

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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Council Admonishes State Senator

By Julie BUTCHER

"I've lost count of the number of times this council has lamented the imposition of central control by the legislature in Sacramento over our local issues. It is very disturbing to this council and very disturbing to the members of our community regardless of what political party they are from," stated Mayor Ara Najarian who minced no words at Tuesday night's meeting of the Glendale City Council when expressing these local concerns to State Senator Sasha Renée Pérez.

Pérez had introduced herself and offered an overview of her accomplishments in her first legislative session: funding to transition CAL FIRE seasonal firefighters to full time in recognition that fire season is now permanent and year-round in California; increased funding for housing and homelessness; extensive tax credits to retain jobs in film and television to "keep those good jobs here."

Senator Pérez recognized and thanked City Clerk Dr. Suzie Abajian and Councilmember Elen Asatryan for strong local support for AB 91, the MENA Inclusion Act that requires California state and local agencies to collect and report detailed demographic data for people of Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) ancestry. The goal is to improve public services, policymaking, and support for these communities, which were previously often lumped into the "White" category, by allowing more specific data collection on groups like Iranian, Iraqi, Egyptian and Armenian Californians. The new data collection requirements begin in January 2028.

"This will ensure that our Armenian community will be counted," Pérez said.

see GCC on page 18

MSPA Prepares for 'Plaid Friday'

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Shopping park kicks off holiday season, encourages folks to 'shop local.'

The day after Thanksgiving, called Black Friday by many, traditionally marks the start of the Christmas shopping season. It is usually accompanied by harried shoppers who turn out early going to stores on Friday morning, eager to purchase items that are heavily marked down in price.

Montrose Shopping Park is offering an alternative to the craziness that Black Friday is known for.

On Friday, Nov. 28 the shopping park kicks off the holiday season with "Plaid Friday." At 5:30 p.m., the corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue will be decked out in holiday gear ready to usher in the holidays. The Hummingbird Conservatory Carolers will be singing from 5:30 to 6 p.m. The Jingle Singers Christmas Carolers will be strolling the



At a previous Plaid Friday celebration, Steve Pierce (in cap, right) ushers a little boy over to Santa Claus. Santa will be on hand for photos this year on Friday, Nov. 28 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

avenue from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. with a community singalong at 6 p.m.

At 6:15, the iconic Christmas tree at the southeast corner of Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard will come alive with lights when the tree is lit for the community to see. Glendale firefighters will also be on-site with its Cram A Classic Toy

Drive, which is from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The shopping park will also provide "snow" (soap bubbles projected from machines on poles) for the crowd to enjoy.

Ending the celebration will be photos with Santa from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

According to sources, Plaid Friday is the independent retailers' alternative to the big box stores'

Black Friday. It originated in Oakland, California, in 2009. It was created by gallery owner Kerri Johnson as a leisurely, enjoyable alternative to the chaotic frenzy of Black Friday.

The name symbolizes the idea of weaving individual small businesses together to create a strong fabric of local commerce,

see PLAID FRIDAY on page 8

LUC Responds to Proposed Briggs/Foothill Project

By Mary O'KEEFE

The proposed development at Briggs Avenue and Foothill Boulevard continues to raise concerns among community members. At an outreach meeting in early November, which was hosted by the Crescenta Valley Town Council (CVTC) Land Use Committee (LUC), representatives were on site including representatives from developer Abode Communities and members of LA County Planning, public works and the fire department.

CVTC LUC will be releasing the Briggs/Foothill Proposed Development Recommendation and Findings Report at the CVTC regular monthly meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., community room.

see LUC on page 9

Project Description

- 80 Affordable Rental Homes (30% - 80% AMI)
 - 39 One-bedroom
 - 21 Two-bedroom
 - 1 Three-bedroom
- Population Served
 - 25 Transition Aged Youth (18-24 years old)
 - 54 Families
 - 1 On-site Manager
- 80 Parking Spaces
- Amenities: On-site laundry, fitness room, resident services, on-site property management, landscaped open space, children's play area, bicycle parking, community room
- Financing: State and Local sources including tax credits

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

This slide was shown at the outreach meeting in early November (though it was noted that the figures of the number of units was incorrect). It offered an overview of the proposed project.

abode communities

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

The Perils of Having a Cellphone

I was driving down the street the other day and I couldn't help but notice how many people – young and old – were glued to their phones.

Now I understand the attraction of those hand-held computers (that's what they are after all) but it saddens me to see people walking their dog (for example) while looking at their phones or mothers with baby strollers staring at their phones while strolling with their baby. Is it so boring to be looking at birds or clouds or – heck – other people when out and about?

Do I even dare to bring up how cavalier people are who are looking at their phones while crossing the street? I was told that it is my responsibility to get out of the way of cars – not the other way around. Crossing the street while peering at the small screen doesn't really lend itself to being aware of what's going on nearby.

I think it's interesting to note what I've always thought – that cellphones can be dangerous to the wellbeing of users, especially kids – is becoming more universally accepted.

I read on Wikipedia, "Problematic smartphone use is psychological or behavioral dependence on cell phones. It is closely related to other forms of digital media overuse such as social media addiction or internet addiction disorder." How many times have I questioned the ability of kids to have a healthy in-person interaction with another human

being instead of texting someone?

And according to the National Institute of Health/National Library of Medicine, "Research has shown an increased risk of traffic accidents, about three-to-four times greater chance of an accident, when mobile phones (either handheld or with a 'hands-free' kit) are used while driving due to distraction."

I know my age is showing when I share that I think I raised the last generation of kids who didn't have their phones at the dinner table. There weren't any handheld devices. So when we sat down to dinner we did so as a family, ready to share the experiences of our day. It wasn't all sugar sweet; I do have memories when there'd be arguments while passing the potatoes.

I remember growing up we'd typically have dinner at 7 o'clock. We'd watch "I Love Lucy" while eating dinner. At 7:30 the nighttime "Price is Right" would come on and we'd divide into teams to try and guess the closest to the price of an item or showcase.

Hmmm – we'd watch TV while having dinner. Is that considered the same as having a phone at the table? I don't know – but what I do know is it wasn't as offensive (or dangerous) to me as phones can be today.

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 know there are a lot of jokes about Californians and the rain but this last week was really no joking matter ... we had rain that could rival any midwestern or desert monsoon.

The rainfall totals according to Public Works Los Angeles from Nov. 11 to 18:

Descanso Gardens received a total of 5.01 inches of rain

Brand Park received 4.58 inches

Eaton Dam received 5.50 inches

Eaton Fire/Burn Area received 6.58 inches

La Tuna Canyon Debris Basin received 5.26 inches of rain

Eagle Rock Reserve received 4.91 inches

Los Angeles Ducommun Street 4.27 inches

"We are still tallying up the totals but the main message is this is one of the wettest Novembers on record," according to NOAA.

And we aren't done; there is another storm expected today. This one, according to NOAA, will not be as strong as the previous storm but it is still predicted to bring anywhere from a half inch to an inch of rain. We should see rain today and Friday then start drying up on Saturday and through the weekend. The temperatures will remain cool, from mid 50s to mid 60s.

According to the LA Almanac, 2022-2023 saw the highest annual rainfall since 2005 with a year end total of 28.40 inches. This was followed by the total for the next year, 2023-2024, at 25.19 inches. Though totals for this year are not yet released, it appears that, based on the most recent data, rainfall totals lag behind previous years; 2024-2025 totals are currently 7.74 inches. This November will increase that total.

Rain is wonderful; it feeds the Earth and it also washes away a lot of debris including litter – and a lot of that trash ends up in the ocean.

When I started teaching Sunday school

at my church, my teaching partner Vanessa and I wanted to focus on the environment and how we have this amazing gift that we had been given to protect – our Earth. We started a program called The Mountains to The Beach. We did this because we wanted kids to see how connected we are to the sea, how what we do here in our community affects the ocean and beach communities. So we started talking about where water goes and how when trash is thrown on the ground here in the Crescenta Valley it can eventually travel to the ocean through storm drains. We took the kids to the beach for cleanup days and they were amazed how much trash was there – and there was a lot of trash (come on – leave the place better than you found it for goodness sake; there are trash receptacles all over the beach – you pass them when you pack up to go home sorry, I digress) not only from beach visitors but also from storms. We also looked at the storm drains and saw how much trash there that ultimately would float to the ocean. There were so many cigarette butts and bottle caps and paper from fast food places!

Our kids learned that the saying "Earth in the balance" is actually true. When the balance is off in the landlocked areas, it affects all other areas of our environment. So not only did we pick up trash at the beach but we tried catching it in our community before it made its way to the sea.

There are projects and studies underway, like in Orange County where local leaders are working on ways to stop the trash from making its way to the sea, especially during rains. There was a great story on KTLA that covered the efforts of stopping trash in the San Gabriel River from going into the sea. It was reported on Nov. 17. You can find it at <https://ktla.com/video/efforts-underway-to-prevent-trash-in-local-streams-from-reaching-ocean/11271402/>.

see WEATHER on page 9

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

GIVEN PRESENTS ‘REWIRED AND OVERWHELMED – AI, ANXIETY AND THE PRICE OF PROGRESS’

Local licensed therapist Jamie Given will be giving a presentation tonight, Thursday, Nov. 20 in the cafeteria of Crescenta Valley High School at 6 p.m. Her presentation is titled “Rewired and Overwhelmed – AI, Anxiety and the Price of Progress.”

It will be a presentation for parents, educators and school leaders. Given boasts years of experience supporting families and adolescents.

All are welcome to attend.

FINAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF THE YEAR PLANNED

The final town council meeting of 2025 will be held tonight, Thursday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the community room of the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd.

Looking ahead, the council invites the community to the annual Christmas tree lighting on Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the La Crescenta Library.

The evening will feature festive performances by the Valley View Student Choir and Crescenta Valley High School’s elite singing group, the Charismatics. The Friends of the Library will provide refreshments and family-friendly activities, ensuring a warm and spirited kickoff to the holiday season.

CVTC ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The Crescenta Valley Town Council Election Committee has completed the preliminary count for the 2025 Town Council election which was held on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8 at St. Luke’s of the Mountains Episcopal Church (Sadler Hall). A total of 82 ballots were received. Of these, six were provisional and were not counted at this time, leaving 76 verified ballots, including five absentee ballots. One mail-in ballot was disqualified and not included in the total.

Each voter was permitted to vote for up to three candidates, resulting in a total of 142 votes cast across all ballots.

Preliminary results are as follows:

Donna Libra received 66 votes (46.5%).

Harry Leon received 46 votes (32.4%).

Jo Ann Stupakis received 30 votes (21.1%).

This year’s ballots cast represent a 50% increase from last year.

Deadline Extended for Public Comments

The City of Glendale has extended the deadline to Nov. 21 for the public to make comments on its general plan.

To review the details of all of the plan elements and submit comments through the city website go to <https://www.glendaleplan.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://montrosechristmasparade.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.

Holocaust Fighter Joseph Alexander Turns 103

By Mary O’KEEFE

This November Joseph Alexander will be celebrating his 103rd birthday. To have such a long life and to be so active is an amazing thing – just on its own – but Alexander’s life goes beyond amazing and moves into awe-inspiring.

Alexander is a Holocaust survivor who has been sharing his story for decades with others. He is part of an outreach program that has been to Burbank and Glendale schools.

CVW wants to wish Joseph Alexander a Happy Birthday and thank him for continuing his brave outreach to teach others of what hate can bring.

Below are excerpts from interviews CVW has done in the past with Mr. Alexander. It is important to continue to share his story:

“Most U.S. adults know what the Holocaust was and approximately when it happened, but fewer than half can correctly answer multiple choice questions about the number of Jews who were murdered or the way Adolf Hitler came to power ... Nearly three-in-10 Americans say they are not sure how many Jews died during the Holocaust while one-in-10 overestimate the death toll and 15% say that 3 million or fewer Jews were killed,” according to a 2020 Pew Research Center survey.

This is what makes Alexander’s outreach so important.

“So this is what I hope: When I talk to them they [receive] the knowledge ... they are our future,” Alexander said in a past interview with CVW regarding speaking to students about the Holocaust.

During WWII Alexander had been held in 12 different camps; one of them was Auschwitz and then Birkenau and Dachau. He was in camps for five years.

Alexander was born in Poland. When the Germans entered his village in Warsaw in 1939, they separated people into restricted and non-restricted areas. A couple of weeks after the invasion, the Germans ordered a group of people to the town square.

Alexander said in an earlier interview that he did not know why but neither the family in his home nor in his uncle’s home, both of which were located in the town square, were in this first gathering.

He saw people taken away who had been ordered to the town square. Alexander said rumors were spread that the Germans would be coming back to take the rest of the Jews.

“My dad said, ‘We are not going to wait.’ My father had three sisters who lived 25 kilometers [away],” he said.

His mother, father, one sister and one brother left the area, leaving Alexander and two other sisters at home. The plan was for them to follow the family shortly.

However, soon after the family was reunited, they were placed in their first work camp. Jews were allowed to return home on weekends.

“And off I went to the camp,” he said.

The work done included digging a canal. They had to work in standing water up to their knees and did not have boots. These camps were called ghettos.

He worked first at that camp then two or three camps were combined into one and he moved again. By this time he was going from camp to camp – seven in total



Photo by Mary O’KEEFE
Holocaust survivor Joseph Alexander (standing) shows the tattoo he received in Auschwitz. With him is David Meyerhof, Holocaust speaker coordinator.

–until a train arrived.

“It wasn’t a passenger train, it was a cattle car [boxcar],” he said.

The boxcar was packed with Jewish people. They traveled for three days without food, water or bathroom facilities. And then they arrived at Auschwitz.

Alexander said when they arrived about 30% to 40% of the people had died who had been in the boxcar.

When he arrived in Auschwitz he met Josef Mengele. Alexander got off the train and lined up with others.

“Whoever could walk would line up in rows of five and we met Dr. Josef Mengele,” he said. “And Dr. Mengele said, ‘There’s six kilometers to walk to the camp’ and he was selecting people [who lined up, directing some] to the left and they would be taken on trucks. So he went through and picked out the sick people, old people, young kids ... I was a little guy and I was a young kid and he told me to go to the left.”

But Alexander had already been in several camps by the time he arrived at Auschwitz and he was learning how to survive.

“Every camp I was in I had to work. I tried to get in with the biggest, strongest men. And here Dr. Mengele was telling me to go the left. I looked around and saw sick and old people and young kids ... that’s not the kind of people I should be

with. It was after midnight [when I got off the train]. If it would have been daytime I don’t think I could have done this ... I ran back to the other side. If I didn’t run back to the other side I wouldn’t be here talking to you today. The people who were on the [left side] were taken on the trucks and were taken straight to the gas chamber,” Alexander said.

Alexander was able to survive despite the unimaginable hardship and loss. And he has made it his mission to share his stories, to be the voice who was there, who saw and experienced Hitler’s “Final Solution.”

“I tell the students, I tell everybody, that six million Jews, one and a half million children, were murdered. They weren’t murdered because they were criminals or did anything wrong. They were murdered because they were Jews. And today we have a lot of Holocaust deniers and a lot of antisemitism. I call the Holocaust deniers crazy because the evidence is still there in existence today. You go to Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, Dachau – the gas chambers are still there,” he said.

Headed in 1933 Germany everything started right away. Jews couldn’t go to school or practice law or medicine.

“And that’s how it started,” he said.

When asked why he continues to go back to these camps he said, “Because I survived and Hitler didn’t.”

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NOTES & NODS

LCIF OFFERS HOLIDAY RESPITE

The spirit of community and gratitude is taking center stage as Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church team up to host a special Thanksgiving Eve Service and Pie Social. The community is invited to attend the event, which offers a peaceful moment of reflection before the hustle and bustle of Thanksgiving Day.

For many, the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving is a rare window of calm before holiday travel, cooking and family events consume the following day. The service will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 7 p.m. at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. All are welcome to attend this evening of worship and social connection, regardless of church affiliation.

In other news from LCIF, local bookworms are invited to attend the church's next book club meeting on Monday, Nov. 24 at 1 p.m. in the church's conference room. Book lovers will discuss "Where They Last Saw Her" by Marcie Rendon, a critically acclaimed mystery novel. The selection for December is "The Max Lucado Christmas Collection" by Max Lucado. The LCIF book

club meets monthly and is open to anyone with a love of reading.

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

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 (UUCVH) 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.

Then on Sunday, Nov. 23, UUCVH will celebrate Friendsgiving in its Friendship Hall. Instead of the usual 10:30 a.m. service, there will be time to share food, conversation and camaraderie at 11 a.m. There will be elements of worship: lighting the chalice, singing and sharing joys and concerns. Those who would like to take part can bring an appetite and a dish to share. A sign-up sheet

will be distributed at church or email Anne Moratto at bigvillagepr@gmail.com to let the church know what will be brought.

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. 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.

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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

Columnist
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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To contact us, call (818) 248-2740, fax (818) 248-2444
E-mail info@cvweekly.com. Visit the web at www.cvweekly.com
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6:30 PM

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CV WEEKLY ON THE MOVE

Edward Blunnie took the CV Weekly along when he visited Toronto, Canada for the International Film Festival in September. Here he is in Clarence Square near the CN Tower. CV Weekly loves to travel! Take us along on your next trip and send us a photo.
You may find yourselves on the pages of the community's favorite newspaper.

Neda Farid Nominated to the California School Board Delegate Assembly

By Eliza PARTIKA

GUSD board of education member Neda Farid was chosen as the GUSD nominee for the California School Board Association's (CSBA) Delegate Assembly for District 23A.

Glendale Unified School District is part of Subregion 23A of the California School Board Association, one of 13 districts that comprise the region. The GUSD board can nominate a member of its board or someone from its region to the two available seats.

For the past several years, two GUSD board members have been elected to serve terms in the CSBA Delegate Assembly; most recently board members Shant Sahakian and Kathleen Cross.

"I want to thank those 13 school boards who ultimately elect us to these roles," said board of education member Sahakian. "I would love to see a member of our district continue the tradition in representing the 13 districts of 23A." Sahakian will step down at the end of his second term at the close of this year.

"It is my hope you will be advocates for those who need us," added board member Telly Tse.

If elected to the position, Farid will take Sahakian's place next to GUSD board member Kathleen Cross on the CSBA California Delegate Assembly.

The CSBA's Delegate Assembly works with local school districts, county offices and the CSBA board of directors and executive committee to ensure that the association reflects the interests of school districts and county offices of education throughout California.

Farid shared a personal anecdote of her meeting with former board member Jennifer Freemon when they discussed becoming involved with the CSBA. Since then, Farid has met with delegates, spoken with the CSBA and showed


interest in the position.

"People don't realize we have a voice in our district, in our community. I am interested in your consideration," she said. "I feel I have a lot I would like to contribute."

Farid was unanimously declared the nominee by the board.

In its board reports, board members congratulated Farid on her nomination.

"Congratulations to Ms. Farid on her nomination. It's going to be awesome to have you on my side, so let's do it," said board member Cross.



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Public Health Confirms First Flu Death of the Season

U.S. residents are being warned of the possibility of one of the toughest flu seasons in history coming to its shores.

Right now Europe, specifically England, is facing one of the toughest ever winters in its history with an early wave of flu cases being reported.

"Flu rates have started climbing much sooner than usual this year, driven largely by cases in young adults and schoolchildren," according to a report from the British Medical Journal [bmj].

And experts warn that the H3N2 strain, currently the dominant strain in flu cases in England, mutated seven times over the summer, making it more severe than normal, according to the bmj.

There are growing concerns that hospitals will be overwhelmed this winter. Health officials have urged all eligible groups, including people over 65, people with certain longterm conditions, pregnant women, and children, get vaccinated, according to bmj.

According to a report from bmj, the dominant H3N2 strain of influenza mutated multiple times over the summer making it more severe.

Flu cases in Japan have seen an early surge as well leading health authorities to declare an influenza epidemic in October.

According to Scientific America, as of Oct. 10 there were 6,013 cases of influenza reported in Japan, more than 100 schools closed and nearly half of the 287 people who were hospitalized for flu in September were children 14 years old and younger.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the flu activity in the U.S. has remained low but cases are increasing especially among children.

The flu mutation is called "subclade K" and it appears to be the predominant strain globally.

"Because influenza viruses don't need a passport, I

think it's only a matter of time before this strain shows up in the United States," said William Schaffner, MD, an infectious disease specialist and a professor of preventive medicine and health policy at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. "It may even be here now, but because of the government's recent shutdown, we haven't heard much information about flu now for weeks from the CDC."

According to a report from the CDC released in September, "During the 2025 Southern Hemisphere influenza season, seasonal influenza vaccination reduced influenza-association outpatient visits by 50.4% and hospitalization by 49.7%. [Therefore] CDC recommends that all eligible persons aged [greater than] six months receive the seasonal influenza vaccine."

ANSWERS for page 16


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PET OF THE WEEK

CV Weekly loves to hear about your pets! Send a pic and small caption to steve@cvweekly.com to share your lovable pets with the community!

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Notice at Restaurant – Monna by Gev’s

By Mary O’KEEFE

A Notice of Closure was placed on the restaurant Monna by Gev’s in the 3800 block of Ocean View Boulevard in Montrose. The restaurant had only recently opened. It is in the former location of Alissa’s Ocean View Bar and Grill that closed abruptly in December 2024.

According to the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health, Monna by Gev’s was closed on Nov. 7 for “lack of public health permit and failure to submit plans and approval prior to remodeling the food facility.”

“They did not obtain the necessary approvals from the Environmental Health Plan Check Program and Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works, Building & Safety Division. The facility was referred to both departments for guidance on how to obtain the necessary permits,” according to an email response from Public Health.

On its Instagram account the restaurant stated it would be closed for a “few days” and thanked everyone who dined with them and supported them.

“Your warmth and kindness mean the world to us,” the post states.

CVW reached out to the owners/representatives of the restaurant and they stated they had no information at the moment concerning this issue.

There are a few steps that must be taken prior to reopening.

“The owners must contact the Environmental Health Plan Check Program and submit their proposed plans. Plans were submitted on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, as an Expedited Plan Review and reviewed

on Nov. 17, 2025. Initial Plan Review Report with required corrections was issued to the project manager on Nov. 17, 2025,” Public Health stated.

The timeline of opening will depend on how promptly the “project manager addresses the required corrections, resubmits the revised plans to the Environmental Health Plan Check Program and secure(s) all necessary permits from LA County Building and Safety,” Public Health stated.

Once a final inspection is conducted and the plans are approved, with fees paid, the restaurant will be able to open.

The restaurant has received positive reviews from diners and had indoor and outdoor seating.

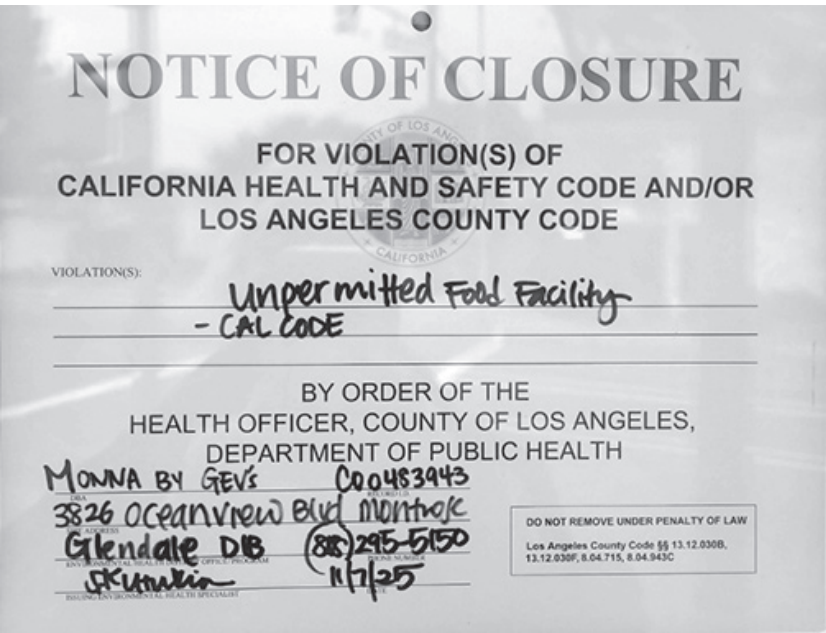


Photo by Rachelle MILLER
A notice of closure was recently posted at the recently opened restaurant Monna by Gev’s.

Defendant Detained in Palisades Fire Case

On Tuesday, United States Magistrate Judge Rozella A. Oliver in Los Angeles ordered Jonathan Rinderknecht – the defendant charged with starting what became the Palisades Fire in January 2025 – detained. This means he will remain in federal custody without bond while the criminal case against him is pending.

No additional comment was released.

CRIME BLOTTER

NOV. 15
2300 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, when a couple returned home they found the front door was unlocked; they had secured the door before they left the location. The kitchen window was also open. The bedroom had been ransacked and several items were stolen between noon and 11:30 p.m.

NOV. 13
5500 block of Godbey Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman had parked her vehicle in the parking lot across from the pool at the business location. When she returned and used the key

fob to open her door she realized the unlocking mechanism did not sound the same. She found that someone had entered her vehicle and got into the glove box, damaging it.

The theft occurred between 3:45 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

NOV. 10
3000 block of Brookhill Street in La Crescenta, a man reported that he had parked his work truck at the location and went to speak to the resident about work that was to be done. He left the truck

unlocked. When he returned he noticed the rear doors of the vehicle were open and a white Mercedes vehicle speeding off westbound on Brookhill Street. He found that numerous tools from inside his truck were gone. Surveillance footage revealed a white four-door Mercedes approached the truck. The driver, described as a male Hispanic (Suspect 1) wearing a grey shirt, black pants and a yellow caution vest, exited the Mercedes and grabbed items from the rear of the victim’s truck.

Another person, Suspect 2, described as a male Hispanic wearing a black shirt, red pants and a yellow caution vest, exited the rear driver’s side door. Suspect 2 entered the rear of the truck, out of view of the camera.

The theft occurred between 9:30 a.m. and 9:33 a.m.

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

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Obituary
Lawrence “Van” Van Avery

March 4, 1941 - Oct. 26, 2025

Lawrence “Van” Van Avery was born in Highland Park, Michigan on March 4, 1941, and passed away on Oct. 26 in Glendale at the age of 84.

He left high school prematurely and in August 1958 began his four-plus years in the U.S. Marine Corps, completing his GED while serving. After his release he began his 30-plus-year career with Los Angeles County serving as a typist clerk, computer operator, programmer and senior programmer, finishing as an Information Systems

manager. He also obtained his degree from Compton Community College in the process. Van was very proud of his accomplishments and grateful for the opportunities he was given.

In 1960 Van married his first wife Johnneta Lake and they went on to have two children: Donna and Kristen. Sadly, in 1989 Van lost her after a long battle with cancer. In 1992 Van married Dolores Ortiz and became a stepdad to Celina, Richard and Olivia.

In 1992 Van retired and spent 20-plus years in volunteer service to For The Child, a child abuse agency in Long Beach, California receiving several awards for his efforts.

He and Dolores traveled extensively visiting Europe and frequenting Mexico. They also bought an RV and toured the United States and Canada.

Van loved music, good food and all sports. He encouraged all to have special interests in their lives, especially music.

On the downside, in 2012 Van was diagnosed with throat cancer, which was quickly cured. In 2016 he was again diagnosed with the incurable

cancer multiple myeloma, which was placed in deep remission until his death. He also had five procedures for skin cancer.

Van is preceded in death by his first wife Johnneta; father Charles; mother Mary; sister Betty. He is survived by his current wife Dolores; daughters Donna Green (Ken) and Kristen Bichlmeier, and their children Tyler, Jenna, Joseph and Amy (Sam); sister Judy. He also leaves his stepchildren Celina (Greg), Richard (Evelyn) and Olivia and step-grandchildren Kayla, Maxton and Kash as well as many other family members and friends.

Finally, in 1989 Van found Jesus Christ and became a parishioner at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Montrose where he practiced his faith until his death. He always thanked Jesus Christ for his faith and for walking by his side on his life journey.

Any donations should be made to the American Cancer Society, the Johnneta Van Avery Memorial Scholarship at Glendale Community College or For The Child in Long Beach, California.

LA Food Bank Benefits from CVHS Robotics



On Saturday, members of the Crescenta Valley High School robotics team stood out in the rain to collect groceries that were then donated to the LA Food Bank. “Coach Heather,” one of the main robotics coaches, supervised the event.
Submitted by Michelle LEDER

Deadline Approaching for Toy Drive at CV Sheriff Station

By Mary O’KEEFE

The Toy and Food Drive at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station has begun. Anyone who would like to support local families can donate unwrapped toys for ages from newborn to 17 years old and non-perishable food items.

“Your generous contributions benefit families in need within our community and support the Spark of Love Toy Drive,” according to a CV Sheriff’s spokesman.

Donations can be dropped off at the CV Sheriffs Station, 4554 Briggs Ave. The deadline to drop off items is Dec. 5.

“Know a family who could use a little extra holiday cheer? Nominate them to receive food and toy donations through our program,” according to the CV Station.

To be considered, the family must reside in the station’s service area, which serves zip codes 91214, 91020, 91042, 91011, 91012 (Big Tujunga Canyon Road) and 91342 (CV Station Area Only).

To nominate a family find the form at <https://forms.office.com/g/srNKrrYzcS> or complete the form that can be found in the lobby at the CV Sheriff Station.

For more information about the program, contact Deputy Chun or Deputy Aleksanyan at (818) 236-4021.

“A heartfelt thank you to our incredible station volunteers who make this event possible each year. Their hard work allows us to serve even more families in need,” according to the CV Station.

GUSD Approves New Cellphone Policy

Glendale Unified School District board of education approved a new mobile communications policy at its meeting on Nov. 18.

The policy had been in the works for months as Board members discussed revisions and received feedback from the Glendale Teachers’ Association, students and community members. The newest iteration of the policy is included at the end of the meeting agenda report, accessible on the GUSD website.

The policy has different requirements for communication devices based on grade level, as requested by community feedback.

At the elementary and middle school levels, the policy permits limited use of mobile communications devices, including smartphones, smart watches and other wearable communications devices in four scenarios: during emergencies, when a teacher or administrator grants the student permission to use the device, when the possession of the device is required for a student’s individualized education plan (IEP) or when a licensed physician determines the possession or use of the device is medically necessary, such as with mobile phone apps that track insulin levels. Otherwise, devices are to remain shut off in backpacks or in school-provided classroom cellphone holders.

In high school, teachers and parents/guardians to develop school-wide policies that work for each school site.

Smartphones are not to be used to infringe on the privacy rights of another person or to engage in illegal activity. The GUSD superintendent can undertake actions, within the law, to limit student access to smartphones and other mobile communication devices on all school sites.

“The responsible use of mobile communication devices should be taught in a developmentally appropriate manner based on current research, best practices, state and federal guidance, and District policies and regulations,” reads the revised report.

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The Glendale Teachers Association is currently accepting applications for GTA’s Political Action Committee endorsement process for Glendale Unified School District school board candidates only. If you intend to be a candidate for GUSD School Board Area B, C or D and want to be considered for an interview for GTA endorsement, please submit your application form by end of day, Friday, December 5.


The form to apply can be found at www.glendaleteachers.org.

For inquiries contact vicepresident@glendaleteachers.org

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Updates on the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project

The La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project has made major safety improvements over the last few months. For example, 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. 21 (excludes weekends and holidays)

Description of Work

- Contractor performing sanitary sewer main upgrades.
- Contractor restoring landscaping at various locations.

Please observe posted construction signage and drive safely near construction zones.

**Construction activity and closures are subject to change.*

About the Project

The La Crescenta Avenue

Rehabilitation Project is a comprehensive infrastructure improvement effort designed to enhance safety, accessibility and mobility for all roadway users. The project includes pavement rehabilitation, upgraded traffic signals, new fiber optic infrastructure, stormwater bio-retention facilities and pedestrian improvements to meet ADA standards.

In its final phase, the project will implement a new striping layout that incorporates bike lanes, improved crosswalks, a new two-way center turn lane and one travel lane in each direction to create a safer, more balanced corridor for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. These enhancements are part of the City of Glendale’s commitment to long-term roadway safety and sustainability.

Construction notifications and updates will be posted regularly on the City’s project website and via email. GlendaleCA.gov/LaCrescentaRehab

Grant Issued to BPD Targets Traffic Safety

The Burbank Police Dept. has received a \$190,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to support enhanced traffic enforcement and education programs aimed at reducing serious injuries and fatalities on local roads. The grant program will run through September 2026.

“We are grateful to receive this grant, which strengthens our traffic enforcement efforts and helps make our roads safer for everyone,” said Lieutenant Emil Brimway. “Through a combination of education and enforcement, our goal is to

reduce dangerous driving behaviors, prevent crashes and protect all road users.”

The grant will support a variety of programs and initiatives, including:

- DUI checkpoints and patrols targeting impaired drivers
- High visibility distracted driving enforcement, focusing on California’s hands-free cellphone law
- Enforcement operations addressing behaviors that put bicyclists and pedestrians at risk
- Targeted enforcement of top crash-causing violations including speeding,

failure to yield, stop sign and red-light violations, and unsafe lane changes or turns

- Community presentations on traffic safety topics such as distracted driving, impaired driving, speeding and pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Collaborative enforcement efforts with neighboring agencies
- Officer training and recertification, including Standard Field Sobriety Test (SFST), Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) and Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) programs

- “Know Your Limit” campaigns and motorcycle safety enforcement operations

“Through focused traffic enforcement and education, we are working toward a future where everyone can travel safely on California roads,” said OTS Director Stephanie Dougherty. “By encouraging people to prioritize safety in their daily choices, we are fostering a strong road safety culture together.”

This program is funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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PLAID FRIDAY from Cover

and it encourages shoppers to wear plaid to support independent shops.

The following day is Small Business Saturday, which many merchants in the shopping park are celebrating.

“Small Business Saturday is the opportunity for the community to support their friends, neighbors and family members who work at these ‘Main Street’ brick-and-mortar stores,” said Maureen Palacios, owner of Once Upon A Time (OUAT) bookstore at 2207 Honolulu Ave. “The small businesses that make up the Montrose Shopping Park offer unique, personally curated and displayed gift items, books and other delights that [aren’t always found] at big box stores. Our laid back, hometown vibe is much more conducive to personal shopping as OUAT, and many other stores, offer free gift wrapping too. Shopping small takes the hassle out of the holidays as we genuinely care about our customers and try to find ‘just the right gift’ for everyone.”

She added that OUAT is going to give a spin on its famous wheel with purchase. Items to “win” on the wheel include a gift card, a free Advanced Readers Copy book, chocolate, stickers, an OUAT mug and other fun stuff.

“We’re also giving a free chocolate goodie with a \$50-plus purchase,” she said adding that those who purchase \$100 or more will get a free gift with purchase. “We also have five authors [on Nov. 29] meeting and greeting their fans.”

Small Business Saturday was started in 2010 by American Express, which wanted to drive consumer spending at small businesses, according to its website.

“Approximately 12 businesses contribute gift packages, gift cards and certificates as well as Montrose scrip and signature Christmas tote bags that can be won on the [shopping park] spinning wheel [on Nov. 29],” said Dale Dawson, Montrose Shopping Park Association business administrator/events coordinator.

Dawson went on to say that free horse-drawn trolley rides will be offered to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. from Nov. 29 to Dec. 21 (except Parade Day on Dec. 6).

Santa Claus will be found handing out candy canes to passersby at the northwest corner of Honolulu and Ocean View from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays from Nov. 29 to

Dec. 21.

For the equestrian, every Saturday from Nov. 29 to Dec. 21 there will be free to the public pony rides from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Live Christmas music will be performed in every block each Saturday and Sunday from Nov. 29 to Dec. 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

He added the shopping park’s “now-famous” spinning wheel will be located on the northwest corner on Nov. 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Our spinning wheel will feature Shopping Park merchants’ giveaways, specials & prizes – while they last,” he said.

Spins are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. when shoppers present a receipt from any Montrose Shopping Park business dated Nov. 29. One spin is earned with receipt(s) totaling \$50 or more, two spins for receipt(s) totaling \$100 or more.

For more information, visit www.shopmontrose.com.

“Needing to place an Obituary or Memorium for a loved one?”

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In addition, there is a residential aspect for Transitional Age Youth [TAY] of the development that would set aside 25 apartment units for people from 18 to 26 years old with juveniles as part of

But the reality is we all can help by simply controlling our waste. Making sure that our trash is placed in trash receptacles, using reusable water bottles and being aware of what we purchase and how we can reuse items instead of throwing them out are just a

“Your science teacher was right. Plants absorb CO₂ and produce oxygen through photosynthesis. About one-third of land photosynthesis occurs in tropical forests and the Amazon rainforest is the largest tropical forest on Earth. But the cycle doesn’t stop there: almost all [about half] of the oxygen produced by plants is consumed by the plant itself [and the other half] by microbial organisms and insects as they decompose plant material. Forest fires also consume oxygen. As a result, the net production of oxygen by land ecosystems is close to zero (Malhi, 2019),” according to <https://www.biodiversity.ox.ac>.

In general, developers are responsible for the installation of water and sewer pipes connecting the new development to existing CVWD pipes. In cases where upgrades are needed to water and sewer pipes to accommodate the development, the project developer would be responsible for the construction costs. In addition, if new fire hydrants are required, the developer would also be responsible for the construction costs," stated CVWD. "All proposed development projects within CVWD's boundaries undergo an evaluation for water and sewer capacity. Based on the development size, developers pay fees to cover a portion of investment into the

My point is look into the washes and along the streets and the trash that is there; watch as it floats down to the storm drains – destined to end at the beach and the ocean. So be aware and be concerned because what happens in Crescenta Valley does not always stay in Crescenta Valley.

“In addition, the District prepares an Urban Water Management Plan every five years to project future demand based upon many factors, such as projected growth, conservation, zoning. The District does not recalculate individual customer billing based on population growth; however, the existing tiered rate structure takes into account groundwater and imported water costs. For Single Family Residential customers, Tier 1 includes local groundwater supply; Tier 2 is served by a mix of supply sources; and Tier 3 is served entirely by more

To view the entire report, visit www.cvweekly.com/NEWS.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Frank and Ollie – Disney Legends Who Lived in Flintridge

Anyone who loves animation, and in particular Disney animation, has heard the term “Disney’s nine old men.” This was the original group of animators that Walt Disney hired in the 1920s and ’30s who, all the way into the 1980s, were the bedrock of Disney’s animation teams. They were responsible for the magic world of Disney classics such as “Fantasia” and “Bambi.” Two of the most famous of the nine were Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston, who both lived with their families for decades on adjoining properties in La Cañada Flintridge.

Both men were aspiring artists in the 1920s, attending various art schools. They met in 1931 and immediately hit it off. Ollie was the first of the two to be hired by Disney in 1934, followed by Frank the next year. They both started with Disney’s short cartoons but in 1937 dove into animating “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” followed by “Pinocchio,” “Fantasia” and “Bambi” continuing on through all of the Disney greats.

They were both innovators at bringing life to their characters. The iconic spaghetti eating scene from “Lady and the Tramp?” That was Frank Thomas’ work, as was Bambi and Thumper slipping on the icy pond and the dwarves sobbing over Snow White’s lifeless body. Ollie Johnston is best known for Baloo and Mowgli dancing to “The Bare Necessities” in the “Jungle Book” and the character of Mr. Smee in “Peter Pan.” They were amazing artists!

In the late 1940s Frank and Ollie together purchased a three-acre plot in Flintridge and divided it in half, so they and their families could be neighbors. Ollie and his wife’s house was designed in a modernist style by famed architect Cliff May. Ollie was a steam train enthusiast and in 1949 built a small model railway in his yard he named the La Cañada Valley Railway.

Here’s where La Cañada figures in Disneyland history: Walt Disney visited Ollie’s tiny home railroad several times. Walt became fascinated with it and built one in his backyard. He was determined to have a railroad in his new Disneyland; thus the Disneyland Railway, which exists today, was inspired by Ollie’s La Cañada train. (BTW, Frank and Ollie also bought vacation property in Julian, California where Ollie built a larger backyard railway. A small section of that track still remains at that vacation home, now an Airbnb.) Next door to Ollie’s La Cañada house, Frank and Jeanette Thomas hired Mid-Century Modern architect Ted Criley Jr. to design a beautiful home on their half of the property.

Sadly, when new owners bought the Ollie Johnston property around 2008 they demolished the house and the model railway. That inspired the owners of Frank Thomas’ house next door to ensure that it would never happen to Frank’s house. They had it listed on the National Register of Historic Places and placed a conservation easement on the lot, which would make it very difficult to develop. Thanks to that the Frank Thomas home still exists at 758 Flintridge Ave.

Both Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston retired from Disney in 1978. But as a team they continued to inspire future animators with lectures and teaching and by producing a number of books on animation, including “Disney Animation – The Illusion of Life,” which is considered the bible of animation. They were Disney legends, royalty even, and they lived right here in La Cañada Flintridge. And of course they were immortalized in modern Disney animation, the hit movie “The Incredibles.” In the final battle scene in the Pixar film, two old men stand to one side, watching the action. One says to the other, “That’s old school.” The other replies, “Yeah, no school like the old school.” Those are caricatures of Frank and Ollie, and the two men even provided their own voices for the scene, just before their deaths in 2004 and 2008 respectively.

A beautiful documentary about the two was written, produced and directed by Frank Thomas’ son Theodore Thomas. It can be seen on the Disney Channel and Amazon Prime Video.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regarding the Development at Briggs & Foothill

The proposal to build a five-story 80-unit project with 80 parking spaces at Briggs and Foothill has the inherent disadvantages of being too large with insufficient parking. This will contribute to the already limited parking and high traffic at that location created by three nearby schools, a busy park, the sheriff’s station and steep narrow streets. The potential for evacuations in this high fire hazard area with limited ingress/egress exacerbates the potential threat to life and property.

In addition to these physical issues, the developer will be designating 25 units for TAY (Transitional Age Youth – 18 to 25 years) tenants. This development will remain a transitional living facility for the LA County Dept. of Mental Health for the life of the building. The LACDMH website states within the TAY program, “Priority populations include the following:

- * TAY struggling with substance abuse disorders
- * TAY who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- * TAY aging out of children’s mental health, child welfare or juvenile justice systems
- * TAY leaving long-term institutional care
- * TAY experiencing their first episode of major mental illness

The size of the “designated” units is unknown; however, per information stated by Abode, a partner in the project, “occupancy standards” per unit size can vary from three to seven occupants, possibly bringing the total of TAY residents to a maximum of 175 persons.

see LETTERS on page 18

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

3E Event Draws Community Women
Looking To Reconnect, Refuel and Renew



By Ruth SOWBY

“Back in 2013, I had a dream – to create a sanctuary where women could press pause on the chaos, silence the noise and finally ... just Be,” said certified clinical hypnotherapist Liza Boubari. That “sanctuary” was found at Glendale’s Embassy Suites. Some150 women gathered to “reignite their spark and remember their worth,” according

to Boubari. The 10th anniversary of 3E’s – Evoke, Embrace and Evolve – was held on Saturday, Nov. 8. The program began with a welcome by KTLA’s Ellina Abovian who shared her story of immigrating to the U.S. as a refugee and her journey to become a news anchor at the station she grew up watching. As the day’s emcee, Abovian introduced each speaker – Boubari, internist Dr. Hanriet Minassian, executive coach Craig Bruce, life coach

Melanie Soloway and motivation speakers David Fagan and Ghosson Alhaled. Collectively, they taught their audience how to be healthy and wealthy. Healing Circles, where participants got a chance to learn a little about each other, added further motivation to “reach out.” A buffet lunch and afternoon activities followed. The day-long seminar ended with Boubari’s on-stage conversations

Photos by Ruth SOWBY
TOP LEFT: 3E Event and HealWithin Founder Liza Boubari, right, is joined by mother Mary Boubari and KTLA anchor Ellina Abovian.
TOP RIGHT: Executive coach Craig Bruce joins a 3E Event Healing Circle. 3E Event founder and clinical hypnotherapist Liza Boubari is in center, in blue.
BOTTOM LEFT: 3E Event speakers and honorees with their commendations are flanked by KTLA anchor Ellina Abovian, left, and 3E Event founder Liza Boubari.
ABOVE: Motivation speaker David Fagan and clinical hypnotherapist Liza Boubari (behind Fagan) are joined by a group of 3E Event participants at Glendale’s Embassy Suites.
Nasseri, Anet Collection CEO Anet Abnous, and LA political veteran and consultant Baydsar Thomasian. Cecelia Walker.
“I learned to let go of expectations and remember my worth,” she said. “I have more energy, too.”

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Assistance League of Glendale Hosts A&I Event at Dunsmore Elementary

Assistance League of Glendale visited Dunsmore Elementary School on Monday, Nov. 10 to bring the Authors and Illustrators (A&I) program. The Assistance League hires the author and/or illustrator to visit the classrooms to encourage students to read, write and create pictures.

Visiting authors were Molly Ruttan who presented her book “Something Wild” for the kindergartens. David Shannon presented his books about David to the first and second grades. Larissa Theule presented her books, including “Kafka and the Doll,” for the third and fourth grades. The upper grade author, Karina Evans, will present on Dec. 1 as she found herself with COVID on the morning of Nov. 10 and had to postpone.

The presentations are always captivating and the authors go the “extra mile” to entertain and motivate the students. Ruttan brought her violin and encouraged the students to create their art with music. Her drawings were donated to the classes. Thirty eight of the various authors’ books were donated to the library for students to check out, plus Assistance League of Glendale gave \$2500 to the school library to buy whatever books it needs.

The Assistance League of Glendale visits four schools a year; it takes several years to visit all the schools in the Glendale Unified School District. The next school to visit will be to Marshall Elementary School on Dec. 16.

Funds come from community donations to the Assistance League of Glendale’s Thrift Alley, a thrift shop located at 314 E. Harvard St. It’s open Wednesday thru Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



GMHHC Ranked High by Healthgrades

Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center (GMHHC) has been recognized by Healthgrades, ranking five-star ratings in three specialties, including the 2026 Coronary Intervention Excellence Award. These distinctions, based on rigorous, third-party evaluations of patient outcomes and safety data, provide the community with transparent insights into GMHHC’s consistent delivery of high-quality hospital care.


“Our hospital’s distinguished five-star specialty rankings directly reflects GMHHC’s pursuit of clinical excellence,” stated Betsy Hart, hospital president and CEO. “Glendale Memorial has been a cornerstone of care in the community. This honor assures our residents that advanced, safe and personalized care is available right here. Our dedicated physicians, nurses and staff integrate innovations and humankindness into every aspect of care to ensure the best possible outcomes.”

GMHHC’s dedication to superior patient care is consistently validated through independent assessments. The hospital has achieved five-star ratings for cardiac care, gastrointestinal and orthopedics, in addition to Healthgrades’ 2026 Coronary Intervention Excellence Award.

“These distinctions are more than just awards; they are a transparent testament to our hospital’s unwavering commitment to our community’s well-being,” added Hart. “They assure our patients that choosing Glendale Memorial means choosing a facility built on trust, dedicated to the highest standards of safety, clinical expertise, and compassionate care.”

Healthgrades evaluated risk-adjusted mortality and complication rates across approximately 4,500 hospitals nationwide.

To learn more about Glendale Memorial’s award-winning care, visit dignityhealth.org/glendale.

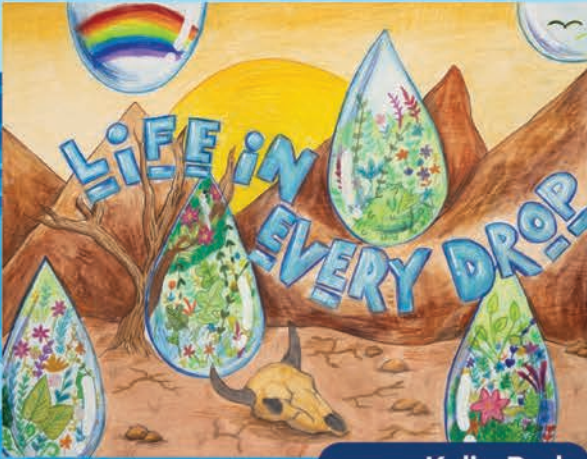


2026

Water is Life

Student Art Calendar Winners

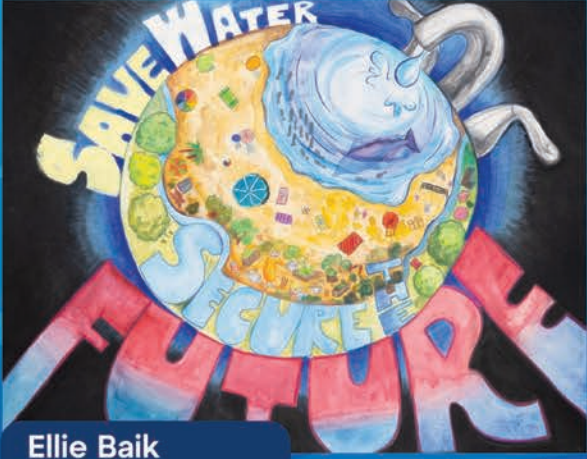
Foothill Municipal Water District (FMWD) is excited to announce the two talented students from the District’s service area have been selected as winners for the 2026 Metropolitan Water District “Being Water Wise Is” Student Art Calendar Contest.



Kylie Park

4th Grade

La Canada Elementary



Ellie Baik

5th Grade

Monte Vista Elementary

For additional information on rebates, please visit SocalWaterSmart.com

Questions About Today’s Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis! Motivation For Recommended Vendors

Dear Phyllis,

I am going to be listing my home for sale soon. The Realtor I interviewed suggested making some minor repairs to my home. She had a lot of recommendations for the front yard and pushed her preferred gardener. The way she pushed him made me uneasy. Also, she has a painter and a handyman she prefers. I liked that she wants to help prepare my home for sale. However, I felt that she might have some motivation for nearly insisting on my using her vendors. It almost felt like she had a financial incentive. You have been a Realtor for many years and I wanted your input on her motivation for her recommended vendors.

— Concerned

Dear Concerned,

Thank you for reaching out. I appreciate your thoughtful question and completely understand your hesitation.

First, I do think it’s a positive sign that the Realtor you interviewed wants to help prepare your home for sale. It shows she’s invested in helping you achieve the best possible outcome. Strategic repairs and improvements often result in a higher price and a faster sale.

It’s natural to wonder if there could be financial motivation. While I can’t speak to her specific intentions, I can share that many experienced agents do have a network of trusted professionals they rely on—not because they receive compensation, but because they know the quality of work, responsiveness, and reliability those vendors provide. That consistency helps ensure a smoother process for everyone involved.


When it comes to the gardener, it’s worth considering that if your current gardener hasn’t been maintaining the yard to listing-ready standards, it may not make sense to entrust them with the front yard improvements. Many agents, myself included, prefer to use a landscaper they trust and who can also maintain the work throughout the listing period. It’s less about financial gain and more about peace of mind.

I’d recommend getting at least one additional bid for comparison for the painter and handyman. That way, you’ll feel confident that you’re making informed decisions based on both quality and cost.

Ultimately, you should feel comfortable and confident in your Realtor and her recommended team. A good agent will support your desire to explore options and should be open to answering any questions you have about their recommendations.

Warm regards.

Phyllis




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COLDWELL BANKER HALLMARK

People Making News

Crescenta Valley Insurance announced the addition of Michael Magnuson as the newest member of its insurance team. Magnuson is a licensed property & casualty insurance agent with a strong record of developing customized solutions for individuals, families and businesses.

Sarah Dea of La Cañada Flintridge earned a spot on the Dean’s List for the summer 2025 semester at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have earned a 3.0 or higher academic average for the semester.

The Georgia Institute of Technology, or Georgia Tech, is one of the top public research universities in the U.S., developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

The Institute offers business, computing, design, engineering, liberal arts and sciences degrees, as well as professional development and K-12 programs for fostering success at every stage of life. Its more than 53,000 undergraduate and graduate students represent 54 U.S. states and territories and more than 146 countries. They study at the main campus in Atlanta, at instructional sites around the world and through distance and online learning.

For more information, visit

gatech.edu.

Dalien Tran of La Cañada Flintridge was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at University of Southern California.

Tran is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5% of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 and recognizes excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to “cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning.”

Amanda Molder of La Crescenta graduated from UW/Madison – College of Agricultural & Life Sciences as a doctor of philosophy, mass communications.

» TASTY TREATS » CHEF RANDY

Grilled Peach, Brie and Basil Sandwich

This simple and tasty sandwich will help you get into the groove of outdoor grilling. Give this grilled peach, brie and basil sandwich a try this weekend.

Makes 1 sandwich.

- Ingredients:
- 1/2 peach
 - Extra-virgin olive oil (for brushing the peach prior to grilling)
 - 2 slices fresh whole-grain bread
 - 2 tablespoons ghee (for outside of bread)
 - 2 ounces double cream brie cheese (sliced)
 - 3 large leaves of fresh basil
 - 1 tablespoon honey (to drizzle)

- Directions:
- Heat the grill on medium-high heat.
 - Cut the peach in half and remove the pit. Brush a

- little olive oil on one peach half and place cut side down on the grill. Grill for four minutes and remove. Peel and then cut into ¼-inch thick slices. Set aside.
- Spread one tablespoon of ghee on the outside of each slice of bread. Assemble the sandwich by layering

- brie, peach slices and basil. Drizzle with honey and top with the remaining slice of bread, ghee side up.
- Place the sandwich on the grill and cook for two minutes on each side or until the cheese melts. Remove from the grill and cut in half before serving.



Meet Our Advertisers

Crescenta Valley Water District

Many homes and businesses in the Crescenta Valley have service provided by the Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD). Long considered a neighborhood resource, CVWD takes very seriously its role of providing water and related services to the Crescenta Valley and works hard to keep customer costs as low as possible.

“In FY 2024-25, CVWD imported 44% of its water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project, while 56% of the water was locally sourced. Imported water relies on infrastructure from Northern California and the Colorado River, which is very costly, and that cost is expected to increase by 22%-40%-plus over the next two years,” said Arminé Sargsyan, senior water resources and external affairs specialist, CVWD. “To offset the costs, CVWD pre-purchased imported water earlier this year from MWD, in effect making water more affordable for ratepayers in the long run. Additionally, the District, in partnership with a local non-profit, the Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy, constructed its first stormwater project at the Rosemont Preserve last year, saving water from flowing out to the ocean. The District plans on expanding its stormwater capture portfolio in the coming year to combat rising costs of imported water and to increase its reliability on local groundwater resources.

“So, local water is important from an economic standpoint. Local control is also important. For example, the District is pursuing in-house pipeline (as opposed to contracted work) to provide more economical service. Another example is the District’s commitment to removing contaminants like PFAS from the water beyond state and federal regulatory requirements. Ultimately, we believe that these kinds of decisions allowed by local autonomy best serve the public interest.”

Sargsyan acknowledged that being a local water provider can be challenging.

“There are numerous aspects to being a local water provider. CVWD manages the costs of imported water, limited resources for infrastructure repair, aging pipeline, and other funding gap needed for infrastructure repairs and available funds,” she said. “There is great focus on emergency preparedness, whether for

fires or earthquakes, and there is great effort on everything from local tabletop exercises among local agencies to influencing legislation in Sacramento to further common-sense solutions and policies. There are challenges with limited resources and also the community understanding the complexity of best serving the public. It is ultimately important for the community we serve to understand and/or appreciate what goes into providing the service, and the educational component of the effort is a significant challenge and opportunity. The CVWD team has developed a very active and robust public outreach program over the last couple of years. Thank you for creating this space to continue sharing the value of safe, reliable water and wastewater services.”

Getting out their messages regarding water safety, the various programs it hosts, like the Everbridge Alert Program and WaterSmart program, are important goals of the District.

“The District communicates with customers via social media, e-blasts, door hangers, phone calls, office hours and bill inserts. That all said, the most reliable and consistent forum is the local paper, which pairs well with the emphasis on local water and wastewater delivery. Community focus, benefit and value are mission-centric for both the CV Weekly and CVWD. CV Weekly is a trusted source for news and a pillar of the community, ensuring that critical information reaches everyone, and CVWD is grateful for such a presence along the Foothills community.”



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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Violinist Ken Aiso and Pianist Valeria Morgovskaya Play Ysaye & Enescu

The free admission Glendale Noon Concerts series has live performances in the sanctuary of Glendale City Church, 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

On Dec. 3, the Glendale Noon Concerts will feature violinist Ken Aiso and pianist Valeria Morgovskaya performing works by Eugène Ysaÿe and George Enescu.

The program on Dec. 3 is from 12:10 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. The duo will perform Eugène Ysaÿe’s (Belgian, 1858-1931) “Sonata #3 op. 27” (Ballade) for solo violin, George Enescu (Romanian, 1881-1955) “Sonata #3 op. 25” for violin & piano, “Moderato malinconio,” “Andante sostenuto e misterioso” and “Allegro con brio ma non troppo mosso.”

Internationally acclaimed violinist/violist Ken Aiso has performed worldwide as soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. Aiso graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London studying with Erich Gruenberg. His other teachers include Eduard Schmieder and Chikashi Tanaka. Equally at home with modern and period instruments,

Aiso has appeared as principal violin with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the London Philharmonic, the Hallé and the Scottish Chamber Orchestras. He has been invited to renowned music festivals in UK, France, Sweden, Switzerland, India, Georgia, Bolivia and Kazakhstan, and has taught at Montecito Summer Music Festival since 2008. Aiso is a laureate of Long-Thibaud International Competition in Paris and International Music Competition of Japan, and was elected associate of Royal Academy of Music in London. He received Shimousa Kan-ichi Music Award in his native Japan in 2018. Since moving to Los Angeles in 2015, Aiso has been serving as faculty at Loyola Marymount and La Sierra Universities, and performs with Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Valeria Morgovskaya, pianist, graduated from the Kiev State Conservatory. Since her immigration to the U.S. in 1990, Morgovskaya has been in high demand as accompanist for singers and all orchestral instrumentalists. She has

been an official accompanist to festivals and courses such as Piatigorsky Cello Seminar and Beverly Hills Music Festival, and has performed throughout the U.S., Germany and Japan, as well as on numerous radio broadcast. She has provided accompaniment for many national and international competitions and was an official accompanist at Schoenfeld International String Competition in Hong Kong (2013) and Harbin (2014). Morgovskaya is currently staff accompanist at Loyola Marymount University and UCLA, and is often engaged in that capacity at USC, Cal State Long Beach, Colburn School, Montecito International Music Festival, Academy of the West and Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts.

Glendale Noon Concerts is celebrating its 18th year of presenting free admission concerts every first and third Wednesday for Glendale and the Southland community.

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



Ken Aiso and Valeria Morgovskaya

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts Announces 2026 Home

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts announced its 2026 Pasadena Showcase House of Design, one of the oldest, largest and most successful home and garden tours in the country. Now in its 61st year, the Showcase House chosen is Baldwin Oaks Estate, a residence in Arcadia that was once owned by Clara Baldwin Stocker, the eldest daughter of Elias Jackson Baldwin, known as “Lucky.” A wealthy pioneer, Lucky Baldwin is credited with the development of Arcadia as well as some of the surrounding

areas. This highly significant house is known not only for its storied owner, but also for its significant architectural style, making it a true treasure of the past.

Built as a shingle-style home in 1907, the style is closely associated with the American Arts and Crafts movement. Typical features of the shingle-style home include the shingles surrounding the exterior, a roofline with multiple gables, a prominent front wraparound porch and the use of natural materials such as local stone. With more than

8,000 square feet of living space, the home is set behind California oak trees, which stand ready to greet visitors as they travel up the circular driveway. Approaching the expansive wraparound porch set with magnificent stonework, ticket holders will be welcomed into another era of early 20th century luxury and grandeur. Opening the door, the breathtaking grand entryway features a stunning sweeping oak staircase. Oak beams and paneling appear throughout the first floor that includes a grand

living room, a library, family room, dining room, entertainment room, kitchen, pantry, laundry room and mudroom. Upstairs are five expansive bedrooms, some with fireplaces and their own bathrooms, all creating an elegant and gracious living environment.

The home sits on nearly two acres of park-like grounds with the native oaks sharing space with pine, camphor and palm trees. A gazebo and outdoor kitchen overlook a pool with a pool bath and changing rooms. Rose gardens, fruit trees

and expansive lawns complete the property.

Clara Baldwin Stocker inherited a fortune from her famous father and was well known for her elaborate lifestyle, earning the nickname of “The Diamond Princess” for her love of jewels and extravagant spending. She made Baldwin Oaks Estates a center for lavish parties and entertained with many of her guests from the entertainment and sports worlds. Her parties were legendary, with some lasting for several days.

see SHOWCASE on page 15

THEN & NOW



Then: In 1949, famed Disney animator Ollie Johnston built a model railway in his yard in Flintridge. The train set was named the La Cañada Valley Railway. Walt Disney, shown here with Ollie’s train, was a frequent visitor and was enamored with the train. The Disneyland Railway at Disneyland was inspired by Ollie’s model train.

Ollie Johnston’s Railroad Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Now: In about 2008, Ollie Johnston’s house was sold. The new owners tore down the architecturally significant Cliff May-designed Mid-century Modern house and took out the railway to build this mansion. Ollie’s model train station was saved and is now in Griffith Park.

ReflectSpace Presents: Viajero Del Tiempo/Time Traveler

ReflectSpace is hosting a solo exhibition of first-generation Colombian-American artist Carolyn Castaño through Feb. 1. Born, raised and educated in California, Castaño's work reflects her experience as the daughter of immigrants – iterative, interdisciplinary – moving drawings and paintings from the two-dimensional flatness of paper or canvas to digitally printed fabric, to videos that incorporate animated drawings, to furniture pieces, to nail decals featured within the larger context of a video.

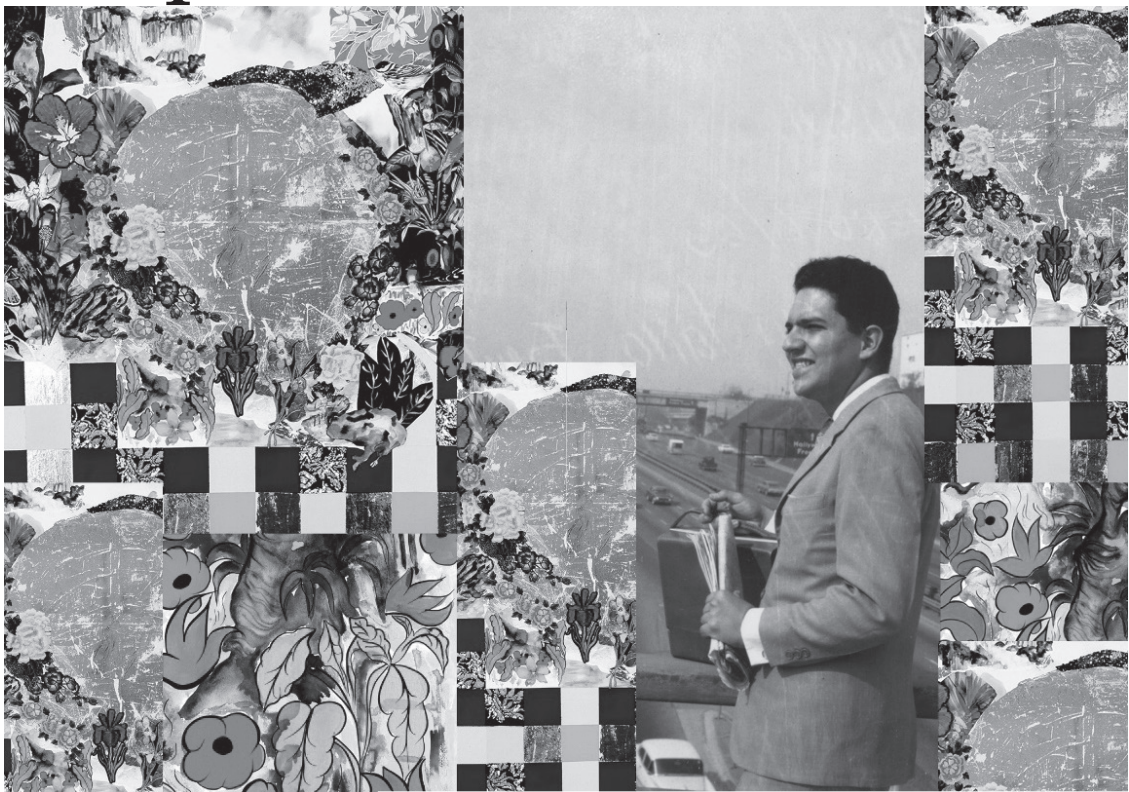
In Viajero del Tiempo/Time Traveler, Castaño draws on her late father's photographic archive – comprising 4,000 photographs, films, and videos – to consider the fragility and ephemerality of memory and identity. The pictures in the exhibition are juxtaposed next to drawings of the landscape (inspired by Alexander von Humboldt's landscapes and botanical studies) to consider how the land figures in the

trajectory and memory of the migrant/immigrant.

The exhibition will include archives, mixed media work as well as work from Castaño's "Future Ruana" series that is named after the humble woolen poncho worn in the Andes and used as a multipurpose, utilitarian object.

Complementing Castaño's work, the PassageWay will feature photographs by young women from the Las Fotos Project – an organization that elevates the voices of teenage girls and gender-expansive youth from communities of color through photography and mentoring. Viajero del Tiempo/Time Traveler is curated by Ara and Anahid Oshagan.

Recent solo exhibitions of her work include Craft Contemporary and the Orange County Museum of Art. Her work has been featured in group exhibitions LACMA and the 56th Venice Biennale. Castaño is a professor of drawing and painting at Long Beach City



College and holds degrees from the San Francisco Art Institute and UCLA.

Exhibiting artists will participate in an artist talk on Thursday, Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m.;

Image provided by ReflectSpace
Carolyn Castaño, composite image: Father standing over Hollywood Fwy, inkjet print reproduction, 1961/Mantel, mixed-media on canvas, variable dimensions, 2020-2022

more information can be found at ReflectSpace.org.
ReflectSpace/Glendale

Central Library is located in the Glendale Central Library at 222 E. Harvard St. in Glendale.

‘The Prince of Egypt: the Musical’ Coming to CASA 0101

CASA 0101 Theater will present DreamWorks’ “The Prince of Egypt: the Musical” to close out its current 25th anniversary season. The musical will be directed by Rigo Tejeda, produced by Emmanuel Deleague and Abel Alvarado and stars Diego Huerta-Gutierrez* as Moses and Christopher J Thumé as Ramses leading a cast of 22 actors.

The show will be presented on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and on Sundays at 3 p.m. for a five-week run – from Nov. 22 to Dec. 21 in the Gloria Molina Auditorium at CASA 0101 Theater, 2102 E. First St. in Los Angeles. Learn more at

www.casa0101.org

“The Prince of Egypt: The Musical” is based on the Book of Exodus with songs from the 1998 DreamWorks animation film of the same name. As the story unfolds audience members will journey through the wonders of Ancient Egypt as two young men, Moses and Ramses, raised together as brothers in a kingdom of privilege, find themselves suddenly divided by a secret past. One must rule as pharaoh, the other must rise up and free his true people; both face a destiny that will change history forever.



SHOWCASE from page 14

Dotty Ewing, the 2025/2026 president of the Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, said she was excited to extend the organization's reach into the City of Arcadia and present a Showcase House that has never before been seen by the public. This marks the fourth time the Showcase House has been held in Arcadia with its last showing being in 2020, in which COVID prevented its opening to a public tour. In lieu of that, Ewing said she is gratified to be able to return to the city and have this opportunity to present such a unique and beautiful property to the public.

“We received such a gracious response from the city as well

as [from] our neighbors. We are looking forward to a banner year,” she said.

After just a few months of renovation, more than 30,000 guests are expected to tour the 30 interior and landscape design spaces that will be transformed by talented designers highlighting the latest trends in high style living. Guests are welcomed to stay for a full day of entertainment with a visit to Shops at Showcase, featuring a variety of exquisite vendors, an on-site restaurant offering an opportunity for a sit-down meal, and a stylish tavern will provide a place to linger over a cocktail while enjoying the garden view. More activities are also in the planning stage

with live music events, special brunches and more unique experiences to enjoy.

The Pasadena Showcase House of Design is the annual fundraiser for Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, an all-volunteer organization. Funds raised have allowed the organization to contribute more than \$27 million to music and arts programs throughout the community.

The 61st Pasadena Showcase House of Design will be open from April 19 - May 17, 2026. Golden tickets and Insider Packages went on sale Nov. 17 and timed entry tickets go on sale in early February.

For more information, visit pasadenashowcase.org.

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CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The Club next meets on Nov. 21 when it hosts Nerissa Sugars with the Hollywood Burbank Airport. She will be giving a presentation on the status of the airport.

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.

MILESTONE CELEBRATION

The La Crescenta Woman's Club invites the public to stop by to celebrate 100 years of the its 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.

The public is asked to bring food donations for the Bailey Center food pantry. For everyone who donates a food item they will get a chance to win a free rental of the clubhouse (subject to contract rules).!

For more information, call (818) 957-9806 or visit lacrescentawomansclub.org.

The La Crescenta Woman's Club and clubhouse are located at 4004 La Crescenta Ave.

THE CALTECH GLEE CLUB AND CHAMBER SINGERS PRESENT 'FALL' CONCERTS

The Caltech Glee Club and Chamber Singers, directed by Nancy Sulahian, present its fall concerts.

There will be two concerts: one on Saturday, Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. and one on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m., both in Ramo Auditorium. The concerts feature opera choruses by Mozart, Bizet and Verdi, and quartets by Rossini. The program also includes music of Josquin des Pres, Mateo Flecha el Viejo, Hugo Distler, Maurice Duruflé, Morten Lauridsen, Jason Robert Brown, and Shawn Kirchner.

Admission is free and no tickets or registration is needed. For more information visit pva.caltech.edu or call (626) 808-2641.

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-Cancer Care Kits 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.

LANTERMAN HOUSE EVENTS

The Lanterman House in La Cañada is hosting a holiday open house on Dec. 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be 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

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.

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.

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

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>.

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE

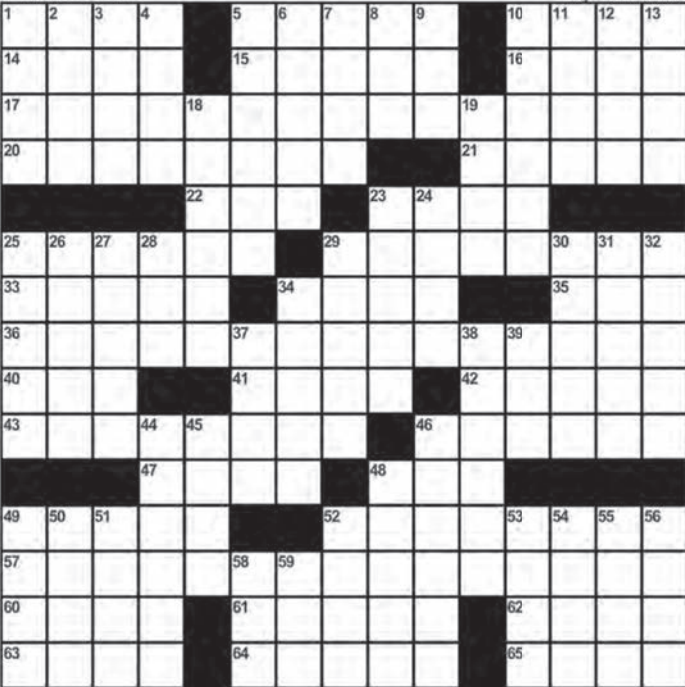


ACROSS

- 1) Not for
- 5) Light-headed?
- 10) Give up land
- 14) Creature for Crockett's cap
- 15) Tattered and torn
- 16) Catch wind of
- 17) Vamoose
- 20) City sought by Raleigh
- 21) Thing in the plus column
- 22) Suffix for "acrobat"
- 23) "... slithy toves did ___ and gimble" ("Jabberwocky")
- 25) Enter a pool
- 29) Homestyle entree
- 33) Dull, hollow sound
- 34) Oscar winner Sean
- 35) Direction away from "to"
- 36) Make a beeline toward
- 40) Money roll
- 41) Superior rating
- 42) Construction support
- 43) School gathering
- 46) Bart and Belle
- 47) Use a beam for surgery
- 48) Summa ___ laude
- 49) "Who knows?" gesture
- 52) Apprehended by cops
- 57) Traveling straight up?
- 60) Allocate (with "out")
- 61) Alpine tune
- 62) Common food fish
- 63) Lofty poems
- 64) How coquettes chat
- 65) "Clapping" aquatic animal

BRAINPAN

By Bill Bobb



DOWN

- 1) Result of overtraining, perhaps
- 2) Christmas tune
- 3) Frog's relative
- 4) Chinese leader?
- 5) Bring up, as a subject
- 6) Adds fat for cooking
- 7) Football great Graham
- 8) Extreme utmost degree
- 9) Do a salon job
- 10) Carpentry tool
- 11) Congers and such
- 12) Chip's cartoon chum
- 13) Prefix with "while," once
- 18) Searches for weapons
- 19) Hind's mate
- 23) "Arabian Nights" character
- 24) Yin partner
- 25) Upside-down "e"
- 26) Answers to charges
- 27) Readies, as a rifle
- 28) "Go on ..."
- 29) Irving's "A Prayer for Owen ___"
- 30) Bidder's amount
- 31) Loud, as a stadium crowd
- 32) Government paperwork
- 34) Member of the wking. class
- 37) File folder parts
- 38) Contract workers?
- 39) Unknown, on a TV sched.
- 44) Dodges
- 45) The kings of "We Three Kings"
- 46) "___ you jest!"
- 48) Barbaric
- 49) Schmendrick
- 50) Act on, as advice
- 51) Assign stars to, perhaps
- 52) Mark of "Game of Thrones"
- 53) Drunkard
- 54) Not false
- 55) Sicilian hothead?
- 56) Indian lentil dish (Var.)
- 58) Empire State Bldg. site
- 59) Baby's first word, sometimes

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

StubHub Misled Me About My \$331 Concert Ticket Refund. What Should I Do?

When Christi Barguig’s concert is canceled, StubHub offered her a refund. Then it sends the money to the wrong person.

Question: I recently bought tickets for a Nikki Glaser show through StubHub. When the event was rescheduled, I received an offer for a refund from the ticket promoter, which I accepted.

I never got the money back. I found out the refund went back to the original seller, not me. StubHub refused my refund request citing its resale policy, even though I no longer had the tickets.

After months of back-and-forth, a StubHub representative promised a refund but it never arrived. Customer service then called the email I received “misleading” and claimed no record of it.

StubHub’s excuses shifted. First, the company blamed a closed credit card dispute. Then it claimed the seller was unresponsive. Even after escalating to StubHub’s executives, I received only a useless coupon for \$83. This feels like intentional deception. Is it legal to lie about processing a refund?

— Christi Barguig,
Austin, Texas

Answer: StubHub should have found a way to get the money to you, as promised. And to answer your question—no, it’s illegal to lie about a refund. That violates numerous laws against unfair and deceptive practices.

Your case is complex. StubHub is a platform for selling event tickets. When you requested a refund, the money went to the original seller. When StubHub refused to help you recover the refund you filed a credit card dispute, which you lost. StubHub offered a voucher for a future event, but you refused that settlement.



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

StubHub’s FanProtect Guarantee promises valid tickets or a refund when an event is canceled, but the company sidestepped this by claiming rescheduled events aren’t eligible. That’s a questionable position since you couldn’t use or resell tickets you no longer owned.

As much as you might like to pin this on StubHub’s negligence, I think this comes down to a series of misunderstandings and bad policies. One consumer-unfriendly policy is the loophole for refusing a refund if an event is postponed instead of canceled. That’s just playing word games. If the event isn’t held on the day it’s scheduled, it’s canceled.

Refunding the original ticket holder is also a questionable policy given that StubHub is a platform for selling tickets. StubHub should have worked directly with you to ensure you received your money back.

I understand why you would file a credit card dispute. But when that happens, it limits what a company can do until it’s resolved. That explains why StubHub took so long to respond. It had to wait for your credit card company to make a decision about your refund.

(It made the wrong decision, but that’s a topic for a different article.)

The absurdity of your situation might make a good punchline in a Nikki Glaser joke. I can only imagine what she might have to say about this comedy of errors. It’s policies that don’t make sense, coupled with bureaucracy and slow customer service.

It looks like you tried contacting StubHub’s customer service executives, with disappointing results. (I publish their names, numbers and email addresses on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org.) I recommend starting at the bottom of the chain and working your way up, to maximizing your opportunities for a resolution.

Regardless of its policies, StubHub offered to refund you and it should have done that months ago. I reached out to StubHub and the company processed your \$331 refund.

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

MONTROSE LIBRARY EVENTS

- The Montrose Library hosts canasta on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- The Back Alley Painters is a vibrant group of adult artists who gather to create, share their work, offer constructive feedback and enjoy each other’s company.

Participants are asked to bring their own art supplies – whether watercolor, acrylic, ink or pencil (no oil paints). Meetings are every Monday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

- Mahjong is a game of skill, strategy, calculation and a degree of chance. Players of all levels are welcomed! Players meet every Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Montrose Library.

The Montrose Library, 2465 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose (818) 548-2048.

NATURE JOURNALING PROGRAM AND GLENDALE OUTDOORS! (GO!)

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AT DEUKMEJIAN

Nature Journaling Program and Glendale Outdoors! (Go!) Community programs continue at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. To learn more about the Glendale Outdoors! (GO!) Community Program visit https://tinyurl.com/kjv88w6a.

To learn more about the Nature Journaling Program visit https://tinyurl.com/2b5u6p6x.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTING

Community members are invited to join the Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club, a community of stamp enthusiasts that meets regularly to share their passion for this timeless hobby.

The Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club meets every third Tuesday at the LA County Library - La Crescenta located at the corner of La Crescenta Avenue and Foothill Boulevard, 2809 Foothill Blvd., at 7

p.m. in the second floor community room.

For more information about the club and upcoming meetings, call (818) 903-4451.

ACTIVITIES AT SUNLAND SENIOR CENTER

The Sunland Senior Center offers a selection of classes and activities daily. Whether seniors are looking to exercise or dance or are interested in art, theater, or knitting, the Center has something for everyone. Sunland also hosts bingo on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and a movie matinee on the big screen at 1 p.m. on Thursdays; on Mondays and Fridays there is country linedancing from noon-1:30 p.m. The Sunland Senior Center runs programming from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. with a donations-based lunch served daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunland Senior Center is located at 8640 Fenwick St. in Sunland. For further information, call (818) 353-9571. These special events are free.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com November 17, 2025 - November 23, 2025

ARIES March 21 - April 19

The cosmos could cause some tension. You may be trying to muster the willpower to get moving. There seem to be annoying symptoms or even minor accidents that prevent you from feeling 100 percent. This could be because you’re frustrated with some area of your life. Get it figured out and help yourself feel better. Exercise away the cobwebs.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You seem to be living on the edge, especially as far as your social life is concerned. You could get frazzled by staying out late, drinking too much, and exposing yourself to smoke. If you have to be on the go, take care of yourself the rest of the time. Walk in the fresh air, get adequate sleep, and eat nourishing food.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You might have to deal with headaches now. You may need to express your anger but find yourself blocked. This and being under pressure may cause your body to react. You need to be especially careful now. Later these problems should ease and you’ll feel ready for anything. Don’t give up your health and exercise program.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

Your energy level is high, but a number of influences may cause you to overeat and indulge as a way to try to feel better. One issue could be causing you frustration, and this won’t help you function at your best. Try to be good to yourself.

LEO July 23 - August 22

Stay calm if you want to avoid high blood pressure or tension headaches. If you can adjust your attitude accordingly, life will be much easier and your body will function more efficiently. Your health is in your hands - or your head. The happier you are, the more your body will respond. Keep smiling!

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

The cosmos could be making you jumpy. You’ll feel irritable and tired if you keep pushing yourself to do more than you have to. A dormant cold could suddenly worsen and cause you to lose time from work. Pace yourself, and talk through difficult issues. Avoid too many snacks if your stomach is sensitive.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

This could be an intense time, so keep yourself grounded. If you forget to feed and rest your body, you’re going to be more prone to accidents and other health problems. Stay aware and you’ll be able to maneuver through the days ahead. There could be a lot of stress around, so try to stay relaxed.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You could feel on edge and be more prone to stress. It isn’t serious, but it could be enough to make you tense if you don’t consciously avoid it. Watch out for minor accidents caused by your mind being elsewhere. The cosmos might encourage you to eat more than usual. Don’t feast on treats - eat well.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Try not to get overheated this week. It’s better to move slowly than it is to rush. A tendency to manipulate events linked with money could increase your blood pressure and make it more difficult for you to stay calm. Don’t try force your agenda. It’s better to let things fall into place and ensure your peace of mind.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Keep up your research into any health issues. You have all the help from the cosmos that you need to find the facts. Don’t stick with the tried and true. Instead, look at alternatives and listen to what people say about their results. Once you’ve gathered enough information, you can make an informed decision. Trust that you’ll know what to do.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Too much of anything can be detrimental to your system, including fun, which is why it helps to spend time alone. You’re in the mood to live life to the fullest, but try and keep a semblance of balance. If your energy reserves get depleted or immune system runs down, you could be more vulnerable to infection. Inner peace is the key to good health.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Continue with your current routine. This period may be tense, so give yourself space to do everything. Your partner’s health could be delicate, so a little TLC wouldn’t hurt. It’s nothing serious. Fresh air will help you both feel better. Drink plenty of fluids.

CRESCENTA VALLEY

WEEKLY

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LETTERS from page 10

A goal is to have one or more dependent children living with a parent. It is not clear if there will be a trained public health counselor on site 24/7, or if there will be any enforced mandated parameters to remain in an independent living facility. Will the facility at Briggs be designated as a subsidiary of the LA County Dept. of Mental Health?

The remainder of the units will be 100% Low Income Housing, presumably also governed by the above “occupancy standards.”

Why not offer market rate units with adequate parking and the government required percentage of low income units?

If you are supportive of this project or if you have concerns about the possible impact on our community, please write or email our LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger at kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov or write to: 500 W. Temple St., Room 869, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Your Opinion Matters!

*Eleanor Wacker
La Crescenta*

GCC from Cover

Shane Lee of Glendale YIMBY (Yes In My Backyard) addressed the council in glowing support of the new state senator.

“She’s amazing and we’re so happy she’s our representative in Sacramento,” Lee said. “She’s a champion of everything that is good and just and noble in this world – she’s a champion of immigrants and women and queer rights. AB 91 is awesome!”

Not everyone was impressed with her work in Sacramento.

“SB 79 really ripped the heart out of this community,” Mayor Najarian said, noting his additional concerns that legislation encouraging denser housing may inadvertently have a chilling effect on improving public transit.

“Residents are coming to me and saying we don’t want that Bus Rapid Transit – as you know, [a dedicated bus lane] planned from North Hollywood to Pasadena, high frequency,

very convenient stops, an express route – they’re coming to me and saying, ‘We don’t want that transit because it’s going to trigger this high-density housing.’ It’s putting me and members of the Metro board in a difficult spot – I hear them talking about canceling their good transit projects.”

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian was slightly less direct with the state senator, first urging that she continue to work on legislation protecting small business owners from frivolous lawsuits alleging minor violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

“When it comes to housing, we want to be partners with the state,” Councilmember Kassakhian explained. “Glendale has built its share of affordable housing and continues. In the past Regional Housing Needs Assessment met its required quota. However,

in this round we are being punished with everyone else with additional demands on housing and zoning ... without any support for these mandates from the state or toward providing services to maintain the quality of life that we know is essential.”

He noted Pérez’s past experience on a city council.

“You know what our residents expect from us – police, fire, utility services, open parks and open space,” Kassakhian concluded.

He suggested the state develop incentives for cities that have met housing goals, a carve-out, rewards, incentives, grants for cities to be able to support increased housing density, incentives that might incentivize cities that are not meeting reasonable goals.

Ejmin Hakobian appreciated the commitment to fire recovery efforts.

“However, I am deeply disappointed by your vote on SB 79,” Hakobian said. “You served as a city council member and every city council in your district passed a resolution against SB 79 and you disregarded that.”

At the end of her comments to the council, Pérez clarified several details regarding the implementation of new housing rules under SB 79, first noting that an amendment limits the new provisions only to existing transit stations and to those currently planned as of Jan. 1, 2026 and that the law allows flexibility to identify alternate locations for increased housing density – especially when that density is situated next to single-family homes.

City officials then proudly announced the opening of the lottery for Pioneer Village, a 340-unit city-built affordable housing project at 515 Pioneer Drive, with 92 of the units designated for seniors. Lottery winners will be selected on Dec. 18 and the lottery will be open from Nov. 27 until Dec. 11. To sign up for consideration or for more information, visit <https://nationalcore.org/communities/515-pioneer/>.

The council voted to approve contracts to update playgrounds at two of the city’s mini parks.

At Wilson Mini Park, in the city’s Citrus Grove neighborhood, the 17-year-old playground equipment will be replaced and improvements made to the playground’s accessibility. Safe surfacing and shade will be added for a cost of up to \$300,000, funded by Measure A regional county park funding. A survey of the community found a majority favored the “Café and Ice Cream Store” design.

The Elk Mini Park replacement project will cost up to \$400,000 and is expected to be funded by CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding plus a grant from the California Parks and Recreation Society Healthy Play Funding Initiative. The community survey opted for the “Mother Tree Grove” design to replace playground equipment last updated in 2004.

Dr. Jackie Gish commented on Glendale Water and Power source disclosure report and power content label for 2024.

“Although I’m not ecstatic that the sum of renewable and carbon-free energy was 50% of the portfolio for 2024, it is understandable given some of the disappointing output from Eland and the Hoover Dam. This number was lower than the estimate in the IRP of 55% and substantially less than the California average, but it still shows that a substantial part of the portfolio is from natural gas or other fossil fuels. Two weeks ago, two council members and a staff member said that it doesn’t matter if we switch our furnaces from gas to electricity because most of our power comes from gas anyway – this is clearly not true and will be even less true in the years to come.”

By a vote of 3-2, the council approved a so-called “reach” code, an amendment to the city’s building code requiring the use of electric heat pumps replacing traditional gas furnaces.

see GCC on page 19

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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 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.

LEGALS

Petitioner:
1241 OAK CIRCLE DRIVE
GLENDALE, CA 91208
(818) 426-3716

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EMPLOYMENT

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EMPLOYMENT

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Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian opposed the measure.

“I asked what [was] the reason for this ordinance and no one will give me a clear answer; it’s written here for a reduction in green house gas emissions. Climate change was one before the last on people’s priority list. If this move was so good, we wouldn’t have to subsidize it by \$1,000 a ton for every A/C unit. We are taking the voluntary measure the state has and making it mandatory and I don’t understand why.”

Mayor Najarian also voted against the new code.

Council regular Beth Brooks observed, “So basically what you’re doing is the same thing you’re complaining about Sacramento doing to you with all the housing mandates. You’re basically saying, ‘This is in your best interest. We’re going to make you do it; we’re going to make you pay for it – and there’s nothing you can do about it because it’s really good for you.’”

The council unanimously adopted a comprehensive Roadway Design Policy seeking to establish a “comprehensive set of citywide street design guidelines that will consolidate multiple existing

planning policy recommendations into a single, unified design framework that can be practically applied,” according to the staff report.

“We’re not going to remove a lane if it has a significant impact on traffic flow or if it pushes traffic – in any significant way – into neighboring streets,” Councilmember Dan Brotman clarified.

Glendelian Alan Durham questioned a routine contract for painting three fire stations and the Montrose Library. The lowest bid was considerably lower than

the other bids at \$78,000 but the company – Fresh Style Painting – is based in Manteca in the San Joaquin Valley. Durham expressed concern about its ability to do the work from there. City Manager Roubik Golanian assured the council that the firm is bonded and has the requisite experience and insurance and that “if not we can call their bonds and make sure the project get completed.”

Councilmember Kassakhian proposed some sort of program encouraging local purchasing – a Buy Glendale effort – noting that approximately one quarter of the

city budget comes from sales tax and that “every dollar spent here in the city goes to help provide the services we’ve come to count on.”

Councilmember Elen Asatryan read a statement responding to ongoing allegations and a recent report deeming the allegations unfounded.

“Alex Balekian publicly accused me of corruption and then filed a police report. I could say Alex Balekian is an alien who has landed from a UFO. That doesn’t make it so,” she said.

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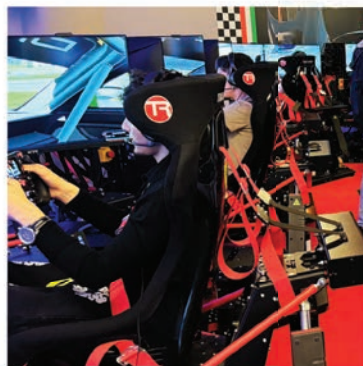
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