

# CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



OCTOBER 9, 2025

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## Glendale Electricity Rates to Increase Over Three Years

By Julie BUTCHER

On Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council voted to spread out the last pending increase in electricity rates over the upcoming three years. The 11.3% increase was set to go into effect on Nov. 1, 2025. The spread-out rate increases will now be 5% effective Nov. 1, 2025; 2.95% effective Nov. 1, 2026; and 2.95% effective Nov. 1, 2027.

Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian voted no. Bad decisions were made in 2023, he said, “and I opposed it.” He noted that his most recent utility bill went from \$1600 to \$2259.

“I think it’s irresponsible to let this thing move forward,” Gharpetian commented.

Glendale Water and Power (GWP) general manager Scott Mellon was prepared to answer questions from the Council: If the increase was frozen, the city would be in breach of the bond covenant and would be unable to complete projects already in progress including rebuilding the Grayson power plant, generating power from the Scholl Canyon landfill or adding to the city solar projects. As for selling back electricity to the grid to generate revenue, Mellon indicated that this is part of the plan for the future but the utility needs to work within existing regulations and processes.

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian asked the city attorney to review the legality of the transfer of funds from GWP to the city’s general fund. The question was litigated between 2014 and 2019, city attorney Mike Garcia explained, and the transfer is permissible under the city charter as long as the amount is below the level it was when voters approved Proposition 26 (which prohibits governmental entities from collecting more than the cost of providing public services).

“So, nothing nefarious; we are not robbing Peter to pay Paul,” Councilmember Kassakhian clarified, noting that the amount of the transfer has been reduced over time from 14% to the current rate of approximately 10% and that without this infusion of funds the city’s budget hole would be even deeper.

“The train has left the station,” Councilmember Elen Asatryan observed adding, “If we don’t take action today, residents and business owners are going to get roughly 11%.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

## MSAR Recruiting Now

By Mary O’KEEFE

*Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept.’s Montrose Search and Rescue (MSAR) team is looking to recruit new members and for support from the community – and beyond.*

MSAR was founded in 1947 by a group of Civilian Air Defense members who wanted to help those in their community who became lost or injured in the local mountains. They were originally known as Montrose Mountaineers, according to montrosesar.org. On Saturday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 a.m. the team is hosting tryouts at Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road, to recruit new members.

MSAR team members have responded to thousands of rescues, and recoveries, over the decades. However, the team not only responds to calls within the Angeles National Forest (ANF) but have also gone to other areas. They’ve traveled to San Diego to search for a missing hiker, which turned into a recovery when the hiker’s body was found in a mud cave in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

MSAR team members are



File photo  
In 2024 MSAR team members and tryout organizer Mike Leum addresses the applicants before they begin their hike.

trained to perform search and rescue operations in mountainous, desert and frozen terrains. They are paid volunteers (they are paid \$1 a year) and are on call 24/7, including patrolling the ANF on weekends. Members are dedicated to serving their community and come from all walks of life and include doctors, nurses and technicians. They are well-known for rescuing hikers who have found themselves off the hiking trail and those who were not prepared for the hike, weather or other factors. They are known for not giving up

on anyone who needs help.

Team members have also been known to go beyond the typical rescue/recovery including recovering a 14-million-year-old fossil of a baleen whale in Palos Verdes.

A resident found the fossil on the side of a canyon and called MSAR due to its skills of hoisting up lost hikers from cliffs. Team members had never been asked to do this type of recovery but rarely do they turn down a challenge. The whale was recovered and found a new home at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles

County.

Lately team members have seen an increase in rescues involving dogs.

“The more memorable [rescue] was on Aug. 20 around 1 p.m.,” said Sgt. John Gilbert.

The team was called via a satellite SOS cellphone to the Strawberry Peak area to rescue hikers, and dogs.

“[There were] four dogs total we responded to. Steve Goldsworthy was [incident commander] of the rescue,” he said.

see MSAR on page 8

## Attention Shoppers – Your License Plate is Being Recorded

By Mary O’KEEFE

Shoppers at Ralphs Market may have missed it – a sign placed on the side of the cart return corral that states, “Attention. We use Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) technology to collect license plate information for security purposes...”

If a vehicle is parked at the side of the corral the sign is easy to miss; however, it is posted and it does have a QR code that leads to a website that explains why Kroger/Ralphs is using this technology. This policy appears to have been implemented in June.

The privacy policy states: “At the Kroger Family of Companies (‘Kroger,’ ‘we,’ ‘us,’ ‘our’) your safety and trust are important to us. For that reason, we are committed to handling your information in a way that is transparent, fair and worthy of your trust. This Automat-

ed License Plate Recognition (‘ALPR’) Usage and Privacy Policy describes how we use, maintain and disclose information collected by ALPR technology at select retail locations in California.”

The site continues to state the ALPR system is a “searchable computerized database resulting from the operation of one or more fixed cameras combined with computer algorithms to read and covert images of license plates and the characters they contain into computer readable data.”

The information includes images of vehicles including the vehicles’ make, model, color and license plate. The reason this security system is needed, according to the company, is to enhance safety and security.

Photo by Mary O’KEEFE  
Ralphs has installed signs like this on the sides of cart corrals notifying customers that it is using ALPR technology.

see RALPHS on page 18







» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

# Deserving of a Nobel Prize?

The Nobel Prizes were awarded this week. Though I've always been fascinated by the criteria to be awarded a Nobel Prize I've never checked into it – until now. First some history:

According to the website nobelprize.org, “between 1901 and 2025, the Nobel Prizes and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel were awarded 630 times to 1,021 people and organizations. With some receiving the Nobel Prize more than once, this makes a total of 985 individuals and 28 organisations.”

I discovered that though there are awards for things I don't understand at all (like the chemistry award – according to the nobelprize.org website, “the Nobel Prize laureates in chemistry 2025 have created molecular constructions with large spaces through which gases and other chemicals can flow. These constructions, metal-organic frameworks, can be used to harvest water from desert air, capture carbon dioxide, store toxic gases or catalyse chemical reactions” – huh?) there are similar “awards” – the Ig Nobel Prizes – for “surprising, humorous, and often seemingly silly research.”

Whereas the Nobel Prizes are quite serious (after all, the will of businessman Alfred Nobel stated that his fortune was to be used to reward “those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind”) the Ig Nobel Prizes aren't nearly as serious.

The Nobel Prize recipients receive a medal, a diploma and money.

The Ig Nobel Prize recipients receive a fictional 10 trillion Zimbabwean dollar bill and an assortment of other

fun items. What is entertaining is that many times true Nobel laureates present the “awards” to recipients, adding a note of scientific recognition to the ceremony.

Before presenting the 2025 awardees let me first share some history:

Founded in 1991 by the science humor magazine Annals of Improbable Research, the Ig Nobel Prizes celebrate unusual and imaginative discoveries. According to the internet, “the Ig Nobel Prizes [are] an annual parody award for scientific research that ‘first makes people laugh, then makes them think.’”

Among the prizes awarded in 2025 is the recognition of drunken bats and perfect pasta. The Ig Nobel Awards included a prize for studying how alcohol impairs bats' flight and echolocation, as well as a prize for uncovering the physics behind making a clump-free cacio e pepe pasta sauce.

In biology an award was presented for the experiments to learn whether cows painted with zebra-like striping can avoid being bitten by flies. (By the way, the result was that the zebra stripes significantly decreased both the number of biting flies on the cattle and the animals' fly-repelling behaviors compared to those with black stripes or no stripes.)

To learn about other 2025 Ig Nobel Prizes, visit <https://arstechnica.com/>.

Unfortunately, I don't think I qualify for either the Nobel or the Ig Nobel prizes.

*Robin Goldworthy is the publisher of the Crescenta Valley Weekly. She can be reached at [robin@cvweekly.com](mailto:robin@cvweekly.com) or by calling (818) 248-2740.*

## » WEATHER WATCH

### Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O'KEEFE

SB 79 is a California State Senate bill that has created a lot of emotion throughout the state including in residents and businesses in Los Angeles, Glendale, Burbank and other California cities. One complaint from cities is their concern that the decision-making process has shifted from each individual city to following a statewide mandate. It is also a concern that cities that have been working on, and succeeding, at creating housing and grappling with transportation issues are being lumped in with cities that have done very little in those areas.

SB 79, briefly, will make it faster and easier to build multi-family housing near transit stops, like those of train and bus lines, by making it legal for more homes to be built in these areas. The bill will help lower housing costs by increasing the supply of homes in transit-adjacent areas while bolstering transit use and improving the funding of public transportation systems, according to CA YIMBY (Yes In My Back Yard), a proponent of SB 79.

The bill will also support climate change goals by reducing transportation pollution by allowing Californians to drive fewer miles each day, focusing on growth near existing infrastructure, reducing demand for highways, concrete and other pollution intensive projects and helping to preserve farmland and open space by reducing pressures to convert farmland to tract housing and subdivisions, according to CA YIMBY.

YIMBY is a non-profit organization that promotes construction of more housing in California, so it makes sense its members support SB 79.

And if I had not been following politics for as long as I have been, I would probably buy everything this bill is selling ... but come on – it's going to get more people in

areas like Los Angeles out of their cars and into public transportation? It's going to build more housing? Okay, but how many of us will be able to afford that housing? And it will reduce so much greenhouse gas emissions, therefore climate change, and freeways will be no longer be needed ... in LA? Really?

Now the answer to the high costs of housing is to build more housing – I got that – supply vs. demand – but I don't see how any of the new housing projects so far are bringing down any rent prices. So do we have to wait for over 2 million homes to be completed? (That's the amount of new housing that has been suggested has to be built in the state to make a difference.)

Climate change is real and we really need to work toward solutions – but shouldn't we look at the entire issue of transportation beyond accessibility to transit stations before we decide this bill will solve that issue? Or at the very least make a major dent in greenhouse gas emissions?

I love the Metro but it doesn't take me to half the places I need to go. And having to get on the Metro, then a bus and then sometimes back on the Metro ... so how will having my home closer to a boarding station help me get to my destination?

Now Senator Scott Wiener, the author of SB79, has been praised by other lawmakers for making numerous amendments to his original bill, and that is good he is actually listening to those who are concerned about so much in this bill including fire safety; however, it took 13 rounds of amendments ... doesn't that say something? First, the bill is now a little more confusing with all of the add-ons including protecting areas in fire zones and giving cities a little more say, but again ... doesn't that tell us that the bill was not well thought-out to begin with?

see WEATHER on page 18

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LASD CERT Coordinator



NEWS

GPD Hosts Touch-a-Truck and Open House



By Mary O'KEEFE

The Glendale Police Dept. is hosting an open house and Touch-A-Truck event on Oct. 18 in front of the main station at 131 N. Isabel Street from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The open house has long been a favorite of kids and adults, allowing everyone to meet and greet officers, share concerns and ask questions. It recently added an event that has become especially popular: Touch-a-Truck.

“The last two years we have [combined] with the open house,” said Amy Tate of the GPD Community Relations team.

Tate has been with the Community Relations team for quite a while but recently she is better known as the best friend of GPD K-9 Brisket. Brisket will definitely be at the events on Oct. 18.

A few years ago Tate was working at an American Cancer Society fundraiser when her co-worker mentioned a Touch-a-Truck event she had attended with her children. The event was not a fundraiser but its popularity made it a natural fit with the GPD open house.

For the Touch-a-Truck portion of the event, there will be a lot of hands-on activities featuring trucks from Public Works, Parks and Recreation and sanitation including garbage trucks, street sweepers and the very popular vacuum truck.

“We will also have those cool little lawnmower [vehicles] from Parks and Recreation,” Tate said.

At the GPD open house, there will not only be hands-on activities but also GPD information. Visitors will see law enforcement vehicles including motorcycles, SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) vehicles and patrol vehicles. There will also be a drone display.

Inside the GPD community room many of the GPD bureaus will be represented, including robbery/homicide, and there will be a “crime scene” created so kids can use their detective skills to solve the crime.

The K-9 Unit will also be on hand and provide a demonstration.

“This year we will have the K-9 Companions who raised Brisket,” Tate said.

K9 Companions will have different service dogs on-site, including puppies, and anyone who has questions about support dogs can ask the representatives.

There will also be information booths from local organizations including the American Legion.

And if all the activities and trucks aren’t enough, there will be a rock climbing wall and free hot dogs, first come/first served, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Admission is free.

IN BRIEF

ROSEMONT PRESERVE HABITAT RESTORATION DAY

The community is invited to the Rosemont Preserve Habitat Restoration Day on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. to help protect the natural habitat at Rosemont Preserve. Volunteers will be removing invasive, non-native plants and cleaning up the trails for upcoming field trips. Wear sturdy shoes, comfortable clothes and garden gloves (long pants and sleeves are recommended). Tools will be available.

The Preserve is located at the north end of Rosemont Avenue, just past the chain link fence. As street parking is limited, please park at Two Strike Park, 5107 Rosemont Ave. Those with mobility issues who require a closer parking spot should contact RosemontFriends@gmail.com.

This event is free to the public and suitable for all ages and no reservations required. Rain cancels event. Sorry, no pets please.

For further information, contact the Friends of the Rosemont Preserve at RosemontFriends@gmail.com.

MONTROSE-GLENDALE CHRISTMAS PARADE APPS NOW AVAILABLE

Applications for the Montrose-Glendale Christmas Parade are now available on the Christmas parade website <https://montrosecchristmasparade.com>. Those interested should click on the “Entry Forms” link at the top of the home page. The Scout application is coming soon.

Montrose-Glendale Christmas Parade will be on Dec. 6 and begins at 6:10 p.m.

STUDENT COMMISSIONER APPLICATION PERIOD EXTENDED

Applications for student commissioner for the City of Glendale have been extended to Oct. 17. Student commissioners are active, non-voting members of the Arts & Culture Commission who actively work on promoting arts & culture in Glendale. This position provides an opportunity to represent student voices in advocating for arts & culture in Glendale and gain experience in local government.

Applicants must be students under the age of 25 who live in Glendale and must be able to attend meetings on the third Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon for a one-year commitment.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdxx8kxz>.

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NOTES & NODS

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WELCOMES VIV VEGA AS  
TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

A Halloween tradition returns to Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) on Sunday, Oct. 19. Trunk or Treat will be held in the church's parking lot from 11:30 a.m.

until 1 p.m. The annual community event is a safe, daytime opportunity for kids to wear their Halloween costumes and trick-or-treat among decorated car trunks. There will be games, plenty of treats and a bounce house.

Before the event everyone is also welcome to attend LCIF's 10 a.m. worship service led by Pastor Viv Vega.

LCIF is also pleased to report that 100 school kits were assembled by the congregation for distribution to children in need throughout the world. Over the summer, the congregation collected a range of generously donated supplies including notebooks, pencils, crayons and rulers. The now-assembled kits received a special blessing during last Sunday's worship service. The completed kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief, a trusted global organization that will ensure the supplies are delivered to children in developing countries and those affected by humanitarian crises.

According to LWR, these simple kits provide a powerful boost, helping to remove barriers to education and giving children the tools they need to learn and thrive.

In addition to the school kits, hand-stitched quilts from LCIF's Quilting Club will be distributed as well by the Lutheran World Relief.

Visit lcifoothills.org for event details, including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve. For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lcifoothills.org or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

MOVIES IN THE PARK AT  
MEMORIAL PARK

On Saturday, Oct. 11 Movies in the Park features the 2024 animated film "The Wild Robot." Activities begin at 6 p.m. with the Rediscover Center making up-cycled art and local scouting groups' outdoor skill stations. Bring chairs and blankets – families can picnic on vegan food from the Compton Vegan food truck. The Cozy Cookie Company will also be back!

This event is sponsored by La Cañada Congregational Church

and is open to all.

Memorial Park, 1301 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge  
www.lacanadachurch.org

HOLY CRAFT

The community is invited on Sundays at 11 a.m. starting Oct. 21 in the sanctuary foyer of La Cañada Congregational Church. Bring a craft project and supplies along with a snack to share. Attendees will find seasoned knitters, procrastinating gift makers and curious learners coming together to make something beautiful (even if it's just conversation). It's a great way to share a skill, learn a new one (supplies provided) and find new friendships.

La Cañada Congregational Church, 1200 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada

CSL OFFERS GENTLE  
MOVEMENT CLASS

The Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta is offering a gentle stretch and relax chair movement with Mikki. It takes place every Friday from 10 to 11 a.m. The cost is a \$10 donation.

The class is at Chaffee Hall in the Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta.

The Center for Spiritual Living is located at 4845 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, call (818) 249-1045.

MT. OLIVE OFFERS BIBLE  
STUDIES

Mt. Olive invites the Crescenta Valley community to its monthly breakfast Bible study at Panera Bread Restaurant, 990 Town Center Drive, Suite A in La Cañada on the third Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. They are currently in the Book of Second Corinthians. Also, a weekly Bible study is held at the church on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Mt. Olive is located at 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta.

WALK AND WORD

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 Oct. 12, 19 & 26. Participants 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.

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# Fun (and Fine Weather) Found at Oktoberfest

By Vera GARABEDIAN and Robin GOLDSWORTHY

The Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce held its annual Oktoberfest celebration on Honolulu Avenue on Saturday.

From noon to 10 p.m. the avenue in the blocks from 2200 to 2400 were shut down to accommodate the estimated 20,000 visitors who came to celebrate all things German.

“We definitely saw higher attendance this year with crowds more evenly spread throughout the day,” said Chamber executive director Molly Burke. “The past two years were so hot that many people, understandably, waited until evening [to attend], which

made nighttime extremely busy.” Burke also credited the fact that local sports teams played earlier in the day.

“Everyone was in great spirits that evening after the Dodgers had already played and won!” she said.

Community members and those of neighboring areas enjoyed pretzels, carnival games and rides, performances from dance groups and choirs, and live music. The Main Stage at Ocean View Boulevard hosted the Past Action Heroes, Mumbo Jumbo, Bootscoot Bosses, RDC Dance Studio and The Vault Dance Studio. At the Market Stage people enjoyed PowerPlay, the Mary Dyer Band and Chris Blakely. On the Bavarian Stage at Wickham Way were the German Band and DJ Ernie Muraoka. Katrina Saroyan was roaming the day playing her accordion.

In addition there were three contests on the Main Stage: Lil’ Mister & Lil’ Miss Oktoberfest, Mr. & Mrs. Oktoberfest and stein holding.

“Each contest had both a first and second place male and female winner,” said Burke. “I won’t soon forget the little girl who won Lil’ Miss Oktoberfest with plush pretzels above her braids! It’s always so fun to see how excited the winners get and how they celebrate afterward by visiting one of the booths, whether that’s a pretzel or a beer!”

There were 29 booths at Oktoberfest offering everything from food and drink to face painting. Though there was no admission fee for Oktoberfest, tickets were required to play games, sit on rides and enjoy snacks and refreshments. The streets, though, were bustling at all hours and it wasn’t unusual to see lines outside of local businesses such as Froyo Life and Big Mama’s & Papa’s Pizzeria.

see OKTOBERFEST on page 7



## St. Luke’s of The Mountains Will Hold Second Annual Dinner Gala

By Dominique ROCHA

On Saturday, St. Luke’s of the Mountains Episcopal Church is hosting its second annual dinner gala. From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., attendees can share a night of live music, dinner, drinks and more while getting to know their neighbors.

The gala began last year as a way to celebrate the church’s 100th anniversary.

“It was successful enough that we decided to do another year,” said Bart Stratton, Bishop’s Warden. “We plan to do it every fall [into] the foreseeable future.”

This year, the event will be smaller and held in the church’s Parish Hall.

The theme of the night will be Love One Another, a play on the biblical phrase Love Thy Neighbor, and was chosen with the intent of bringing together the community and encouraging

neighborly relationships.

“We live in a very diverse time, and there is a lot of isolation in La Crescenta,” Stratton said. “We want to promote that ‘love your neighbor’ feeling and that community feeling for La Crescenta.”

The gala will feature a buffet-style dinner followed by homemade dessert, beer and wine for purchase and a mocktail bar. Ambience will be set with dinner music played in the background by a musical trio featuring some regular performers at the church. The gala will also have a silent auction with 22 curated and themed baskets such as travel essentials, an espresso-themed basket, a selection of books for all ages and more.

Along with the silent auction, the gala will also include a program auction where participants can sponsor specific church programs or ministries

by pledging donations.

“We’ve always been very connected to the community,” said Vicar Guy Leemhuis. “We want to be able to continue to do that, so we have to make sure we do this annual fundraiser as a way to support our many ministries that support our work in the community.”

All the proceeds raised from the gala auctions and admissions will go toward several of the church’s projects, ministries and groups such as St. Luke’s Young Adult Ministry, Firehouse Ministry and more. The funds raised will also be allocated toward repairs to the 101-year-old stone church

Tickets to the gala are \$50 and can be purchased at the door.

“I hope people have a good time and they feel connected to the community,” Vicar Leemhuis said.



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# Glendale Garden Homes Apartments Project Highlights New State Housing Mandates and Limits on Local Control

A statement was issued from the City of Glendale regarding the Glendale Garden Apartments:

The proposed demolition and redevelopment of the Glendale Garden Apartments underscores a growing challenge for local communities: state housing mandates that override local planning preferences.

On June 30, 2025, Assembly Bill 130 (AB 130) was signed into law, immediately reshaping how cities across California must process housing projects. While the City of Glendale has acted in good faith to address community concerns, protect neighborhood character and safeguard property it considers historic, AB 130's new statutory exemptions under the California

Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) have eliminated the City's ability to require an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Glendale Garden Apartments project, including on the basis of its potential historic status. AB 130 only permits consideration of impacts on the demolition of a historic structure listed on a federal, state or local register before the date of a preliminary development application was submitted.

Glendale has consistently sought to balance state housing obligations with the wishes of its residents. However, under AB 130 qualifying housing projects are exempt from CEQA review, subject only to "objective standards" in zoning and planning. This means Glendale

must process the proposed Glendale Garden Apartments demolition and redevelopment – even though it previously required the preparation of an EIR.

Staff is currently reaching out to the residents of the Glendale Garden Apartments and advising them of the impacts of AB 130 on the Glendale Garden Apartments redevelopment proposal.

The redevelopment of Glendale Garden Apartments is not just about one property. It is a case study in how state law now dictates housing development outcomes statewide:

- *AB 130 removes local discretion.* Cities must process qualifying housing projects ministerially, without discretionary review, except under limited circumstances.
- *EIR not permitted.* CEQA exemptions for qualifying urban infill housing projects up to 20 acres mean cities cannot require full environmental studies unless, for example, the property is listed on a federal, state or

local historic register at the time a developer submits a preliminary development application.

- *Objective standards only.* Cities cannot impose additional design conditions – such as incorporating historic or neighborhood architectural elements – if those are not codified as objective standards.

*What Comes Next: Sears Site Redevelopment*

The next major development expected to proceed under AB 130 is the redevelopment of the former Sears property on Central Avenue in Glendale. While the City was in the process of preparing an EIR to review that project, AB 130 was signed into law and exempts that project from further CEQA review. Additionally, the City would ideally seek to ensure that the architectural design reflects neighborhood compatibility and community character, but state law prohibits Glendale from denying projects on a basis other than on non-compliance with objective zoning and design standards.

"This is not a Glendale-only issue – it's a statewide mandate," said Mayor Ara Najarian. "The Garden Apartments project makes clear that AB 130 prevents cities from shaping projects in ways that reflect local community values. The Sears site and future projects will be processed under the same state laws. While we continue to advocate for local control, we must comply with the law to protect Glendale taxpayers from costly litigation and penalties."

Mayor Najarian has written on behalf of the City of Glendale and its residents, a letter to Governor Newsom asking him and the legislature to put a pause on and reassess the current strategy to housing and affordability.

The City encourages residents to contact their state representatives to express their views on housing legislation that has stripped away local discretion. Glendale will continue to push for reforms that restore balance between state housing production goals and community character.

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Free Flu Clinic



The La Crescenta Library will offer a free flu clinic on Thursday, Oct. 16 in the Library's community room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd.

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CRIME BLOTTER

OCT. 2

3100 block of Evelyn Street in La Crescenta, a resident received a notification from his security camera system of motion near his vehicle, which was parked on the street in front of his residence. The footage revealed the trunk of his vehicle appeared to be closed. He then received a second notice from the security system and this time the trunk appeared to be ajar. He discovered items stolen from the trunk of his vehicle.

The vehicle was unlocked at the time of the theft between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m.

OCT. 1

3000 block Canon De Paraiso Lane in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident reported hearing a knock at the front door of his residence. A male adult stated he was delivering food; however, the resident had not ordered food and

ignored the man. The resident then went to the laundry room in his home and soon heard the exterior laundry room door window shatter. The resident yelled and he heard someone running on the east side of his property toward the driveway. The resident looked out the window and saw a male (Suspect No. 2) wearing a dark colored hat and another male (Suspect No. 3) looking back at him from the property's side gate. Both Suspects No. 2 and No. 3 ran southbound down the driveway toward a dark gray hatchback sedan. They entered the vehicle. The resident then went to the front of his home and saw the hatchback driving southeast from his house and out of view. He also observed a Hispanic adult man, wearing a white hat, mask, white shirt, gloves and dark colored pants, running southeast from his residence and out of view.

The attempted burglary occurred at 12:35 p.m.

SEPT. 30

3000 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, an employee at a store reported that a person had broken a display case and stole multiple items. Security footage revealed a suspect, described as a Black male with black braided hair wearing a black hoodie, gray pants, white socks and black sandals, forced a display case open and took multiple items from the display case. He then ran out of the store and out of view at 7:21 p.m.

Editor's note: Details included in the crime reports are taken directly from the reports on file. The Crescenta Valley Weekly is not responsible for the incompleteness or inaccuracies in the original reports.



OKTOBERFEST from page 5

The 46th Annual Montrose Oktoberfest is officially in the books. “These community events are so special to me and it’s heartwarming to see and hear how much people enjoy them and to know we’re creating something memorable for our town,” said Burke. “The event takes a tremendous amount of effort from the Montrose Chamber staff and board of directors, the Oktoberfest Committee, the volunteers working the booths, the student volunteers from CVHS’ JROTC and Clark Magnet High School, and all of our vendors. Costs continue to rise each year, but this event remains a cherished tradition that our volunteers and community members look forward to year after year, even after all the madness is over! We definitely have some ideas for next year and are already looking forward to making it even better.” Oktoberfest is held the first Saturday in October.

Photos by Charly SHELTON



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# Garabedian Appointed GUSD Student Board Member

By Eliza PARTIKA

Crescenta Valley High School senior and CV Weekly writer Vera Garabedian was appointed student board member at the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) board of education meeting on Sept. 30.

GUSD has a Student Advisory Council composed of one student from each of the five high schools in the District. The council meets monthly to discuss topics and issues important to the student body. One of the five students is selected to become student board member each year.

Garabedian said she was inspired to campaign for student board member because of a board meeting she attended in middle school where she participated in the pledge of allegiance.

“I thought the board’s process was enticing. It was interesting to see how we can represent thousands of kids at our school and speak on their behalf to try and resolve issues and create better environments for everyone,” she said. “I enjoyed the meeting so much I wanted to contribute further.”

Her main goals as student board member are to foster collaboration and inclusivity among students. She plans to create opportunities for students from all schools and grade levels to come together and learn from each other.

“Every student should feel as if they belong and that their school is a place for them, and that there’s people who appreciate and support them,” Garabedian said.

The duties of the student board member include managing the student voice panels at each school and creating leadership opportunities for elementary and middle school students.

Garabedian plans to uphold her belief in inclusivity by adding student voice panelists who are English language learners.

“The transition from foreign school to American school is difficult. One of my friends was explaining her story to me, how the schooling systems are just completely different,” she said. Her hope, she said, is to create a smooth transition for English learners by allowing them time to ask questions and become acclimated to learning at GUSD.

Other issues Garabedian wants to tackle are school spirit and morale, and cleaning waste on campuses across all school sites.

Garabedian hopes the skills she learns as a student board member will prepare her for a career in journalism when she graduates.

“This is more of a passion for me,” she said. “Ever since I was small, giving a voice to people [is important] in case it goes unheard or in case they don’t have the opportunity of speaking out themselves. And that’s something that’s been a part of me ever since. It’s a moral that I’ve grown up with.”

“As members of the board of education we realize that often the most important insights come from the students we serve. Their voices ground our decisions and guide our mission,” said GUSD Board President Ingrid Gunnell of Garabedian.

In her acceptance speech at the Sept. 30 board meeting, Garabedian thanked her family, her principals, her advisor and



Photo by Eliza PARTIKA  
GUSD board of education president Ingrid Gunnell with newly appointed student board member Vera Garabedian.



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MSAR from Cover

Gilbert added that when the team arrived they found that one dog had died, two dogs were unable to walk and one was able to walk on his own, albeit slowly. During the rescue one of the hikers had to be airlifted by sheriff’s Air Rescue 5 to the hospital due to heat exhaustion.

“The hikers were not experienced and not well-versed with this trail,” Gilbert said.

That is a common theme of many of the rescue call-outs performed by the team. Hikers are not experienced with the trail they have chosen; they have either heard about it from friends or on social media but are not prepared for what they may find.

“[They need to know] the elevation of the trail,” Gilbert said. “During warmer months most of the trails in the Angeles National Forest face the sun and are extremely exposed.”

The heat can beat a hiker down, especially if they are not prepared with enough water or wearing protective clothing. Add a dog, or dogs, into the mix and the hike can become more dangerous.

Dogs can’t cool off like humans. They can’t communicate they are in distress until it’s too late, Gilbert added.

“When their dogs couldn’t go any more, [the hikers] were on a south-facing slope [located] a mile and 3/4 quarters from the bottom [of the trail],” he said. “They did not have any good options.”

Due to the increased number of dog rescues the MSAR team has purchased a dog harness that allows them to carry a dog out of an area. Prior to the harness members had to carry the dog via a litter or carry it without the harness. The dogs often became nervous with either of those options. The harness allows a team member to place the dog within the harness and then on the team member’s back.

The team purchases a lot of its own equipment, like the dog harness, with funds donated by the community. Members continue to raise funds for equipment and uniforms.

“The large majority of equipment comes [from] donations,” Gilbert added.

It costs each team member about \$5,000 to \$6,000 for uniforms and equipment.

“The community has been extremely generous and helpful through donations,” he said.

Funds have been raised to cover the cost of a new Ford Ranger 4x4 that will make it easier for the team to transverse rugged areas.

The team is always recruiting new members but especially now since two longtime members retired.

“We have seven probationary team members right now,” Gilbert said.

“They have been in training for 13 months.”

More members are needed. Prospective members complete a series of training, including with the LASD Academy and emergency medical response. MSAR meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff’s Station.

It is important for the recruits to understand the rigors and requirements of becoming a team member; however, once they are on the team the rewards of being part of MSAR are immeasurable as they learn to support their community in an adventurous and dedicated way.

Prospective recruits are invited to attend this Saturday’s tryouts at Deukmejian Wilderness Park.

“We will be doing a two-mile hike,” Gilbert said. “We do this to see what kind of shape people are in. We want people interested in joining MSAR but [they] need to have the physical capability to keep up with our rescues.”

The hike on Oct. 11 will have an estimated elevation gain of 1400 feet. Those who want to take part are asked to dress appropriately for the hike and to bring water.

Check-in is at 7:30 a.m. For information and to RSVP email info@lacosar.org.

For those who would like to donate to the team please visit <https://montrosesar.org/>.

For those who would like to know more about the team, Mike Lawler has written an excellent book covering the history of MSAR – “Thrilling Tales of The Montrose Search and Rescue.” To order go to <https://tinyurl.com/4c9rw5uy> or visit Once Upon a Time bookstore, 2207 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose.



VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

# The Deadly 210 Freeway Bridge Collapse

In the early 1970s, the 210 Freeway was being completed in sections. Our little section, running from Ocean View Boulevard to Lowell Avenue, opened in July 1972. In October, contractors were working on a particularly difficult job, the freeway bridge over the Arroyo Seco connecting Pasadena and La Cañada.

It was just after lunch on Oct. 17. The forms were in place for a cement pour on the 580-foot span. Over 100 tons of cement had just been poured into the framework. About 30 men were on the bridge structure when suddenly things started to shift and a loud crack and a rumble was heard. Workmen on each side of the break screamed “Run!” as a 60-foot section in the center began to drop.

One man said later, “I heard it when it began to move and I started to run. It sounded like an earthquake.”

Another man said, “It sounded like thunder.”

A crew of four were working on the underpinnings of the forms when it gave way. One man in a panic started to run the wrong way but his coworker grabbed him and spun him around. He said later, “I thought I was going to have to jump!” They sprinted to the west side of the bridge but when they got there, only three of them had made it.

The wet cement, scaffolding and reinforcing steel crashed 90 feet down into the Arroyo taking many workers with it. The rest of the construction crew ran to the ends of the bridge and scrambled down the hillside. They started pulling at the towering heap of debris with claw hammers and their bare hands while the word went out for help. Six men were pulled alive from the wreckage; however, they were seriously injured. Another 15 men pulled out were only mildly injured. As fire crews arrived the rescuers pulled out three dead men.

A huge crane moved to the debris pile and started to pick

up the huge steel beams. They had to move slowly and carefully to prevent more of the bridge structure from collapsing. Rescue workers converged on the scene – firemen, police, forestry crewmen and more construction workers from other areas – over 500 in total.

As darkness fell lights were set up. The contracting company made a list of the survivors in order to determine who was still missing. This was difficult because of the chaos at the scene but that night three men were unaccounted for. Down in the debris pile, the cement had hardened so jackhammers were brought in. Two bodies encased in concrete were freed and the last body was found early the next morning under a pile of wooden framing. In total, six men had died in this tragedy.

Work was stopped on all bridge sections of the 210 Freeway construction. By the following week, state and federal officials had convened to start

the process of pointing fingers – and most of them were pointing at the contractor. That company had a record of safety violations and two other bridges it was constructing had previously collapsed. Fingers were also pointed at state agencies that hadn’t followed up on safety violations. It’s not known what, if any, action was taken but there was never any criminal prosecution.

By late November construction resumed on the failed bridge. But the bridge seemed cursed. In February 1973, heavy rain filled Devil’s Gate Dam to overflow the spillway and flood water crashed down into the Arroyo below the bridge. The water rushing under the partially completed construction undermined the footings and the bridge collapsed again, this time with no injuries. That section of the freeway was thus delayed and not opened until 1974.

We all cross that bridge regularly on our daily commutes,

not thinking about its deadly history. Last year, a freeway sign was placed on the side of the freeway at the transition to the bridge over the Arroyo to memorialize the tragedy that happened over 50 years ago. It reads Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing.

Sadly, few remember that collapse and the men who died there.



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 THE CV TOWN COUNCIL » FRIDA BAGHDASSARIAN

# Council Seats are Open and Taking Part in the Preparedness Fair

As October approaches, the Crescenta Valley Town Council is reaching out to local residents with important updates aimed at boosting civic engagement and prioritizing community safety.

CVTC is formed solely of community volunteers and its future relies and hinges on participation from the community.

Residents of La Crescenta and Montrose are encouraged to

actively participate in community affairs to ensure that the voices of residents are heard. Individuals interested in contributing to the Council’s efforts are encouraged to apply thereby fostering within the group a diverse range of viewpoints.

In a related initiative, a recent disaster preparedness event took place at Two Stroke Park attracting a notable turnout from the community. Organized by Council member Dede Mueller, the event underscored the importance of being prepared for

emergencies. Notably, the rain did not stop it from being a great event and attendees appreciated the opportunity to engage with local agencies, including the sheriff’s department, the California Highway Patrol, and the fire department, which handed out emergency radios to participants.

Resources covered a range of topics including creating emergency kits, understanding evacuation routes, and developing communication plans for crises. The collaboration of local safety officials highlighted

the community’s commitment to promoting readiness and resilience within the Crescenta Valley.

Community members expressed gratitude for the insights shared at the event and recognized the significance of being prepared for unexpected situations. The Council’s focus on enhancing public safety and facilitating community involvement was evident throughout the gathering.

For those interested in the open Council seats or seeking additional information about

upcoming community activities, residents are encouraged to stay connected with the Crescenta Valley Town Council either via social media, signing up for our eblast or heading over to our website. Together, residents can contribute to a proactive approach to community well-being and safety.

Frida Baghdassarian, J.D.  
President  
Crescenta Valley  
Town Council

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

# The Glendale Police Dept. Swears In Its Newest, Recognizes Its Regulars



By Ruth SOWBY

The Sept. 24 ceremonies at the Glendale Police Dept. welcomed new officers, recognized promotions and introduced new professional staff to Glendale. The GPD Community Room was the venue for family, friends and the public to offer congratulations to all officers badged and recognized.

The ceremonies opened with Glendale City Councilmember and former Glendale Mayor Vartan Gharpetian offering a warm welcome from the City. “It’s because of our parents that we made it this far in life,” said Gharpetian.

Glendale Police Chief Manuel “Manny” Cid was next up to the podium.

“Hands down, this is the best part of my job,” he said. “This is an exciting time for GPD as we are experiencing a lot of new additions to our department and our leadership team. This talented and diverse group of new and promoted officers, represent a really bright future for GPD.”

Glendale VIPs were then introduced, including retired GPD Chief Carl Povilaitis, Glendale Community College Chief of Police Gary Montecucollo, and Glendale Fire Chief Jeff Brooks.

The ceremony included the presentation of the colors, followed by the swearing-in of new officers. Officers Chung, White, Cooke, Haroutunian, Mangasarian, Tsolakyan, Matamoros and Powell were sworn in by the chief as Glendale police officers. Officers Chung, White and Cooke are lateral officers who are joining the GPD organization from the Simi Valley Police Dept. and the UCLA Police Dept.

Then came the promotion ceremony. Among those promoted were Jason Ross to captain, Robert William to deputy chief and Shawn Sholtis, Jose Barajas and Shaun Carlson from the rank of sergeant. Barajas’ wife Dana pinned on his new badge. Daughter Emma, 1, and son Logan, 3, were in tow.

Also welcomed were GPD’s newest Parking Services supervisor Jesus Alvarez. Prior to this role, Alvarez worked for the City of Glendale Public Works Dept. as its parking services supervisor.

And finally, also welcomed was the new Police Custody Officer Britney Figueroa. Figueroa will be assigned to the Glendale Police Dept. – Field Services Division, Custody Bureau.

The event served as an opportunity to highlight the department’s ongoing commitment to serving the Glendale community.

Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: New officers and promoted officers gather with Glendale City Councilmember and former Glendale mayor Vartan Gharpetian (center), flanked by Chief Manny Cid and City Manager Roubik Golanian.

MIDDLE: Newly sworn-in GPD Officer Arthur Haroutunian is congratulated by dad Panos.

RIGHT: Glendale Police Chief Manuel “Manny” Cid reminded his audience “There is no greater calling than to serve others.”

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# LCWC Takes Part in International Day of Service 2025



La Crescenta Woman's Club members (from left) Michele Pashayi, Carol Stein, Lisa Malm and Pat Word. On Sept. 27, members from the La Crescenta Woman's Club (LCWC) braved the drizzly morning to participate in the International Day of Service, sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). The goal of the day was to help end domestic and sexual violence across the United States and internationally. LCWC participated in this event by gathering donations of supplies needed by pregnant women and their babies who have fled domestic violence situations and are currently living at the Elizabeth House shelter in the San Gabriel Valley. LCWC worked with Elizabeth House to get the most needed items for the families such as baby shampoo, lotion, wipes and, most importantly, hundreds of diapers! These donated items were valued at over \$660! LCWC also collected \$340 in gift cards for stores such as Target and Ralphs. LCWC has two members who regularly volunteer at the shelter. Because of the private nature of the shelter, donations were assembled off-site and an LCWC Elizabeth House volunteer delivered the donations.

Submitted by  
Danette ERICKSON

# CVHS Places Well in Tustin Tiller Days Parade



Guard co-captain Pamela Masihi and drum major Ryan King with the trophies earned at the recent Tustin Tiller Days Parade. On Saturday, Oct. 4, the marching Falcons competed at the Tustin Tiller Days Parade in its band review. Considering that the Falcons are a show band, it did well when competing against dedicated parade bands. The color guard earned a third place trophy, band earned third place and the CVHS drum major earned fourth place. The Crescenta Valley Instrumental Music Foundation is having a silent auction continuing through Oct. 25. The auction runs through the Spooktacular concert, which is held on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 3 - 6 p.m. All instrumental and choir students will perform in this outdoor venue held in the CVHS amphitheater. To take part in the auction visit <https://www.32auctions.com/CVIM2025>. Viewers are encouraged to bring a chair to enjoy some or all of the groups as they share their musical talents.

Photos submitted by CVIMF

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# Explore Your Roots with the Daughters of the American Revolution

Have you ever wondered where your family’s journey began? Have you started a family tree on Ancestry and though, “When did my family emigrate to the United States?” The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) might be able to help answer your questions!

The local chapter, Don José Verdugo, of DAR meets on the first Friday of the month and invites anyone interested to attend a meeting, which always includes an interesting speaker, or to attend an event. Recently

DAR members went to the USS Iowa as the country (and the Navy) begins to celebrate its 250th year.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political women’s volunteer service organization dedicated to the mission to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Any woman who is 18 years of age or older and descended from a man or a woman who aided in achieving American independence during the period of April 19, 1775 and

Nov. 26, 1783 is invited to join.

DAR is an active and dedicated group of women from all walks of life. They range in aid from young women to grandmothers – all who give back to the community through service making lifelong friendships along the way. This local chapter started in 1953 in La Cañada and is a 501c3. Though local residency is not required, membership includes women from throughout the Foothill communities of La Cañada, La Crescenta, Sunland/Tujunga, Altadena and Glendale.

Giving back to the community through service is a core value of the DAR. This coming year there are many activities celebrating the 250th birthday of America. Locally, the Don José Verdugo chapter has partnered with the City of Glendale at the Catalina Adobe, where the chapter gets its name from patriot Don José Verdugo. It provides scholarships to five local high schools and Glendale Community College and supports the ROTC. Students from all age groups can participate in writing an essay

for the Good Citizen program. DAR will be seen at upcoming Veteran’s Day events and Wreaths Across America during the holidays, placing a wreath at veteran’s gravesites.

The Daughters of the American Revolution welcomes qualified candidates to join them to see what they’re all about. Visit their website at [www.DonJoseVerdugo.California.org](http://www.DonJoseVerdugo.California.org) or follow them on social media.

For questions contact Beverly Bowen de Lucia at [bdelucia@me.com](mailto:bdelucia@me.com) or call (818) 429-2528.

# PCF and YMCA of the Foothills Partner with Beacon Housing

Beacon Housing, in collaboration with Pasadena Community Foundation (PCF) and YMCA of the Foothills, announced a new initiative to provide stable, affordable homes for low-income survivors of the Eaton Fire. Through a construction grant from PCF, Beacon Housing will add three new accessory dwelling units (ADUs) at its Garfield Agape Court property in Northwest Pasadena. During initial leasing, these units will be prioritized for low-income households displaced by the Eaton Fire.

Upon completion, the ADUs will be offered at significantly below market rents. A two-year rental assistance grant from

YMCA of the Foothills will further reduce out-of-pocket housing costs for eligible tenants, creating a bridge to long-term stability.

“PCF is proud to support this effort to expand access to affordable housing following the devastation of the Eaton Fire,” said Jeannine Bogaard, PCF’s vice president of Community Impact. “Even before the fire, affordable housing was scarce. This project meets urgent needs now and adds permanently affordable homes that will benefit our community for years to come.”

This collaboration pairs new supply with sustained affordability, recognizing

survivors need both a home now and time to rebuild their lives.

“We’re grateful to partner on a concrete, community-based solution that supports families beyond move-in,” said Vince Iuculano, CEO of YMCA of the Foothills. “Housing is foundational to recovery and well-being. We also extend deep gratitude to the LA Dodgers Foundation and Max and Kellie Muncy for the generosity that helps make this relief possible.”

Many survivors are facing ongoing housing insecurity with

local rents out of reach; some were renting from relatives or were long-term tenants paying well below market before the fire. A recent survey from the Eaton Fire Collaborative’s Housing Committee found that 55% of homeowners and 78% of renters cannot afford the area’s average one-bedroom asking rent of \$2,350; 40% of renters paid under \$1,500 before the fire.

“The Eaton Fire laid bare a simple truth: we need more affordable homes and real pathways to access them,” said

Palin Ngaotheppitak, executive director of Beacon Housing. “Through this partnership with PCF and the Y, we’re delivering both – new units now and rent support that helps survivors regain stability over the next two years.”

Construction is slated to begin in October 2025 with anticipated completion before year-end.

Interested households can submit a waitlist application through Beacon Housing’s website at [beaconhousing.org/enquiry-form/](http://beaconhousing.org/enquiry-form/).

## People Making News

Celeste Davila of La Cañada Flintridge recently matriculated as a member of the Class of 2029 at Hamilton College. Selected from a pool of 8,904 applicants to the college, Davila joins a college community of about 2,000

undergraduate students.

Hamilton College, a leading liberal arts institution located in Clinton, New York, is where students explore passions through an open curriculum and robust research, internship and

off-campus study opportunities. The College’s need-blind admission policy ensures access for talented students with limited financial means. Learn more at [www.hamilton.edu](http://www.hamilton.edu).

## Questions About Today’s Real Estate?

**Ask Phyllis!**  
*Why Didn't the Seller's Agent Spark a Bidding War? A Real Estate Mystery*

Dear Phyllis,

We looked at a townhome that had been on the market for two months. The day we looked at it our agent and the seller’s agent communicated via text while we were there. We had a couple of questions, and they were answered. This was at three o’clock. When talking to our agent at 6:30 pm, we discussed writing an offer. While on the phone, I got a Zillow alert that the unit was in escrow. Our agent called the listing agent and asked if the offer was full price, and the seller’s agent shared that it was a two-week escrow to a cash buyer. But it was not at full price. I can’t understand

why the seller’s agent didn’t reach out to our agent letting her know that an offer was in hand. Why didn’t the seller’s agent spark a bidding war? I am hoping you can offer some explanation. Missed Out

Dear Missed Out,

I share your confusion about this situation. I hope the seller’s agent informed their client about your interest and asked them if they should contact your Realtor.

Let’s consider timing as a possible factor. If you had submitted an offer, it would have triggered a multiple-offer scenario. This would have extended negotiations over

several days. The seller might have prioritized a quick sale, possibly due to urgent financial pressures.

The offer may have had a quick expiration date. I recently received a \$1,450,000 offer on a home listed at \$1,285,000. The offer, which expired that day, arrived after just one day on the market. My client and I weighed the benefits of accepting this strong offer versus waiting for open houses. We decided to wait which paid off for my client. We received multiple offers, and the final selling price was \$1,500,000 from the initial buyer.

Warm regards,

Phyllis

BobSmith

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

# Spooky Farm Daylight Magic: Friendly Ghosts, Funnel Cakes & Family Smiles



By Charly SHELTON

Recently readers of the CV Weekly learned about Knott's Scary Farm, the annual Halloween takeover event at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park. But during the day, amid the decorations for the fearsome nighttime event, kids frolic and play during Knott's Spooky Farm. This daytime festival isn't about frights and screams – it's about stepping into Halloween with a gentle hand, letting the little ones feel the thrill without the terror. And this year, as every year, the daytime event leaned into that ethos beautifully.

One thing I noticed right off: this season it didn't do the Calico Candy Mine ride overlay. That's probably fine – it was cute and whimsical but not exactly essential. It was a fun Halloween-themed overlay with a giant pumpkin in the mine shaft and a candy witch at the rainbow caverns, but it really isn't that much better than the regular ride, which is a must-do for families with kids.

What did stand out was the Ghost Town Trick-or-Treat trail, now enhanced by friendly ghosts and ghouls wandering the streets, stopping to pose for pictures and chatting with kids. It's not spooky – it's fun. My older son (age 5) loved it. Sure, the youngest (age 1.5) wasn't too keen on the makeup characters, but this kind of gentle exposure helps bridge in years to come kiddie Halloween to full Scary Farm readiness. You see those spirits, you blink and you grow a little braver.

And the constant positive reinforcement of being given handfuls of candy at every booth makes it an overall very pleasant experience for kids and parents alike.

This is the main attraction for the kids, I think. There are "spooktivities" on the Calico Town Square stage with Snoopy and the Peanuts Gang, and there's a costume contest for those who want to take part but the lines and the shouting excitement of 200 kids who were there on the same day all revolved around the treat trail

booths.

Food-wise, we dug into a few of the seasonal offerings and, to be honest, came up wanting. At the preview event in August, I got to try the Black Bat Wings in a sticky brown sugar barbecue sauce, the Decomposing Bison Burger, the Alligator Sausage, the Frogs Legs, and several of the other offerings that have come to Scary Farm. For the most part, the food was good – especially the Bat Wings (black-dyed chicken wings) and Frogs Legs (actual frog legs). But in trying some of the other offerings I was let down.

The Wolfman Smoked Sausage with white cheese sauce from Wilderness Dogs and Drinks was more pleasant than we expected, though nothing really earth-shattering. The Radioactive Gator Stuffed Potato/Mac Bowl from Miners Mac n Spuds – while billed as "citrus-marinated alligator" – turned out to be four thin slices of alligator sausage and three hushpuppies over mac & cheese in a bread bowl. Not what I expected, not really what I wanted and not

Photos by Charly SHELTON  
LEFT "Spooktivities" were found on the Calico Town Square stage with Snoopy and the Peanuts Gang.  
ABOVE: The Witch's Brew Funnel Cake offered giant portions featuring ube cream, chocolate sauce, Halloween sprinkles and a giant mountain of soft serve.

enough of it to form a solid opinion with a serving size somewhere around ¾ cup all together.

But the Witch's Brew Funnel Cake made up for it with giant portions as it leaned into sugar bomb territory in the best possible way with ube cream, chocolate sauce, Halloween sprinkles and a giant mountain of soft serve that was enough for a family of four to have leftovers. And, because it's Knott's, I also drank 100 ounces of Knott's Boysenberry Punch while roaming the park so I was full of sugar and ready to rock.

We walked the trail, met some characters, soaked in the decorations and waited for the inevitable sugar crash headache I

had earned.

Knott's knows that beyond the spectacle of the rides and the scares at night the real magic for families is in those little ghostly touches, those cute moments of a purple-and-orange smile from too much candy, a first picture with a Haunt character and a dance party led by Snoopy. And also the seasonal snacks that make your belt buckle threaten mutiny by noon.

Spooky Farm runs Thursday through Sunday during daytime hours in October, and it's included with general park admission. If your little ones want Halloween fun without nightmares, this is your ticket.

Visit Knotts.com for more.

## THEN & NOW



**Then:** The 210 Freeway bridge across the Arroyo Seco between Pasadena and La Cañada was built in the early '70s but had a string of serious bad luck during construction. It collapsed not once, but twice! This was the first failure in 1972, just after a concrete pour, when supports shifted and failed killing six workers. The second collapse was the next year, brought on by flood waters cresting the spillway at Devil's Gate Dam.



**Now:** The bridge collapse and the men killed were recently memorialized by a freeway sign, Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing. Fortunately, the bridge has been stable since it opened over 50 years ago. Initially it was lightly used, but truck traffic has increased over the years. Fun fact – This is the fourth roadway to span the Arroyo at this spot since the first one was built in 1893 – and three of those roadways are still there.

210 Freeway Bridge  
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



# Scene In LA October 2025

By Steve Zall, Publisher, Scene in LA  
Sid Fish, Co-Publisher & Editor, Scene in LA

Fall is finally here now and the weather is cooling off, which means it's time to go see one or more of these fabulous shows playing currently in our local theaters!

COVID protocols continue to be dictated by each individual venue so bring a face mask to wear during the show in case the venue requires it. It's a good idea to check with the theater before attending a show to find out what is their current policy.

The information presented in this column is the latest available at the time of printing; however, it should be verified with the theater beforehand before making definite plans.

Here are the shows that have announced opening dates for this month, or are already running:



*“Haunted Soiree: Vampire”* A Halloween party set in a world of seductive shadows and eternal night. A vampire-themed immersive experience with cocktails, theatre and dark delights. Roam through the hauntingly beautiful world of “Haunted Soiree: Vampire,” an immersive Halloween party in Los Angeles where craft cocktails, live performances and a vampire-themed theatrical experience create a night unlike any other. This isn't a haunted house or a pop-up bar. It's immersive Halloween entertainment for adults featuring interactive vampire characters, live music, illusionists, aerial performers and cinematic creature effects built by artists who live for the night. This is Halloween reimagined – elegant, immersive and dripping with blood-soaked glamour.

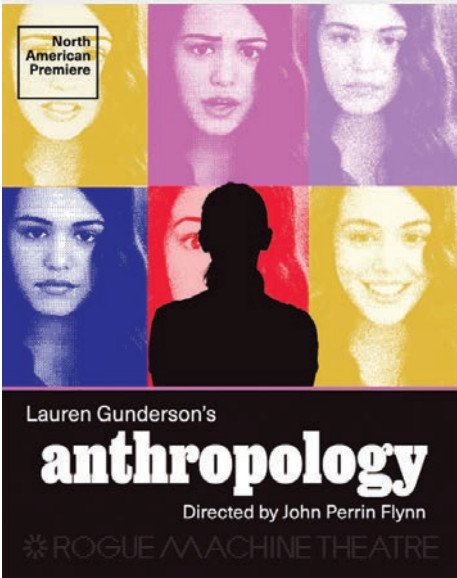
General admission allows attendees 90 minutes in the venue. Premium admission allows attendees two hours in the venue, plus a welcome drink. Inner Circle admission has all the perks of premium admission plus exclusive happy-hour pricing at the bar and an exclusive character-led ceremony that ends with a special vampire elixir served to guests. Only those aged 21 and over with a valid ID can enter.

Conceived and created by Meyer2Meyer Entertainment, it runs through Nov. 1 at the Nocturne Theatre in Glendale. For tickets, visit [www.hauntedsoiree.com](http://www.hauntedsoiree.com).



*“Disney's The Little Mermaid”* Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch Ursula to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends – Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull and Sebastian the crab – to restore order under the sea.

Written by Doug Wright with music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater, and directed by James Esposito, it runs through Oct. 12 at the Zephyr Theatre in Los Angeles. For tickets, visit [www.chrtheatre.com](http://www.chrtheatre.com).



*“anthropology”* This high-stakes AI thriller is wrapped in emotional urgency while questioning just how far we'll go to uncover truth and what technology can and can't help us resolve in our relationships. Merrill is one of Silicon Valley's leading software engineers but her life disintegrates when her younger sister Angie vanishes on her way home from college. A year later, when the police have long abandoned its search, Merrill assembles all the digital material Angie has left behind and sets about building herself a digital simulation of her sister. The resultant “virtual Angie” offers her some solace – until, that is, it starts to reveal new details about the real Angie's disappearance.

Written by Lauren Gunderson and directed by John Perrin Flynn, it runs through Nov. 9 at the Rogue Machine at the Matrix Theatre in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (855) 585-5185 or visit [www.roguemachinetheatre.org](http://www.roguemachinetheatre.org).



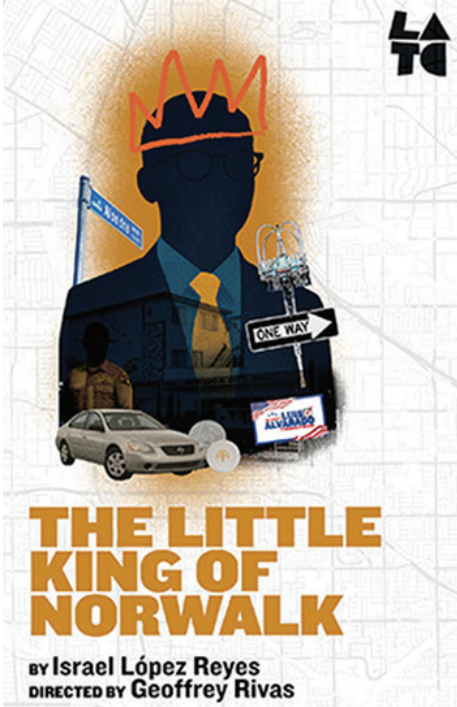
*“I'll Give You My Heart”* Five years after her fiancé is killed on their wedding day, a traumatized young woman fights to keep her promise to never leave him while protecting her grief-stricken heart from opening for a familiar stranger.

Written by Tamara Steren and directed by James Mellon, it runs through Oct. 19 at the Colony Theatre in Burbank. For tickets, visit [www.colonytheatre.org](http://www.colonytheatre.org).

*“The Little King of Norwalk”* is a modern barrio fable about power, politics and the price of survival set against a real-life scandal that unfolded last year when Norwalk imposed a ban on shelters, supportive housing and businesses that traditionally serve the poor.

Following a DUI, Juan attends his first mandated AA meeting – where he's mistaken for someone powerful and influential who might be of use to the ambitious mayor and his inner circle. Juan wields his new power to benefit himself but soon goes too far. Can he find redemption by confessing the truth?

Written by Israel López Reyes and directed by Geoffrey Rivas, it runs through Nov. 2 at the Los Angeles Theatre Center in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (213) 489-0994 or visit [www.latinoteaterco.org](http://www.latinoteaterco.org).



*“An Evening with Eartha Kitt Live Tribute”* “An Evening with Eartha Kitt Live Tribute” honors the life and work of Eartha Kitt. Slip into the velvet-draped world of Eartha Kitt. A sensual, subversive and unforgettable icon brought to life in this electrifying one-woman cabaret starring Broadway's Thomasina Gross (“Mamma Mia!,” “Hairspray Live!”). Gross channels the legendary icon with smoldering vocals, biting wit and magnetic charm – all backed by a sensational live band. From the sultry purr of “Santa Baby” to the delicious defiance of “I Wanna Be Evil,” it's an evening of raw glamour, intimate storytelling and timeless allure. It's a celebration of everything she was – and everything she dared us to be. Thomasina E. Gross brings Eartha Kitt back to life. Unapologetic. Fierce. Fearless. “An Evening with Eartha Kitt Live Tribute” includes original monologues and dramatizations based on publicly available information. It is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Eartha Kitt estate.)

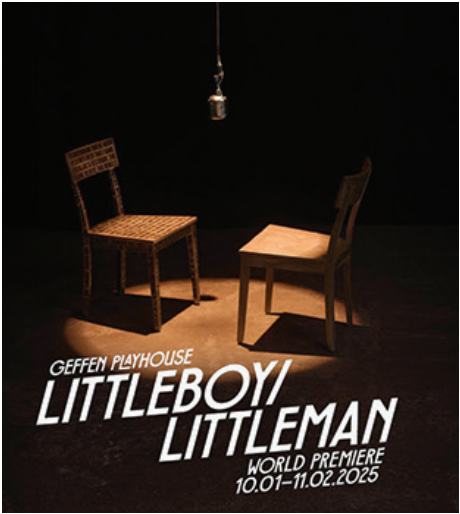
Written by Thomasina E. Gross and directed by Nohely Quiroz, it runs through Oct. 9 Upstairs at Vitello's in the Velvet Martini Lounge in Studio City. For tickets, visit [www.vitellosrestaurant.com](http://www.vitellosrestaurant.com).



*“Littleboy/Littleman”* When Nicaraguan brothers Fito and Bastian clash over their visions of the American Dream, their choices send them on a collision course with fate – risking not just their futures but their bond. Fito, a poet, is impulsive and ambitious, willing to take risks to get what he wants. Bastian, a telemarketer, is steady and principled, holding onto caution as a guide. Blending poetry, live music and ritual, this electrifying tale of brotherhood and belonging pulses with rhythm and emotion, pulling us

into a world where family is everything, but dreams come at a cost.

Written by Rudi Goblen and directed by Nancy Medina, it runs Oct. 9 through Nov. 2 at the Geffen Playhouse in Westwood. For tickets, call (310) 208-2028 or visit [www.geffenplayhouse.org](http://www.geffenplayhouse.org).



*“Hairspray”* Set in 1962 Baltimore, Maryland, the production follows teenage Tracy Turnblad's dream to dance on “The Corny Collins Show,” a local TV dance program based on the real-life “Buddy Deane Show.” When Tracy wins a role on the show, she becomes a celebrity overnight leading to social change as Tracy campaigns for the show's integration. The songs include 1960s-style dance music and “downtown” rhythm and blues.

Written by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan, based on the John Waters film, with music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, and directed by Marissa Jaret Winokur, it runs Oct. 10 through Oct. 26 at the Scherr Forum Theatres at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center in Thousand Oaks. For tickets, call (805) 449-2787 or visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).



*“A Life Behind Bars”* As a young man in New York, establishing himself as a writer and actor, Dan took on a bartending job to pay his rent and groceries until his big break comes. He found he had a certain proficiency for bartending and was in demand. He also enjoyed the social aspects of it: meeting people, talking to people, the party atmosphere, the occasional gay fling. Being behind the bar put him in proximity to the adult beverages his clientele loved. He enjoyed the libations, too – sometimes too much. 9/11 happened. The gentrification and Disneyfication and Giuliani-fication of Manhattan followed. Dive bars ceased to be in fashion. New York wasn't fun anymore. There are eight million stories in the naked city, and Dan will introduce you to a bunch of colorful characters in the course of his narrative. New York was a party, and you'll get to join in on the fun.

Written by Dan Ruth and directed by Tanya Moberly, it runs Oct. 10 through Oct. 17 at the Whitefire Theatre in Sherman Oaks. For tickets, visit [www.whitefire.stagey.net/projects/11435?tab=tickets](http://www.whitefire.stagey.net/projects/11435?tab=tickets).



see SCENE IN LA on page 15



# Art Talks at Brand

The Brand Library & Art Center is announced the return of Art Talks at Brand. This series invites contemporary artists to discuss their work and the issues surrounding it. Each talk will be followed by a moderated Q&A session led by Brand staff member, artist and

writer Jennifer Remenchik. The series is sponsored by the Brand Associates; it is free and open to the public. On Thursday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m., Ish Lipman (b. 1995, San Francisco) will be speaking. Lipman is a Los Angeles-based artist. His paintings investigate

the complexities of the sublime in relationship to the contemporary landscape. Drawing upon our growing alienation from the natural world, Lipman's paintings seek to explore this rift, aiming to examine the various anxieties and reveries that emerge from healing this inner

divide. Brand staff member and program moderator Jennifer Remenchik is an artist and writer based in Los Angeles. Remenchik began organizing art talks at Brand Library & Art Center to showcase artists who reflect the diversity of the art scene of the

greater Los Angeles area. Visit [BrandLibrary.org/Art-Talks](http://BrandLibrary.org/Art-Talks) for more information on the artists in the Art Talks at Brand series as well as links to recordings of past programs. Brand Library & Art Center is located at 1601 W. Mountain St. in Glendale.

# Jewel City Concert Series

The Jewel City Concert Series returns on Saturdays with live music on the Artsakh Paseo located at 127 Artsakh Ave. in Glendale's Downtown Arts & Entertainment District. Through Oct. 25, the community is invited to gather at 5 p.m. each Saturday for an eclectic mix of performances that reflect Glendale's creative spirit and cultural diversity. "The Jewel City Concert Series is part of our ongoing commitment

to enliven the Artsakh Paseo and create meaningful cultural experiences in Downtown Glendale," said Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, director of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture. "The series highlights the creative talent within our community and adds something special to Saturday nights, bringing people together through music in a setting that feels uniquely Glendale."

Presented by the City of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Dept. and sponsored by the Arts and Culture Commission through funding from the Urban Art Program, the series brings neighbors, families and friends together for a casual evening of live music in the heart of the city. Each concert turns the Paseo into a welcoming outdoor space where people can unwind, connect and enjoy the rhythm of the city.

On Oct. 11, The Guest Room, an Indie Pop/R&B band, will be performing. The Guest Room is a collective that thrives on collaboration. With every track, it opens the door for fresh voices to join in, creating a dynamic mix of soulful melodies and experimental beats. It's all about the vibe – guests stepping in to share their sound, stories and energy, making each song a unique moment. In The Guest Room,

everyone's invited to sing along and be part of the experience. Concertgoers are encouraged to arrive early to explore the surrounding district and support local businesses before the music begins. All performances are free and open to the public. Attendees are welcome to bring their own chairs as seating is not provided. Performances run approximately 60 minutes without intermission.

# Pasadena Lamanda Library presents a Veteran's Day event: 'War Stories: The Ones We Bring Back and How'

On Saturday, Nov. 15, the Lamanda Park branch of the Pasadena Public Library, 140 S. Altadena Drive, will honor Veteran's Day 2025 by hosting four area veteran/writers whose work reflects each one's connection to their time serving in the military. The presentation, which is free and open to the public, will take place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Panelists will draw on selections from their work during the event and there will be opportunities for

questions and answers. Writers will also be available to meet with attendees. When possible, copies of their work will be available. The featured writers are Pablo Agrio, Bill Cushing, Gregory (GT) Foster and John McBready. Agrio served in the Marines. His memoir, Pursuit of Happiness, was published in 2020. He won first place for his short story "The Dom." Pablo belongs to and works with the UCLA Wordcommandos, a workshop for veterans suffering

from PTSD. He will discuss "Writing as a way of coping with trauma." Called the "blue collar" writer as an undergrad because of his years on surface vessels in the Navy before starting school, Cushing's book Heroic Brothers of the Civil War won an award for historical non-fiction with one part of the book winning a Col. Damon L. Wright prize. His short story "Memorial Day" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Cushing will

focus on "capturing the field of battle in prose and poetry." Foster has been one of the major poetry forces in Pasadena and twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His latest release is The Boys Are Not Refined, a book that is part novel and part memoir that focuses on his service in the Army during the Vietnam era. His latest poetry collection is titled Warped by War. Foster's focus will be on "a draftee's experiences." Finally, McBready retired as

a career military officer whose works encompass a diverse range of genres. He was a first-place winner in the Dept. of Veterans Affairs-sponsored National Veteran's Day Creative Arts Festival for creative writing. Upon his retirement, President Barack Obama recognized him for his outstanding service. His talk recalls his experience of "working through the ranks."

SCENE IN LA from page 14

"The Great Lover" The Duke de Richelieu proposes a wager: he can – and will – seduce the first beautiful woman who crosses his path. Women have always found the silver-tongued rascal irresistible and rarely has he failed in his conquests. But this time, the clever Marquise de Prie has pledged to protect and mentor the virginal Gabrielle de Belle-Isle. Complicating matters further, both Gabrielle and Richelieu are drawn to the newly commissioned nobleman Lieutenant Raoul Sevran. The promise of passionate love proves difficult to restrain once temptation opens the door. The game is afoot, and it is impossible to predict who will triumph in this playful labyrinth of foreplay, intrigue and danger. This delightful romp unfolds in the château of Chantilly, 17th-century France. Written by Alexandre Dumas. English translation by Barnett Shaw and directed by Ben Guillory, it runs Oct. 11 through Nov. 9 at the Los Angeles Theatre Center, Theatre Four in Los Angeles. For tickets, visit [www.theobeytheatrecompany.org](http://www.theobeytheatrecompany.org). "Mascogos" (pronounced Mahs-KO-gohs) are descendants of Black Seminoles who escaped slavery in Florida and Georgia to settle in northern Mexico,

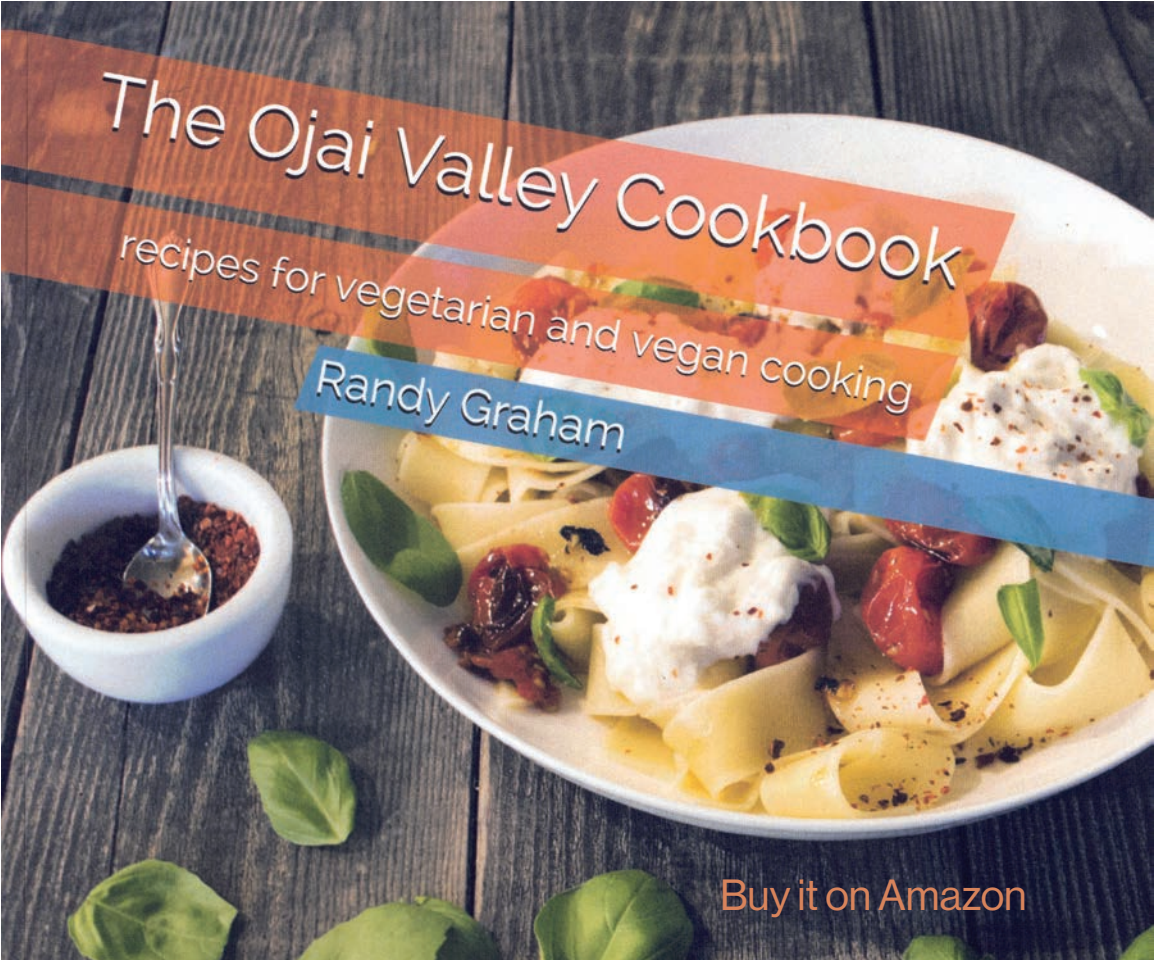
predominantly in Coahuila. There the Mexican government granted them land in exchange for military service: they helped defend the northern frontier from raids. In 1852, the Mascogos established Nacimiento de los Negros, a village that still exists today. They lived alongside Kickapoo, Seminole and Mexican neighbors, developing a unique Afro-Indigenous-Mexican culture. They retained English and Gullah-influenced songs, dances and oral traditions while also adopting Spanish and Catholic practices. In this bold, historical sci-fi drama, 18-year-old Jamari is fighting an unknown illness that takes him through worlds he's never seen before, time-traveling from 1864 Mexico to today's West Side of Chicago. Unsure of where he belongs, trapped in a historical cycle, Jamari and his loved ones – his 15-year-old cousin Gechu, Mama Luz and Padre Jose – seek answers as they try to break free from the shackles of time. Written by Miranda González and directed by Jose Luis Valenzuela, it runs Oct. 11 through Nov. 9 at the Los Angeles Theatre Center in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (213) 489-0994 or visit [www.latinotheaterco.org](http://www.latinotheaterco.org). "Amerika or The Man Who Disappeared" Arriving in

New York City on a steamer, 17-year-old Karl Rossmann strives to make his own way even as he encounters a series of increasingly strange and bewildering experiences that turn his world upside-down. Written by Dietrich Smith from

the novel by Franz Kafka, and directed by Dietrich Smith, it runs Oct. 17 through Nov. 22 at the Open Fist Theatre Company at the Atwater Village Theatre in Atwater Village. For tickets, call (323) 882-6912 or visit [www.openfist.org](http://www.openfist.org).

"Breathe" is a story of two sons from different families involved in separate acts of violence. The consequences they face are based not only on evidence but also on the color of their skin. Not only must the sons rationalize

You can read more at [CVWeekly.com/LEISURE](http://CVWeekly.com/LEISURE).





# JUST FOR FUN

## CALENDARthis

### VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Those who can, do; Those who can do more, volunteer. Author Unknown

Little Landers Historical Society is seeking volunteers to help support its mission, "To preserve and maintain Bolton Hall Museum and the historical record of Rancho Tujunga."

Positions on the Bolton Hall 2026 board of directors are open. Other opportunities to volunteer include museum docents, committee membersforongoingprojects,special event and exhibit coordinators, administrative, archival or library assistants, facilities maintenance and more.

Potential volunteers are asked to reach out with your questions or to volunteer with Little Landers and Bolton Hall Museum. Email: LittleLanders@BoltonHall.org, phone: (818) 352-3420 or send a letter so P.O. Box 203, Tujunga, CA 91043.

### GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The Club next meets on Oct. 10 when it hosts Onnig Bulankhian from the City of Glendale. He will give a program about the city's Recreation & Parks Services.

The cost to attend Friday meetings, which includes lunch and program, is \$25. All are welcome.

The Club meets Friday afternoons at the Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado St. in Glendale.

### JEWEL CITY KNITTERS MONTHLY MEETING

Jewel City Knitters will hold its monthly JCK Charity Knit and Crochet gathering on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Library, 3301 E. Chevy Chase Dr. in Glendale, (818) 548-2046.

Enjoy a relaxed afternoon of knitting, crocheting and conversation.

For more information, email susandietel@yahoo.com.

### AAUW WELCOMES GLENDALE CITY CLERK SUZIE ABAJIAN

The Glendale Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will meet on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive in Glendale. Lunch will be served. Please make a reservation by emailing secretary@aauwglendale.org. Non-AAUW members are invited. The cost is \$65, payable at the door by cash or check.

The program is "Women in Education and Politics" presented by Suzie Abajian, Glendale city clerk.

Dr. Abajian has held the position of city clerk since July 2022. A Glendale resident, she has worked in education for more than 24 years as a teacher, administrator and professor at UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, and Occidental College. Suzie earned her Ph.D. in Education from UCLA and holds both a B.A. and M.A.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

## » ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE

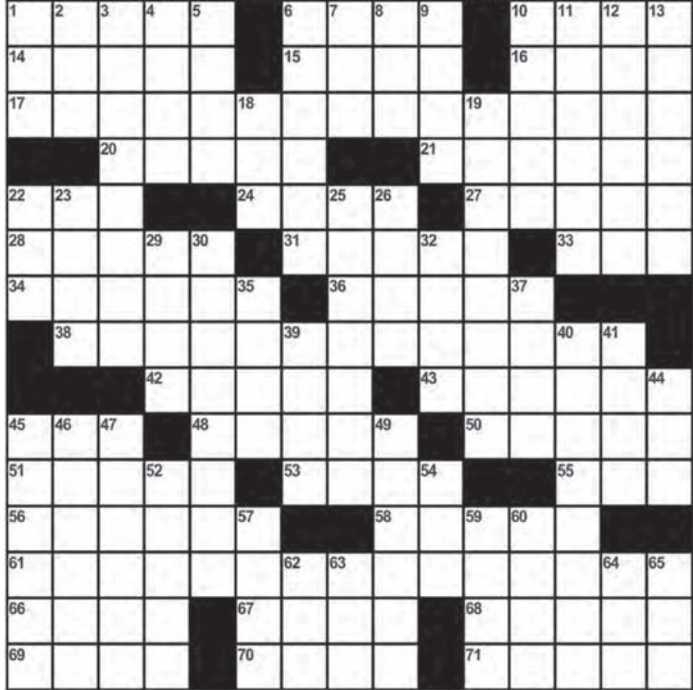


### ACROSS

- 1) Cassettes, e.g.  
6) Cain's brother  
10) Plants a butt  
14) As a whole  
15) \_\_\_ Scotia  
16) Insanity, in a courtroom  
17) 35 ...  
20) Matronly address  
21) Some abdominal exercises  
22) Bedazzle  
24) Minor fight  
27) Examine a patient again  
28) Shower alternatives  
31) Close to identical  
33) "To \_\_\_ is human ..."  
34) Involve  
36) Santa \_\_\_ (California track)  
38) 10 ...
- 42) Passed crookedly, as a check  
43) Big name in hogs  
45) \_\_\_ Sec.  
48) Harvest wool  
50) Dusty chasers  
51) Land for development  
53) Many have gray underneath  
55) "... for what \_\_\_ worth"  
56) Imprisoned, e.g.  
58) King topper  
61) 100 ...  
66) Fall lead-in?  
67) Miscellaneous mix  
68) Prophetic deck  
69) "Auld Lang \_\_\_"  
70) Bread from a tandoor  
71) Kind of house or glasses

### FAMOUS NUMBERS

By Timothy E. Parker



### DOWN

- 1) Singer McGraw  
2) "The Phantom Menace" boy, briefly  
3) South Carolina's state tree  
4) "Enchanted" girl in a 2004 film  
5) Was an aggressive baserunner  
6) Lack of vigor  
7) Automaton, briefly  
8) The day before  
9) "\_\_\_ and the Real Girl" (2007 film)  
10) Deliberately annoy  
11) Mistreat  
12) Type of tantrum  
13) Backtalker  
18) Thing to get pinned on  
19) Arson's easy target  
22) Mr. Lincoln, briefly  
23) Magician's prop  
25) June 14 U.S. celebration  
26) Fish appendages  
29) It preys overhead  
30) Ominous  
32) \_\_\_ and kin (friends and relatives)  
35) "Mono" attachment  
37) Start for "dynamic"  
39) Require  
40) Town in "Hamlet"  
41) Word with "road" or "hearing"  
44) "Affirmative"  
45) Trees no more  
46) Cantankerous  
47) Long-sleeved garment  
49) Judge to be probable  
52) Home of the Minotaur's labyrinth  
54) Jrs.' elders  
57) Black, in verse  
59) "The Iron Chancellor" Bismarck  
60) End of a film shooting  
62) Pie \_\_\_ mode  
63) Spy agcy.  
64) Split Asian peninsula (Abbr.)  
65) Posting at JFK

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

October 6, 2025 - October 12, 2025

### ARIES March 21 - April 19

Discussing health issues with your partner is important. If he or she isn't feeling up to par, you'll be more than willing to provide some TLC. This might be a good time to discuss ways in which you can improve your wellness routines. If you can find ways to support each other, you'll do yourselves a big favor.

### TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Find a health routine you can stick with. Don't start and stop new diets. Consistency is important. If you fall short but keep trying, you'll eventually reach your goal. If you abandon your efforts entirely, you'll get nowhere. Keeping to a schedule could be difficult, but doing something you enjoy would bring a new dimension to the idea of staying fit.

### GEMINI May 21 - June 20

No matter your current state of health, an optimistic frame of mind enables you to heal more quickly. Have faith in life and in the healing capacity of your body. When you're at ease with yourself and can laugh at your situation, the body responds favorably. Keep up the positive mindset.

### CANCER June 21 - July 22

Some of your biggest health problems may not be due to being unwell but to impatience. It could cause you to injure yourself when you're working out if you think you should be progressing more quickly than you are. If you try to force your body to subsist on an unsuitable diet, you could end up doing more harm than good. Pay attention to your body.

### LEO July 23 - August 22

The cosmos is encouraging you to get out of your rut. You may enjoy sports but do most of your exercising in your imagination while sitting in a chair. You need someone or something to inspire you. That could happen now. Either a piece of news or some sort of revelation will get you going again.

### VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Health issues don't seem to be a major concern now, but that doesn't mean they're unimportant. An urge to get out and play a sport, particularly a competitive one, could result in a minor injury if you aren't careful. Know your weaknesses. It's better to be safe than sorry.

### LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

The cosmos is helping you become more conscious of any health issues. If you need more information about a problem you face, seek it now. You're more motivated to find the answers. If you need any professional help or a second opinion, get that now, too. Your search will be rewarded.

### SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

The cosmos can help you intuit the answers to ongoing health issues. Your intuition is more powerful at this time. If you feel there's anything wrong, get it checked now. Seeking the correct information will give you confidence as well as clues to what to do next. Look after yourself if you're socializing a lot.

### SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You may feel less edgy and more relaxed, calm, and contemplative now. That desire to experiment with your health may have subsided. You're feeling mellower. Enjoy this time of peace. Get a massage to ease away any lingering tension.

### CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Certain symptoms could reappear, such as a skin irritation like eczema or headaches. This could be partly due to stress, since there's likely to be more pressure on you for a while. If you start to feel under the weather, listen to what your body tells you and try to limit your activities.

### AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Your usual image as a person glowing with health may need some upkeep. It's important to maintain your diet and exercise routine even if you feel like slacking off. Don't slide back into couch-potato mode. The more you make these good habits a part of your daily routine, the easier it becomes to continue. Soon you'll feel so good that you won't want to stop.

### PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Subtle tension could materialize. It might help to reflect on how your lifestyle and relationships affect your health. This is a good time to investigate any ongoing health condition that may cause you problems. Don't be afraid to look at emotional reasons for physical symptoms.





PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

# Help! I Paid \$575 for a Useless Resume – What Now?

Justin Czerniawski pays \$575 for premium resume help from TopResume, but he’s unhappy with the results. When TopResume refuses a refund he turns to a consumer advocate for help.

**Question:** I paid \$575 through Affirm for TopResume’s “executive tier” resume service but what I received was a poorly reformatted version of my original CV and a generic cover letter. Despite multiple requests for a refund, TopResume insists their no-refund policy applies – even though they assigned me an inexperienced writer and admitted fault by offering reassignment.

Affirm sided with TopResume claiming the company’s terms protect them.

I’ve found dozens of similar complaints online and TopResume has an “F” BBB rating. After months of calls and emails, a manager promised a refund but later ghosted me. Now I’m stuck paying a loan for services I never fully received. How do I escape this loop and get my money back?

– Justin Czerniawski, Roswell, Georgia

**Answer:** TopResume should have honored your refund request the moment it failed to deliver the premium service you paid for. But if it didn’t, the company should have given you the refund a representative promised you after you complained.

There were a few things that troubled me about your case. TopResume is one of the largest resume-writing services but, as you note, the reviews are problematic.

Researching the company before you make a purchasing decision is always a good idea.

Also I think you already have a great resume. In fact, it was so impressive that TopResume’s writers couldn’t really improve on it.

Finally, I’m not sure if I would have financed a purchase like this. Not all debt is bad but I’m not sure if this qualifies as “good” debt. When I asked you about this, you said you used Affirm because of the zero percent interest but would have had no problem covering the cost.

“No refund” policies should not shield a company from providing substandard or undelivered services. There are consumer laws that protect consumers from businesses that do that. It looks like TopResume acknowledged a problem with their work by reassigning your resume to another writer.

Affirm, as your financier, also bears responsibility: Federal regulations require buy-now-pay-later providers to investigate disputes fairly, not blindly defer to a merchant’s terms.

You did everything right by documenting every interaction. Your paper trail was key to making your case. Next step: Escalate to TopResume’s executives using the contacts on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org. By the way, I also publish executive contacts for

Affirm in case you want to appeal the review.

There were a few problems with the correspondence. First, a representative called you to offer a refund so you didn’t get the promise in writing. Always get that in writing just in case the company tries to ghost you. And second, it looks like you turned down TopResume’s offer to fix your resume saying you had lost confidence in the company’s ability to deliver its product.

During a dispute process, a company like Affirm will ask TopResume to show that it tried to deliver the product you ordered. Your refusal might have weakened your case and helped TopResume win the dispute.

Still, you shouldn’t be left with a resume you can’t use. I contacted TopResume on your behalf.

“TopResume stands by the resume they developed, feeling it was a strong asset that effectively captured the complexity of Justin Czerniawski’s background,” a representative told me. “While resume feedback can be

subjective, the team believes the version provided would significantly support his job



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

search. However, they understand that Justin felt the document didn’t meet his expectations and, as a result, they are proceeding with the requested reimbursement.”

Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (<https://elliottadvocacy.org>), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems. Email him at [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org) or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>.

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## CALENDAR THIS from previous page

in mathematics from Occidental College.

AAUW’s mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For information about membership, activities and meetings, visit <https://glendale-ca.aauw.net/>.

## CRESCENTA-CANADA CLUB HOSTS REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONER

Dr. Sara Sadhwani, a La Cañada Flintridge resident for several years, is an award-winning political scientist and assistant professor of politics at Pomona College. She will be speaking on Prop 50 at the Oct. 12 meeting of the Crescenta-Cañada Club. She served on the California 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission and will address the special election vote providing context and history. She is also an appointed member of the Los Angeles County Governance Reform Taskforce formed to implement County Measure G, a once-in-a-century reform approved by voters in 2024.

The Oct. 12 meeting of the Crescenta-Cañada Democratic Club will be held at the La Crescenta Public Library community room, 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta from 2:30-4:30 p.m. For more information and to submit questions in advance, please contact CCDC at [canadacrescentadems@gmail.com](mailto:canadacrescentadems@gmail.com) or Anne Tryba ([annetryba1@gmail.com](mailto:annetryba1@gmail.com)).

## CCLCF EVENTS

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge hosts a variety of events for the community. Among them are:

•Registration for Fall II Programming is open. New

classes and returning favorites are offered at [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org). Fall II runs eight weeks from Oct. 20 - Dec. 20.

•Registration is open for the 32nd annual Thanksgiving Day 5K Run/Walk and Kids’ Mile. Training for the free kids’ mile six-week training program is offered to help them get ready for the big day. It will run from Oct. 18 thru Nov. 22. Visit [cclcf.org/run](http://cclcf.org/run) to register. The annual Thanksgiving Day 5K Run/Walk, Kids’ Mile and Food Drive will take place at Olberz Park in LCF on Thursday, Nov. 27. Visit [cclcf.org/run](http://cclcf.org/run) for more info. Sponsorships available!

•Celebrate Halloween and Dia de Los Muertos at CCLCF’s “Dances de Los Muertos” belly dance fantasy

theater event on Saturday, Oct. 25. Visit [cclcf.org/events](http://cclcf.org/events) for tickets and more info.

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is located at 4469 Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, (818) 790-4353.

## CVIM HOLDING SILENT ONLINE AUCTION

The Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music Foundation is having an upcoming silent online auction fundraiser from Oct. 10-25 ending at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25 at the school’s Spooktacular Concert at Crescenta Valley High School.

You can read more at [CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS](http://CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS)

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SCAN HERE TO RUN

(818) 790-4353  
office@cclcf.org

CCLCF.org/run



WEATHER from page 2

I am all in favor of getting us out of our vehicles and for creating more rental properties that will lower rents and I think that can be done – but it seems to me it should be done with a conversation that includes stakeholders at the table.

A while back, when Mike Gatto was our area’s assembly member, we attended a meeting of local business owners. There Gatto heard complaints and concerns from real people who had real issues. One local restaurant owner shared a story of predatory lawyers who were coming into the owner’s restaurant and then suing the owner because signs were not placed correctly regarding ADA and microwave use. In one case a business was being sued because a sign on the wall was an eighth of an inch too low. The average costs of these types of lawsuits paid by businesses was about \$10,000 – a cost most mom-and-pop businesses could not afford. Then Assembly member Gatto returned to Sacramento and wrote a bill that gave businesses 90 days to respond to complaints. That gave businesses time to correct any issues without being threatened with a lawsuit.

That’s how government is supposed to

work – citizens are supposed to share issues of concern with their elected officials. And that did happen, in some cases, with SB 79 but unfortunately those incidents occurred after the bill was created and was making its way to the governor’s desk.

The Red Line cable cars made Los Angeles a transit dream but then gas companies created freeways and life changed. The plan to create a Los Angeles car haven was well thought-out and planned (perhaps an evil plan but a well thought-out plan nonetheless). To combat climate change it really does take a village – not just one person in Sacramento. Getting people out of their beloved cars will take more than just proximity to a Metro hub or bus stop. It will require what Californians are famous for ... innovative and creative thinking.

Yesterday the fog rolled in as if John Carpenter was directing it [don’t get the reference? Watch “The Fog”].

Although it is October and we are only a little over 20 days from when the veil between worlds is thin [again – don’t get the reference? Samhain and Halloween] this fog is not brought on by supernatural

effects but by a deep marine layer that is driven by a weak low pressure system off the California coast.

The fog came rolling in from the southeast. It is the depth of the marine layer that will determine if we are foggy or cloudy, according to NOAA.

For Wednesday’s fog our elevation, around 1,500 feet, was near the top of the marine layer, which is why it was so fog creepy [not a NOAA term but fits]. Most of the times the marine layer is at a higher elevation and therefore the clouds are above us.

The fog was expected here today but then there will be tropical moisture that will disrupt the marine layer. This tropical moisture is from Hurricane Priscilla off the coast of Cabo San Lucas and it could bring some rain, including thunderstorms, to the area over the course of the next few days. The weekend should be milder with highs in the upper 70s, according to NOAA.

“Right now there are some whispers of off shore Santa Ana ... [winds] more north and west of [our] area that could see dry and windy conditions on Sunday and Monday,” according to NOAA.

RALPHS from Cover

to prevent, investigate and prosecute shoplifting, fraud and other crimes and for “internal business purposes such as risk management, investigations, reporting and other legal and compliance reasons.”

It also states that the people who will be gathering this information are trained on being sensitive with the data. They add the information is not sold or transferred outside the Kroger company with a couple of exceptions:

- “To provide service providers with ALPR Information in connection with their performance of services on our behalf; however, these companies are prohibited from using ALPR Information for purposes other than those requested by us or required by law;
- We may share information with third parties, such as law enforcement and other businesses, when reasonably necessary to ensure the safety and security of our customers, associates or the general public; to protect the rights and property of our customers, associates, the public, and other businesses; to comply with legal requirements; or if disclosure is required by law.”

The information/data is kept for as long as “reasonably necessary,” according to the Kroger website.

There are some other changes at Ralphs market, including the La Crescenta location. It has isolated aisles that contain some medication and detergent. These must be purchased separately from the general check-out areas. This is also to combat shoplifting, according to the company.

CVW has reached out numerous times to Kroger/Food4Less/Ralphs for a comment but, as of press time, there has been no response.

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COMMUNITY

**NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING**  
Proposed: 80 New Affordable Rental Apartments for Families at Foothill Blvd & Brigg Ave. Any interested person may attend meeting to provide comments. November 6, 2025, 6pm -7PM at the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd. [abodecommunities.org/lacrescenta](http://abodecommunities.org/lacrescenta)

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WANTED/NEEDED

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Disneyana, all types: animation cels, employee awards, employee items, promo, etc. Autographs, Blu-rays, DVD, CDs. All types of memorabilia, military, historical items, fine men's watches. Call Arthur at (213) 235-5585.

**WANTED**  
Antiques, collectibles, vintage clothing, pottery, linens, stemware, etc. Call Lynn at (818) 767-0514.

**CALLING ALL ARTISTS & CRAFTERS!**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church is looking for vendors of hand-made items to sell at our annual Breakfast with Santa & Holiday Craft Fair for Sunday, December 7. Space discount if submitted before Nov. 15. Call or Text (818) 381-2000 for application & questions.

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