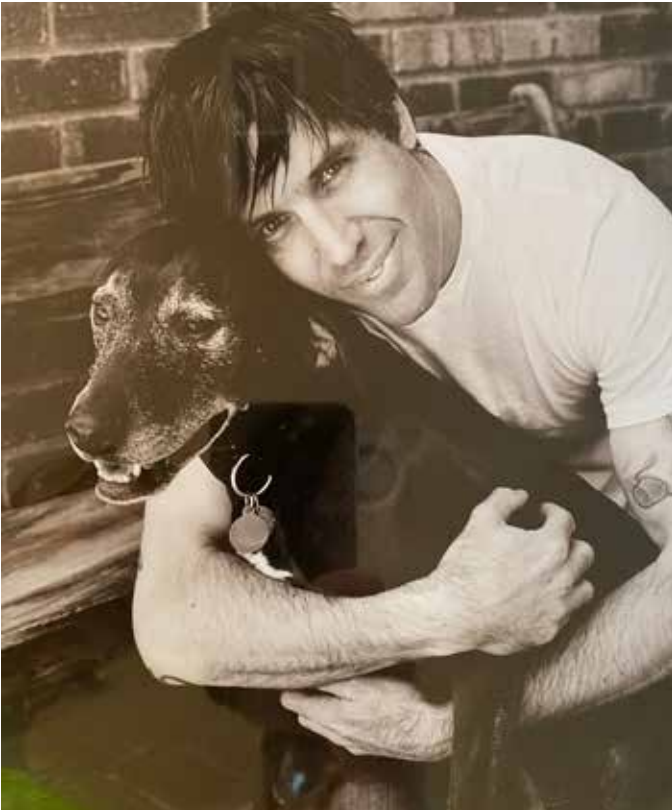
- Leave when there is an evacuation warning or voluntary evacuation notice. Do not wait until a mandatory evacuation to consider leaving, because at that point there may be limited access into our City and it may be too late.
- If you don't have a trailer ride, we will direct any available trailers to three locations in Hidden Hills. Of course, this depends upon availability during an emergency situation, so do not count on this as your primary plan of evacuation.

LOCATIONS

- Spring Valley Arena
- Saddle Creek Arena
- Community Center

LAST RESORT IS SHELTER IN PLACE

- Both the Spring Valley Arena and Saddle Creek Arena have large areas where you can bring your animal to shelter in place. This is a last resort. But you must be prepared with tie-ups and feed and water; and a responsible person in charge. Remember, however, that smoke inhalation can be just as dangerous as the flames themselves. This option truly is a **LAST RESORT**.



· OBITUARY ·

PAUL DANIEL GROSS, PHD

Paul was born on May, 15, 1977 at Valley Presbyterian Hospital in Van Nuys, California. He was the second child of his parents, Dr. Dan and Cammie Gross. Their first child, Laura was born 17 months earlier. Paul was a sleepy, easy baby and always had a smile on his beautiful face with his large blue eyes. His face was surrounded by waves of platinum colored hair.

His first school was Woodland Hills Community Church Day School. This was followed by Kirk of the Valley preschool, and then St. Martin's of the Fields grammar school. He then went to Chaminade middle school and then to Chaminade College Preparatory School. He was an XLNT athlete and played on the soccer team as a mid-fielder. He toured Europe as a member of a boys soccer team. He also played tennis at Chaminade and with his doubles partner were the first team to ever make it to the finals at the prestigious Ojai tournament, a major tournament. At Chaminade College Prep, he also got involved in music as a lead singer in a band. He was a good student in addition to all of these athletic activities. He was also the MOST POPULAR student in High School.

Upon graduation, he attended Loyola Marymount University (LMU) with a major in Communication Studies. He was a vital member of the men's tennis team and frequently played as

the number one player. While at LMU, he started a rock band with several of his classmates. He was the lead singer and composer. After graduation, he was signed to an exclusive contract, first with electra Records and then with Geffen Records. He made two albums with these companies. He loved alternative rock and made an album with music similar to that of the rock band, Queen.

Paul put music on the side burner as he entered post graduate studies and after a number of years of hard work was awarded a Master's degree in Psychology and then a PhD in Psychology. Upon graduation from graduate school, he joined in the practice of Psychology with one of his professors. His professor told us that Paul was the most gifted Psychologist that she had ever met! Paul began teaching Psychology at Long Beach City College at night and had a full time practice of Psychology in the daytime. Paul had a passion for teaching and his students rated him as a five star professor. His sister, Laura, visited one of his classes and reported that he was a spell binding teacher.

On August 21, 2016, Paul had a severe life-changing stroke. The stroke reduced his ability to speak and the control of his right arm and right leg. He then started on the very difficult and challenging path to recovery with intensive physical therapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy. Anyone who has had a stroke will inform you that even simple tasks take more than twice the energy to accomplish.

About two (2) years ago, he got a position at New Horizons, where he provided guidance to people with severe autism. This is difficult work, he loved his patients (they were called "consumers"), and was loved by them. He had a million things to relate about the people he served. He was also loved by his co-workers. Paul continued to work at New Horizons for two (2) years, until it was closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

During this post stroke period, he continued with his passion for singing and performed at a number of venues including a major Los Angeles Music Festival. Shortly before his passing, he and his father were in the process of recording songs as co-singers, which will be put on Social Media.

Paul was a talented, loving, generous, sensitive and gentle soul. He once told his mother ("Mumsie"), "I fall in love every day." Paul, you were an enormous gift to all who knew you.

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT



THE OPOSSUM

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) documented nearly 60,000 cases of tickborne disease within the United States in 2018. Tick populations have been rising, resulting in an increased spread of tickborne illness, including Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

With the return of warm weather, there is one unsung hero of the animal kingdom that helps keep the environmental tick levels down. The humble California opossum, America's only marsupial, kills nearly 95% of ticks that cross their path. It is estimated that a single opossum is capable of eating an estimated 5,000 ticks every season!

Along with helping keep tick populations under control, the California opossum provides numerous benefits to the environment that might be overlooked by the general public.

Opossums frequently eat pests like cockroaches, rats, and mice that can also be carriers of infectious disease.

Out of the many native wildlife species that can be found in your backyard, the California opossum has one of the lowest risks for developing and spreading rabies. This is due to their naturally low body temperature (94° to 97° F) that makes it difficult for the rabies virus to replicate within the opossum's body. They also are scavengers by nature, and their preference for carrion prevents the spread of other diseases as well!

Opossums help keep your garden flourishing!

In addition to eating common household pests, opossums also eat snails and slugs that can wreak havoc on your backyard garden. They also can help clean up any overripe fruits or berries that may have fallen to the wayside.

Opossums are America's only marsupial and their young spend their first two months in the mother's pouch. At the ripe old age of five months, opossums are ready to leave mom and be out on their own. The Virginia opossum is nocturnal, relying primarily on smell and touch to find food. As adults, opossums are typically not aggressive, often preferring to "play possum" instead of fight.

If you find a sick, injured, or orphaned opossum, we encourage you to contact the Wildlife Medical Clinic or a licensed wildlife rehabilitator for help.



THE RACCOON

Although raccoons can prove to be a nuisance when they dig through your garbage cans or eat all of your pet's food, they do in fact hold value when it comes to their contributions to the ecosystem. Raccoons are mostly useful in regards to the food chain on earth, as well as the aquatic food chain. With a diet consisting of insects, crabs, crayfish, lobsters, frogs, rodents, fish, birds, turtle eggs and more, raccoons are useful because they help to control animal populations. Raccoons are also a source of food for larger animals such as hawks, owls, coyotes and even young snakes. Their positions of predator and prey give raccoons an important role in maintaining the balance of prey populations in the wild. Raccoons also dine on plants, nuts and fruits, which helps to spread seeds, allowing plant populations to grow. It is because of these benefits to earth's ecosystems that Natran chooses to humanely remove raccoons from the properties of Houstonians.

Raccoons have become fairly unpopular among humans, as they are perceived as sneaky, bothersome pests that should be removed from residential areas. While they can cause problems for many homeowners and oftentimes raccoon removal is necessary, these creatures do in fact possess some very interesting traits that might make them seem less annoying and more intriguing to you and your family. Read below to learn more about raccoons and three reasons why they are fascinating little critters.

Having raccoons on a property does have a few upsides.

They are one of the few animals that eat wasp larvae, which gets rid of the nest. They eat a wide variety of things, including harmful insects and small rodents that can also be considered pests on your land. However, these benefits don't typically outweigh the drawbacks of having raccoons on your land so its best to find ways to deter them from making their home there.

Raccoons have some of the most dexterous hands in nature. In fact, their very name "raccoon" comes from Native American words meaning "animal that scratches with its hands" and "one who takes everything in its hands". This can partly be explained due to the raccoon's high sensitivity to touch. Raccoons will use their hands as a way of learning more about the objects they are handling, as a large portion of the sensory data they process comes from the tactile feedback they receive from objects they handle in their paws.

The black markings on a raccoon's face have helped to give them the stereotype of being mischievous or thieving. However, these black facial markings serve an important purpose in a raccoon's ability to function during their active night hours. The dark color of the fur under their eyes will absorb any present light during the night time that might impair their vision. Less light shining in their eyes as they scavenge at night makes it easier for them to recognize contrast in objects which is a crucial part of seeing in the dark or in poor lighting.

Raccoons are incredibly resourceful animals and have become great problem solvers, especially when there is food involved. If you have ever encountered a raccoon on your property, you might have noticed their crafty and clever abilities. However, these skills have also been tested in labs, proving that even in controlled settings, raccoons are truly intelligent and cunning creatures. In 1907, ethologist H.B. Davis conducted a study to test the intelligence of raccoons. In this study, David provided twelve raccoons with a series of locks and the task of cracking them. In order to access the treats that were placed inside the boxes in the experiment, the raccoons had to figure out a way to get past multiple hooks, bolts, buttons, latches and levers. At the end of the experiment, the twelve raccoons were able to unlock an astonishing eleven of the thirteen locking mechanisms.



THE SKUNK

Those lovable skunks, with their distinct white on black markings, are actually great to have around. Seriously. I'm not saying you should let them take up residence under your deck, porch, or shed, but you might be surprised to know how they benefit you.

Plug your nose and read on.

THE GOOD

It was once believed that the only good pest was a dead pest. But modern pest control companies understand that pests can actually be beneficial, when managed properly.

You may not be aware of this, but those stinky skunks pose no threat to your home, and they munch on other creatures that are. If you have a healthy skunk living near your property, or passing by on your lawn, it will reduce the number of rodents chewing on the wood of your home. That is good news, because rodents can be a fire hazard in the walls of your home and spread illness to your family.

If you want a healthy lawn, skunks can help there too. They love grass destroying grubs and can eat a large number of them. That makes them beneficial to farmers, gardeners, and homeowners, when properly controlled.

THE BAD

Obviously, the smell of this critter is an issue. But most skunks won't spray unless they are threatened or marking their territory. The goal with proper skunk control is to not allow skunks to think your home is their territory. Here are some tips.

Put wire fencing around your deck, porch, patio, or shed, to keep skunks from getting under there and making a home.

Don't vent your laundry dryer exhaust in the crawl spaces under your home, deck, or porch. These are inviting, especially in winter.

Skunks can also pose a danger to your vegetable garden or fruit trees. This is easily fixed with a little fencing. A two foot fence will keep skunks out.

Fencing is also a good idea for protecting pets. If you let pets run free on your property, you may want to be proactive about not having skunks around at all.



THE BAT

Bats are a vital part of our native wildlife, accounting for almost a third of all mammal species in the US and occupy a wide range of habitats, such as wetlands, woodlands, farmland, as well as urban areas. They can tell us a lot about the state of the environment, as they are top predators of common nocturnal insects and are sensitive to changes in land use practices. The pressures they face - such as landscape change, agricultural intensification, development, and habitat fragmentation are also relevant to many other wildlife species, making them excellent indicators for the wider health of the US's wildlife.

While some people think bats are pests, some bats are actually pest controllers eating thousands of insects every night. US bats won't bite you or suck your blood – but they will help clear the air of bloodsucking mosquitoes!

Most all bats in the US are insectivores – they only eat insects. Insect-eating bats are great for keeping bugs away from gardens, as well as the places where the bats roost. The Brazilian free-tailed bat has been recognised as an important "pest management service" in cotton farming. Because bats eat so many insects in some regions, they can also reduce the need for pesticide sprays.

While bats can provide a valuable service for agriculture, some agricultural practices can have a detrimental impact on bats. Increased use of pesticides may mean that bats go hungry from the lack of insect prey.

Plants pollinated by bats often have pale nocturnal flowers (in contrast, bees are mostly attracted to bright, daytime flowers). These flowers are often large and bell shaped, and some bats have evolved specifically to reach the nectar at the bottom of them. The tube-lipped nectar bat of Ecuador and the banana bat that lives only on the Pacific coast of Mexico both have extraordinarily long tongues for this exact reason. The tube-lipped nectar bat's tongue is more than one and a half times the length of its body!

While these plants rely on bats to pollinate their flowers, bats also rely on the fruit and flowers of these plants to survive. Disturbing this intricate system can have severe consequences. For example, in Mexico, the lesser long-nosed bat that is partly responsible for the pollination of agave plants, used to make mescal and tequila. However, in the majority of tequila production, farmers harvest the plant before it puts out its flowers, meaning it has to reproduce through cloning. This is bad for bats, as they feed on the flowers as well as pollinating them. It's also bad for the agave crops, as they lack diversity – all tequila plants in one farming area have been traced to less than a handful of clones. Disease has recently killed off more than a third of the agave plants in some areas, something that might have been avoided by allowing more agave plants to flower and reproduce through pollination.

BAT ALERT

Attached is an advisory for a bat with rabies that was recently found on Calle Serranona in Calabasas at a private residence.

It is very important for you all to know about bats and rabies in California and to know how to protect yourselves. Never pick up a bat or touch a bat with bare hands. We are especially concerned about: Bats inside houses (bats have tiny teeth and a sleeping person may not be woken up by a bat bite), children may not admit to parents that they have touched a bat, and dogs/cats may contract rabies from contact with bats that are on the ground.

This is a reminder to make sure your dogs and cats (even indoor cats are bat that is inside of your house or acting abnormally/sick outside of your house, please call your local animal control (**Agoura shelter – 818-706-5898**) or **the Department of Public Health at 213-288-7060**).



Avoiding Unintentional Poisoning

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The use of anticoagulant rodenticide poison to control rodents in your yard, neighborhood and community can result in exposing your pets and local wildlife to this deadly poison. Regardless of who distributes the poison -- homeowners, professionals, or your HOA -- your pets and local wildlife are at risk of exposure.

Death from anticoagulant rodenticide poisoning takes longer than you might think. Rodents that consume anticoagulant poisons do not die immediately. The poison is designed to block the vitamin K cycle which is important in clotting the body's blood, often resulting in a slow death. It can take up to 10 days for the rodent to die by internal bleeding, if it is not eaten by another animal first. Rodents filled with toxic anticoagulant rodenticide poisons continue to move around in the environment and as they start to feel the effects of the poison they begin to move slower and become easy targets for your cat, dog and our native predators such as bobcats, hawks, owls, coyotes etc. Research has shown that anticoagulant poison moves up the food chain and eating a poisoned animal can lead to secondary poisoning of dogs, cats and many wild animals.

HOW ARE PETS AND WILDLIFE GETTING POISONED?

Unintentional Poisoning

Non-target species are poisoned through primary, secondary and tertiary poisoning.

Primary Poisoning of non-target animals may occur when a bird eats the pellets broadcasted on the landscape or pellets that fall out of the bait box. Domestic dogs have been poisoned when they eat bait from boxes or get into unsecured packaging in their homes.

Secondary Poisoning of non-target species occurs when

predatory animals eat poisoned animals, therefore ingesting the poisons secondarily. For example, a bobcat eats a poisoned gopher, exposing the bobcat to the poison, creating a secondary exposure to the poison. Your cat could be at risk too. If your cat ventures outside it will likely catch or try to catch a small mammal, if that mouse, rat, squirrel or rabbit has eating poison your cat is at risk of secondary poisoning.

Tertiary Poisoning of non-target species occurs when a predatory animal eats another predatory animal that has been secondarily poisoned. For example, a mountain lion eats a coyote with secondary poisoning that ate a poisoned squirrel.

Anticoagulants move through the food chain.

RESEARCH DISCOVERS RODENT POISONS MOVE UP THE FOOD CHAIN

Wildlife affected in our local Southern California neighborhoods:

Scientific research on local wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area and surrounding fragmented habitats has detected startling evidence on how many of our native carnivores are exposed to anticoagulant rodenticide poisons. This research has shown that secondary poisoning from anticoagulant rodenticides is a wide spread problem throughout our local landscape. Testing results from the 3 carnivore species (bobcats, coyotes and mountain lions) monitored in this study found that most of the animals in the study were exposed to anticoagulant rodenticides.

Results from tested bobcats, coyotes and mountain lions, and exposure to anticoagulant rodenticides during NPS study:

Bobcats - 92% of bobcats exposed to anticoagulant poisons.

Coyotes - 83% of coyotes were exposed to anticoagulants and it was the 2nd leading cause of death during study.

Mountain Lions - 94% of mountain lions were exposed to anticoagulant poisons, including a 3 month old kitten.





Lethal Dose: Rat Poison & Local Wildlife

Local residents may inadvertently be poisoning wildlife. National Park Service researchers have found a direct link between exposure to anticoagulant rodenticides, commonly known as rat poison, and the deaths of wildlife in and around the Santa Monica Mountains. How rodenticide works its way through the food chain:

1 Targeted rodents

Rats and other rodents who eat rodenticide do not die right away and may even become lethargic as they approach death, making them easy prey for larger predators.

2 Predators

Raptors, snakes and larger predators consume poisoned rodents.

3 Top of the food chain

Mountain lions feed on smaller predators laced with lethal poison.

Unintended victims

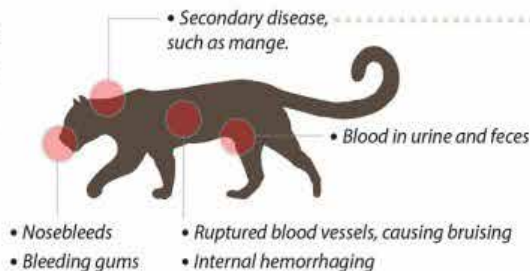
In the Santa Monica Mountains...

- 12 of 13 mountain lions tested positive for exposure and two died from poisoning.
- 93 of 105 bobcats tested positive for exposure and 70+ died from related secondary disease.
- 20 of 24 coyotes tested positive for exposure and 12 died from poisoning.

As of November 2015

How anticoagulant rodenticide kills

These compounds interrupt blood-clotting, which leads to uncontrolled bleeding and death. They may also suppress the animal's immune system, making it susceptible to other diseases. **Symptoms include:**



What is mange?

A microscopic mite that burrows into the skin and causes...

1. Extreme itchiness and skin lesions.
2. Fluid and nutrient loss through the skin.
3. Infection, starvation, hypothermia or other complications, eventually leading to death.



Check the label

Here are the most common anticoagulant compounds:

- Bromadiolone
- Brodifacoum

- Diphacinone
- Difethialone



SOURCES: Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area research, L.E.K. Serleys, UrbanCarnivores.com

CREDIT: National Park Service <http://1.usa.gov/1SuhsXv>

WILDLIFE UPDATE

THE BAN HAS JUST BEEN LIFTED FOR NEWCASTLES

Newcastle Disease is a highly contagious viral infection that affects many species of domestic and wild birds to varying degrees.

Domestic fowl, turkeys, pigeons and parrots are most susceptible while a mild form of the disease affects ducks, geese, pheasants, quail and guinea fowl. The disease can result in digestive, respiratory and/or nervous clinical signs, which range from a mild, almost inapparent respiratory disease to very severe depression, drop in egg production, increased respiration, profuse diarrhoea followed by collapse, or long-term nervous signs (such as twisted necks), if the birds survive. Severe forms of the disease are highly fatal.

Please don't set free or discard any unwanted roosters as that is how the Newcastles outbreak happened in So California that caused the almost 1 Year ban and prevented us from buying and selling chickens and over a 1.6 million chickens had to be euthanized due to the 1 rooster that was thrown over a fence in downtown LA.

If you need to re-home a rooster there is plenty of places here are some useful links

kindredspiritscarefarm.org

happyhen.org

henharbor.org

AUGUST REPORT

Barn Owl 8/3 Long Valley

Owl was taken to CWC to check for secondary poisoning but checked out ok. Owl was dehydrated and after 4 days of feeding I released him back on Long Valley.

Canyon Towhee Bird 8/10 Jed Smith

Found dead on porch . Possible window strike.

Barn Owl 8/11 8pm

Owl was found on Long Valley and was taken to Conejo Valley Animal Hospital as emergency due to suspected ingestion of poisoned rodents.

Owl was Euthanized later that evening. Mortality report was filed with California Fish and Wildlife.

SEPTEMBER REPORT

9/7/20 8am

Baby squirrel found on trail about 2 weeks old being syringe fed until 12 weeks old then being released.

9/7/20

Barn owl found dead floating in a pool .

9/8/20

Baby dove found on Jed Smith to young to fly so its being cared for and hand fed until old enough to be able to be released.

9/12/20

Adult opossum found on Long Valley covered in ants and barely breathing. Rushed to CWC for emergency care. Looks to have been injured by predator.

CWC Euthanized due to significant trauma and a poor prognosis.

ATTENTION HH RESIDENTS

Many residents still use rodenticides stations to help with pest control.

If you happen to be out on the trails and see a deceased rodent we kindly ask you to pick it up and dispose of it in the trash so none of our local wildlife accidentally eat it and get secondary poisoning. I know it's gross and upsetting to touch a dead rodent but it's extremely important to help keep our birds of prey safe.



ACTION ALERT: HIDDEN HILLS RESIDENTS

ACTIVITY ALERT for the ENTIRE FAMILY including the kids!

We need your help to encourage Governor Newsom to SIGN this animal protection bill into law.

All it takes is an email from each of you.

WHAT IS AB 1788?

AB 1788 is a state bill that would place a moratorium on the “second generation” category of anticoagulant rodenticides in California. This bill would protect countless wild animals from the harmful effects of secondary poisoning. Just a few of the bill sponsors and supporters of AB 1788:

Please email Governor Newsom a polite letter at Leg.unit@gov.ca.gov ASAP, requesting his support for AB 1788.

- Use the email Subject line “AB 1788 – Request to Sign”
- Include your name and address
- Feel free to cut and paste from the talking points below
- (Recommended) Individualizing the first paragraph with your own words makes your letter even more effective

Suggested talking points:

Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) pose a significant threat to the wildlife in our state. A lethal dose of SGARs can be ingested in a single feeding and, most alarming, they can persist in an animal’s liver for up to 100 days. These factors make SGARs especially problematic to predators and scavengers – such as owls, hawks, eagles, mountain lions, and bobcats – who tend to feed on the animals that have been poisoned with bait. This concern for protection of non-target wildlife, in part, led the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to pull SGARs from consumer shelves in July 2014.

Unfortunately, however, there has been **no decrease** in the rate of wildlife poisoning from these products since that

time, as licensed pest control applicators are still permitted to use SGARs and continue to do so throughout the state.

In fact, in recent studies reviewed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, **between 70% to 90% of tested wildlife were found to have SGARs in their systems.**

These facts led to DPR issuing a new notice of reevaluation in March of this year. There is public demand for limitation on the use of these dangerous toxins as demonstrated by the **29 jurisdictions in the State of California** – including Humboldt County, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco – **that have enacted resolutions encouraging residents to avoid buying, selling, and using anticoagulant rodenticides.**

This is a growing trend in the state as more and more residents learn about the harms caused by anticoagulant rodenticides and explore other solutions to manage rodent infestations. Since local municipalities are preempted from enacting ordinances that would ban rodenticide use outright, such resolutions, coupled with public education campaigns, are the best that local jurisdictions can do to protect their ecosystems and make laws reflecting the will of their residents. These municipalities – and their residents – are all relying on the state to take necessary steps to protect ecosystems through enacting AB 1788.

Pending the DPR’s reevaluation, **it is critical that the State take immediate action to place a moratorium on the use of SGARs in California** except in limited circumstances, to protect wildlife throughout our great state. Protecting mountain lions and golden eagles is not just beneficial to these species; these and other predators play a vital role in regulating our delicate ecosystem.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to sign AB 1788 into law. Thank you for your consideration and your leadership.

Thank you Hidden Hills



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Guidance for Celebrating Halloween

As fall approaches families start to plan for the upcoming holiday season beginning with Halloween. Since some of the traditional ways in which this holiday is celebrated does not allow you to minimize contact with non-household members, it is important to plan early and identify safer alternatives. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health would like to share information on how to take part in this holiday in a manner that reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19. Since some of the traditional ways in which this holiday is celebrated are not permitted this year, consider some safer alternatives that are listed below.

Halloween Activities:

Not Permitted (gatherings and events are not currently allowed under the Health Officer Order)

- Halloween gatherings, events or parties with non-household members are not permitted even if they are conducted outdoors.
- Carnivals, festivals, live entertainment, and haunted house attractions are not allowed.

Not Recommended

- Door to door trick or treating is not recommended because it can be very difficult to maintain proper social distancing on porches and at front doors, ensure that everyone answering or coming to the door is appropriately masked to prevent disease spread, and because sharing food is risky.
- “Trunk or treating” where children go from car to car instead of door to door to receive treats is also not recommended, particularly when part of Halloween events, since it is difficult to avoid crowding and sharing food.

Permitted and Recommended

- Online parties/contests (e.g. costume or pumpkin carving)
- Car parades that comply with public health guidance for [vehicle based parades](#) including:
 - a. Drive by events or contests where individuals dress up or decorate their vehicles and drive by “judges” that are appropriately physically distanced.
 - b. Drive through events where individuals remain in their vehicles and drive through an area with Halloween displays.
 - c. Drive in events where individuals can receive a treat bag (limited to commercially packaged non-perishable treats) or take away item from an organizer while the participants remain in their vehicle.
- Halloween movie nights at drive in theaters (must comply with the public health drive in [movie theater guidance](#)).
- Halloween themed meals at outdoor restaurants (must comply with the [restaurant](#) protocol).
- Halloween themed art installations at an outdoor museum (must comply with the public health [museum guidance](#).)
- Dressing up homes and yards with Halloween themed decorations.

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Guidance for Celebrating Halloween

Personal Protection Measures:

Regardless of how you choose to celebrate Halloween it is important to keep the following in mind:

1. Correctly wear a cloth face covering to prevent disease spread¹ when outside your home and around others that are not part of your household
2. Avoid confined spaces - Actively stay away from indoor spaces that don't allow for easy distancing of at least 6ft between you and others
3. Avoid close contact – Stay at least 6 feet away (3 or more adult steps) from all other people who are not part of your own household, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing.
4. Wash or sanitize your hands often.
5. Clean frequently touched items regularly.
6. If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19 stay home, and away from others.

Know where to get reliable information

Beware of scams, false news and hoaxes surrounding novel coronavirus. Accurate information, including announcements of new cases in LA County, will always be distributed by Public Health through press releases, social media, and our website. The website has more information on COVID-19 including FAQs, infographics and a guide to coping with stress, as well as tips on handwashing

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH, County)
 - <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>
 - Social media: @lapublichealth

Other reliable sources of information about novel coronavirus are:

- California Department of Public Health (CDPH, State)
 - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, National)
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>

If you have questions and would like to speak to someone call the Los Angeles County Information line 2-1-1 which is available 24 hours a day.

¹ Wear masks with two or more layers to stop the spread of COVID-19. Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin. For more info, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html> and <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/protection/GuidanceClothFaceCoverings.pdf>



Social Distancing at Lunch Trucks

- No dining
- No condiment table
- Stay 6 feet away from others

NO WALK UPS!

YOU MUST ORDER THROUGH THE APP

GO TO STREETFOOD
FINDER.COM/APPS



Come visit us at hiddenhills.org, your new community website where information is updated all the time!
COMMUNITY UPDATE | 05.22.2020

LET'S GET THESE PARTIES STARTED!

Just place the order online and the truck will send you a text with how long it will be. Let the truck know when you get there and your order will be ready and paid for :)

The trucks will accept orders for time slots 24 hours in advance. Each truck will limit how many orders they can take in advance per hour. **NO WALK UPS.**



24549 long valley road ★ hidden hills, ca 91302
phone: (818) 227-6657 ★ fax: (818) 888-6113

Upcoming Food Trucks at Hidden Hills

Cerda Vega Tacos - Mexican, Tacos, Vegetarian

Oct 01, 2020 (Thu), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM

The Middle Feast - Mediterranean, Middle Eastern

Oct 05, 2020 (Mon), 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

8E8 Thai Street Food - Thai

Oct 08, 2020 (Thu), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM

Pacifico Charbroiled Fish - American, Comfort Food, Seafood

Oct 12, 2020 (Mon), 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Lapastadipepito - Italian

Oct 15, 2020 (Thu), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM

Stout Burgers Food Truck - Comfort Food, Burgers, Vegetarian

Oct 19, 2020 (Mon), 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Vivace - Pizza

Oct 22, 2020 (Thu), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM

Richeeze - American, Deli

Oct 26, 2020 (Mon), 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Pinch Of Flavor - Asian Fusion, Japanese, Mexican

Oct 29, 2020 (Thu), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM

Vivace - Pizza

8E8 Thai Street Food - Thai

Oct 31, 2020 (Sat), 04:00 PM to 08:00 PM