

Watering Limits Imposed by Council

By Julie BUTCHER

On an ironically cold and wettish night, the Glendale City Council voted to move to Phase III of the city's mandatory water conservation measures, reducing the number of days allowed for outdoor watering from three to two (Tuesdays and Saturdays only, 10 minutes per watering station).

Glendale Water and Power chief assistant general manager of water Michael De Ghetto explained that 31% of Glendale's water comes from the San Fernando basin; 4% from the Verdugo basin; 7% is recycled water produced at the LA Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAGWRP) and the remaining 60% is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD).

"There is a 66% chance MWD will need to contribute to Lake Mead storage in 2024," De Ghetto said, detailing the urgency of the ongoing drought notwithstanding recent precipitation tracking above normal as of today, Thursday.

Regional investments have helped adapt to climate change, he noted, but recent snow is resting on dry ground.

"We're always in Phase I [of water conservation prohibitions]," he said. "There's no need to ever waste water washing sidewalks. Turn off your sprinklers when it rains. There are common sense actions everyone can take."

Phase III will take effect on Feb. 1.

The city reports a 6.3% reduction in water usage since August 2021. The governor is urging a statewide reduction of 20%.

De Ghetto reported that 77% of the city's water use is residential, with multifamily homes using 39% and single-family homes using 38%. Summer usage increases by 12% in multifamily units and by 70% in single-family houses. Glendale has 48,900 multifamily

see GCC on page 18

Village Christian Volleyball Senior Holds Serve-A-Thon Benefitting Special Olympics

By Bethany BROWN

Sienna Noordermeer – and her teammates – used her skills to raise money for a very special organization.

Village Christian senior and volleyball player Sienna Noordermeer organized a "serve-a-thon" fundraiser to raise money for Special Olympics Southern California hoping to reach her goal of \$10,000. All levels of VCS volleyball joined forces – both boys' and girls' teams – to participate in the event, which was held in early December.

The event lasted about two hours in which time each player served the ball approximately 100 times. Sponsors/donors were also recruited for the event. Donors could either contribute a flat dollar amount ahead of the event or donate per serve the day of the event.

"I wanted to use our platforms as athletes and as an athletic organization to benefit another athletic organization,"



Photo credit Gabby LEON

LEFT: Village Christian volleyball senior Sienna Noordermeer serves the ball during a fundraiser she organized. RIGHT: With her teammates, many of whom took part in the fundraiser.

Noordermeer said. "There was just so much passion all around. You know, to be serving for such a good cause and not just serving to win a point or win a game but to actually make a difference in the

community was such a fulfilling experience."

Noordermeer said she felt inspired to contribute to Special Olympics by her older sister who had worked in the past as a coach

for Special Olympics athletes. She recalled seeing the smiles on the faces of young athletes while they were being coached by her sister. She knew then that she

see VCS on page 19

Omicron Poses Renewed Challenges for Local Business Owners

By Justin HAGAR

When Jim Collins, owner of Town Kitchen & Grill in Montrose, told his team of cooks, waiters, bussers and bartenders they would be closed on New Year's Eve, they were shocked. But, according to Collins, he had no choice; after a high percentage of people on his team had been potentially exposed to COVID-19, he said the best way to get the situation under control was to close the restaurant and give everyone a chance to ensure the health of themselves, their families and their customers.

Unfortunately, Town is not the only local business being forced into temporary closures due to omicron. Alissa's Ocean View Bar and Grill in Montrose, Color me Mine in Pasadena and Roguelike Tavern in Burbank all reported temporary closures due to

see OMICRON on page 5



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Businesses like Alissa's Ocean View Bar and Grill in Montrose had to temporarily close when some of the staff had been exposed to COVID-19. The restaurant has since reopened.

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Attitude is Everything

I know that times are rather tense, especially lately with the wildfire-like spread of omicron. If you're anything like me, you know several people who have been hit with this variant of the coronavirus. Personally, I expect that just about everyone will be exposed to omicron and, like many other viruses, will either not know it, get sick or get really sick. I am much more confident

because I am vaccinated and boosted but understand that, regardless of vaccination status, omicron can penetrate or "break through" the safeguards provided by vaccination. I understand that vaccinations and boosters are not preventing these breakthrough infections; however, for many people they can reduce the effects of the virus. Of course, wearing a mask is another "tool" in the

prevention toolbox that must be utilized.

These new concerns have increased the stress levels of many of us as we tackle new laws, new mandates and new ways of doing things. While I was originally hopeful that the edict of "We're all in this together" would unite us, it appears that hope was dashed.

A negative response to these new stressors, unfortunately, has been found in all types of activities, like driving a car and getting cut off or shopping in the supermarket and seeing someone cut in line at the checkout. However, probably because of this rise in negative experiences, meeting a pleasant person or having a pleasant experience is much more valued.

Case in point: earlier this week I ordered something online for the office. Too late, I realized that the delivery address was my house rather than the office.

It wasn't too big a deal; the item ordered was portable enough to easily bring from my house to the office. It was just a pain to do it.

As soon as I realized my mistake, I contacted the company to change the delivery address. I did this via an online chat function. The person who responded (I always wondered whether these were "real" people or automated robots who answered these queries) was super kind and told me that unfortunately the address couldn't be changed; the item was already being prepared for shipping. No problem, I responded.

She then told me how much she appreciated my understanding and how she wished more people were that understanding. Apparently she had been getting an earful these last (nearly) two years. I'm glad that in dealing with me her day was made a little easier.

Our interaction reminded me how fortunate I am to know

the people I do, especially those who support us here at the CV Weekly. We have readers who have given us money during the worst of the pandemic when we weren't sure we would be able to keep our doors open because so many of our advertisers canceled when their own businesses were closed. We have readers who, after reading of my love of wine and chocolate, have brought by wine and chocolate – and one reader brought by chocolate wine. (That was an interesting concoction.)

We have readers who have provided us with passes to the Magic Castle and other interesting places. And, of course, we have readers who subscribe to weekly delivery of the paper.

These generous gestures remind me that not everything stinks, that we are all capable of bringing some sense of graciousness to every situation ... if we choose.

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Weather in the Foothills

“Even with all our technology and the inventions that make modern life so much easier than it once was, it takes just one big natural disaster to wipe all that away and remind us that, here on Earth, we’re still at the mercy of nature.”

~ Neil deGrasse Tyson

Wild times these are! Last Saturday morning many of us were awakened to the news of being under a tsunami alert. This went into effect after a powerful undersea volcano – the Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha’apai – erupted. This happened in the midst of a two-year pandemic that is not yet over. In addition, let’s add last year’s unprecedented in size tornadoes and wildland fires. And it gets better: last week the huge asteroid 1994 PC1 made its closest approach to Earth for the next 200 years at one million miles away.

Last weekend, on the small South Sea island of Tonga, a storm struck that lasted 7½ hours with approximately 400,000 lightning strikes zig-zagged within the water vapor, gas and ash laden 12-mile-high plume. Small islands formed while others disappeared. The death toll is uncertain. The volcanic explosion set off undersea earthquakes that in turn created tsunamis. History gives examples of massive tsunami waves that have struck California’s coastal areas.

Jan. 26, 1700: Using geologic evidence and oral histories from Native Americans, scientists have reconstructed the Cascadia Earthquake at a magnitude of 8 or 9.

Dec. 21, 1812: A tsunami related to a magnitude-7.2 earthquake in the Santa Barbara channel caused flooding and other damage to low-lying areas of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. The temblor itself damaged several missions and Native American villages, while the tsunami was reported as far north as San Francisco. The waves also lifted up a 283-ton ship, which had been searching the coast for otter pelts, pushing it up a half mile inland then carrying it back out to sea.

March 11, 2011: Crescent City was hit by tsunami currents generated by the Tōhoku Earthquake in Japan. The magnitude 9.0 earthquake, the most powerful ever in Japan’s history, and the tsunami combined killed more than 18,000 people. Powerful waves crossed the Pacific Ocean causing \$100 million in damage to California ports and harbors, including those in Crescent City and Santa Cruz, more than 400 miles to the south.

What next? Skies will be mostly clear through the next seven days. There will be warming most days and high temperatures will rise to well above normal today, Thursday. Breezy Santa Ana conditions are expected Thursday and Saturday. A cooling trend is expected early next week.

Now waiting for the winter rains to resume ...

Sue Kilpatrick is a Crescenta Valley resident and Official Skywarn Spotter for the National Weather Service Reach her at suelkilpatrick@gmail.com.

NEWS

IN BRIEF

CVCA Welcomes 2022

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its first meeting of the year on Thursday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. The meeting will include discussion on local issues as well as an opportunity for Foothill area residents to bring their own concerns. For those who live in Glendale between Lowell and Pennsylvania avenues, the Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association will hold its annual meeting from 6:15-7 p.m. just prior to the CVCA meeting. The agenda will include a vote and installation of the CHNA board members and a general update on the association.

Please join the meeting via Zoom. All are welcome. For further information and Zoom link, contact crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com or ask via Facebook.

Outreach Workshop for La Crescenta Avenue Improvements

Tonight, Thursday, Jan. 20 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. a meeting is being held regarding proposed road improvements for La Crescenta Avenue as part of the monthly meeting of the CV Town Council. Los Angeles County Public Works is planning an upcoming pavement resurfacing project along La Crescenta Avenue, Orange Avenue, Prospect Avenue, Ocean View Boulevard, Mira Vista Avenue, and Montrose Avenue within the unincorporated La Crescenta-Montrose community.

Additional infrastructure improvements will include: resurfacing portions of various roadways and reconstructing existing curb ramps; replacing existing asphalt sidewalk and curb ramps with concrete along Orange Avenue; installing bikeways along various roadway segments to encourage active transportation; constructing drywells to capture surface water and improve water quality; constructing bulb-outs and sidewalks to improve pedestrian safety.

To learn more about the project and how to get involved, or for those who require project information or materials in other languages, contact Shirley Lai, project manager, at slai@pw.lacounty.gov or call (626) 300-2619.

The Zoom meeting is hosted by the Crescenta Valley Town Council and can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/lacrescenta-workshop> or call by dialing (669) 900 6833. Meeting ID is 283 256 4275 and password: 626159.

Reminder from USC-VHH

As the COVID-19 omicron variant continues to spread, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital is attending to a very high volume of sick patients in it Emergency Dept. The community is asked that, if they are not experiencing COVID symptoms, to seek COVID testing elsewhere.

The USC-VHH Emergency Dept. is not equipped to offer COVID-19 testing to the public at large. However, it has worked with a third-party provider to provide weekend drive-through testing in the hospital's lower east parking lot for the next few weeks. For a list of other COVID-19 testing locations, visit covid19.lacounty.gov/ testing.

People can protect themselves from the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a face mask, practicing social distancing, avoiding large groups and washing hands. Most importantly, get vaccinated and get a booster shot if eligible.

CVTC Special Meeting

The Crescenta Valley Town Council is having a public forum and presentation regarding the proposed Eagle Canyon Channel Trail, which includes a multi-use trail beginning at the northeast intersection of La Crescenta Avenue and

El Caminito along the flood control channel connecting to Two Strike Park (Phase I).

The in-person meeting includes representatives with LA County Dept. of Parks & Rec and Public Works. The meeting will be held on Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 4011 La Crescenta Ave. in La Crescenta. Space is limited. All safety protocols will be followed; masks required. Comments and concerns (approval or disapproval of the project) can be sent by Jan. 28 to CV Town Council, P.O. Box 8676, La Crescenta, CA 91224 or sent via email to Kerri@thecvcouncil.com. Senders should include their name and address.

To see a map of the proposed project, visit www.cvweekly.com/NEWS.

Glendale Schools Receive At-Home COVID-19 Tests

By Bethany BROWN

On Dec. 22, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the California Dept. of Public Health would be providing at-home COVID-19 test kits for every K-12 student. The test kits for Glendale Unified School District arrived following winter break and were distributed to all students on Thursday, Jan. 13 and Friday, Jan. 14.

Each student received one kit that contains two at-home rapid COVID-19 tests. Administrators encouraged students to take one of the tests before returning to campus on Tuesday of this week after the three-day weekend.

GUSD administered 18,522 tests at district testing clinics between Monday, Jan. 3 and Monday, Jan. 10. All students and staff were required to receive a negative test result in order to return to campus following winter break.

After observing a 7.9% positivity rate during this time, the district remains committed to ensuring the safety of its students and employees by requiring masks be worn indoors and outdoors, unless actively eating or drinking, supplying KN-95 masks to staff and surgical masks for students, adhering to CDC social distancing and quarantine guidelines and providing free daily COVID-19 testing at all school sites.

Tests at school sites are available for students and employees Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Evening testing is also available from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the district office, 223 N. Jackson St. in Glendale.

GUSD Superintendent Dr. Vivian Ekchian expressed her gratitude to the staff of Vital Medical Services that had “been outside for more than 12 hours a day” to provide COVID-19 testing to district employees and students. She continued to express her appreciation to all, noting that she is hopeful the Glendale Unified community will come out of this pandemic stronger and united.

“Thank you to our amazing students and families who have patiently waited in long lines to get tested and make sure you’re healthy to return to school,” Dr. Ekchian said. “Thank you to our dedicated board members, administrators, teachers and staff who have never stopped putting the needs of our children first ... I know that we will get through this together.”

The Biden-Harris Administration announced federal measures it is taking to help schools meet their testing goals. It will soon be sending five million free rapid tests and five million free PCR tests to schools across the nation each month to help K-12 schools stay open.

Additionally, on Jan. 6 the CDC endorsed the recommendation by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to expand eligibility of booster doses to those aged 12 to 15 years old. The CDC now recommends that adolescents aged 12 to 17 years old should receive a booster shot five months after their initial vaccination series.

“Vaccination continues to be our strongest defense against the spread of COVID-19,” said Dr. Ekchian. “We strongly encourage all community members to get vaccinated and receive a booster dose of the vaccine if you are eligible.”

CDC director Dr. Rochelle Walensky further emphasized the importance of booster doses to broaden and strengthen protection against omicron and other SARS-CoV-2 variants.

“It is critical that we protect our children and teens from COVID-19 infection and the complications of severe disease,” Dr. Walensky said. “This booster dose will provide optimized protection against COVID-19 and the omicron variant. I really encourage all parents to keep their children up to date with CDC’s COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.”



Photos provided by GUSD
ABOVE: Workers at Glendale Unified School District prepare at-home COVID-19 test kits for distribution among its student population.
BELOW: Boxes are ready to be sorted through.



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Healthy Living 2022

The Health of Our Planet – Part 2

CVW is focusing on “Healthy Living” during the month of January and part of that coverage will be the health of our planet. We will be looking to those scientists, emergency responders, elected officials and others who are studying climate change – from those with boots on the ground to satellites in orbit – all working for us to understand how we can help get our planet get onto a healthier path.

By Mary O’KEEFE

SB 1383, known as the compost law, went into effect on Jan. 1. The purpose of the law is to lower greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.

Last week CVW covered the City of Glendale plan to complete this; the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County La Crescenta-Montrose has its own plan on how to implement this law with LA County Public Works being the agency that oversees the implementation.

BurrtecWasteIndustriesInc. is the disposal service that has the contract with La Crescenta-Montrose. The contract with Burrtec expires March 31, 2024 and includes a provision that LA County can extend the contract an additional three years (to 2027) based on good performance by Burrtec. There will be annual community meetings scheduled to solicit feedback, according to Steve Frasher, LA County Public Works spokesman.

“Public Works has amended

the existing contract with Burrtec to include the service to divert organic waste from landfills. Using food waste and green waste to make compost is one of the options to reduce greenhouse gases and the one that Burrtec will use. Discussions are ongoing with waste collection companies regarding the implementation plan to comply with SB 1383 in all unincorporated communities in 2022,” said Frasher.

The County has held informational webinars on the new law that include information on organic waste recycling. There will be outreach meetings scheduled, tailored to specific communities, where residents can get answers about composting, what their disposal company will be doing to comply with the law and other questions.

In addition, the County and waste haulers will provide outreach materials to educate residents on SB 1383 compliance as well as conduct meetings, Frasher added.

“There is an additional cost to divert organic waste from being disposed in landfills due to the additional infrastructure necessary and often due to the distance the material must be delivered to organic waste processing sites including compost facilities,” Frasher said. “While the cost of processing organic waste will be more expensive, with those costs passed along to residents, it should be noted that there are long-term benefits including reducing greenhouse gases, protecting the environment, and improving the quality of life for LA County residents. The rates have not been finalized yet for La Crescenta and Montrose but it is likely to be approximately 15%-20% higher because of this service. Future cost of living adjustment for labor, fuel, and disposal costs will also apply each July.”

The rate “adjustments” will be monitored and approved by the County. There will also be a competitive bidding process used during contract solicitation to award new waste hauling contracts.

At present, the County estimates the composting or organic waste diversion to begin in July 2022 in the La Crescenta-Montrose area.

Many wonder how this law will be monitored. Will there be garbage/compost police?

Frasher said there will be a review of diversion to the processing facilities, occasional review of container contents by the waste hauler to help reduce contamination and field monitoring of the hauler’s performance by County staff.

“In November 2021, the County adopted the Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance, which became effective Jan. 1, 2022 and is a requirement for jurisdiction per Senate Bill 1383 regulations. This ordinance authorizes the County to enforce SB 1383 organic waste diversion requirements, including penalties and fines for non-compliance, beginning in 2024,” Frasher said.

Methane, a greenhouse gas, is emitted during the production and transport of coal, natural gas and oil. Methane emissions also result from livestock and

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other agricultural practices, land use and the decay of organic waste in municipal solid waste landfills, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

According to the Environmental Defense Fund, methane has more than 80 times the warming power of carbon dioxide over the first 20 years after it reaches the atmosphere. At least 25% of today’s warming is driven by methane from human actions.

According to CalRecycle [California Dept. of Resources Recycling and Recovery], Californians throw away more than six million tons of food waste

every year.

LA County will share information on the law in its quarterly newsletter and on CleanLA.com. There will be meetings advertised on social media and in CVW as well as in other newspapers. Additionally, the County offers free online webinars on composting through the Smart Gardening program. For details of the webinars, including a schedule and videos of past webinars, visit smartgardening.com. In-person Smart Gardening workshops will resume when prudent due to the pandemic.

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LAPD Asking Public’s Help Regarding Stabbing Victim

By Mary O’KEEFE

Los Angeles Police Dept. – Valley Bureau Homicide detectives are asking for the public’s help in providing any information that would lead to the arrest of the suspect/suspects involved in the murder of a man found on Jan. 15 at 7:35 a.m. with multiple stab wounds.

Luis Garcia, 55, from La Crescenta has been identified by the LA County Coroner’s Office as the victim who was fatally stabbed at Cleon Avenue and Stagg Street in Sun Valley. The victim was found lying on the ground near an SUV. Los Angeles paramedics responded and Garcia was pronounced dead at the scene. The Coroner’s Office has determined the victim died due to wounds suffered during the stabbing.

Anyone with information should contact Valley Bureau Homicide detectives at (818) 374 -9550. During non-business hours or on weekends, calls should be directed to (877) LAPD-24-7 (877-527-3247). Anyone wishing to remain anonymous should call the LA Regional Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-TIPS (800-222-8477) or visit www.lacrimestoppers.org.

Tipsters may also visit www.lapdonline.org and click on “Anonymous Web Tips” under the “Get Involved-Crime Stoppers” menu to submit an online tip.

Lastly, tipsters may also download the “P3 Tips” mobile application and select the LA Regional Crime Stoppers as their local program.

Public’s Help Sought Regarding Sexual Assault at CV Park



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ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY

RAPE BY FORCE OR FEAR, 261 (a) (2) PC



- SUSPECT DESCRIPTION:**
- Male Hispanic or White/Middle Eastern
 - 25-40 years old
 - 5 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 8 inches tall
 - thin build with light complexion
 - wearing a blue surgical mask
 - plain brown hat
 - sunglasses with green and blue reflective lenses placed on the bill of the hat
 - wearing a white hooded puffy vest; long sleeve white shirt underneath with left arm sleeve reflective tape from the shoulder to wrist that was peeling off and loose dark pants

DATE/TIME: Sunday, December 12, 2021, 5:30PM

LOCATION: “Crescenta Valley Skate Park”, 3498 Honolulu Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214

CIRCUMSTANCES: Minor victim was coming out of the bathroom when she was grabbed and sexually assaulted. The suspect fled the location on foot west bound over the pedestrian bridge towards the wash and out of view.

If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call “Crime Stoppers” by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the “P3Tips” Mobile APP on Google play or the Apple App Store or by using the website <https://www.lacrimestoppers.org/>

ANY INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
Special Victims Bureau
11515 S. Colima Road, D-106, Whittier, CA 90604
ATTENTION: Detective Martinez, (562) 906-5434, g7martin@lasd.org

Thursday, January 13, 2022 021-00196-8333-023 Created by SVB CAU

By Mary O’KEEFE

As reported on cvweekly.com, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept. – Special Victim’s Unit continues to ask for the public’s help in identifying the man who sexually assaulted a juvenile female at the Crescenta Valley Skate Park at Crescenta Valley Park.

The assault occurred at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 12 near the skate park bathrooms. The skate park normally has several skaters on-site and authorities are hoping someone saw something that could help them identify the suspect.

“Somebody has to know this guy,” said Lt. Richard Ruiz, LASD Special Victim’s Unit.

The sexual assault was reported on Dec. 21. At that time investigators immediately set up interviews with park workers and anyone who may have information that could help with the case. A composite was made of the suspect and the information was released to the public.

At this time there is no further information on the suspect.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept. – Special Victims Bureau is tasked with investigating the sexual and physical abuse of children and felonious sexual

OMICRON from Cover the current omicron surge and the possibility that staff may have been exposed.

Despite extensive precautions to protect customers and staff, such as providing masks and offering outdoor dining options, Alissa Hwang, owner of Alissa’s Ocean View Bar and Grill, explained that exposure was more likely with restaurant workers, who are repeatedly around people who are not wearing masks. And, for restaurants like Town located in the Montrose Shopping Park, some precautions have become more difficult.

The Montrose Shopping Park Assn. has been waiting for more than three months for the installation of new outdoor dining spaces.

Collins said, “The City of Glendale promised that outdoor dining would be reopened in November. It’s the end of January and we still have no timeline for when outdoor dining will reopen.”

Gigi Garcia, vice president of the Montrose Shopping Park Assn., said that, despite the uncertainty around outdoor dining, “The MSPA is such a great outdoor shopping space, and we hope that customers will continue to support our local small businesses.”

She further elaborated, “Supporting local businesses is the best way to ensure that local money stays in the local community, much of which then gets used to support local community organizations and activities.”

Beyond the immediate revenue loss, Hwang also worried that repeated closures will lead customers to assume the worst.

“How many times can we be closed down before people start to assume that we’re closed,” she said. “It’s very stressful. There aren’t any more government programs to help keep payroll running during these closures, but every member of my team still has rent to pay.”

Federal funding for programs like the Paycheck Protection Program expired at the end of August and, while staff of temporarily closed businesses can qualify for unemployment, the mandatory one-week waiting period means that they will lose at least one-week of pay and potentially wait months for

their application to be processed and for money to flow in.

Even when businesses can be open, pandemic fatigue and the politics of the pandemic have led to some difficult interactions with customers. While both owners noted that the vast majority of their customers have been very supportive, they have each had incidents of threatening and rude behavior, refusal to comply with local laws and mandates and, in the case of Ocean View, one customer who screamed at staff.

Collins said that he hopes his customers will remember, “The rules we’re following are not rules that we created ... but please, stay home if you’re sick. There is an element of respect in staying home.”

Hwang echoed that sentiment and said that, despite being in unincorporated LA County just outside of the City of Glendale limits, the Glendale Police Dept. had been very helpful in dealing with the rare threatening customers; however, she called on the LA County Sheriff’s Dept. to stop “playing politics and enforce the law,” even if they don’t like it or agree with it.

“Instead of being a place to relax and enjoy a meal or have a glass of wine, the burden of enforcing government mandates is put upon restaurant and business owners,” she said. “I have 16- and 17-year-old employees who are supposed to tell a grown adult to comply or leave without any backup or support from LA County Sheriff’s Dept. and, if the staff member backs down, [the business faces] a \$5,000 fine from the health department when we’re already struggling to make payroll.”

Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva publicly declared his refusal to enforce COVID-19 regulations, such as mask mandates, in a statement in July.

“Forcing the vaccinated and those who already contracted COVID-19 to wear masks indoors is not backed by science,” he said.

Despite the challenges, both business owners expressed gratitude to their customers.

“The community has been amazingly supportive at adapting to the changes in the way we’ve had to run the restaurant,” said Collins. “Thank you.”

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CRIME
BLOTTER

Jan. 15

4500 block of Raymond Avenue in La Crescenta, a bicycle was stolen from underneath a tree in the parking lot at the location between 4:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Jan. 14

500 block of Palmerstone Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a purse and personal items were stolen and the interior of a vehicle was ransacked. The victim called her bank and credit card company to cancel the cards and found that there had been three fraudulent charges made on her account. The following day the victim found a backrest outside a neighbor's house that had been stolen from her vehicle.

The vehicle burglary occurred between 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.


2400 block of Florencita Drive in La Crescenta, a man visiting the area reported receiving several calls to his cellphone with the person on the other end of the call demanding money. The caller then demanded to be paid a specific amount or they would kill him and his family. The victim was so concerned he transferred funds to the suspect/caller. Once that was done the suspect contacted the victim via an application and demanded more funds. Again the suspect threatened his family. The man was very concerned about his family; he contacted them and found them to be safe. He then contacted law enforcement.

The extortion incident occurred between 3:08 p.m. and 8:19 p.m.

4300 block of Ocean View Boulevard in Montrose, the front passenger window of a vehicle

Obituary

Michael A
Barbarino



Sept. 24, 1928 – Jan. 5, 2022

Michael was born on Sept. 24, 1928 in Brooklyn, New York and moved to California at the age of 17 where he met and married his wife of 62 years Denise.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life, Denise. He is survived by his daughters Marie Barbarino and Marian Zabel; sons Mark and Michael Barbarino; 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Michael made his living first as a union electrician and then as a city electrical inspector, which he retired from in February 1994.

During his life he was very involved in Little League, girls softball and Indian Guides. Later in life he enjoyed traveling with Denise across the country with their fifth wheel trailer. He was also an active member of the Glendale Elks.

Michael was a true blue Dodger fan and could tell you stories of sneaking into Ebbets Field as a kid to watch their games.


Michael (Mickey to his friends) will be missed. His children will miss him as will others whose lives he touched; and his grandchildren and great grandchildren (to whom he was known as Papa or Grandpa Mickey Mouse) will forever hold a special place in their hearts for him.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Gary Sinese Foundation, <https://www.garysinefoundation.org/donate/>, or Catholic Charities <https://support.crs.org/donate/give>.

Directors: CrippenMortuary.com

Obituary

Gerald “Jerry”
Arthur Rimpau



June 12, 1916 – Jan. 5, 2022

Born in Anaheim a century ago to Edward and Agnes Rimpau, Jerry was a sixth generation Californian; he graduated from Los Angeles High School and married the lovely Frances Catherine Caliva on Sept. 24, 1939. They lived on Clifton Way in Beverly Hills and had two children, Cheryl and Jerry.

Jerry joined the Army Air Corps in 1943 and flew 113 missions in WWII and was shot down three times. His older brother Edward was killed in WWII.

Jerry also served as a pilot trainer during the Korean War.

Jerry and Frances built their family home on Highridge Road in La Crescenta in 1952. He was also an active member of the Garibaldina Society.

After a long career, Jerry retired from Pacific Bell Telephone Company in 1975. Jerry also retired as a captain from the Air Force Reserves in 1976.


Jerry's greatest joys in retirement were walking his dogs in the Verdugo Mountains, La Tuna Canyon and Whiting Woods.

A funeral Mass at Holy Redeemer to honor Jerry's life was held on Jan. 19. Interment at a later date will be held at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills.

Funeral directors: CrippenMortuary.com

Obituary

Thomas Albert
Kirchner



1958-2022

Thomas passed away on Sunday, Jan. 9 due to complications from COVID-19. His family is heartbroken over his sudden passing. Tom, as he liked to be called, was born in Chicago, Illinois to Albert and Rosemary Kirchner. In 1966, he moved with his family to La Crescenta where he attended La Crescenta Elementary School, Rosemont Middle School, Crescenta Valley High School and Glendale Community College. He was a Boy Scout and earned the rank Eagle Scout and also participated in Babe Ruth Baseball League. He rode his bike, and then his dirt bike, whenever he could, both in the local hills and the various deserts around Southern California and Baja, Mexico.

He has three beautiful daughters – Sarah, Kristine and Brittney – who he was very proud of. The place he called home was Lytle Creek, California. He loved the mountain community and all that the mountains had to offer.

He recently wrote: “I work for everyone in my community. When done, I put on my gear and ride my dirt bike till dark.”

Tom had a huge heart and never said a mean word about anyone. He was always willing to help whether he knew you or not. He was a skilled plumber, electrician, dry waller, tiler, stone mason – well, just about everything. No job was too small. He really enjoyed working with his hands creating and problem solving. He recently was working on rock walls near his home and really enjoyed the entire artistic process.


He is survived by both of his parents, four sisters, three daughters and five grandchildren. His younger brother previously passed in 1983.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held at a future date.

Directors: CrippenMortuary.com

Obituary

Bill (William
Edward) Willets



Sept. 4, 1957 – Nov. 21, 2021

Bill (William Edward) Willets passed away on Nov. 21, 2021 at the age of 64.

Born on Sept. 4, 1957 in Queens, New York to Herb and Gloria Willets, he was the youngest of two children. He grew up on Long Island where he went to Levittown Memorial High School but graduated from Freeport High School in Freeport, Illinois after his family moved there. He then attended Nassau Community College as well as Five Towns Music College when he moved back to Long Island shortly after graduating.

Billy loved to play ice hockey in his younger years and was an avid music lover his whole life. In high school, he played clarinet and saxophone in his school band and, with his great love for music, it's no wonder that Bill married singer/songwriter Jeannie Garcia in 1981. They had two sons, Christopher and Sean.

Billy also played drums for several bands throughout the years and was the drummer for his wife's band. Bill and Jeannie wrote some songs together as well including a beautiful love ballad expressing their mutual and spiritual love for each other called, “Behind Your Eyes.” Together for 45 years, both always attributed their relationship's longevity to their shared love and wonderful sense of humor.

A friend to many due to his kind heart and loving soul, Bill Willets was a loving husband, devoted father, hard-working provider and faithful protector, loved by so many. Always a truth-seeker and truth sharer, he was a wise, gentle and honest soul who enriched many lives and will live on in our wonderful memories of him and in our hearts forever.

He is survived by his wife, Jeannie; sons Christopher and Sean; sister Pat and brother-in-law Larry; and family: his Aunt Jo, and cousins and their families.

Billy's memorial service will be held on Feb. 5 at noon at Crippen Mortuary, 2900 Honolulu Ave. in La Crescenta.

Directors: crippenmortuary.com

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was shattered, the interior of the vehicle was ransacked and several items, including firefighter turnout gear, were stolen overnight.

Jan. 13

3100 block of Brookhill Street in La Crescenta, personal items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle between 1 a.m. and 5:30 a.m.

Jan. 12

3100 block of Brookhill Street in La Crescenta, a microphone, tripod and wallet were stolen from an unlocked vehicle. The owner of the vehicle was notified that a person/persons attempted to use a credit card that was in his stolen wallet to make purchases at a Target store but those purchases were declined.

The vehicle burglary occurred overnight.

Jan. 6

4400 block of Cloud Avenue in La Crescenta, several pieces of audio equipment were stolen from a storage unit. The

lock on the storage unit had been cut. The management reportedly stated each unit had an alarm; however, the victim's unit alarm had not been activated. He also explained that some of the storage units' security alarms have not been working correctly.

Surveillance footage revealed a red GMC Yukon vehicle enter the property several times since Jan. 9. The driver of the vehicle had rented a storage unit, but was seen, along with another person, going to several different storage units throughout the week. Footage available, though, did not show them going to the victim's unit.

The theft occurred between Jan. 6-15.

Dec. 9

4100 block of Ocean View Boulevard in Montrose, several rooms were ransacked and items were stolen and damaged in a home between Dec. 9-13

Single Car Fire Leads to Multiple Car Fires at Apartment Building in Montrose

On Jan. 16 at 7:50 a.m., the Glendale Fire Dept. received a report of a fire in the parking garage of an apartment building at 2800 Montrose Ave. Upon arrival firefighters found heavy smoke coming from the parking garage located on the west side of La Crescenta Avenue and south of Montrose Avenue, with multiple vehicles on fire. The origin of the fire started with a single vehicle; the cause of the fire is under investigation. Five cars in total were a complete loss with as many as 40 other vehicles being affected. The parking structure has been red tagged. There were no injuries to residents or firefighters.

Photo courtesy of GFD



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CRIME BULLETIN

NEED TO IDENTIFY ROBBERY



SUSPECT DESCRIPTION

M/H or M/W 25-35 YRS, 5'6" - 5'7" - THIN BUILD, TATTOO ON RIGHT HAND

SYNOPSIS: On Friday, 1/7/22, at 6:18PM, a robbery occurred at a business on the 1100 block of E Broadway. The suspect looked at phones and asked about phones and plans before exiting the store. He then returned shortly after and simulated having a weapon while demanding cash from the register. He threatened to kill the victim and stated on the way out, "Sorry homie, tough times."

Anyone with information that can assist with the investigation is encouraged to contact the Glendale Police Department at 818-548-4911.

If you wish to remain anonymous, call the L.A. Regional Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (800-222-8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 MOBILE APP," or go directly to www.lacrimestoppers.org.

GPD is seeking help identifying the male in the above described robbery. Anyone with information that can assist the investigation is encouraged to call GPD at (818) 548-4911. To remain anonymous, call (800) 222-8477.

GPD REPORTS

Three Arrested for Theft False Pretense

On Jan. 12 just before 4 p.m., officers assigned to Glendale PD’s Special Enforcement Detail (SED) observed males standing near the intersection of Colorado Street and Pacific Avenue holding a sign for “Funeral Donations.” Officers spoke with 24-year-old Larry Padilla of Riverside, 27-year-old Anthony Applewhite, and 24-year-old Aaron Marquez of Redlands, and learned that Padilla had two warrants out for his arrest (one for “crimes begging”), and Applewhite had a warrant out for his arrest as well.

During their investigation, officers received contradicting information from the males regarding who they were raising money for; it appeared they were illegally soliciting money under false pretenses. It should also be noted that Applewhite was previously arrested by Glendale PD in May 2020 for theft under false pretenses with eight other individuals after Glendale PD SED officers discovered they were holding up fraudulent signs for funeral donations and collected over \$1,000 under false pretenses.

Ultimately, Padilla was arrested and booked for theft under false pretenses, possessing narcotics and for his outstanding warrants. Applewhite was arrested and booked for theft under false pretenses and his outstanding warrant, and Marquez was arrested and booked for theft under false pretenses.

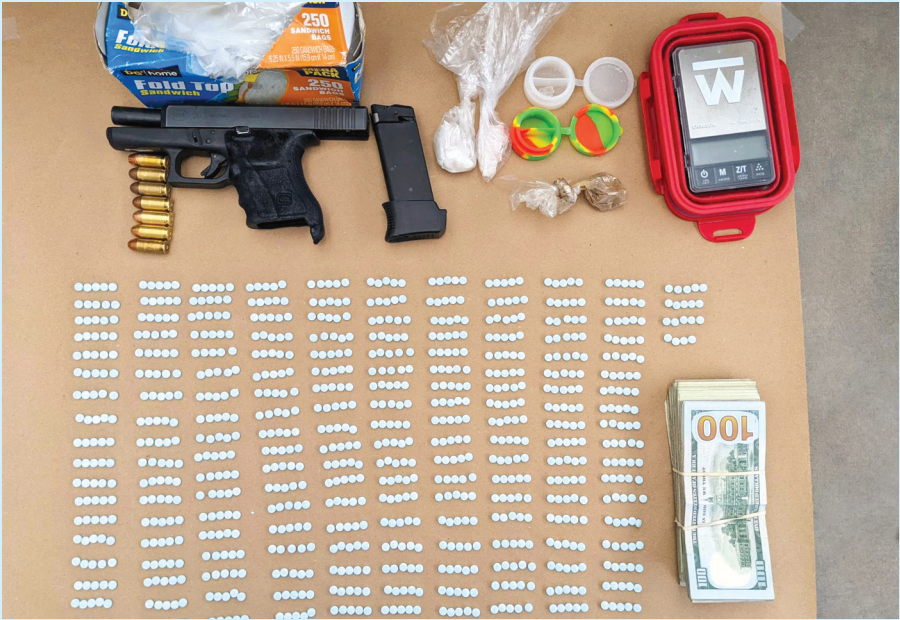
Loaded Handgun and Over 900 Pills of Narcotics Recovered – Two Arrested

On Jan. 4 just before 3 a.m., a GPD patrol officer located a vehicle travelling near the intersection of Colorado Street and Glendale Avenue that was wanted out of another jurisdiction for felony evading. A felony stop was conducted and the driver, 41-year-old David Martinez of Porterville, was discovered to have a suspended license and the passenger, 39-year-old Cherisa Baker of Porterville, was discovered to have multiple outstanding warrants and was carrying a loaded firearm on her person. A vehicle search produced another firearm, ammunition, several thousands of dollars in cash, methamphetamine, and over 900 oxycodone pills along with other narcotics related paraphernalia.

Martinez was arrested and booked for possessing controlled substances, possessing narcotics for sale, identity theft, possessing a controlled substance while armed and for driving with a suspended license.

Baker was arrested and booked for carrying a concealed weapon with a prior felony, providing a false identification to officers, possessing controlled substance and paraphernalia, and for numerous outstanding warrants.

Update: The pills seized in this case were imprinted with markings to indicate they were oxycodone and were sent to the LA County Drug Lab for further testing. The lab results returned and showed the pills tested positive for fentanyl.



Body Found on La Tuna Canyon

Los Angeles police officers were called at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday to the area of La Tuna Canyon west of the Foothill (210) Freeway concerning a body that was found down the ravine.

Officers discovered a male Hispanic in his 20s who was unresponsive. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident is not considered gang-related.

The victim did appear to be homeless, according to an LAPD spokesman. The victim’s identity and cause of death had not been released by the LA County Coroner as of press time.

VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Verdugo Hills Bowl – The End

Verdugo Hills Bowl was responsible for some great childhood memories for many residents. It remained popular well into the early ’70s. Perhaps with that in mind the bowling alley financed a major expansion in June 1977. The alley expanded from 28 lanes to 40 lanes, adding new ceilings, carpets and seating.

But the expansion may have been too much. One person who

worked there told me, “Before VHB expanded from 28 lanes to 40 it was always full. Unfortunately, when they expanded it was the same time more parents were going to work and adult bowling was slowly declining, [though not] the kids.”

An LA Times article from 1982 noted the decline in business for not only Verdugo Hills Bowl, but all other bowling alleys in the area. The various bowling alley owners blamed

the decline on several issues. Blue-collar workers, long the mainstay of bowling, had less income to spend. Women who made up a huge portion of the business in the 1960s were taking jobs outside the home, and kids had other options for their recreational time. The alleys were increasingly surviving on profits from video games and liquor sales. The manager of Verdugo Hills Bowl said that business was down to nearly half of what it should be to remain profitable. He admitted that they lost money the preceding year.

But the problems didn’t stop there. In 1989, there were labor issues regarding unionization of the employees of Verdugo Hills Bowl and two other bowling alleys under the same owner. Compounding that were complaints from neighbors in the ’90s about rowdy drunks hanging out behind the alley. Those complaints even went to the level of Glendale holding a hearing to consider revoking the bowling alley’s liquor license. The bowling alley was living on borrowed time.

Dennis McNerny was there to

see it all end.

“At the age of 15, I was offered a job at the front desk and from then on I was dedicated to the place. On Dec. 3, 1996 I was called in to cover a shift for someone. I was in high school, struggling to pass an algebra class. After two phone calls I reluctantly decided to skip the homework and go to work. I am so glad that I did as that night would be the last for Verdugo Hills Bowl. It wasn’t as profitable as it was in the ’70s and ’80s, so the owners ended up losing the place. The owners showed up at 10 p.m., cleaned out every safe and till and left. Next morning the bank showed up and locked the doors. I stood outside that morning and had to tell all the students from the high school bowling class that the place was history.”

So in the end, it was foreclosed on by a bank. That bank sold it to Foothill Nissan, which had the car dealership next door. It in turn sold it to Vons, and it was demolished in 2002, a big Vons supermarket taking its place.

But the old bowling alley had one last date with fame. During the years it sat abandoned it was used in a hit

music video! Dennis McNerny tells us that in 1998 the group Matchbox 20 shot the music video for their hit “Real World” in the abandoned Verdugo Hills Bowl. In true music video bizarreness, the front man for the group leads a camel – yes, a real camel – across the bowling lanes. In the background you can see the dangling wires from the removed pinsetters. The last portion of the video is shot in a tiny coffee shop and Dennis is pretty sure it was filmed in Delrod’s Coffee Shop (now a veterinary office) located across from the bowling alley on Foothill Boulevard. The video is found easily on YouTube and well worth a watch.

The only thing left today from Verdugo Bowl is logoed T-shirts. They are all over the internet with two different designs available. I bought mine from Moonshot.com. You might see me wearing my Verdugo Bowl T-shirt, wandering the aisles of Vons supermarket, looking for my lost bowling ball.

Mike Lawler is the former president of the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley and loves local history. Reach him at lawlerdad@yahoo.com.

NEWS FROM SACRAMENTO » ASSEMBLYMEMBER LAURA FRIEDMAN

2022 Budget Perspective

Every January, the governor is required by the California Constitution to release his budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year. It’s his chance to lay out priorities for spending across a multitude of programs and services that Californians depend upon. In lean years, it can be a grim document full of painful cuts to services like we saw during the Great Recession. When revenues are up, as they have been for the past several cycles, it’s often full of bold and progressive ideas. It also serves as the starting point for the California Legislature as we begin our work to craft a balanced budget over the next six months.

A good budget is a sustainable budget. It should accurately account for our liabilities, bolster our reserves, provide meaningful support to our core government functions, and fund solutions to the problems and crises facing our state. When Governor Gavin Newsom released his budget proposal last week, I was happy to see plenty of areas where we have common ground and goals.

For over a decade, California has been building budget reserves to guard against the boom and bust cycles that have wreaked havoc upon our economy and vital services. In this year’s budget proposal, Gov. Newsom is proposing to boost our budget reserves to \$34.6 billion and reduce our debt and liabilities. It might not be the most exciting part of any spending plan, but it’s the right thing to do to ensure our fiscal health over the long run.

On the spending side, the governor’s proposed budget includes historic investments in schools, transportation, health care and housing. It calls for quick action

to fund \$1.4 billion in pandemic response efforts, including increased testing capacity and resources for hospitals.

Under the proposal, schools would benefit from \$119 billion in funding for transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. That breaks down to \$20,855 per student. That’s the highest level of funding ever, and part of a robust plan to provide ongoing funding for core programs including special education, nutrition and expanded learning. Combined with the investment in early childhood education and childcare, career technical education, community colleges and our universities, it’s a budget package that takes into account learning across the spectrum.

We’ve spent a lot of time and billions of dollars focused on the housing crisis, and for good reason. It’s one of the biggest and most daunting challenges facing California. The 2021 budget alone included over \$10 billion in funding to increase housing production and assist local governments. It also included over \$12 billion to address homelessness. Even with the influx of funding, progress has been cumbersome and understandably frustrating for cities and neighborhoods alike.

In the proposal for 2022, the focus is on meeting immediate housing needs and linking housing with behavioral health and treatment. The plan also includes funding to help reduce the number of Californians living in encampments with resources for local communities to assist in the transition to safe housing and cleanup.

Of course, you can’t talk about housing without considering transportation needs. As the chair

of the Assembly Transportation Committee, I’m looking forward to continuing our negotiations with the Administration on transportation funding. With the passage of the federal infrastructure package, California is expected to see more than \$10 billion in new federal funding over the next five years. At the state level, I’m pleased to see the governor increase the proposed investment in transit and active transportation. We’ve made some significant gains in funding that can ease congestion and pollution and we have a real opportunity to focus on building sustainable transportation options that can better connect communities.

In any discussion about funding priorities, we can’t overlook small businesses that have long been the backbone of our economy. In fact, small businesses have been responsible for creating two-thirds of new jobs in our pandemic recovery. I’m happy to see the governor’s proposal restore business tax credits and build on our 2021 work to support small businesses with \$500 million in additional tax relief.

Finally, in the Crescenta Valley and across the 43rd District, we’re all too familiar with the devastation that wildfires can bring. That’s why I’ve advocated for investments in proven prevention strategies, home-hardening and new equipment for firefighters throughout my time in public office. Last year, we invested a record \$1.5 billion to fund prevention efforts. This year, Gov. Newsom is proposing an additional \$1.2 billion to fund fire prevention and forest health projects.

That’s just a few of the highlights from the governor’s proposal. So, see FRIEDMAN on page 19

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mask?

The big question ... do masks really protect us? It seems to be debatable!

If you’re a sports fan and watch baseball, football, soccer – that is any sport being played in a stadium indoor or out – and if you attend the event, you most likely will be sitting next to someone who doesn’t have a mask on.

During the 2022 Rose Parade most participants and viewers were not wearing one. When entering a restaurant, one must wear a mask to enter and then you may remove it when you sit down. There is a lack of consistency when it comes to the pros and cons about masks. It seems mayors, governors and the White House all have different rules! Some representatives require their constituents to wear a mask in public; yet, when they attend an event, they often don’t wear one themselves.

Now we are told that cloth masks won’t protect us. Yet the manufacturers still produce them? Guess they don’t want to put a lid on a multi-million-dollar industry.

Other disadvantages of [wearing] a mask are people who have difficulty with breathing. Those with a hearing deficiency may lose all means of communicating [if] they rely on lip reading. Actually, all vocal communications are negatively affected because a mask does modify voice frequencies, which affects voice clarity.

However, it does make sense to wear a mask when you have a respiratory infection. When you are sick your immune system is impaired and the chance of becoming infected from airborne bacterial or viral spores are much greater. Under these conditions staying away from people makes good sense.

If you have a temperature or flu-like symptoms stay home and away from everyone. You’re sick! Keep to yourself and take whatever medications your doctor prescribes! Rest and drinking lots of water goes a long way!

*Andy Gero
La Crescenta*

School Choice Options are Changing in La Crescenta and Across the Country

If you’re reading this, chances are you’re a parent. Baby Boomer, Gen X or Millennial – the K-12 school scene has changed so much since we were kids.

Here are the three biggest changes affecting education in

La Crescenta and across the U.S. today, and what these changes mean for your family.

First, school choice opportunities have broadened over the last generation. That means parents have more options for where to send their children to school. For example: traditional public schools have adopted more flexible enrollment policies. Charter school laws have passed in 45 states, including California. More families are aware they can choose public magnet programs, where kids receive education with a special focus, like STEM or the arts. Today, many California families receive scholarships to help fund their tuition at private schools, or choose homeschooling.

Another game-changer is that there’s now more community support for making school choices. I’ve worked in K-12 education for more than 15 years and I’ve seen dozens of parent-focused organizations spring up to shine a spotlight on learning options in local communities. From helping parents find scholarships to private schools to offering bilingual application assistance, grassroots organizations are cutting the stress out of school searching.

Third, a plethora of online learning environments have developed since our school days. These online options are more comprehensive and focused than the emergency remote learning that many families experienced during the pandemic. For example, California offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, like California Connections Academy and California Virtual Academies. Besides official online schooling, resources like schoolhouse.world offer free support.

All these changes to K-12 education are reasons for hope. With more options, La Crescenta parents have more opportunities to find a free or inexpensive education personalized to their unique children. Begin the school search process during School Choice Week (Jan. 23-29) when 2,193 schools and homeschool groups in California will be working together to raise awareness of opportunity in education.

*Andrew Campanella
Andrew Campanella is president of National School Choice Week and the author of “The School Choice Roadmap: 7 Steps to Finding the Right School for Your Child.*

Healthy Living 2022

Mailbox Toluca Lake ‘Doctor’ is Here to Help

Though customers of Mailbox Toluca Lake expect to see countless mailboxes, greeting cards and typical postal service products, like FedEx, they might be surprised to also see remedies for ailments affecting the throat.

Mailbox Toluca Lake owner Jonathan Kramer, known informally as “Doctor Voice” to the superstars, has been

helping his clientele battle laryngitis, hoarseness and other maladies affecting the voice for decades. He remembers how his mother and sister suffered with chronic coughs and how homemade throat lozenges from Switzerland brought them relief. Grether’s Pastilles are among the products that Kramer sells and they’re a

recognized treatment. According to Dr. Leslie Childs, an otolaryngologist with the UT Southwestern Medical Center who is also a singer, in an online article she recommends Grether’s Pastilles as a product that can help soothe a sore throat – an ailment that many professionals are experiencing as they return to stage and sound studios after extended leave due to COVID-19.

Dr. Childs stated that vocal cord muscles could become deconditioned due to lack of use and products like Grether’s Pastilles and teas like Throat Coat can help bring them back to optimum performance. Thankfully Mailbox Toluca Lake offers these products – and many others to address everything from stress, sleep issues and arthritis in addition to voice challenges. To comfort coughs and sore throats, Honees cough drops are recommended as is Honey Crystals, an

instant tea for the professional vocalist. And these products can be applied in a variety of ways, from topical applications to sprays and even enjoyed as lollipops.

To learn more, visit Mailbox Toluca Lake at 10153½

Riverside Drive in Toluca Lake, call (818) 505-9350 or email MailboxTolucaLake@gmail.com. For a complete line of products visit mailboxtoluclake.com.



Photo courtesy of Jonathan KRAMER
Jonathan Kramer, right, also known as “Doctor Voice” to his elite clientele, has health products to help stars like actor Cuba Gooding Jr. that are also available to the general public.

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Healthy Living 2022

So You Had COVID: Now What?

By Charly SHELTON

With the recent spike of COVID-19 cases over the holidays, it is very likely that every person in Los Angeles County knows someone who contracted the virus. With daily positive case counts more than double the previous peak of the pandemic last

January, and more than 3500% of when the first shutdown was enacted in March 2020, the number of people in LA County who have had COVID-19 since Christmas is roughly one in 10.

So for the nearly 100,000 people in LA who tested positive in the last month and have since recovered, the major question hanging over their heads is – “Now what?”

The omicron variant is fueling this surge of cases and the preliminary data indicate that this strain is less virulent than the previous variants of COVID-19 but has much higher transmissibility rates.

“In a number of [in-vitro animal] studies, ones that have been done individually and cooled, in mice and hamster models it was shown that the virus of omicron proliferates very well in the upper airway and bronchi, but actually very poorly in the lungs,” said White House chief medical advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci in the weekly White House COVID 19 Response Team press briefing, “which actually goes along with, doesn’t prove but goes along with, the concept that you have a very transmissible virus with upper airway secretion but a virus that has less pathogenicity in the lung.”

What this means for those who have recovered is that the likelihood and intensity of lingering effects should similarly be lessened due to the lessened severity of symptoms in the lungs during infection. In addition, having gone through the infection leaves the host with antibodies to omicron, which gives another layer of protection from reinfection in the future.

“For [people] who have had the virus recently, including children too young for vaccination, they should carry some immunity going forward, at least until the next variant comes around,” said Dr. John Rodarte, pediatrician with Descanso Pediatrics in La Cañada, part of Huntington Health Physicians. “Unfortunately, there is no blanket statement for everyone showing

how much or how long that immunity will last. And studies have shown that natural immunity is greatly enhanced by vaccination, including boosters.”

With fresh immunity, for the short-term at least, and a lower likelihood of severe aftereffects from infection, many who had COVID-19 recently are excited to get back out in the world, less nervous about catching the virus. And yes, normal life can resume after the quarantine period of five days with a negative test for vaccinated individuals or 10 days for unvaccinated or positive-testing individuals. But the mask mandates are still in place regardless of vaccination status or prior infection. And beyond the mandate, it is still a smart idea to wear a high-quality N95 mask when in public because of the uncertainty of antibody immunity.

“While [previously infected individuals] do have antibodies for a while and should be protected to some degree, it is not known how long those antibodies will be protective,” Dr. Rodarte said. “Therefore, whenever [people] go out for public gatherings and events, safety precautions should still be taken while we remain in the midst of this pandemic.”

For children returning to school after a bout with COVID-19, it is more difficult to safeguard going forward.

“The five-day CDC guideline really was meant more for the adult work force due to a shortage of workers. This is much harder to

follow for children going to school, since the recommendation is to keep an N95 mask on at all times and not take it off to eat around others,” Dr. Rodarte said. “This makes it very difficult since children do need to eat lunch and no one is able to fully monitor their mask-wearing throughout the school day, thus potentially exposing more children.”

And, for very young children including those under 5 years old who are too young to be vaccinated, there is still a risk of MIS-C, a rare but dangerous side effect for kids. This is as true for omicron as it was for the other variants. But now, Dr. Rodarte said, there is also an uptick in incidence of diabetes in children after COVID infection.

“There is still much to be learned about how often this occurs, but it’s another reason why it is still better to reduce the incidence of infection with vaccination,” Dr. Rodarte said. “Now is not the time for COVID parties like parents used to do with chicken pox.”



Photo by Charly SHELTON
At high-risk locations, like theme parks, people should exercise additional precaution to avoid contracting COVID-19.

At-Home COVID Tests Ready to Order

People could start ordering free at-home coronavirus test kits a day earlier than expected.

Originally the Biden Administration had said the tests would be available on

Wednesday, but the site is opened for orders on Tuesday.

Visit [COVIDtest.gov](https://www.covidtest.gov) and order the free at-home tests. Each household order will contain four rapid tests and should be

received by the end of January. Over 600,000 people were on the COVID Home Tests/USPS site as of Tuesday afternoon.

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

NEWS FROM USC-VHH Are You at Risk for Gastric Cancer?

As we age, our cancer risk factors change. But age isn't the only factor that determines your risk for gastric cancer. Age, sex, diet and family history can impact your risk.

While it is true that men are at slightly higher risk than women to develop some form of gastrointestinal cancer, it is still important that women understand their risk factors for gastrointestinal cancers and undergo appropriate screening.

"Women did not used to get tested the way men do, but we are definitely seeing that change," said Sonia Taneja Sharma, MD, (below) a gastroenterologist at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital. Sharma noted that one in 25 women will be diagnosed with colon or rectal cancer in her life, making it the third most common cancer among women.

According to Sharma, people at average risk for colon cancer should begin screening at age 45. She noted that until recently doctors recommended their patients begin screening at 50 but that was dropped due to an increase in the number of people under 50 developing colon cancer.

Some patients, including those with a family history of colon cancer, certain genetic mutations or other gastrointestinal diseases, may need to begin screening at a younger age or have screenings more frequently.

Though several types of screening tests are available, Sharma encourages her patients to undergo colonoscopy.

"Colonoscopy is still the gold standard," said Sharma. Colonoscopy allows doctors to see and remove growths called polyps that can become cancerous. "If there are no polyps – and as long

as there are no other risk factors – we do another one in 10 years." For some types of gastrointestinal cancer, including stomach cancer, risk factors can include a person's nationality.

Men and women from East Asia, noted Sharma, have high rates of stomach cancer. And, while there are no universal guidelines for screening American women for stomach cancer, in Korea and Japan women undergo routine endoscopic screening for stomach cancer beginning at 40 and 50, respectively.

"We know that people from East Asia have high rates of stomach cancer," said Sharma. "Some patients from East Asia, especially if they have symptoms or other risk factors, should discuss with their doctor whether they need to be screened."

Asians and Pacific Islanders are also more likely to have hepatitis B, which can lead to serious liver damage and liver cancer. Anyone born in those countries or who have at least one parent born in regions with high rates of hepatitis B should talk to their physician about getting screened.

Learn more at uscvh.org/hospital-services/gastroenterology-services.



Strolling Through the Gardens

The La Crescenta Woman's Club meets on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. to walk Descanso Gardens. The Club welcomes potential new members to join them on Saturday mornings for a little exercise and a lot of "chit chat." Those interested can leave a message on the clubhouse phone (818) 957-9806; also check out the website lacscentawomansclub.org for more information on renting the clubhouse at 4004 La Crescenta Ave.

Submitted by Danette ERICKSON



Pictured from left are Dawna Berger, Tamara Hughes, Adrienne Griffin, Carol Stein and Danette Erickson.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis! How Long Will It Take To Sell My Home?

Dear Phyllis,
My company is relocating to Florida, and they will be paying my selling expenses. I have been reading your column for so many years, I feel as if I know you. Unfortunately, for us to obtain the full transfer package we need to use a Realtor they are recommending. Moving out of state, timing is my major concern. I am wondering how long will it take to sell my La Crescenta home?
Leaving on a jet plane

Dear Leaving,
There are three phases to selling your home. The first phase is the preparation phase. How much time and effort you decide to put into the sale of your home is up to you.

The second phase is the marketing phase. Once your home is ready for professional photographs, the turn around time is two to three days to receive the photos. When the photos are received your real estate agent should list your home in the multiple listing service (MLS).

Discuss with your Realtor the benefits of using the "coming soon" status. This status allows your home to be listed in the MLS before the listing reverts to active status. For instance, if your home is listed "coming soon" in the MLS on Monday it will be disseminated

to numerous real estate portals on Monday. Perhaps showings will commence on Friday. Friday will be the day your listing status changes to "active", but days on market will be zero. You have earned four free marketing days.

There are not enough La Crescenta homes for sale to satisfy the buyers wanting to move to this community. If your home is properly priced, you will sell in less than 12 days over the list price.

The final third phase is the escrow process. Your Realtor does not have control over the buyer's choice of lender. A great lender can close in 30 days or less. A mediocre one, will take another two – three weeks.

Best of luck on your sale and your move.



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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Scene in LA – January 2022

By Steve ZALL and Sid FISH

Well, the New Year has finally arrived, but the omicron variant of COVID-19 is wreaking havoc with new case numbers doubling almost every day, causing many major venues to cancel their productions until further notice. The smaller venues that are brave enough to stay open are enforcing strict COVID protocols so proof of vaccination is required and face masks must be worn at all times during the performances at most theaters in order to attend performances. The information presented in this column is the latest available at the time of printing; however, you should check with the theater to confirm it before making definite plans. Here are the shows that have announced opening dates or are already running this month:

“Coloropolis” Welcome to Coloropolis, where individuals are identified only by the color of their clothes. This is a constantly growing community, changing with every stroke of The Writer’s quill. After setting the stage and providing their characters with “free-will,” The Writer leaves Coloropolis to the whims of its inhabitants. What follows is an abstract, funny, biting, satirical “lord of the flies” amongst the primaries and non-primaries in their newly developing world. Despite its absurdity and humor, the play tackles a broad spectrum of issues societies face as they develop.

Written by A.P. De La Caridad and directed by Travvyz Santos Gatz and Tor Brown, it runs through Feb. 13 at the Loft Ensemble in North Hollywood. For tickets, call (818) 452-3153 or visit www.loftensemble.org.



“Singing Revolution: The Musical” Featuring 20 triple-threat performers, a five-piece band and a crowd-pleasing Europop score, the world premiere of “Singing Revolution: The Musical” sets a tale of star-crossed lovers against the beautiful, moving and timeless true story of Estonia’s 1987 song-filled, peaceful uprising against the Soviet Union. Set in Tallinn, Estonia and spanning four decades, “Singing Revolution” is inspired by actual events that led to Estonian independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. The tiny country’s journey to freedom through the power of song acts as a reminder to us all that the power of peaceful resistance can change the world.

Written by Tony Spinoso and James Bearhart, with music by Tony Spinoso, lyrics by James Bearhart, and directed by

Tony Spinoso, it runs through Feb. 20 at the Broadwater Theatre Main Stage in Los Angeles. For tickets, visit www.singingrevolutionthemusical.com.

“Marvin’s Room” tells the story of two sisters, Lee and Bessie, who could not be more different and, though sisters, have not seen each other for almost two decades. During that time, Lee has been raising two challenging boys on her own. Bessie has been caring for their father, along with his soap opera-obsessed sister. Now the two are thrown together as Bessie has just been diagnosed with leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant.

Written by Scott McPherson and directed by Thomas James O’Leary, it runs through Feb. 27 at the Actors Co-op David Schall Theatre in Hollywood. For tickets, call (323) 462-8460 or visit www.actorsco-op.org.

“Och and Oy! A Considered Cabaret” It’s a collection of songs and stories compiled from our seemingly very disparate lives and personalities, but in the course of the show we find out that we aren’t so different after all.

Starring Alan Cumming and Ari Shapiro, it’s written and directed by Alan Cumming and Ari Shapiro, with music by Henry Koperski. It runs Jan. 21 through Jan. 22 at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica. For tickets, call (310) 434-3200 or visit www.thebroadstage.org.

“The Prisoner of Second Avenue” Mel Edison is a well-paid executive of a high-end Manhattan firm, which has suddenly hit the skids, and he gets the ax. His wife Edna takes a job to tide them over, and then she too is sacked. Compounded by the air pollution killing his plants and with the walls of the apartment being paper-thin (allowing him a constant earful of his neighbor’s private lives), things can’t seem to get any worse ... Then he’s robbed and his psychiatrist dies with \$23,000 of his money. Mel does the only thing left for him to do: he has a nervous breakdown and it’s the best thing that ever happened to him.

Written by Neil Simon and directed by Gail Bernardi, it runs Jan. 21 through Feb. 20 at the Theatre Palisades in Pacific Palisades. For tickets, call (310) 454-1970 or visit www.theatrepalisades.org.



“A Little Night Music” Inspired by the 1955 Ingmar Bergman film “Smiles of a Summer Night,” this Tony Award-winning Broadway musical involves the romantic lives of several couples in Sweden around the year 1900. This new production will look at what it means to present gender on stage in the American musical theatre in 2022, with some fresh takes on several of the classic roles in the show.

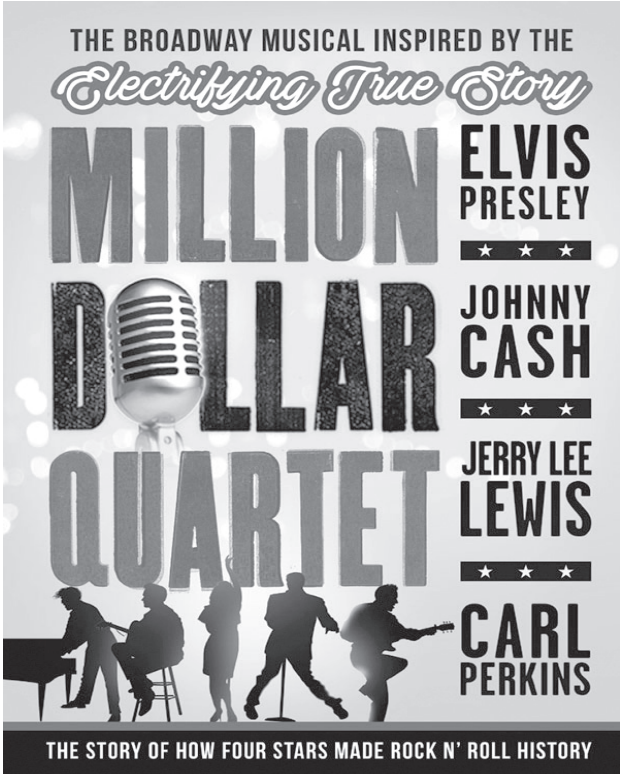
Written by Hugh Wheeler, with music by Stephen Sondheim, and directed by Ryan O’Connor, it runs Jan. 22 through Feb. 27 at the Greenway Court Theatre in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (323) 673-0544 or visit www.greenwaycourtheatre.org.

“Boy Vey” An autobiographical solo show about how a Jewish girl’s quest for love unveils the bizarre connections between her misbegotten dating life and inherited Holocaust trauma.

Written by Rachel Kaftan and directed by Dana Resnick, it runs Jan. 22 through March 12 at the Santa Monica Playhouse in Santa Monica. For tickets, call (310) 394-9779 Ext. 1 or visit www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/boyvey.

“Million Dollar Quartet” Is the Tony® Award-winning smash-hit musical inspired by the true story of the famed recording session that brought together rock ‘n’ roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for the first and only time? On Dec. 4, 1956 these four young musicians gathered at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest rock ‘n’ roll jam sessions ever!

Written by Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux, and directed by Tim Seib, it runs through Feb. 13 at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts in La Mirada. For tickets, call (562) 944-9801 or visit www.LaMiradaTheatre.com.



Steve Zall and Sid Fish of Scene in L.A. know a lot about L.A. theatre and are ready to share with CV Weekly readers. You can read more at CVWeekly.com/LEISURE.

THEN & NOW



Then » The Verdugo Hills Bowl closed in 1996. In 1998 the group Matchbox 20 shot the music video for their hit “Real World” in the abandoned La Crescenta bowling alley. In the true bizarre MTV style of that era, the lead singer of Matchbox 20 is leading a live camel down the darkened bowling lanes.

Verdugo Hills Bowl Music Video Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Now » The old bowling alley was torn down in 2002 and a massive Vons supermarket was built in its place. Local historian Mike Lawler stands in the same spot as the Matchbox 20 singer did 24 years ago. Instead of leading a camel, he’s leading his shopping cart. He’s wearing his Verdugo Hills Bowl T-shirt, and wondering where his bowling ball is.

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Flutist Burr and Pianist Sánchez Perform for Glendale Noon Concerts

On Wednesday, Feb. 2 at 12:10 p.m. the Free Admission Glendale Noon Concerts program will be streamed.

Flutist Ellen Burr and pianist Lorenzo Sánchez will perform works by Bohuslav Martinů, Ned Rorem, Mario Lavista and Mike Mower on a Facebook stream and YouTube.

The pair will perform "First Sonata for Flute and Piano" by Bohuslav Martinů,

"Mountain Song" by Ned Rorem, "Danza de las bailarinas de Degas" by Mario Lavista and "Opus di Jazz" by Mike Mower.

Ellen Burr's multifaceted musical career has won her praise in performance, improvisation and composition. She had her solo debut with the Topeka Civic Symphony at age 16, and in October played Michael Kibbe's "Verdugo" with the Carson City Symphony.

Burr has been improvising almost as long as she's been playing and began teaching only two years after she began taking private lessons. She appears on more than 25 CDs and has received worldwide performances of over 50 of her compositions. Her improvisational card game "Ink Bops" is included in the graphic score anthology Notations 21, ed. by Theresa Sauer, pub. 2009.

She has been a featured performer/clinician for high schools, universities and festivals across the U.S., Canada, UK and EU. Burr held a year-long position as visiting assistant professor of theory and music composition at Wichita State University, and was guest flute instructor for a semester at California Institute of the Arts.

Lorenzo Sánchez, pianist, has enjoyed interpreting music of a variety of styles and nationalities in



the United States, Mexico and Europe. Sánchez premiered Robert Guillory's "Concertino for Piano and Orchestra." His interest in Polish music led to him giving several lecture-performances at the Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles. He has performed for African-American composer George Walker and Japanese composer Mitsuru Asaka in Hawaii. He has played for several choirs touring Italy, The Vatican, and several Filipino community celebration masses at Our Lady Queen of Angels in Los Angeles. Looking toward his heritage, Sánchez has edited and helped publish piano works by Mexican composer Domingo Lobato. He has recorded two CDs of Lobato's solo piano works, and recently released a CD with clarinetist Virginia Figueiredo. The global pandemic caused the cancellation of concert appearances in Brazil and Mexico this year.

The Glendale Noon Concerts is celebrating its 14th year of presenting free admission, and now streamed, concerts every first and third Wednesday for Glendale and the Southland community.

Upcoming concerts will be updated at <http://glendalenoonconcerts.blogspot.com>.

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

Edited by Timothy Parker

ACROSS

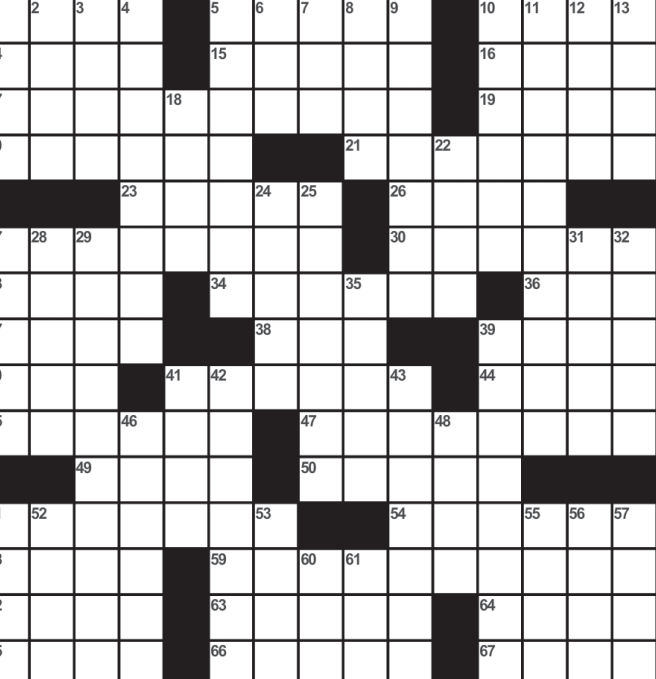
- 1) Nile reptiles
- 5) Hit hard
- 10) They're found within minutes
- 14) Pipe problem
- 15) Chopper blade
- 16) "That was close!"
- 17) What results may do
- 19) "Que ___?"
- 20) Kind of recording
- 21) In generous amounts
- 23) Buddhist who has attained nirvana
- 26) Astronaut's beverage
- 27) Almond-flavored cordial
- 30) Big test
- 33) Polio-vaccine discoverer
- 34) Hair piece
- 36) It's fit to be tied
- 37) Singles and doubles
- 38) Late columnist Landers
- 39) "Terrible" despot
- 40) Charlotte-to-Raleigh dir.
- 41) Compound of a certain acid
- 44) Splinter group
- 45) One was given on the mount
- 47) Confusion
- 49) "Peter Pan" pooch
- 50) Ancient Roman port
- 51) Exchange
- 54) Highly skilled people
- 58) "Pro" follower
- 59) Give new life to
- 62) Nuclear energy source
- 63) Clear, as a disk
- 64) Muslim chief
- 65) A ___ pittance
- 66) College housing units
- 67) Agra garment

DOWN

- 1) Edison's middle name
- 2) Astin of "Lord of the Rings"
- 3) "Legal" prefix
- 4) High-flying songbirds
- 5) Pioneer pilots
- 6) Coal carrier
- 7) Absorbed, as a loss
- 8) Soft-drink choice
- 9) Doomed fictional planet
- 10) Add
- 11) Workplace activity, sometimes
- 12) Makeup or screen, e.g.
- 13) On the road
- 18) Modeled
- 22) Cook's canful
- 24) Floral fragrance
- 25) Transport to Oz
- 27) Contents of some urns
- 28) Acadia National Park locale
- 29) Dodge Charger charger
- 31) Philippine banana tree
- 32) Like a dryer trap
- 35) Con men?
- 39) Netanyahu's people
- 41) Top-drawer
- 42) Not broadcast
- 43) Subjects of wills
- 46) Female honorific (Var.)
- 48) Verdi masterpiece
- 51) Alpine transport
- 52) Miles per hour, e.g.
- 53) One of Seneca's students
- 55) Cotton fabric
- 56) Bygone Russian leader (Var.)
- 57) Eighteen-wheeler
- 60) Alt. spelling
- 61) An end to alcohol?

DIFFERENT WAYS

By Denise J. Collins



JUST FOR FUN

CALENDARthis

INSTALLATION, PRESENTATION PLANNED FOR VIOLET SOCIETY

The Burbank African Violet Society will be having its next club meeting today, Thursday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. at The Little White Chapel Christian Church,

1711 North Avon St. in Burbank. The program will include the installation of officers and a hands-on workshop led by club member John Hershey titled “Planting an African Violet Leaf.” The members and guests will learn the necessary techniques and different ways to plant an African violet leaf.

There are raffle and silent auction tables. Refreshments are served and friendships are made. Guests are always welcome to attend meetings.

For more information please telephone (661) 940-3990 or reference the website: www.burbankafricanviolets.weebly.com.

BACKYARD FRUIT TREES TOPIC OF GARDEN CLUB

The Burbank-Valley Garden Club will hold its next meeting on Feb. 3 at the Little White Church at 1711 N. Avon St. in Burbank. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Mike Wronkowski will present “How To Create A Backyard Fruit Tree Orchard.” Wronkowski has been a certified nursery professional in Southern California for many years.

He is the manager at the Santa Clarita Green Thumb Garden Center; chairman of the California Certified Nursery Professionals Committee; and chairman of the California Plant Alliance Education Committee. The Club is very fortunate to have him back with us to talk about backyard orchards.

Wronkowski will discuss the best varieties to grow in the local area and the conditions needed to grow them successfully, including their sun, water and nutrition requirements, management of pests and how and when to prune them for best results. Don’t miss this amazing speaker who is bound to give us some unique tips to get our orchards started!

All are invited to hear this amazing speaker while making a few new friends. A seat is reserved for you!

Masks are required and, in the event that indoor gatherings are prohibited, the meeting will take place on Zoom. Those who have any questions can contact Anne White at (818) 434-3616 or via email at annewhite1@aol.com.

LOS ANGELES CENTRAL LIBRARY TOPIC OF PROGRAM

Little Landers Historical Society invites the community to visit Bolton Hall Museum on Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. for its 2nd Saturday Program, the story of the Los Angeles Central Library. The fascinating history, art, architecture

and collections of the library will be discussed by Dave McMenamin, a Los Angeles Library docent who leads tours of the Library. This presentation includes video of the aftermath of the devastating 1986 Library fire and a visit to some parts of the library that are not included on the official tours.

This event is free (donations welcomed) and open to the public and everyone is invited.

Bolton Hall Museum, home of Little Landers Historical Society, is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

Additional information is available from Little Landers Historical Society, (818) 352-3420 or BoltonHall.org or email llhs@boltonhall.org.

JBHS PLANS REUNION

Calling all graduates from John Burroughs High School class of 1962!

The 60th year class reunion celebration will be held at the Burbank Elks Lodge at 2232 N. Hollywood Way in Burbank on Saturday, June 25 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Come and renew old friendships, share memories and catch up on what’s new. The Reunion Committee has planned an evening of fine dining, music enjoyed “back in the day” in addition to video and photo opportunities to capture the moments of this grand event. We want everyone to attend so if you know of classmates who haven’t heard of this event, please

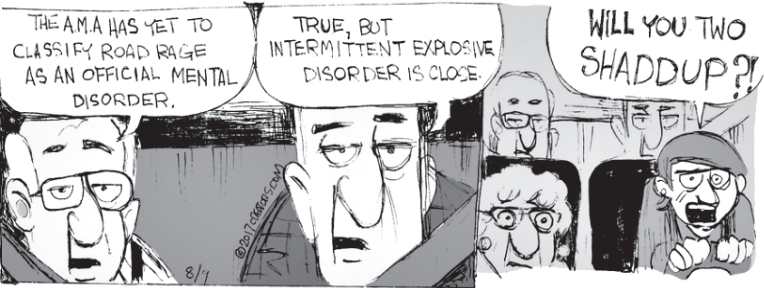
let them know. The reunion committee strives to contact as many grads as possible.

JBHS Class of 1962 only: Have a fav song from our era? Submit the song title and song artist(s) as a reunion celebration playlist is being created.

Send your selection to cchavoor@gmail.com and thank you in advance. This is going to be so much fun so don’t miss out!!

For more information, please contact Chuck Chavoor at cchavoor@gmail.com.

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

January 23, 2022 - January 27, 2022

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

The cosmos could bring a lot of emotion to the surface. A good workout might help you feel calmer and more centered, as well as much better all around. If you feel more tired than usual, try to reduce your schedule and pamper yourself a bit. Go for a swim, climb in a sauna, or get a massage. If you can relax, you’ll be back in top form in a few days.

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

The cosmos could encourage you to indulge now. Once you get into dieting mode, there are few things that can cause you to stray. But some aspects now are all about temptation, especially when it comes to foods that give you a little buzz and extra energy, like sugar. It’s OK to give in to a sweet tooth now and then, but don’t undo all your hard work.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

The cosmos could prove challenging for you now, which is why you need to look after yourself more carefully. If you feel stressed, comfort food isn’t the answer. Neither is alcohol or cigarettes. Try to pay more attention to eating well and exercising so you can release any excess emotion. You’ll feel ready for anything if you can do this.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

The cosmos could take a toll on your health if you’re already feeling under the weather. This is a good time to sort out any ongoing health issues. It would alleviate one worry anyway. If symptoms arise, don’t ignore them. Get them checked out. You might also want to look at their underlying cause. It could be very revealing.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

Although you may not need to diet, this would be a good time to take a different approach to your eating habits. You may be doing a lot more cooking. Avoid making too many pies, cakes, and other treats. They may taste divine, but they won’t do much good for your figure. Limit yourself while not entirely going without.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

The mind and emotions can have a powerful effect on your health. The cosmos could shake you up a bit right now. Whether this is something new or an ongoing issue coming to a head, make sure to deal with it effectively and release any negative emotions. They can be very hard on your health and you don’t need them.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Get ready for a few challenges. You can meet them with ease as long as you’re feeling good. If you’re in the peak of health, you’ll feel confident enough to deal with anything. The cosmos could stir up some powerful emotions that cause additional stress. Lighten your schedule and try to relax. A walk or other light exercise can help you feel much better.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

If you’re socializing regularly, you may be feeling a little worse for wear. Too much rich food and alcohol and not enough sleep can give you a washed-out, pasty appearance. Remedy this by drinking plenty of water to clear out toxins from your body and rehydrate. Get some regular workouts, which also help flush out your body and give you a rosy glow.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

This could be one of those difficult times when you’re plagued with worry. The cosmos could bring a few challenges your way, too. On the upside it could also encourage you to think more deeply about how to keep fit and well. Are you putting in enough effort? You’re the only one who knows. Give yourself a chance by taking responsibility for your health.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

The aspects may affect you more deeply than others now. If any symptoms arise, get them checked out right away. Perhaps it’s an issue you’ve had before and you already know what to do. It could coincide with the need to cut out habits that cause you more harm than good. You know what these are.

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You might feel like taking your exercise and training to extremes, but it wouldn’t be wise right now. The desire to reach a certain weight or achieve athletic excellence may be pushing you to work out for long periods. You’d benefit from getting a second opinion about your current exercise program and reviewing the details. You might find that you can achieve more with less.

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Your emotions could be flowing freely now. You could feel a powerful urge to indulge in chocolate, pizza, cookies, and a host of other comfort foods. You may not be able to help it. Of course, you can succumb, but you may then suffer some guilt about any weight you gain as a result. If you indulge, enjoy it. Otherwise, don’t bother.

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

She tried to cancel her Dave Chappelle and Joe Rogan tickets because of COVID. Then this happened.

Tricia Lewis cancels a Dave Chapelle and Joe Rogan show in New Orleans because of surging COVID cases. Vivid Seats refuses her request for a refund. Is there a way to get her money back?

I’m trying to cancel tickets to a Dave Chappelle and Joe Rogan show in New Orleans that I bought through Vivid Seats. At the time of the show, there were too many COVID-19 cases and I didn’t want to risk attending the show.

When I called Vivid Seats, they were experiencing “high call volume,” so I tried contacting the company via email. I received an automatic response that an agent would respond to my email inquiry within 24 hours. After two business days without any response from them, I contacted Vivid Seats via chat and I was advised the only way I can receive a refund is if the event has been canceled or postponed.

I informed them the numbers are extremely high in that state and that I am not willing to risk my health for any event. A representative advised me there is nothing they can do regarding this matter due to the cancellation policy. I told them I had cancellation insurance in case I couldn’t make it to the event because of COVID-19-related circumstances. Vivid Seats told me to contact my insurance company. I could not reach someone at the insurance company, so I contacted Chase and filed a chargeback and received a

temporary credit. I lost the credit card dispute.

On Sept. 2, two days before the event, I received an email stating the show had been postponed to October. I just want a full refund. I couldn’t make it to this event because of a scheduling conflict. I am extremely disappointed in the way Vivid Seats has handled this. Can you help me get a refund of \$526 for my tickets?

– Tricia Lewis, New York

I think you deserved a full refund for your tickets. But your case was a little complicated. Let’s see if we can simplify.

First, I think you were correct about canceling your tickets. At the time of the show, COVID cases in New Orleans were soaring and, even if you were fully vaccinated, this was no time to attend a large public event.

Calling Vivid Seats was a mistake for two reasons. First, concerts were being canceled left and right and the company was probably overwhelmed with calls from customers. And second – and more important – you wouldn’t have had any proof of your conversation. An email or online chat, as you later discovered, gave you the paper trail you needed. A reliable paper trail

is a key to solving any consumer problem.

If you had cancellation insurance, you should have been able to file a claim. It looks like you decided to pivot to a credit card dispute quickly. You can file a credit card dispute under the Fair Credit Billing Act, but it has to be for the right reasons. Unfortunately, your cancellation didn’t meet the criteria.

I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the Vivid Seats executives on my consumer advocacy site. A brief, polite email may have changed the outcome of your case. But not after you filed a credit card dispute. The dispute is considered a nuclear option and, once a company has won, it will typically ignore you. But I think you have a stronger case now that the concert has been canceled, regardless of your unsuccessful dispute.

I contacted Vivid Seats on your behalf. It reviewed your case and refunded your tickets as a goodwill gesture.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer for Elliott Advocacy. Email him at chris@elliott.org or get help with any consumer problem by

contacting him at

http://www.elliott.org/help

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RELIGION

It seems everywhere I go today, on sidewalks and in parking lots, people have dropped masks and cigarette butts. Most of the time, trash barrels are only a few feet away. I try not to be a fuddy duddy, but this really gets to me because it appears those who are too lazy to properly dispose of these items have decided that their carelessness doesn't matter.

I grew up with my parents saying "Cleanliness is next to godliness." I wasn't certain where this saying came from, so I researched and found that John Wesley, the co-founder of Methodism, may have been the originator of the slogan "cleanliness is next to godliness." In 1791, he referenced the phrase in one of his sermons as we use it today. Wesley wrote, "Slovenliness is no part of religion. Cleanliness is indeed next to Godliness."

Please say something about folks picking up after themselves. Some people even throw trash from fast food restaurants out their car windows.

~ Annoyed

Dear Annoyed,

I am right there with you in your disgust of people not disposing of trash properly. It seems that some people think they have a right to do what they want and nobody is going to keep them from that right. Some people get fined for littering but they have to be caught first.

For the first time since I have been writing in this space, I don't think I have an answer! I had a friend who once said he believed in the death penalty for double parking but he was kidding ... I think! Sometimes I have to admit that I do wish there were stronger fines for littering but, even if there were, some folks would still think the world is their litter box. The problem may lie in some people's conception of "rugged individualism". That way of thinking makes some people think that nature is endless and man deserves to do what he wants with nature! So right now we have a polluted planet, global warming and people with no sense of community responsibility. And people who think that they can do whatever they want, regardless of the cost



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Spiritually Speaking Participants

Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church; Rev. Kimberlie Zakarian of Holy House Ministries; Anthony Kelson, RScP; Laney Clevenger-White, RScP and Rev. Dr. Beverly Craig of Center for Spiritual Living – La Crescenta; Rabbi Janet Bieber; Carolyn Young; Sharon Weisman; Rev. Mary Morgan of Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living; Rev. Dabney Beck of International Church of the Four Square Gospel; Lucinda Guarino; Pastor Randy Foster of Christian Life Church; Rev. Dr. Ellen Contente of Global Truth Center; Pastor Scott Peterson of Lutheran Church of the Foothills; Rev. Karin Ellis of La Cañada Methodist Church; Rev. Dr. Antonio Gallardo of St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church; Rev. Sharri James of UP Church; The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman of Upland Christian Church; Rev. Rob Holman of St. Luke's Anglican Church; Rev. Sharri Johnson of One Heart Retreat Center; Rev. KC Slack of Unitarian Universalist of the Verdugo Hills; Rev. Jeff Blanton and Rev. Emanuel David of Community Life Church; Rev. Karen Mitchell of High Desert Center for Spiritual Living; Rev. Kyle Sears of La Cañada Congregational Church.

Responses are offered from the perspective of individual clergy members, which may or may not be in agreement with other respondents of Spiritually Speaking nor the editor and staff of the Crescenta Valley Weekly.

to the rest of us.

By the way, are you vaccinated and boosted? For the good of the community, you should be. It is not your "right" to choose irresponsible behavior for the rest of the community. If you want to increase your possibility of dying prematurely, don't get vaccinated ... except if you choose that course of action, you may cause the premature death of a totally innocent person. And you do not have the "right" to do that ... just as nobody has the right to trash the planet.

Hey, I did have something to say! It may not be helpful, but I do hope it is food for thought.

from within ourselves. The antidote for our "annoyance" is to become part of the solution. New Thought author, and founder of Agape Spiritual Center, Dr. Michael Beckwith said, "The cure for depression is service."

And how do we start? We start right where we are by "cleaning up" our own attitudes about others and by living in compassion and forgiveness. Then we get to take action.

I want to thank you for your letter. It has inspired me to find organizations that are helping to clean up our planet, starting in small neighborhoods and communities like ours. The 4 Ocean organization is pulling tons of plastic out of our oceans (www.4ocean.com) and the Keep America Beautiful organization (www.kab.org) has been studying since 1959 why and how people litter. They reported in 2020 that roadside trash has decreased 54% in the last decade, which is encouraging; however, 50 billion pieces of litter are still on the ground in America. Each American needs to pick up 152 pieces of litter to do their part.

school in 2023.

We're both educators and worked to put ourselves through college. Neither of us had help from our parents and we didn't want our children to have the additional stress of working while going to college. We think our son is being unreasonable and, at the same time, we understand his frustration. We raised our kids in a Christian church where we still attend and would like to know how to approach his negativity in a spiritual way.

~ Perplexed Parents

Dear Perplexed Parents,

You are to be commended as parents for providing for your children's spiritual welfare and their college education and even for modeling the importance of education by your chosen vocations. There is no question that this pandemic has brought unique changes and challenges as well as unprecedented stress on students of all ages. College students especially have been impacted due to the fact that so many of them thrive in the whole college experience. Most of them have looked forward all through high school to the freedom of going to college, living on campus and having daily interaction with friends and peers in both academic and social settings.

Recent studies have shown that students who are forced to do remote learning face more stress and exhaustion than those in classrooms. And with the lack of direct access in a classroom to an adult they can go to with academic questions and problems, many students are struggling to feel connected and losing their educational direction and purpose.



Rev. Karen Mitchell
revkarenmitchell@gmail.com

Question: We're playing tug-of-war with our college age son. He was scheduled to return to campus for his senior year and then the college returned to remote classes. He says he's tired of the whole thing and so what if he doesn't continue his education or get a degree? He told us that he's opting out of completing his studies. We told him he couldn't do that. There are so many things to be considered. We diligently saved for his college education and his sister's, who will graduate from high

Dear Annoyed,

Thank you for your wonderfully accurate research regarding the John Wesley quote. To take it a bit deeper, the idea of "spiritual" cleanliness is mentioned in the Bible in Isaiah 1:16-17: "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean ... cease to do evil, learn to do good."

Washing and cleansing rituals are mentioned throughout the early chapters of the Bible and are seen as a way to be more holy and closer to God. When people lack an inner sense of oneness with God, they feel spiritually bankrupt. That feeling of separation from God causes people to not care about themselves. They don't care about their future, their planet or their fellow beings. In addition, the pandemic has driven our homeless population to astounding numbers while depression, anxiety, gun violence and suicide are at unprecedented levels. People are hurting, hopeless, angry and spiritually empty. The trash is just a symptom of a deeper issue.

What can we do when we are confronted by another's "slovenliness" or thoughtlessness? We do know that we cannot change any other person and we also know that all true change comes

RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY

Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta

"Where it is our dream to help you build and manifest your dreams!"



4845 Dunsmore Ave.
La Crescenta, CA 91214
(818) 249-1045

Celebration Service Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNITY LIFE

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAYS @ 10AM

OFFICE HOURS
MON - THURS: 9AM - 3PM

4441 LA CRESCENTA AVE.
818-249-5832
WWW.MADEFORCOMMUNITY.COM

Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church



WORSHIP Sunday 10am

Childcare and Sunday School offered at 10am.

REVEREND DENYSE BARNES
2700 Montrose Ave
Montrose, CA 91020
www.cvumc.org



GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)

COME JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pastor Jim Edwards
2723 Orange Avenue,
La Crescenta, CA 91214
818-248-3738
www.glcmslc.org

Sunday Adult Bible Study: 9AM
Sunday service: 10AM
Wednesday Bible Study: 7PM

Light on the Corner Church



Pastor Jon Karn
1911 Waltonia Drive
Montrose
(818) 249-4806

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 a.m.
www.lightonthecorner.org

Lutheran Church in the Foothills



1700 Foothill Blvd.
La Cañada Flintridge

WORSHIP WITH US!
In Person and on YouTube
Sundays at 10 AM
Services available on our website during the week.

CHUCK BUNNELL, INTERIM PASTOR
www.lcifoothills.org / 818-790-1951



COME MEET US!

St. Luke's of-the-Mountains Episcopal Church

Sundays
Gathering 9:30AM
Worship 10:00AM

Domingo Misa en Español a las 12:00PM
Sunday School and Child Care
All are Welcome
2563 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta
818-248-3639
http://stlukeslacrescenta.org/
www.facebook.com:
St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church

YOUR AD HERE

RELIGION from previous page

3:17 (NIV) he admonishes believers, “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

You might consider centering your next conversation with him around what he feels passionate about, what he feels he can do with his life that will please the Lord and what part his continuing education plays in that process. As mature adults and parents, we are able to see a greater picture than even our adult children. That’s why it’s important for us to commit them to the Lord and believe that He can, and will, speak to them even clearer than we can.

Finally, I would suggest you encourage yourselves and your son with these words: “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we

can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7) (NLT)



Pastor Randy Foster
randy.clc@att.net

Dear Perplexed Parents,
First of all ... take a deep breath. I have a feeling that, considering your educational background, you have instilled some good qualities of responsibility in your children, a good foundation of all types of life affirming qualities for their lives and future. These past years have

been quite challenging and stressful for students of all ages ... and for parents too. And it continues.

Perhaps your son just needs a break from it all. If he can’t do his best in school right now, maybe it will do him good to just put school on pause. Ask him what he would like to do in place of school. Maybe he has some ideas and maybe he just needs time to ponder them. Sounds like he’s under some personal pressure about this. Don’t add to it. Let him know that you trust him to make good and right choices for his future. Encourage him to think about what he would love to do. What would make him happy? There are plenty of stories of students who dropped out of their school education and made great successes in life because they were happy doing something that they loved; it’s not all about schooling and college (I know that may be a hard pill to swallow). More importantly, it’s about what brings your heart

and your mind together that makes you fulfilled and joyful.
Consider investing in his real love, what makes his heart happy. I can’t stress that enough. Life goes by fast. Enjoy it as best you can. You won’t regret it. Knowing your son is happy, and you too.
Blessings,



Laney Clevenger-White,
RScP Emeritus
laneycl@ca.rr.com

NOTES & NODS

This Week at LCIF

All in-person activities at Lutheran Church in the Foothills are temporarily paused due to the surging omicron variant; however, the 10 a.m. service will continue to be live-streamed on the church’s YouTube channel. Services are also posted to LCIF’s website where they can be viewed anytime. Church groups – including Bible study, knitting and quilting – are back to meeting remotely via Zoom, as they did earlier in the pandemic. All are welcome to join these groups. Learn about the Bible or learn a new hobby! This Sunday, Pastor Chuck Bunnell will lead online worship and will be joined by musicians Mark Anzelon and Sun Coe. Visit the church’s website at lcifoothills.org for details on all of the events happening and meeting times. Find opportunities to help serve

the community or receive help yourself.
The church office is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge and is generally open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact the office via email at office@lcifoothills.org or call (818) 790-1951 for more information.
COVID Testing Available
In response to the widespread omicron strain of COVID-19, La Cañada Presbyterian Church has arranged with Breakthrough Genomics test lab to collect samples and perform confidential COVID-19 PCR saliva direct tests. Lab personnel will be present outside of the LCPC Fellowship Hall every Friday in January from 9 a.m. to noon to collect saliva samples. The sample collection is non-invasive; all that is required is for participants to spit/dribble

into a test tube, which is then sealed, labeled and bagged. Lab personnel will courier the samples to the lab. Results will be provided directly and confidentially to each person late Friday or early Saturday morning.
There are no out-of-pocket costs for COVID-19 testing at a testing site. An insured person can get a COVID-19 test when needed by any provider, in or out of their health plan network, at no cost. For those who are uninsured, the government will pay for the test.
Pre-registration is encouraged. Visit https://tinyurl.com/2p8ud7wc to pre-register.
La Cañada Presbyterian Church is located at 626 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.
‘The Chosen’ Being Screened
Starting Sunday, Jan. 23 and on the second and fourth

Sunday evening of the month thereafter, Bethel Church is offering a showing of the recent hit video series, “The Chosen.” “The Chosen” is a compelling and insightful portrayal of the life and teachings of Biblical Jesus. It provides a fresh look at the Gospels for those who have been reading the stories for years or for those who are just curious about who Jesus is and was. See Jesus through the eyes of the Jewish religious leaders, the disciples and children. Join in viewing this popular video series; one episode to be shown each Sunday evening at 5 p.m. Bethel Church, 10725 Penrose St. in Sun Valley; (818) 767-4488.
Walk and Word
In January, Walk and Word participants will meet in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in La

Crescenta/Glendale at 8 a.m. on Jan. 23 and 30. They will walk for the first hour and then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.
Participants are asked to bring something to write with, anything wanted to eat or drink, and a chair to use for the writing part of the morning. Because people will be outdoors and social distancing will be practiced, masks will be optional.
Those with questions can email Jeanne at jnlavieri@earthlink.net.
All are welcome. If the hike is too strenuous, there are level paths at the park. There are ramps from the parking lot to the field where the group gathers after the hike.



The Pasture
Est. 2011
Our Lady of Lourdes, Tujunga

COMMUNITY
PANTRY

7344 APPERSON ST.
TUJUNGA, CA 91042

Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month.
Food given out from 9am-11am.
We are open to all who need help!
*We ask that All Guests Please wear masks.



CLASSIFIEDS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

LEGALS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2022004239 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DESIGN ENTREPRENEUR NETWORK, 2299 BLACKMORE DR. GLENDALE, CA 91206, LA COUNTY. Registered Owner(s): BRIAN BOYL, 2299 BLACKMORE DR. GLENDALE, CA 91206 and, KRYSTINA CASTELLA, 2299 BLACKMORE DR., GLENDALE, CA 91206. This business is being conducted by: an GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 12/2021. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed DESIGN ENTREPRENEUR NETWORK, 2299 BLACKMORE DR. GLENDALE, CA 91206, KRYSTINA CASTELLA, Title: GENERAL PARTNER, NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published in Crescenta Valley Weekly, January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2021276810 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: RESCUE ADVANCEMENT INCORPORATED, 2708 FOOTHILL BLVD, #275, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214 LA COUNTY Registered Owner(s): RESCUE ADVANCEMENT INCORPORATED, 2708 FOOTHILL BLVD, #275, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214. This business is being conducted by: a CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 10/2021. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed RESCUE ADVANCEMENT INCORPORATED, JAMES R. GOLDSWORTHY, Title: CFO, NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published Crescenta Valley Weekly, January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2021274985 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COLLEGE & CAREER ENGAGEMENT, 2029 VERDUGO BLVD, SUITE 337, MONTROSE, CA 91020 LA COUNTY Registered Owner(s): EMMA SANCHEZ, 3021 ASHWIN DR. APT A, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214. This business is being conducted by: an INDIVIDUAL. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 11/2021. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed COLLEGE & CAREER ENGAGEMENT, 2029 VERDUGO BLVD, SUITE 337, MONTROSE, CA 91020, EMMA SANCHEZ, Title: OWNER, NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published Crescenta Valley Weekly, January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 2022.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF VEHICLE LIEN SALE
Sylvania Acceptance Corp. will offer for public sale at 11:00 am on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at Copart-Sun Valley, 11409 Penrose St., Sun Valley, CA 91352 11:00 am. A 2011 Chevrolet Malibu. VIN#1G1G2G5EU7B287806. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 20, 2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF BARBARA PRATHER

Case No. 22STPB00056. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate of **BARBARA PRATHER**, A Petition for Probate has been filed by **ELIZABETH PRATHER** in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

THE PETITION for Probate requests that ELIZABETH PRATHER be appointed as executor to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **February 9, 2022, at 8:30 a.m., Dept. 9: Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.**

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing of personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Thomas D. Mason (SBN 304902), Attorney for Petitioner, 7474 N. Figueroa St., Suite 110, Los Angeles, CA 90041, (323) 254-3072.

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GCC from COVER and 22,100 single-family homes. “We’ve added 3,300 dwelling units since 2013 and have seen an 18% reduction in water usage in the same time,” De Ghetto told the council. “There are rebates for turf replacement and native plants, tips on how to plant a climate-friendly garden.” He urged residents to take advantage of various rebate programs available on the utility’s website at https://tinyurl.com/499hnycv. Councilmembers Vrej Agajanian and Ardy Kassakhian wanted the council to revisit the

rules on artificial turf. “Getting to 20% will be tough,” Kassakhian observed, “but we have to do it. And the city needs to lead.” He confirmed that the city’s “water features” are all turned off. Councilmember Dan Brotman asked if the “drought charge” of 60 cents per 1,000 gallons could be incentivized by lowering the first tier, emphasizing the need “to reduce reliance on imported water.” Mayor Paula Devine summed up the council’s action: “If you conserve, if you watch your water

usage, your bill will not go up – and it may even go down.” The council next approved a pay raise of 5% for city manager Roubik Golanian. Then, the council discussed a response to a petition for a partial referendum to repeal the ordinance the council passed in October 2021 to enter into a development agreement for a hotel at 120 W. Colorado Street (to replace the Vagabond Inn at the site). According to city attorney Mike Garcia, the requisite number of signatures has been submitted

(at least 10% of registered voters) and the city could either repeal the development agreement or put the referendum on the ballot in the next election or hold a special election (the next scheduled election for Glendale voters will take place in June 2022). The council opted to repeal the agreement and Garcia reported that the petitioners accepted that action. Elena Smith of Unite Here Local 11 was one of several callers regarding the issue of the development agreement.

“I want to thank the council for rejecting the development agreement,” Smith said. “I canvassed on this project and spoke to hundreds of voters who made it really clear that Glendale wants more housing – they don’t want more hotels.” Finally, the council voted to extend provisions enacted in response to state legislation on housing development (SB 9) and lot-splitting building projects for additional time, up to a year, in order to study the projects to refine the local regulations.

FRIEDMAN from page 8

where do we go from here? Over the next six months, both the assembly and senate will hold hearings through their budget committees on the details of the spending plan. Once we have the updated revenue projections in May, the hearings will kick into high gear as we push towards a budget agreement between the legislature and the governor in June. The legislature has a constitutional deadline to pass the budget by June 15.

What are your budget priorities? How would you allocate a budget surplus? As always, I'd like to hear your thoughts on our budget, legislation or any general comments or concerns. You can reach my District Office at (818) 558-3043, or by email at Assemblymember.Friedman@Assembly.ca.gov.

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VCS from COVER

wanted to provide that same joy and encouragement to others in the organization.

While she initially wanted to coach as her sister had, a busy academic and athletic schedule didn't allow it. Instead, she found a way to still show her support to SOSC with a fundraiser. Noordermeer said she was "overjoyed" to see her fellow classmates respond to her idea with abundant enthusiasm and a mutual desire to give back.

"One of the biggest takeaways is that our community came together in a world where there's a lot of division obviously and in all our busy lives we were able to accomplish something

together so beautiful and that brings me so much joy – to be a part of that, let alone lead that," Noordermeer said. "It was truly an amazing experience."

On Jan. 12, in front of her peers and teammates at a ceremony on campus, she announced that she had surpassed the initial goal she set and raised a total of \$14,580.

She presented a check to Laura Mayo, assistant vice president of Development at Special Olympics Southern California, and Michael Leon, Special Olympics athlete and global messenger.

"It's really an amazing thing when the youth step up and take on roles to support such

important programs in our communities," Mayo said. "We're extremely grateful and want to continue spreading awareness on what a significant difference Special Olympics makes in the lives of our athletes."

Leon further stressed that it means a lot to see people like Sienna and her classmates supporting the organization.

"One of the many things that I enjoy seeing in my role as global messenger is students in schools showing how much they care about our community and the athletes that are being served in Special Olympics," Leon said. "They really try hard to show just how much they

support the organization by doing things [like fundraising] ... it's pretty amazing."

As for Noordermeer's next move, she will be attending Northwestern University in the fall and intends on either joining a club on campus in support of Special Olympics or starting one of her own if there isn't one in place already. She hopes that future VCS teams will continue to exude selflessness and possess an unwavering determination to make a difference.

Moving forward, the serve-a-thon has since been greenlighted by Village Christian School as an annual event.

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