

City of Glendale Honors Veterans

By Mary O'KEEFE

The City of Glendale hosted a luncheon ceremony in honor of veterans on Tuesday, Veterans Day. The event was held at the Glendale Police Dept.'s community room with about 100 people present, including representatives from the city's fire and police departments.

City councilmembers were on hand to thank veterans for their service; the keynote speaker was Ron Bularz, a veteran and La Crescenta resident.

"It's a great honor to stand before you today as we gather to pay tribute to the brave men and women who have served our Armed Forces," Bularz said.

Bularz served in the U.S. Navy and is the commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614.

"Veterans Day is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have defended our freedom and to express our enduring gratitude for their service," he said.

He shared a brief history of Veterans Day, which dates back to the end of World War I and was originally known as Armistice Day. It commemorates the ceasefire of WWI that took effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

"For me, Veterans Day holds a special place in my heart," Bularz said.

"I proudly served in the United States Navy where I was honorably discharged in 1969 as an electrician's mate, third class. My time in uniform taught me the values of discipline, teamwork and service principles that have guided me throughout life."

After he returned from service Bularz built a career in telecommunications working for AT&T and later for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

see VETERANS on page 5

Now More Than Ever – It's Time to Give

By Mary O'KEEFE

Many people who in the past may have given to food banks are now finding themselves in line for food support.

According to Los Angeles County, over 1.5 million children and adults have seen their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits cut due to the government shutdown. In California the SNAP program is known as CalFresh.

If, and when, the government is up and running again the benefits will not quickly return. In addition to CalFresh benefits being halted, the government shutdown has left thousands of people without paychecks ... and in an era of living paycheck-to-paycheck that puts a tremendous strain on families.

Food banks across the state and the nation have been reporting an increase in need while coping with a decrease in donations; however, there are some non-profits that continue to work together to give

Photo by Robin GOLDSWORTHY
 Members of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale were among the more than 70 people who took part in the meal packaging event.



people the support that is so needed.

Last weekend over 70 people, including many from the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, gathered to pack up 10,000 nutritional meals to be shared with local food banks. This was the first major service project of its new year for the Kiwanis Club of Glendale. It started when Albert Hernandez took on the role as president.

"These meals were donated to [organizations] including Ascenc-

ia, my non-profit, which is Home Again LA, the Campbell Center and the Salvation Army," Hernandez said.

He added the timing of the event was appropriate in providing meals and restocking the shelves of these organizations that supply food to those in need.

Hernandez is the chief executive officer of Home Again LA, which has been around for 15 years. It has a homeless shelter and a food pantry and has been

supported for many years by the Kiwanis Club of Glendale.

Hernandez has seen within the last few weeks an increase in the need for food support.

When people come to Home Again LA for food a head count is taken each week. Last week the organization saw its count increase more than three times from the week before. Many of those who came were getting food support for the first time.

see FOOD INJUSTICE on page 18

Briggs and Foothill Proposed Project Not Welcomed by Residents

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Thursday, Nov. 6 the Crescenta Valley Town Council Land Use Committee (CVTC LUC) held a meeting regarding the proposed development at the northwest corner of Briggs Avenue and Foothill Boulevard.

The presentation began with the developer/owner of the property, Abode Communities, sharing a brief rundown of what is being proposed: a five-story, 80-unit building of affordable rental housing. Of these apartments, 25 will be set aside for transition-aged youth (TAY), 18 to 24 years old; one will be set aside for an on-site manager. The development will have 80 parking spaces.

The presentation continued with the architect describing how his firm took the public's concerns into consideration about the design of a previously proposed development. These concerns included moving the building farther back from the street, adding a fire lane behind the complex and using river rock to accommodate the community's design plans.

He explained how his firm is partnering with Upward Bound House to work with TAY and shared a timeline of estimated permitting, construction and completion of the project.

see BRIGGS AND FOOTHILL on page 17

Provided by Abode Communities, this is a rendering of what the proposed project would look like at the site of Foothill Boulevard and Briggs Avenue.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Sipping and Mingling in Montrose

On Saturday night I had a couple of tickets to the (now famous) Montrose Wine Walk. I was welcomed by members of the La Crescenta Woman’s Club who handed out goodies enclosed in a Montrose Shopping Park tote bag that included pour tickets, \$10 MSP scrip and a commemorative wine glass used for each of the tastings. Also received was the all-important wristband that designated ticket holders were over the age of 21.

Held twice a year – in the fall and the spring – the Wine Walks are not only a great chance to try some new wines but to also see some familiar faces. In addition, I went into some local shops that I had never been to before. Case in point: Current Season, a newer store on Ocean View Boulevard just north of Honolulu Avenue.

After I checked in with the wine booth at Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard (in front of Froyo), I made my way over to Current Season. I heard they were serving some delicious wine – and I wasn’t disappointed.

Now, those who know me know how much I enjoy wine. In addition to serving some Daou sauvignon blanc (which my son, who enjoys a nice white, was relishing) I had a taste of Bonanza. Bonanza is from the Wagner Family whose members are famous for their Caymus wine. Not only was some wonderful wine poured, but Current Season offered a variety of bites to pair

with the wine. And my friend Leslie Lesh was on hand, with her friend Kristin Martin, to make sure my evening started off right.

Making my way through Current Season I was wowed by the merchandise it offered – gorgeous items that I know I’d look good in!

Another highlight of the night was seeing wine connoisseur Brent Beaty at Once Upon A Time bookstore. He enthusiastically described the wines poured and offered ticket holders white or red. Always good to see Brent!

Over at Mountain Rose Gifts, I saw Mary Dawson who had brought up some wines from my “stomping grounds” (get it – a wine joke!) in Paso Robles.

I made sure to stop over at Merle Norman Cosmetics Montrose where I saw Jeff and Kim Kelly. They are always pouring some terrific wine and this time didn’t disappoint. My son and I had our pick of Ancient Peaks Zinfandel, Thistle Mead and San Simeon Cabernet. Tough choice!

These are just a few of the many merchants that took part in Saturday night’s festivities. With live music along Honolulu and a wine glass in my hand, few things could go wrong – and they didn’t!

Now to wait for the spring wine walk...

Robin Goldsworthy is the publisher of the Crescenta Valley Weekly. She can be reached at robin@cvweekly.com or by calling (818) 248-2740.

» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

I don’t know about anyone else but I am feeling more overwhelmed than ever as we approach the holidays. It’s not really due to anxiety over a Thanksgiving meal or what gift to buy for whom – it is just a heavy feeling that weighs over me, like cartoon characters who have a dark cloud following them.

I know part of this feeling, in my case at least, is the political atmosphere in our nation. The U.S. political parties have always had their battles though there were some brave elected souls who would cross lines and negotiate with each other. Senators Ted Kennedy, a Democrat, and Senator Orrin Hatch, a Republican, come to mind. Kennedy also worked well with Senator John McCain and numerous others; the most conservative of politicians worked with the liberal Kennedy.

I miss the days when politicians didn’t take constant jabs at each other and try to blame all the world’s woes on each other. As any mom will tell you, when something is broken and there are two children in the room it is usually a joint effort in the destruction. I guess this overwhelming feeling can be related to a very tired mom whose children have been fighting for hours with no end in sight.

But I also think this feeling goes beyond the political arena. I am a news junkie but have been forcing myself to watch more MeTV and Cartoon Network, which has really helped me escape; however, it is difficult to completely walk away from all news.

Even after an hour with Scooby-Doo

and those “meddling kids” there is still a lingering feeling of anxiety, which could actually be due to the weather.

I have written this column for some time now and, although I have always known that we are one with the Earth, “from dust you are and to dust you will return.” Many think that sunny days make you happy and rainy days make you sad, and there is SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) but, as with everything regarding our planet Earth, things are not that simple. Everyone is unique and the effect of the weather on individuals varies.

For most people, low temperatures (below 50 degrees Fahrenheit), high humidity, rain and fog can bring about a “low mood” while mid-range temperatures (between 50 and 70 degrees), high atmospheric pressure, clear skies and sunlight equal a higher mood, according to healthline.com.

“If you’ve ever gotten a tingly, uneasy feeling before a storm, that was likely your body sensing a drop in atmospheric pressure. A 2019 animal study suggests drops in atmospheric pressure can activate the superior vestibular nucleus (SVN), a part of your brain that controls balance and perception. This study involved mice, but humans also have an SVN,” according to healthline.com.

So we in Southern California should all be happy because, until recently, we have been seeing a lot of sun and high summer temperatures into the first part of November, which is in complete contrast to the eastern part of the country that is seeing a cold snap.

see WEATHER on page 18

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IN BRIEF

ROSEMONT PRESERVE OPEN GATE MORNING

An “open gate” event is taking place at the Rosemont Preserve on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16. This is a chance for residents to visit the Preserve and wander the trail at their own pace and enjoy the tranquil setting, the wildlife and the natural beauty. Photographers: bring your camera to capture the morning light and citizen scientists, bring your iNaturalist and Merlin apps to identify birds and add wildlife sightings!

The gate will be open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Friends of the Rosemont Preserve Committee members will be available to answer questions and present this community resource.

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 the Rosemont Preserve Committee.

Those planning on walking the trails should wear sturdy shoes and bring water to drink.

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

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

CITY OF GLENDALE ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITY TO CLAIM UNCASHED CHECKS AND DEPOSITS

The City of Glendale is working to return to their rightful owners unclaimed checks and deposits that have been unclaimed for more than three years. If no one claims the money within 45 to 60 days of the first notice, the funds will become the City's property.

Some smaller amounts, such as unclaimed funds under \$15 that have been outstanding for over a year, may automatically be transferred to the City's General Fund without public notice.

A claim has to be filed by Dec. 9 by one of the following two methods:

- Submit a claim form to the Finance Department through the city's website.
- Submit a claim online through the unclaimed property portal.

For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/mryvpr77>.

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. The theme this year is “The Christmas Time Machine.”

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

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Rewired and Overwhelmed –
A Discussion About AI

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Nov. 20 CV Cares/iMPACT Foundation LA is hosting a discussion on AI [Artificial Intelligence] and how technology is affecting the lives of youth and adults.

The event is titled “Rewired and Overwhelmed – AI, Anxiety and the Price of Progress.” It will be a presentation for parents, educators and school leaders and will be led by Jamie Given, a local licensed therapist with years of experience supporting families and adolescents.

The event will be held at the Crescenta Valley High School's cafeteria on Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.

“The presentation will focus on how artificial intelligence and technology are affecting the mental health and development of students from kindergarten through 12th grade. We will also focus on what families can do to respond and support their children by creating awareness and education around the topic,” said Given.

According to a 2020 study at the Pew Research Center, about one in five parents of children younger than 12 say their child has his/her own smartphone. The study also found that 37% of parents of children aged 9 to 11 report his/her child has their own smartphone, compared with 13% of those with a child 5 to 8; 5% of those with a child aged 3 to 4; and 3% of those with a child who is 2 years old or younger. The majority of parents whose children have their own smartphones and are under the age of 12 say the major reasons their child has a smartphone is to make it easy for their child to contact them (78%) and to be able to easily get in touch with their child (73%).

AI is advancing at an extremely rapid pace and, like it or not, kids are dealing with this technology every day.

“Parents need to understand the emotional and psychological effects of AI-driven platforms on their children. This talk offers practical tools and clarity to protect the well-being [of these children],” Given said.

There have been studies that look at how the use of cellphones and social media are affecting the attention span of children and adults. Given said she has seen these effects.

“I have seen both children and teens struggle with focus, emotional regulation and impulse control. These



Photo provided by Jamie GIVEN
Local licensed therapist Jamie Given will give a talk on Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. titled 'Rewired and Overwhelmed – AI, Anxiety and the Price of Progress' in the CVHS cafeteria.

platforms are designed to be fast-paced and have immediate gratification, which makes it harder for developing brains to slow down, concentrate, or tolerate boredom. The result can be increased anxiety, academic difficulty and a lower tolerance for frustration in both classroom and home settings. Many children struggle with focus and coping because their brains are constantly overstimulated,” she added.

In the discussion on Nov. 20, Given will touch on the dangers that some can face through this technology. While concerns continue about online predators, beyond that there are other issues that kids face.

“Kids face social comparison, anxiety, cyberbullying, exposure to harmful content and decreased real-life social skills due to excessive screen use,” Given said.

AI can be an educational tool, it can help with homework and expand knowledge but it can also be a slippery slope that takes users way down a “rabbit hole” as they dig deeper into a subject.

“AI is now incorporated into nearly every platform that kids use every day. It learns their habits and feeds content designed to keep them engaged, shaping how they think, feel and view themselves. This means kids are not just passively watching or scrolling; they are being influenced by systems built to capture attention, encourage comparison and intensify emotional responses,” Given added.

The Nov. 20 discussion will cover not just the technology children face but how parents can prepare for the ever-changing waves of AI.

This event is in partnership with CV Cares/iMPACT LA as part of a coalition of organization members that focus on supporting youth and young adults. The CV Cares Youth Ambassador Club is the youth arm of the organization.

“The main goal of CV Cares is to protect and empower people by reducing substance use and promoting mental wellness throughout the Crescenta Valley and surrounding foothills. Our coalition unites schools, parents, youth, law enforcement, mental health professionals and community organizations to work collaboratively toward a shared vision – a community where people, with a good focus on young people, feel supported, informed and connected,” said Victoria Malone, executive director and founder of CV Cares.

see AI on page 8

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Education and Other Policy Changes Could Affect School District, Says Rep. Nick Schultz



Photo by Eliza PARTIKA
44th District Representative
Nick Schultz speaks to members of the GUSD board of education.

By Eliza PARTIKA

The Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) board of education meeting held on Nov. 4 included a presentation from California state representative Nick Schultz, the representative for California’s 44th District who covers the cities of Burbank, North Glendale, La Crescenta, Sunland-Tujunga, North Hollywood, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Toluca Lake and Valley Village. Schultz presented new and changing legislation from Capitol Hill that affects GUSD students and the school community.

Education Bills

When a school district is bidding on a contractor, the district is required by law to select the lowest bidder for a project. Sometimes, said Schultz, the lowest bidder is lowballing a bid and don’t deliver a project on time or well done. His bill, AB 361, protects school districts from bad contracts by allowing them to choose bidders based on other factors.

“Say, for example, the second-highest bidder has [done] prior work for GUSD,” Schultz said. “This would allow you to choose that bidder, if they were the best for the school community.”

For about a decade, LAUSD has taken part in a best value procurement program, which allows the district to award a contract based on more criteria than just money. Schultz said that in this program, LAUSD could also consider experience, quality of work performance and prior work done with the district.

This bill does that – it allows districts like GUSD to expand the option to consider factors like experience, work quality and prior work with the district when choosing a bidder, making permanent LAUSD’s pilot program established in 2015.

“This is really about creating more flexibility and giving more discretion to our local decision-makers to pick the right fit for

your district,” he said.

Schultz discussed a housing package that, when passed into law, allowed commercial property to be rezoned as residential. Schultz told school board members this could mean more housing for teachers and other working professionals in Glendale. AB 1050 extends existing state law allowing for the removal of covenants, conditions and restrictions on a property that is mixed use for mixed-income housing. Vacant commercial properties that could be used for housing the community’s teachers or firefighters, he said, would be able to become housing without the loss of local control, or changes to local zoning ordinances.

“In the Glendale community, as in other cities across the district, we are dealing with declining enrollment, we have a high cost of living here and we are seeing a population that is largely aging in place. And the high cost of housing is a significant driver in that,” Schultz said.

Schultz also reviewed important education funding changes. In the 2025-26 budget, Schultz said per pupil spending increases to \$25,176. The budget also grows career and educational funding by \$150 million. Funding will increase for school meals, homeless student assistance, after school programs, literacy programs and teacher recruitment and retention.

Schultz also reviewed bills he and his team co-authored including AB 49, which prohibits employees of a local education agency from allowing immigration enforcement to enter a school site without a valid judicial warrant or court order; SB 98, which requires K-12 schools, community colleges and CSUs to notify parents, guardians, staff and students when immigration enforcement is confirmed on campus; and AB 1128, which creates a teacher support grant to pay student

teachers during their teacher placement.

Non-Education Bills

Before presenting the education bills he worked on throughout the year, Schultz gave an overview of each bill he developed to provide the board a “flavor of what we are working on” in Sacramento. Around 80% of the bills Schultz put before California Governor Gavin Newsom passed. Many of the non-education bills Schultz authored related to the environment and energy consumption, including AB 43, to safeguard California rivers removed from federal protection by including them on lists for state protection, and AB 1319, which protects California’s endangered species when federal protections are weakened.

AB 379, which also passed, is the most comprehensive response to human trafficking in Glendale, according to Schultz. The bill allows prosecutors to charge felonies against adult predators who solicit 16 and 17 year olds. In instances where an 18-year-old solicits a minor younger than s/he, the act remains illegal and is charged as a misdemeanor. In addition to this, the bill puts the CADOJ in charge of enforcing the requirement that businesses post a notice about human trafficking and gives survivors a support network and empowers local law enforcement to step in if it sees a crime about to be committed.

The governor vetoed two bills Schultz authored: AB 44 and AB 734.

AB 44, which was vetoed by the governor, aimed to reduce an energy company’s need to purchase “dirty power” or electricity that has been distorted in some way. Had it passed, the bill would have significantly decreased energy costs for consumers and retail rate payers – up to \$550 million a year, according to Schultz. Schultz said Newsom vetoed the bill due to concerns about a lack of clarity at the California Energy Commission.

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Robin Goldsworthy
Publisher and Editor-in-Chief
robin@cvweekly.com

Mary O’Keefe
Lead Reporter
mary@cvweekly.com

Designers
Steve Hernandez
Senior Artist
steve@cvweekly.com

Matthew Barger
matt@cvweekly.com

Columist
Mike Lawler
lawlerdad@yahoo.com

Contributing Writers
Lori Bodnar • Julie Butcher • Eliza Partika • Dominique Rocha
Charly Shelton • Ruth Sowby • Mikaela Stone • Jackson Toyon
Anne McNeill, proofreader Vera Garabedian, intern

Advertising
Jon K
(818) 248-2740
jon@cvweekly.com

Sonya Marquez
(818) 381-2000
sonya@cvweekly.com

Lisa Stanners
(818) 523-1234
lisa@cvweekly.com

Office Manager/Inside Sales
Rachelle Miller
rachelle@cvweekly.com

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“We understand that everyone, including GUSD, needs relief in this moment, so we are going to go back to the drawing board and address his concerns and bring back a version if it next year,” Schultz said of AB 44.

The other bill that was vetoed, AB 734, would have allowed the public to have access to biodiversity information when making decisions about contractors. This information is usually only seen by the governor and representatives. Newsom vetoed AB 734, said Schultz, due to concerns about compromising government assets.

Board Comments

Board member Telly Tse thanked Schultz, especially for AB 1128.

“I personally was lucky when I went to Cal State L.A. for my teaching credentialing program, it had an internship program that allowed me to be paid while finishing my credential. Obviously not all teacher candidates [have this], so having this, I think, is very important,” Tse said.

Board members Neda Farid and Kathleen Cross and board president Ingrid Gunnell thanked Assembly member Schultz for his accessibility. In addition to the presentation, he hosted a roundtable within LAUSD, GUSD and Burbank, and attended a recent Glendale PTA event.

“Being a part of the government – being touchable, being accessible – I think is such a huge thing, and it reminds people that what we do matters, and they get to be involved, they can be involved, and we’re right here. I think that is awesome. Thank you,” said board member Cross.

To contact Representative Schultz, visit <https://a44.asmdc.org/contact>. To track bills currently in the California legislature, go to: <https://leginfo.ca.gov/>.

Veterans Day Observed in the Foothills



By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Around 100 people turned out early on Tuesday morning to Two Strike Park in La Crescenta for the commemoration of Veterans Day. In addition to various military personnel, members of Scout Troop 288, the color guard from Crescenta Valley High School and members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) were on hand. Victor Bustillos, retired U.S. Marine Corps and American Legion Post 288 commander, oversaw the event. Dignitaries attending the event included Arda Tchakian, senior district representative for senator Sasha Perez, and Assemblymember 44th District Nick Schultz. Schultz presented a certificate of recognition to the VFW and American Legion.

“Thank you,” he said. “You are truly the finest.”

Bustillos added, “They all served their country and should be proud of their service – as am I.”

Julianne Ellis-Rainey of DAR said the group joined the morning festivities since the Montrose service was canceled. In addition to having a table on-site the group brought a floral wreath that was displayed.

Ozzie Zees read the invocation.

A flag retirement ceremony was also held, flames licking the container holding the fire that would receive the flag. Members of Scout Troop 288 read what each color represented as members placed the corresponding bit of flag onto the fire.

A highlight of the morning was the performing of patriotic music by Monday@JoJo’s, under the

direction of Diana Tyson. When it came to the favorite “God Bless America,” the audience was invited to join in.

Six branches of the military, including the recently formed Space Force, were honored when the “Armed Forces Medley” played. Those in each branch of the service were asked to stand when their anthem played. Out of respect, each flag representing each branch of the military, with

LEFT: Scouts salute the retirement of the flag.
RIGHT: DAR members (from left) Beverly de Lucia, Sherry Sotoda, Joanne Ward, Cathy Palermo, Lynne Thompson, Jeanette Stirdivant, Mary Lighthouse and Julianne Ellis-Rainey.
ABOVE: Flags of each branch of the service were displayed during the “Armed Forces Medley.”

the exception of Space Force (it doesn’t yet have a flag or anthem), was showcased. The medley included snippets of “Semper Paratus” (Coast Guard), “Off We Go into the Wild Blue Yonder” (Air Force), “Anchors Aweigh” (Navy), “The Marines Hymn” (Marine Corps) and “The Army Goes Rolling Along” (Army).

After the flag was reduced to ash, Bustillos thanked everyone for coming out and dismissed the group.

Photos by Robin GOLDSWORTHY, Donna LIBRA and Beverly de LUCIA

VETERANS from Cover



He added he is a “proud member of the American Legion Post 288 and I am the commander of VFW Post 1614 in Montrose to ensure [veterans] voices are heard and their sacrifices are never forgotten.”

“As I leave here today, I encourage each of us to carry forward the spirit of service and remembrance,” he said. “Let us reflect on the words of Elmer Davis who said, ‘This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.’ May we never take for granted the courage and commitment of those who stood ready to protect our country and freedoms we hold dear.”

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ANSWERS for page 14

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CRIME BLOTTER

NOV. 8
2100 block of Cross Street in La Crescenta, a resident looked inside the interior of her vehicle and found the glove compartment and center console open. She reported several items had been stolen overnight.

NOV. 5
900 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that she had entered a store and began to shop. When she finished she proceeded to the cashier to checkout and discovered her purse zipper was open and wallet was missing. She reported that as she was shopping she began to receive text messages concerning charges on her credit card. She declined the charge on the cards she had been notified about but had not yet realized her wallet was missing.
The incident is still under investigation. The theft occurred between 9:30 a.m. and 12:47 p.m.

NOV. 4
4900 block of Del Monte Road in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident reported that when he approached his vehicle he noticed the trunk was open. He found that items were stolen and the interior of the vehicle had been ransacked overnight.

OCT. 27
2100 block of Cross Street in La Crescenta, a resident reported that she had placed an order on Oct. 21 for three new iPhones through Spectrum and was told by the Spectrum representative that delivery would be in about three to four days. On Oct. 27 she received a cancellation email from Spectrum. She contacted Spectrum and reordered the phones. On Oct. 31 she received the cellphones and placed them inside her home. She then received a call from a person stating s/he was a Spectrum representative and informed her she needed to return

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

Public Health Reports Second-Highest Number of Rabid Bats Ever Recorded in LA County

The Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health is urging people to stay alert after confirming 61 rabid bats so far in 2025, the second-highest total ever recorded in LA County. Only 2021 saw more, with 68 rabid bats confirmed.
While rabid bat detections can vary from year-to-year, this increase continues a decade-long upward trend. Awareness and prevention remain the best defenses against rabies exposure for both people and pets.

“Bats are vital to our environment but they can also carry rabies, a disease that is almost always fatal once symptoms appear,” said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health officer. “Anyone who may have had contact with a bat should immediately speak with their medical provider or contact Public Health. Never touch a bat or any wild animals. Immediately report any bat found indoors, or outdoors if it appears sick, active during the day, unable to fly, or dead, to Animal Control.”

What Counts as Contact or Exposure
Exposure to a rabid bat, or a bat that might have rabies, happens anytime saliva or tissue from the bat could enter the body, such as through a bite, scratch or contact with a wound, mouth, nose or eyes.

Because bat bites are often so small they can go unnoticed, anyone who wakes up to find a bat in the room, or finds a bat near a sleeping person, child, or pet, should treat it as a possible exposure and contact Animal Control or Public Health right away.
If possible, do not release the bat so it can be safely collected and tested for rabies.

Rabid Bats Found Across Los Angeles County
Rabid bats have been found in every part of LA County, from suburban areas such as the San Fernando Valley to urban areas like downtown Los Angeles office buildings, public parks, schools, businesses and residential backyards.

Rabid bat detections typically peak in late summer. In 2024, August saw the highest activity, with 23 rabid bats confirmed. That month, one in three bats (33%) reported by residents tested positive for rabies.
Public Health Reminds Residents and Pet Owners: Never Touch a Bat
The most important rule is simple: never touch a bat or any wild animal and never allow pets to interact with them. Even small or unnoticed bites can transmit rabies.

Other safety practices include:
Report and Test: If you find a bat in your home, especially near a sleeping person, child, or pet, carefully cover it with a box or container and call Animal Control immediately for collection and testing. Do not release it.
Seek medical advice immediately: If a bat cannot be tested or tests positive for rabies, consult a physician or Public Health right away. Rabies is preventable with post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), a series of timely vaccines.

Vaccinate pets: Rabies is 100% fatal in animals once symptoms begin, but completely preventable through vaccination. This includes vaccinating indoor-only cats and older pets. Protecting pets from rabies is one of the best ways to protect the whole family.

Recognize signs of illness in bats: Bats that are active during the day, on the ground, or unable to fly may be sick. Contact Animal Control immediately for assistance. For post-exposure guidance, reach out to Veterinary Public Health at (213) 288-7060.
Know the risk: About 14% of bats that come into contact with people or pets in LA County test positive for rabies, rising to as high as 33% in late summer.
For more information, visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov>.

Update on the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project

The La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project has made significant progress in recent months. Major safety improvements have been implemented, including the realignment of intersections and enhanced pedestrian accessibility. Additionally, the contractor has completed installation of bio-retention facilities and critical infrastructure upgrades, including traffic signal and fiber optic systems, as well as the upsizing of existing sewer mainline.

While most improvements are expected to be completed by December 2025, certain key elements – including the installation of traffic signal poles, final paving, striping and decorative crosswalks – are scheduled for completion by March 2026, barring any additional unforeseen circumstances.

The revised schedule is due to unforeseen conflicts encountered during underground utility work and longer-than-anticipated lead times for the delivery of traffic signal materials. Installation and commissioning of traffic signal poles must be completed before paving and striping improvements can begin, as the new striping layout incorporates additional crossings to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

The City remains committed to delivering a high-quality project that meets the long-term needs of the community and appreciates the public’s continued patience and cooperation throughout the construction process.
Tentative Construction Schedule:
• *January 2026:* Installation of traffic signal poles, cabinets and gear
• *February 2026:* Final paving and adjustment

of utilities
• *March 2026:* Striping, installation of decorative crosswalks and reflective pavement on Paloma Avenue
Impacted Streets
During the construction period, detours, intermittent lane closures, and traffic delays are expected on the following streets:
Location and Dates
• *La Crescenta Avenue between Roselawn Avenue and Urquidez Avenue:* Travel lanes may be closed intermittently thru Nov. 14 (excludes weekends and holidays)
• *La Crescenta Avenue between Honolulu Avenue and Piedmont Avenue:* Travel lanes may be closed intermittently between Nov. 5 and Nov. 6
• *La Crescenta Avenue between Piedmont Avenue and Manhattan Avenue:* Travel lanes may be closed intermittently between Nov. 6 and Nov. 7
• *La Crescenta Avenue between Piedmont Avenue and Manhattan Avenue:* Travel lanes may be closed intermittently on Nov. 10 and Nov. 12 (excludes weekends and holidays)
• *La Crescenta Avenue between Piedmont Avenue and Montrose Avenue:* Travel lanes may be closed intermittently between Nov. 13 and Nov. 14
Description of Work
• Contractor performing sanitary sewer main upgrades.
• Contractor repairing asphalt pavement at various locations.

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Qualifications:

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Strong time management, organizational, proof-reading skills and must be able to multi-task effectively.

Commitment to maintaining organizational confidentiality

Primary Responsibilities:

Assisting the Board and others by creating/preparing reports, agendas, lists, charts, newsletters, forms, and rosters

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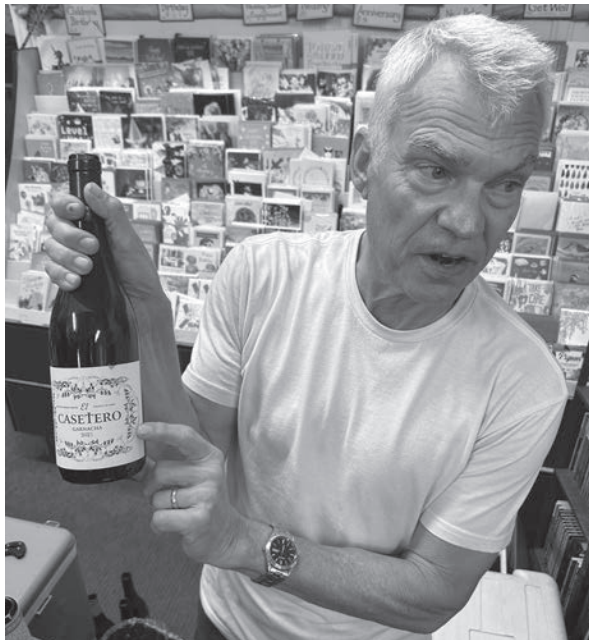
Fall Into the ... Montrose Wine Walk

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Saturday evening was the 7th Annual Montrose Holiday Wine Walk. As in years past, the event – held along Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard – was sold out with 650 ticket buyers and more than 25 “pouring stations” featured. Each station offered a variety of wines for ticket holders to try.

Members of the La Crescenta Woman’s Club greeted purchasers with a commemorative tote bag that held \$10 in scrip, 15 tickets to the pouring stations throughout the Montrose Shopping Park, a program that outlined the many participating merchants plus a souvenir wine glass and all-important wristband.

Ticket holders not only enjoyed some wine they might not have previously tried but also stepping



across the threshold of some of the dynamic shops that Montrose offers. Live music kept up the festive mood.

The next event the Montrose Shopping Park Assn. is holding is the annual tree lighting event on Nov. 28 at 6:15 p.m., also held at the corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue.

Photos by
Robin GOLDSWORTHY

LEFT: Danny Goldsworthy samples a varietal poured at Toasted Cafe
RIGHT: Brent Beaty poured some favorites at Once Upon A Time bookstore

Crescenta Valley High School Hosts 10th Annual Solidarity Week

By Dominique ROCHA

Last week, Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) held its 10th annual Solidarity Week. Hosted by the high school’s Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA), this year’s Solidarity Week was held from Nov. 4 to Nov. 8 and featured a week full of events that focused on the meaning of allyship.

Solidarity Week was created by the Gay Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN). Originally called Ally Week, Solidarity Week includes a week of events geared toward supporting the LGBTQ community and joining the national conversation on allyship.

“Solidarity Week is essentially the school community coming out in support of the LGBTQ community,” said Alicia Harris, faculty advisor of GSA.

Since CVHS held its first Solidarity Week in 2016, the week of support has evolved. The activities taking place each week every year are different; student members of GSA come together to decide what events they want to put on. Though the activities may change, after 10 years the message behind the week remains the same.

“This is a week to really celebrate the diversity on campus,” Harris said. “It’s to engage in educational measures to further the idea of having that kind of safe community every single day on campus.”

This year’s Solidarity Week included a week full of events, beginning at snack time with music, merch and face painting. Students were also able to sign an allyship banner.

The WellNEST Center at the high school hosted guest speakers on Tuesday and Wednesday from Brave Trails and the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

see SOLIDARITY on page 8

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GUSD Opens Lottery for Dual Language Immersion and Magnet Programs

The lottery application period for Glendale Unified School District’s (GUSD) 2026-27 dual language immersion (DLI) and magnet programs remain open through Jan. 31, 2026. The random lottery selection will take place on Feb. 11, 2026.

The dual immersion program is offered in seven languages beginning in kindergarten (and TK in Spanish at Muir Elementary School) and continuing through high school. The programs provide students the opportunity to learn in two languages, starting from an early age with the goal of developing high levels of language proficiency and literacy in both English and the target language. GUSD’s magnet programs offer students unique, theme-based educational experiences in academically rich and culturally diverse environments at four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school.

GUSD offers DLI programs in Armenian, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish at nine elementary school sites.

GUSD middle schools have pathways to continue the DLI program with an advanced language arts course in the target language designed for DLI students. The Spanish DLI programs at Roosevelt STEAM Academy and Eleanor J. Toll Middle

School also offer a second core-content subject in history/social studies.

GUSD’s magnet programs are offered at four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The magnet programs currently offered by Glendale Unified include:

- Computer science immersion program at Cerritos Elementary
- Advanced technology at Edison Elementary
- Dual language immersion at Franklin Elementary School
- Visual and performing arts at Keppel Elementary
- Science, technology, arts and math focus at Roosevelt STEAM Academy Middle School
- Science and technology at Anderson W. Clark Magnet High School (please note the application window for Clark opens on Jan. 1, 2026)

Applications for the GUSD DLI and magnet programs can be submitted at <https://gusd.net/> apply. Those who are interested in taking a virtual or in-person tour of the DLI and magnet schools can sign up at <https://gusd.net/tours>.

For more information about GUSD’s DLI and Magnet programs, including FAQ’s, please visit <https://www.gusd.net/DLI> and <https://www.gusd.net/magnet>.

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AI from page 3

“This talk is important for parents to attend because AI and internet use are shaping how today’s youth think, feel and connect with the world around them. The rapid growth of algorithm-driven platforms is influencing adolescent brain development, social behavior and mental health in ways that many families are still learning to understand. This conversation helps parents

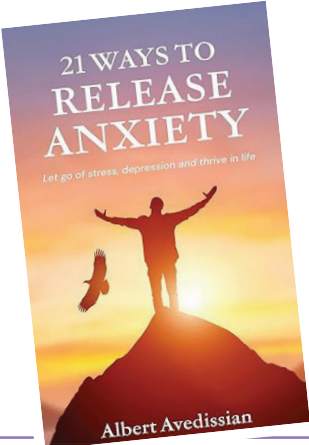
see what’s happening beneath the surface – how technology and AI are designed to capture attention, how this impacts stress and anxiety, and what practical steps parents can take to set healthy digital boundaries at home. “By attending, parents will gain insight, tools and confidence to guide their children toward a more balanced relationship with technology – fostering digital

awareness, emotional wellbeing and stronger family connections in an increasingly wired world.” The event is co-sponsored by Prom Plus and Prom Plus Club. Prom Plus started after the murder of a Crescenta Valley High School student at an unsupervised after-prom party at an Anaheim hotel. Although that tragedy occurred over 30 years ago the loss continues to echo through the hallways of

the campus. Prom Plus created a safe place for students after prom but has gone beyond that with the founding of Prom Plus Club at CVHS, giving students support and volunteer opportunities. Malone added that partnering with organizations like Prom Plus is essential to CV Cares outreach. To find out more about CV Cares/iMPACT Foundation go


to www.impactfoundationla.org. For information and to support Prom Plus visit www.promplus.org. For more information on the speaking series by Jamie Given visit www.jamiegiven.com; for general information visit www.givenguidance.com. CVHS is located at 2900 Community Ave. The cafeteria is off Glenwood Avenue just south of Community Avenue.

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meet the author

ALBERT AVEDISSIAN

Albert grew up in Los Angeles, California and graduated from Hoover High School in 1984. He completed his education at Associated Technical Trade School in 1985 and later attended Glendale Community College, earning a degree in Real Estate Studies in 2008. Albert pursued his passion for art at Madera Community College from 2016-2019. A licensed contractor since 1999, he volunteered for an international NGO from 2014-2024. Residing in Central Valley, California, he enjoys martial arts, drawing, painting, meditation, traveling and exploring new restaurants. Albert has been happily married since 2023.

SOLIDARITY from page 7



Photo by Dominique ROCHA

During Solidarity Week students fill every seat in the WellNEST Center where guest speakers spoke on the facets of being an ally. The presentations focused on what it means to be an ally and held discussions on gender identity and sexuality. “Representation matters,” said Yvette Topete, Community Action Network program supervisor at the Los Angeles LGBT Center. “Having the representation of allies and of their self-identities lets them know that they are seen and they should be accepted.” Finally, to wrap up the week, the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles performed in the auditorium. Many feel the LGBTQ community continues to be marginalized, and LGBTQ students face challenges on and off campus. Although Solidarity Week is only one week out of the school year, students are encouraged to continue finding ways to support the community and be allies to others. “We are very lucky in California, but that doesn’t mean that there aren’t still bullying and challenges that these students face,” Harris said. “See something, say something. Get to know the people who may be different from you and be a friend.”

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VIEWPOINTS

VIEW OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

It’s a Small World After All

The gun captain gave the command, “Fire!” The cannon blast cut through the air. A band began to play as the crowd burst into applause. Moments later, some 20 miles away near Lockport, New York, a father and son embraced at the distant sound. Their job was complete and the blast marked the departure from Buffalo of the first boat to traverse the newly constructed Erie Canal.

It was Oct. 26, 1825 when the journey began. In this time before the telegraph, cannon blasts across the state notified its residents of momentous occasions. The canal stretched from the eastern shore of Lake Erie to the Hudson River, a length of over 360 miles. The federal government had declined to fund it so New York contracted with men across the state to build it.

The aforementioned father was Darius Comstock, born in 1768 and one of the fortunate men to land one of those lucrative contracts. He brought in his young son Addison to assist in the work. With the waterway complete, the two went in search of opportunities, their pockets now flush with Erie Canal cash.

Next we find our duo in Detroit where they’re informed of fine lands to the east. On Sept. 7, 1825 the two purchased acreage near the Raisin River in southeastern Michigan. Addison soon founded the town of Adrian on his 640 acres of prime land.

Fast forward nearly 100 years to June 1914 when we find a husband and wife involved in another construction project. It’s Darius Comstock and his wife Lydia May and they are hard at work building the first dry goods store in Tujunga. But wait – this cannot be the same Darius Comstock. No, it’s not – it’s his grandson, and namesake, Darius Comstock Dean born in Adrian in 1851. He traveled west to Tujunga when it was the Little Lands Colony.

In 1913, Bolton Hall was built on the northeast corner of today’s Valmont Street and Commerce Avenue as a clubhouse for the Colony. In early 1914, the Little Landers cooperative store went up on the southwest corner. The Deans arrived and built their small dry goods store on the southwest corner just months later. Soon, the first Tujunga post office went up beside it.

Dean’s Store became one of the favorite gathering places for the Little Landers colonists. The store was quite small but its stock covered an entire range of merchandise. If customers couldn’t find what they were looking for Charles Dean, the son of Darius Comstock Dean, would travel to Los Angeles to acquire it for them.

The family was active in all community affairs, especially May (as she preferred to be called). From social doings to politics, she was always at hand for whatever the community needed. I found one reference to the fact that the first honest-to-goodness barber shop in the Sunland-Tujunga area was set up in the back of Dean’s Store.

It was reported that upon the sale of the store on Sept. 1, 1933, May hadn’t missed a day except twice at her place behind the counter: once when her husband Darius passed away just before Christmas in 1919, and again when her son Charles passed on Sept. 11, 1922 at the young age of 43.

At the time of retirement, she was 83 years old and had made the walk for nearly 20 years from her home on St. Estaban Street, rain or shine, day and night. When asked what she would do next, she replied, “I’m going to clean my house; it needs it!”

Lastly, I was born and raised in the small town of Adrian, Michigan – the same town founded by Darius Comstock and his son Addison. I then moved to the small town of Tujunga – the same town where Darius Comstock Dean established the first dry goods store.

It’s a small world after all.

Craig W. Durst, AKA The History Hunter, is a historian of the Tujunga Rancho and President of the Friends of Verdugo Hills Cemetery. He can be reached at craig@thehistoryhunter.com.

NEWS FROM THE CRESCENTA VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL » FRIDA BAGHDASSARIAN, PRESIDENT

Kicking Off the Holiday Season

As the year draws to a close and the holiday season approaches, the Crescenta Valley Town Council continues to advocate for residents on key local issues, with housing development and community safety being the top recent topics of discussion.

The Land Use meeting held on Nov. 6 at the La Crescenta Library had representatives from Abode Communities. It drew a large crowd of concerned residents. The proposed housing development prompted a strong community response with many attendees citing serious concerns about public safety, parking and infrastructure.

Residents expressed particular alarm that the project, which could house more than 300 tenants, would provide only 80 parking spaces, potentially compounding an already limited parking situation for neighboring residents and businesses. Others noted that the scale of the project could strain the area’s aging infrastructure and complicate emergency evacuation routes.

Although the development is a ministerial project, a significant portion of its funding is expected to come from the Los Angeles County Development Authority. In light of this, community members have organized a petition urging county officials to reconsider funding what many view as an oversized project for the neighborhood.

Despite the challenges, the Town Council emphasized that it remains committed to representing residents’ concerns and ensuring that local voices are heard in the decision-making process.

Council Election Results

The Crescenta Valley Town Council extends congratulations to re-elected Councilmembers Donna Libra and Harry Leon. A warm “welcome back” goes to Jo Ann Stupakis, who has previously served on the Council and will return for a new three-year term.

Residents interested in getting involved in community service are encouraged to attend monthly CVTC meetings or contact Council members directly to learn more about participation opportunities.

The final Town Council meeting of 2025 will be held on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m. in the La Crescenta Library Community Room, 2809 Foothill Blvd.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/VIEWPOINTS

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Retired TV Weatherman Fritz Coleman Celebrates Two Years of Funny at the El Portal Theatre



By Ruth SOWBY

Fritz Coleman’s two-year comedy residency at North Hollywood’s El Portal Theatre was celebrated with his one-man show “Unassisted Residency” on Sunday, Oct. 26. An added bonus for fans was a cookie and champagne reception following the performance.

The Monroe Forum auditorium where Coleman performs has 96 seats; all were sold out for the milestone performance. In attendance was a large “baby boomer” crowd who responded to Coleman’s humor on aging gracefully and, sometimes, not so gracefully.

“How about an old guy who thinks he’s an athlete,” he posed. “He wears a speedo over Depends.” Coleman, who is 77 years old, is having fun with his second career as a funny man. He retired from a nearly 40-year stint broadcasting the weather forecast on NBC4.

His show, “Unassisted Living,” plays one Sunday a month. Coleman, who presents a new show each time he performs, writes his own jokes.

After the 90-minute show fan munched on cookies and sipped champagne. Each fan had the chance to rub shoulders with Coleman. He took time to talk to everyone who approached him. Some were bold, some were timid ... but all had their time in the sun.

Coleman’s next show is on Nov. 30 at 3 p.m.

“If you have a Medicare card, you need to see this show,” said Coleman.

Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: CV Weekly writer and photographer Ruth Sowby joins Fritz Coleman as he celebrates his two-year one-man comedy show residency at the El Portal Theatre. RIGHT: Retired TV weatherman and comic Fritz Coleman wows his baby boomer audience at the El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood.

Montrose Haunted House a Big Hit – Again

Wide eyes and giggles abounded (with an occasional shriek heard) as families toured the always-popular annual Haunted House Maze hosted by the Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills in Montrose on Halloween night.

Featuring a witch’s room, an animated séance spirit, the toxic waste scene and graveyard and a larger-than-life scary vulture, all to custom soundtracks, visitors exclaimed how cool and awesome it was.

As one young boy said with a huge grin on his face, “It was scary but it was fun!”

“The haunted house at the Foothills Mission is something my children look forward to every year. They do such an amazing job and I’m constantly impressed each year,” said Jackie Stryker, a Foothills resident adding, “Thank you, Foothills Mission, for making such amazing memories every Halloween for the Montrose community!”

Mission Holder Stacy Kitchens added, “Our staff and parishioners have so much fun creating our haunted house for the community and seeing everyone enjoy it so much. We are happy to do our part supporting Montrose’s tradition of providing a safe Halloween experience for families!”

The Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills has been part of the Montrose/ Glendale community for 43 years. The Mission delivers communication and study courses for children, 20 life improvement courses, and other Dianetics and Scientology-related services and counseling for adults.

In addition to activities open to the public, such as the haunted house and Easter activities for kids, the Mission also supports various community outreach programs such as relationship and drug education seminars and the upcoming toy drive. To learn about these, email events@scientology-montrose.org or call (818) 957-1500.

Photos courtesy of Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills in Montrose

TOP: Crowds line up to enter the haunted house at the Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills in Montrose.

ABOVE: Families explore the toxic waste room at the Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills’ haunted house.



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Mon - Fri: 7 AM TO 8 PM, Sat - Sun: 8 AM TO 8 PM

Assistance League Glendale (ALG) recently opened the doors of its thrift shop Thrift Alley for a heartwarming private shopping event, giving 20 Transitional Age Youth (TAY) the chance to select clothing and personal items in a welcoming and supportive environment. This effort was part of a community-wide collaboration to help TAY, young people aged 15 to 25, who have aged out of foster care and now face the challenges of transitioning into independent adulthood.

The event was made possible through partnerships with Assistance League Glendale, Las Candelas, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services and its drop-in center, Our Third Place, all located in Glendale. Las Candelas connected with Assistance League Glendale to provide this unique shopping opportunity due to its ties with Las Caritas, an auxiliary of ALG. The result of this collaboration began a new pilot program for Assistance League Glendale, which

The shopping event was made exclusive to the youth when the store stayed open for an extra hour for the special guests. Each participant received a \$50 voucher – honored at just \$1 per item – allowing them to stretch their budget and shop freely.

ALG members, Las Candelas and Our Third Place, along with Assistance League Assisteens, volunteered on-site to assist and cheer on the shoppers. Assisteens is an auxiliary of ALG where youth starting at seventh grade volunteer for service for hours at Thrift Alley.

The result of the shopping trip for TAY was far more than just full shopping bags; the youth left Thrift Alley with a renewed sense of value, respect and belonging in their community.



Photo provided by ALG
Assistance League Glendale
volunteers welcomed TAY members
for a day of private shopping.

Little Caesars Love Truck visited The Salvation Army Glendale Corps on Nov. 4 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to serve free pizza to over 150 people. The Corps supplemented with salad and beverages.

Major Quinton Markham said, "Many individuals and families with food insecurity issues come to The Salvation Army in Glendale for help. It's commendable that Little Caesars is using its resources to help combat hunger in our community."

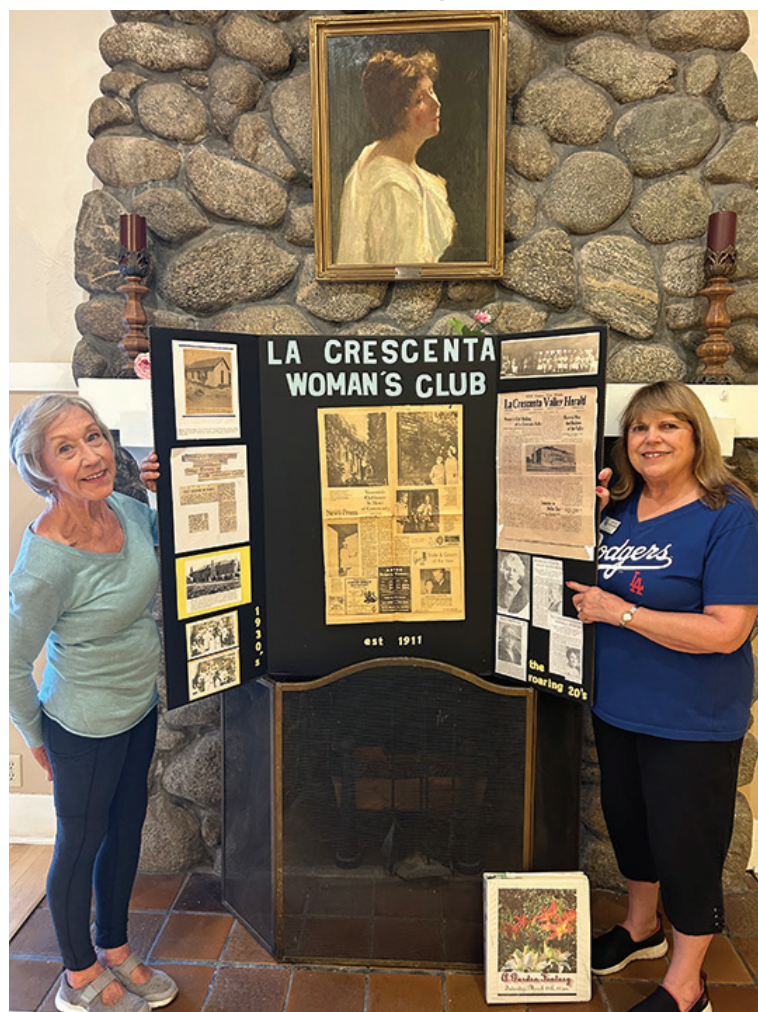


Co-chairs Carol Stein (left) and Denise Napiwocki are putting together a history of activities over the 100 years of the La Crescenta Woman's Club clubhouse at 4004 La Crescenta Ave.

The La Crescenta Woman's Club invites the public to stop by to celebrate 100 years of the clubhouse on Sunday, Nov. 23 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Members will be wearing vintage outfits and sharing the community history at the Woman's Club, which was constructed in 1925. There will be refreshments and demonstrations from the CVHS Falcon robotics!

Since the Bailey Food pantry is one of the La Crescenta Woman's Club charities the public can drop off food donations for its pantry as well. For more information, call (818) 957-9806 or lacscentawomansclub.org.

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

» MOVIE REVIEW

Tragedy and Conspiracy: ‘Bugonia’ Paints a Picture of Humanity’s Fears and How They Are Responded To

By Jackson TOYON

Good satire is an art – and when people are living in tough times it’s a welcome salve. It’s not that things have ever been particularly easy but as people struggle they react to those struggles differently. Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos, famous for his affinity for absurdist dark comedy, reflects upon these anxieties with his latest film “Bugonia.” It’s a remake of a Korean

satirical sci-fi film, “Save the Green Planet!” that warns about the fragile world and the online echo chambers that have become so dangerous – especially in the last decade or so. Lanthimos’ rendition of the story, following two ordinary men driven to taking matters into their own hands, feels unnervingly current despite the source material being a movie from 2003. Teddy Gatz (Jesse Plemons), a recluse and a hobbyist beekeeper, is worried


about the future and the state of the world he finds himself and his autistic cousin Don (Aidan Delbis) living in. They reminisce about how the world used to be and lament how it feels like that freedom no longer exists. It doesn’t help that Teddy’s mother is lying in a coma from which she has yet to awaken. But Teddy believes he has it all figured out and he has a plan to save the world from these unfortunate times. It isn’t just bad luck – no, there’s a detestable higher power at work here. Through personal bias and obsessive “research” from the fringe corners of society, Teddy has concluded that an alien race, the Andromedans, have taken root on Earth to exploit its people and eventually wipe out the population entirely. More specifically, he’s identified a target especially close to the worries of his heart – Michelle Fuller (Emma Stone), the high-powered CEO of pharmaceutical corporation Auxolith. Seeing only further confirmation in Auxolith’s manufacture of insecticides that are harmful to honeybees, Teddy ropes his reluctant but loyal cousin into a scheme to kidnap Michelle and use her as a bargaining chip to get rid of the Andromedans for good. With a story this absurd and human, the performances are everything – and the leads are at the top of their game. Seemingly always sweaty and dirty as Teddy, Plemons brings raw, career-best desperation to the character, clinging tenaciously to his beliefs as though they are the only thing he has left to live for. Stone makes up the other half of the conflict with her direct, cold presence, perfectly embodying the corporate “disruptor” CEO persona that’s so assured of its own abilities and so disconnected from normal life. Buoying

the story in reality is Aidan Delbis, whose timid questions and imploring presence supplies much-needed humanity to the film, acting as the audience’s window past the charade of Teddy and Michelle’s conflict. The audience may recognize Aidan’s name – he is one of our own, an area native who shares my alma mater of Crescenta Valley High School, the knowledge of which made seeing him on screen a uniquely special experience. The film also excels at its portrayal of conspiracy theories and the followers who fall into them – understanding both the damage conspiracy theories can do as well as the more compassionate angle of how people often use them as a coping mechanism for personal tragedy. Past suffering is the underpinning of Teddy’s beliefs, which makes him quite the tragic character – as self-righteous and quick to violence as he can be with his erratic swings, one can’t help but understand how he came to be this way and feel for him throughout the story. It shows the ugliness of the actions he takes because of his beliefs while empathizing with the trauma that forged those same beliefs. “Bugonia” is confident in its strangeness, tight and compelling with its narrative, propelled by an appealingly exaggerated and off-kilter score (by Jerskin Fendrix), and well-shot to boot. It flips the average kidnapping thriller on its head by having the captors become the vulnerable party rather than the other way around. Lanthimos has created a captivating adaptation that I hope to see among Academy nominees early next year and I highly recommend checking this one out before it leaves theaters.

Rated R.




THEN & NOW



THEN: While this photo is not the most fascinating picture to look at, it does illustrate an interesting story. By 1960, when this was shot, the idea of the Montrose Shopping Park was beginning to take shape. However, a major criticism was that landscaping Honolulu Avenue would eliminate parking spots. This is one of a series of photos taken to make the point that parking could be built in back. Note that the alley is not yet paved.

Montrose Alley
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



NOW: Here is the same spot today in the alley on the north side of Honolulu. This is in the 2300 block, roughly behind Moo Moo Mia Ice Cream. It’s evident that parking was built behind the stores on Honolulu, often by purchasing homes and demolishing them. This alley also represents the dividing line between Glendale and unincorporated county. Glendale annexed Montrose up to this alley in the early 1950s. As each parking lot was built for Montrose, it too was annexed.

JUST FOR FUN

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The Club next meets on Nov. 14 when it hosts 44th District Assemblymember Nick Schultz who will give an overview of the District.

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.

CALTECH SCHOLAR TO ADDRESS PARTISANSHIP AT DEMOCRATIC CLUB MEETING

Partisan polarization might feel like a new problem, but many aspects are intertwined with long-standing identity conflicts that have been a defining feature of American politics.

The public is welcome to join the Cañada Crescenta Democratic Club on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2:30 p.m. when Caltech Linde Center for Science, Society and Policy researcher Dr. Raquel Centeno leads a discussion about partisanship, perceptions of political conflict and attitudes about democracy. Dr. Centeno has studied how voters think and feel about political parties, how electoral institutions influence the political behavior of voters and how racial and ethnic identity affect elections. Her research on political psychology will provide a context for the polarization experienced these days.

The Nov. 16 meeting will be held in the La Crescenta Public Library second floor community room, 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

For more information and to submit your questions in advance, please contact canadacrescentadems@gmail.com or Anne Tryba (annetryba1@gmail.com).

DANCING AS EXERCISE

Dancing As Exercise is a free weekly event sponsored by the Los Angeles County Park program for seniors (50 plus), which were dark during summer. It is now active!

There is live music every Friday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Park's building at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. Light refreshments and water are provided along with socialization and information about other park activities.

Dancing, per se, is not required; single persons are welcome.

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. Classes started Oct. 20 but it's not too late to join. Register/learn more at cclcf.org.
- Register today for the CCLCF Thanksgiving Day 5K Run & Kids' Mile. Volunteer opportunities available. Register/learn more at cclcf.org/run. In conjunction with the Thanksgiving Run, CCLCF is also hosting a food drive. Donation bins are located at the Community Center (4469 Chevy Chase Dr., LCF). Also accepted are non-perishable foods,

hygiene products and grocery store gift cards throughout the month of November. Gift cards can be left with the office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. or virtual gift cards can be sent to office@cclcf.org.

- All are invited for a Holiday Angels Project-CancerCareKits volunteer opportunity on Dec. 2. Together, wellness boxes will be packed filled with love, care and holiday cheer for women undergoing chemotherapy. Register/learn more at cclcf.volunteerlocal.com
- Looking ahead to December, the Annual Holiday Ceramic Sale is coming up on Dec. 6 and Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Looking ahead to winter programming, registration opens Dec. 10 at 9 a.m. Classes to run from Jan. 5 to Feb. 28 (eight weeks).
- CCLCF is having a holiday family brunch. The community is invited on Dec. 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to enjoy live carolers, winter crafts, a delicious brunch and pictures with Santa. Tickets available (adults & teens: \$15; kids 12 and under: \$10). Tickets are limited; visit cclcf.org/events for more info.
- Looking ahead to winter programming, registration opens Dec. 10 at 9 a.m. Classes will run from Jan. 5 to Feb. 28 (eight weeks).

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

CELEBRITY BOWLING PARTY FOR RONNIE JAMES DIO

The Ronnie James Dio Stand Up and Shout Cancer Fund will host the Bowl For Ronnie celebrity charity bowling tournament to raise funds for cancer research at Pinz Bowling Center, 12655 Ventura Blvd. in Studio City tonight, Thursday, Nov. 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. VIP pre-party from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. More info at www.diocancerfund.org.

WILDERNESS WORKDAY AT DEUKMEJIAN

Volunteers will water the bigcone spruce and coast live oaks, assist with trail repairs and remove invasive plants from the Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in La Crescenta/Glendale on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Volunteers should wear sturdy shoes and protective clothing and bring water. Families, individuals, clubs and students needing community service hours are welcome. In case of rain, this event will be cancelled.

RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/yppvxyjkk>.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OFFERS CASH AWARDS

Women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families and seek

financial assistance to continue their education or receive training can now apply for the Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women. Applications are available at <http://bit.ly/LYDA-apply> or by contacting Heather Ghermezian, lydglendale@

gmail.com. The application deadline is Nov. 15.

The Soroptimist International of Glendale will provide several \$1,000-plus cash awards to its award recipients, who will then advance to the Soroptimist Camino Real Region level where recipients could receive up to an additional \$5,000. The program culminates with three finalist \$10,000 awards.

LANTERMAN HOUSE EVENTS

The following events are taking place at the Lanterman House in La Cañada:

Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. – Live Radio Play! A theatrical radio play will be hosted by Walter Nelson. Admission is free; reserve tickets in advance at lantermanhouse.org or email lantermanhouse@gmail.com.

Dec. 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Holiday Open House. Celebrate the season at the Lanterman holiday open house, a festive marketplace featuring local artisans, handmade gifts and seasonal treats. Enjoy

music, crafts and community cheer while shopping for unique holiday treasures.

Lanterman House, 4420 Encinas Drive, La Cañada Flintridge

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GLENDALE ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP BRUNCH & CONCERT

Soroptimist International of Glendale, in partnership with the Glendale Community College Music Department, announced its third annual Scholarship Brunch & Concert. This fundraising event will support scholarships for women studying visual and performing arts.

The event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Glendale College Auditorium. A brunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. followed by a concert at 1:15 p.m. The concert will feature the "Symphony of the Verdugos" directed by Dr. Paul J. Sherman, West African Drums, and the Glendale Concert Singers.

Tickets for the brunch and concert are \$70 with concert-only tickets available for \$35 and student tickets for \$10. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Tickets and sponsorships are available at https://gccmusic.ludus.com/index.php?show_id=200498926 or visit soroptimistglendale.org.

HOW TO ENERGETICALLY CLEAR YOUR SPACE

Local interior designer and Holy Fire reiki master Avril Martin presents at the Women's Club "How to Energetically Clear Your Space." Attendees will learn practical tools and get insights to create the energetic support to navigate life.

The class is on Sunday, Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in

Eagle Rock at the Women's Twentieth Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave. in Los Angeles.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-guide-to-energetically-clearing-your-home-tickets-1812078207699?aff=oddtcreator>

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

- 1) Backyard part, for many
- 6) Facts, in casual conversation
- 10) Equine color
- 14) "___ you ashamed of yourself?"
- 15) Film ___ (movie genre)
- 16) Sax range
- 17) Three outer attachments
- 20) Like windows and beauty pageant contestants
- 21) Kind of cocktail fizz
- 22) Cook a turkey
- 25) Tree nymph in Greek myth
- 26) Dracula portrayer Lugosi
- 30) Carnivore's choice
- 32) Log-in need
- 35) Famous furrier's philanthropic family
- 41) Three outer attachments
- 43) Mint family herb
- 44) Devotional sequences
- 45) Arm of the British military?
- 47) Vowelless attention-getter
- 48) Dele revokers
- 53) "Later!"
- 56) Call up to answer charges
- 58) Anyone, to a lawyer (with "ever")
- 63) Three outer attachments
- 66) "So what ___ is new?"
- 67) Monocle, e.g.
- 68) Type of organs or signs
- 69) Charlie Brown says it
- 70) Obscene material
- 71) Dictator's helper?

WIDE SPREAD

By Kenneth Holt



DOWN

- 1) Golf standards
- 2) Field of expertise
- 3) Bigelow beverages
- 4) Creep slowly
- 5) A wise beginning?
- 6) Shoo-___
- 7) "Immediately!"
- 8) Cinco de Mayo celebration, e.g.
- 9) Type of hygiene
- 10) Car built for speed
- 11) Method conclusion?
- 12) Open courtyards
- 13) "... with ___ in sight"
- 18) Tokyo, once
- 19) Angler's requirement
- 23) Pistol pellets, e.g.
- 24) Becomes enraged
- 26) Mulberry, for one
- 27) Sports-channel award
- 28) Pastoral expanses
- 29) Semicircle shapes
- 31) A close watch
- 33) "The Matrix " role
- 34) Concert equipment
- 36) "America the Beautiful" ender
- 37) Field covering
- 38) Affirmatives in Arles
- 39) Some numbered rds.
- 40) Binary or buddy (Abbr.)
- 42) "Beloved" author Morrison
- 46) Bicycle built for two
- 48) Cavalry weapon
- 49) Carefree song syllables
- 50) Surrealist artist Max
- 51) Film director's units
- 52) Bro sib
- 54) Nocturnal hooter
- 55) Switchblades
- 57) Mousse relatives
- 59) Skip past
- 60) Tiny parasite
- 61) Laurel of old-time comedies
- 62) Capital of Norway
- 64) Wildebeest
- 65) "Guinness World Records" suffix

see ANSWERS on page 5

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

DirecTV Charged Me a \$40 Fee Almost a Year After I Canceled – What Can I Do?

George Cleveland cancels DirecTV but it hits him with a \$40 fee 10 months later. Can a company charge you for a fee it never mentioned?

Question: I canceled my DirecTV service and even received a refund for overpayment. But 10 months later, the company emailed, demanding \$40 for an “early termination fee.”

No one mentioned an early termination fee when I canceled. DirecTV threatened to refer me to a collection agency if I don’t pay.

I called DirecTV, and a representative confirmed the charge, blaming a system delay.

How can they spring a surprise fee almost a year later? I’ve emailed their collections team and sent a certified letter to an executive but this feels predatory. Can they legally do this?

– George Cleveland, El Sobrante, California

Answer: DirecTV should have disclosed any termination fees upfront when you canceled – not ambushed you months later. The threat to refer you to a collections agency was particularly offensive. The company didn’t give you much of an opportunity to contest the charge.

It looks like you signed a 24-month contract with DirecTV but had two months to go on that contract. The company charged you \$20 for each remaining month on your contract. DirecTV discloses these charges in its contract and on its website.

But that’s not all. DirecTV should have disclosed any fees you owed at the time of your cancellation. Ideally, it would



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

have taken the early termination fee out of your refund to avoid this situation. And even if it was less than clear, DirecTV should have promptly billed you for any remaining charges instead of waiting almost a year.

Bottomline: While DirecTV has the right to bill you an early termination fee, it waived that right by mishandling your case. (And while we’re on the subject of early termination fees, let me say that I strongly disagree with them. These types of fees are really nothing more than a money grab by big companies.)

I like the way you kept a meticulous paper trail of the correspondence between you and DirecTV. That’s an essential part of the resolution. The emails prove you did everything you could to resolve this and work through the system. One item you overlooked: As soon as you canceled your account you should have asked for verification that DirecTV terminated your

account and that your bills were paid up. That would have sealed the deal. If the company refuses, escalate to executives like DirecTV’s leadership team. I publish the names, numbers and email addresses of team members on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org. I shared these names with you after multiple efforts to get this resolved, including contacting the BBB, failed.

After you contacted the DirecTV executives I listed on my site, you received an email from the company saying that it had reversed its early termination fee. Nice job advocating this case yourself!

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 or get help by contacting him at https://elliottadvocacy.org/help. © 2025 Christopher Elliott

CALENDAR THIS from previous page

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 members for ongoing projects, special event and exhibit coordinators, administrative, archival or library assistants, facilities maintenance and more.

Potential volunteers are asked to reach out with questions. Email LittleLanders@BoltonHall.org, phone (818) 352-3420 or send a letter so P.O. Box 203, Tujunga, CA 91043.

FROM BURN TO BLOOM: REDESIGNING RESILIENCE AT THE EDGE

On Nov. 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., the non-profit organization Poly/Ana is having a micro-

symposium on Fire, Land and Whole-System Design.

The goal is to shift the local narrative from fragile to resilient, regenerative and thriving. Ticketholders can expect:

- Insights from fire survivors and regenerative designers
- Strategies that move beyond “defensible space” to whole-ecosystem resilience
- Tools for water harvesting, soil-building, plant guilds and microclimate design
- Expert talks on Zone 0 policies, tree canopy and soil remediation
- Networking with neighbors, land stewards and leaders reimagining resilience

The event takes place at the La Cañada Flintridge Country Club, 5500 Godbey Drive in La Cañada Flintridge; to reserve a spot visit https://tinyurl.com/3branx2b. Tickets range from \$5 to \$25.

BINGO FUN AT KIWANIS CLUB OF THE VERDUGOS

On Saturday, Nov. 15 the Kiwanis Club of the Verdugos is hosting a bingo night at Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall, 4011 La

Crescenta Ave. in La Crescenta. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; games start at 6 p.m.

Admission is \$25 for 10 game cards. Advance ticket purchase is recommended. Sponsorships are available. Food and beverages available for purchase.

A sock drive supporting Glendale Police Dept. community outreach is being held. Those who bring in three or more pairs of new socks (any size or style) will receive one free pre-game opener bingo card.

Forticketsormoreinformation call (213) 984-4611.

FRIDAY NIGHT LECTURE ON WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

Internationally acclaimed wildlife photographer Moses Sparks has traveled the world to create iconic and unusual images of birds and animals. He will show a selection of his photos and share the stories about how they were made at a Friday night lecture on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in Glendale/La Crescenta.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com November 10, 2025 - November 16, 2025

ARIES March 21 - April 19

You might feel more tired and frazzled than usual. This could be a confusing week when it comes to your health, but don’t worry too much. Go with the flow. It doesn’t mean you’ll be useless, but it does mean that you need to pace yourself. Try to avoid stress and confrontation. Strive for balance and inner peace.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

There could be tension in the air that shows up in your body as fatigue. If you continually get wound up, argumentative, and involved, you could have problems. You have a chance to transform your health by changing your attitude to life. If you can see how you contribute to your problems, you can make the right changes.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

LEO July 23 - August 22

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Continually trying to get your way could wear you out. The cosmos is jangling your nerves all over the place. If you can stay in a relaxed frame of mind, even when you feel argumentative, you’ll use less energy and have more to spare for your body and life. You might feel inclined to participate in sports.

RSVP at https://tinyurl.com/yrypzbwba.

POST-TURKEY TRAIL BURN HIKE

A moderately difficult hike that will burn calories takes place on Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10 a.m. to noon at Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in Glendale/La Crescenta. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

RSVP at https://tinyurl.com/8mnhkyyd.

UGLY XMAS SWEATER AND BINGO EVENT

Emblem Club #104 of Glendale will hold an Ugly Xmas Sweater Bingo fundraiser on Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Glendale Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado St. in Glendale. Check in at 5 p.m. Food available for purchase. Bingo starts at 6 p.m. Ten game packs are \$20 presale or \$25 at the door. Wear your ugly Xmas sweater and join the fun! All proceeds go to the Emblem

Club Scholarship Fund. For answers to questions contact Margie at (818) 404-3257.

FOOTHILLS DANCEMAKERS COMING TO PASADENA

Foothills Dancemakers, founded in 2019 as a vibrant consortium of modern dance companies in the shadow of the San Gabriel Mountains, announces their fourth concert in December. Benita Bike’s DanceArt, Pennington Dance Group, Nancy Evans Dance Theatre and Lineage Dance will present a joint concert Saturday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at A Room To Create in Pasadena.

Tickets are \$30 – general admission, and \$25 – students and seniors with valid ID. A Room To Create is located at 1158 E. Colorado in Pasadena. Parking is available on site. For tickets please visit www.penningtondancegroup.org/tickets.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

RELIGION

RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY



Center for
Spiritual Living
La Crescenta

4845 Dunsmore Ave, La Crescenta, CA 91214

Sr. Minister, Rev. Mary Morgan

Meditation at 9:30-9:45 am

Service at 10:00 am

Come share Faith, Love and Community.
We offer a Sanctuary for the Soul and a
Home for the Heart

CSLLaCrescenta@gmail.com



Church of Scientology
Mission of the Foothills

2254 Honolulu Ave. Montrose
Mondays-Thursdays 4:00-9:30 pm
Saturdays 10 am to 6 pm



OUR HELP IS YOURS

scientology-montrose.org

818-957-1500
email: foothills@scientology.net



SPIRITUALLY
SPEAKING

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS
Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church;
Rev. Kimberlie Zakarian of Holy House Ministries;
Anthony Kelson RScP and Laney Clevenger-White, RScP; Rabbi Janet Bieber,
Carolyn Young, Sharon Weisman; Rev. Mary Morgan, Center for Spiritual Living -
La Crescenta Rev. Dabney Beck, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel;
Lucinda Guarino, Rev. Karin Ellis, La Cañada United Methodist Church;
The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman, Upland Christian Church;

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



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St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church



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Methodist Church

All are welcome

Sunday Service at 9am

Pastor Kevin Kang

9901 Tujunga Cyn Blvd, Tujunga
office@tujungachurch.com
(818) 352-1481

Reprinted from September 2019

Question: I live next door to a wonderful family with two children, ages 5 and 7. They've always been good neighbors but have been particularly protective of me since my wife passed away a year and a half ago. In other words, we're like family. The 5-year-old left his bicycle in the front yard and it was stolen. He had been told to always put his bike in the garage when he was through riding it. The mom asked if they should scold him. I told her I didn't think so since the loss of the bike was hard enough for him to have to deal with. I told her to just keep reminding him and his sister about keeping their belongings safe.

I bought each of them a new bicycle – I'm not telling you this for you to tell me how nice I am. I just want them to trust in what life brings. At this time they're wary of anyone coming into our

neighborhood, even someone out for a walk. Please help us say something to them that will help restore their sense of safety and trust. – Troubled Neighbor

Dear Troubled Neighbor,
Let me see if I have the facts right. Your next-door neighbors with whom you have a good relationship (a true blessing) always warn their children to put their bikes in the garage when they're done riding them. The youngest forgets that warning and leaves his bike out in the front yard and it's stolen. As a result, they are wary of people (who may be potential thieves) coming into the neighborhood.

After the dust has settled, your take on this situation is this: these neighbor kids and their parents just need to "trust in what life brings." And despite their parent's warnings, I am supposed to write something to help foster this "sense of safety and trust" in what life brings, despite the recent theft from their front yard. Do I have it

right?
Thank you for being a kind-hearted neighbor. So many wish they had someone like you. Thank you for caring about the kids. I think they're lucky to have you next door.

But the parents are shooting straight and your aim is skewed. They're parents; safety is their No. 1 job. They can't afford to "trust in what life brings." Had their youngest listened to them, he'd still have his first bike. And the kids won't always have a kind neighbor to make their wrongs right again.

They need to keep their eyes on new people coming into the neighborhood. They need to put their bikes away. They need to listen to their parents.

Until the entire world has a gracious heart like yours, maybe you should start listening to your neighbors.

Rev. Jon T. Karn, Light on the Corner Church
Montrose

PastorJon@lightonthecorner.org

items are new.

Donations can be dropped off during Sunday worship at 10 a.m. For those wishing to donate during the week, items can be dropped off at the church office.

Visit lcifoohills.org for event details, including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve. For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lcifoohills.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.

MOVIE NIGHT AT UUCVH

On Friday night, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m., the community is invited to join the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills for movie night. The feature film is yet to be revealed to the public. Will it be a mystery, a comedy or an action-packed blockbuster? Appease your curiosity; come for the mystery, stay for the fellowship! No reservations needed, just stop by.

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills, 4451 Dunsmore Ave., La Crescenta

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 LUTHERAN CHURCH HOLDS MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Mt. Olive holds a 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. This Bible study is currently in the Book of Second Corinthians. Also, a weekly Bible study (currently in the Book of Genesis) is held at the church on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m.

Visit molc.org for more information about these and other opportunities for Christian fellowship and service. You can also email or call: office@molc.

org or (818) 248-4253.

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 Nov. 16, 23 & 30. 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.

NOTES & NODS

LCIF HOLDING BLOOD DRIVE

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) is partnering with the American Red Cross to host a vital blood donation event next week, urging community members to roll up their sleeves and help secure the region's blood supply. The blood drive is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Officials from the Red Cross stress that all blood types are urgently needed to support patients in local hospitals. To ensure a smooth experience, appointments are encouraged. Prospective donors can schedule their time slot by visiting RedCrossBlood.org and entering

the sponsor code: lcifoohills. Donors are also encouraged to save up to 15 minutes on the day of the donation by using the "RapidPass" system. This allows participants to complete their pre-donation health history online by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass before arriving.

LCIF would also like to remind the community that this is the final week to donate blankets and hygiene supplies for its collection drive to help those in need. Needed hygiene items include toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, soap, shampoo, deodorant and feminine hygiene products. LCIF asks that donated

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LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LYNN BOURDON BRANDSTATER CASE NO. 25STPB06108

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of **LYNN BOURDON BRANDSTATER**

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **ALLEN EARL BRANDSTATER** in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

THE PETITION for Probate requests that **ALLEN EARL BRANDSTATER** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: December 17, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., Dept. 429, Room 240 at the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You**

LEGALS

may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner:
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Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly November 13, 20, 27, December 4, 2025.

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BRIGGS AND FOOTHILL from Cover

Construction is scheduled to begin in 2027 and completed in 2029.

A panel discussion ensued, which included representatives from Abode, Upward Bound, Los Angeles County Public Works, LA County Regional Planning and the fire department.

Chris Kilpatrick with the CVTC and LUC led the meeting, opening it to questions – and the community was off and running.

There were over 140 people at the meeting, which was not only standing room inside but people were also in the La Crescenta Library community room parking lot. It is important to note that not one person in the audience voiced approval of this project.

There were a variety of concerns voiced including infrastructure, traffic and fire zone issues. Many who voiced concerns through their questions asked about the evacuation corridor from Briggs Terrace. Eaton Fire is still in the memory of residents and of great concern was the prospect of having an additional 200 or more people trying to evacuate an area that already bottlenecks during drop-off and pick up times at Mountain Avenue Elementary and Rosemont Middle schools.

Other questions raised concerned infrastructure. Maegan Pearson from Abode assured the audience it would have to get approval from the local water department, which is the Crescenta Valley Water District,

and in some cases would have to pay for increased or improved infrastructure if required; however, the January fires were a warning that infrastructure must include water pressure that can fight fires and not just provide enough pressure for showers.

The general consensus from the audience was that the building was too big for the location. Many asked why this area of La Crescenta was chosen when there are more open areas, like the long vacant K-Mart in Tujunga, which has been dormant for 21 years and has a large plot of land available.

Other concerns centered around the apartment residents themselves. There did not seem to be issues with the low income

housing; in fact, many folks agreed there needed to be more affordable housing. But it was the vague description of TAY that many questions were focused.

CVW reached out to Pearson asking for clarification concerning this aspect of the plan for 25 units for TAY. It was stated by Upward Bound that the 18-to-24-year-old residents at this complex must have juveniles for whom they are caring.

“Upward Bound requires that Transition Age Youth must have their own child to benefit from Upward Bound’s transitional housing. It is anticipated that Upward Bound will move these families from their transitional housing into Abode Communities’

permanently affordable housing. Upward Bound will continue to provide supportive services to the special needs population, which does include case management, links to resources and referrals, skills-building workshops, and educational workshops, among more,” Pearson said.

She added that a case manager would be on the premises and accessible during regular working hours.

There are a variety of definitions for TAY. Several in the audience asked what the definition of TAY would be at the complex. That was not clearly answered at the meeting; CVW reached out to Pearson.

CV Weekly readers: You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

WEATHER from page 2

However, unseasonably hot weather can bring about for many a mood swing. And because climate change is an actual thing we are going to see more warming temps in California.

“Southern California is about three degrees warmer than just a century ago thanks to climate change,” according to UCLAhealth.org.

We can see how warming temperatures affect us physically – for example, allergies – and mosquitoes are enjoying a human smorgasbord as temperatures stay hot. But unseasonably warm temperatures can also affect our brains.

According to UCLA Health, those who are most at risk for this warming trend are people with chronic illness, those with dementia, preexisting mental health conditions, pregnancy and those who do not have access to air conditioning. However, no one is immune to the effects of weather. Climate change itself is making people feel anxious with more than 50% of Americans stating climate change makes them feel anxious, according to

a UCLA study.

“Researchers reviewed over 600 million social media updates, focusing on depressive language. They concluded that mental health and wellbeing generally worsen during warmer weather,” according to UCLA Health.

Now locally we are going to be experiencing weather whiplash with high temperatures dropping 10 degrees from yesterday to today and then dropping almost another 10 degrees on Friday, and there is rain predicted through to next week. There are things we can do that are very simple to help us navigate this rollercoaster weather ride into mid-November; it is something our parents have been telling us forever: drink plenty of water and eat a healthy balanced diet. We can also beat the weather blues by spending time with friends and, even in the rain, find time to enjoy nature.

On another note, I need to make a correction to my column last week when I stated that the COP 30 (Conference Of the Parties) ended on Oct. 31; it

actually began on Nov. 10 and runs through Nov. 21 and is being held in Belém, Brazil. I will be following what comes out of this event and in this column share information.

For our weather, the next few days will be sweater and umbrella days. According to NOAA, today we have a 30% chance of rain after 4 p.m. with highs near 66 degrees. The winds are expected to be up to 15 mph sustained with 20 mph gusts. The chance of rain rises to 80% overnight. Predictions are a half to three-quarters of an inch of rainfall. On Friday we will see another high near 58 degrees, winds of 10 mph sustained with 15 mph gusts. The chance of rain is 80% with a possibility of thunderstorms in the evening.

On Saturday, the threat of rain and thunderstorms is likely to continue with the high near 60 degrees. Sunday sees more chance of rain throughout the day into the evening. The rain should stay around until Monday into Tuesday, along with cooler temperatures, with highs in the high 50s, low 60s.

FOOD INJUSTICE from Cover

“[People came] who never thought they would have to [come to a food bank],” Hernandez said.

Chris Romero is with the non-profit The Outreach Program. The program began and is based in Des Moines, Iowa; however, there are offices throughout the nation. Romero is based in San Diego, which covers California, Arizona, Washington and Oregon. It was The Outreach Program that provided the items that the Kiwanis members packed up.

“Kiwanis, [like] each group we work with, fundraises to cover the costs of the event,” Romero said.

The food is purchased in bulk by The Outreach Program, which allows the dollars raised by organizations to stretch much farther. In fact, due to the bulk purchasing, the meals that were packaged that feed about six people will cost about 42 cents each.

Romero has also seen a steady increase in the need for food support.

“Even six months ago, [when] talking to groups, post pandemic food banks have really been struggling. On average they are seeing more families [in need] than before the pandemic,” he said. “So even before the shutdown, things were not in a great place.”

He added one pantry in Glendora, which his organization has helped, has seen a “two to one increase since the shutdown.”

The Bailey Center at Tujunga United Methodist Church has also seen an increased need. It distributes food once a week and has seen a steady increase that has grown to a strong increase of families in need. It too has been seeing people coming to the food bank for the first time.

Many of the food banks have warned that even if Congress votes this week to open the government, relief to those who have been affected by the loss of paychecks, or by the loss of CalFresh [SNAP] support, will not be immediately felt. This is in addition to an economy that has seen food prices continuing to rise, which has made it very difficult for some food banks to keep stocked. And a Nov. 6 report from Challenger, Gray and Christmas, found that “job cuts surpassed one million in the U.S., the highest October total since 2003, due to companies citing cost-cutting measures and AI [Artificial Intelligence].” California accounts for 14% of those layoffs. [Challenger, Gray and Christmas is a global placement firm that provides training for employees who have been laid off.]

This means food banks are being squeezed from both sides, with an increase in need coupled with those who may have donated food or funds in the past that are no longer able to help ... and may have gone to the food bank for support.

Local food banks are asking for support through food donations, funds and volunteers.

For The Outreach Project, Romero invites organizations to band together, raise funds and reach out to package nutritional food to be distributed to local food banks. To find out how to support The Outreach Project, email Chris Romero at chris@outreachprogram.org or call (619) 405-0862.

To support Home Again LA go to www.homeagainla.org or call (818) 396-5555 for the Glendale site.

CV Weekly readers: You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

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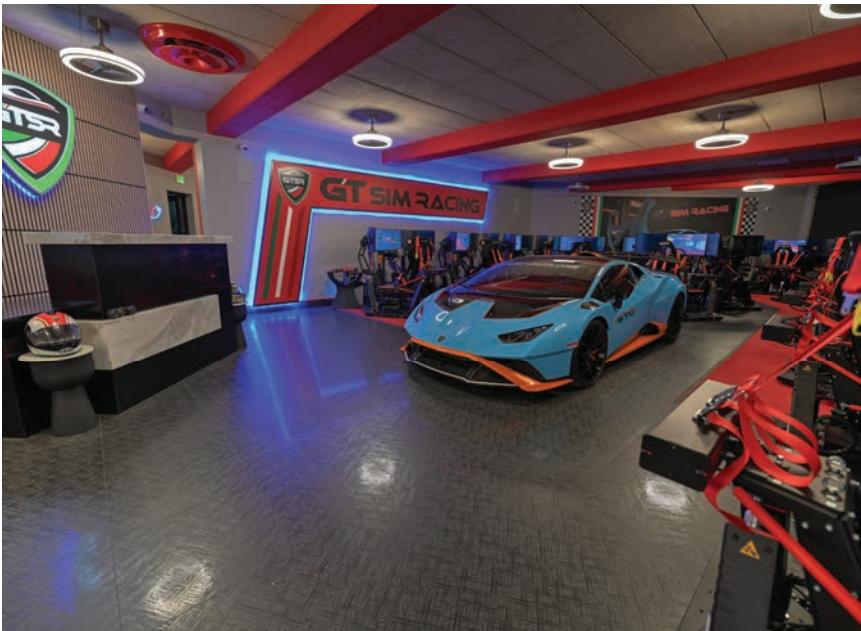
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