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FEBRUARY 12, 2026

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Council Honors City

By Julie BUTCHER

While the town site was first plotted and named in 1887, Glendale was officially incorporated as a city on Feb. 16, 1906 and on Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council celebrated the 120th birthday of Glendale.

"As we reflect on Glendale's 120 years of history," said Glendale Fire Chief Jeff Brooks, "it's clear that public safety has always been central to who we are as a city. From our earliest days in 1906 when Orron E. Patterson oversaw both the police and fire departments, Glendale understood that [protecting] lives, homes and neighborhoods was foundational to building a strong community. Over the decades, our fire department has grown alongside the city, adapting to new risks, new technologies and new expectations while never losing sight of our mission: service, prevention, resilience."

Interim Police Chief Robert William told the Council that the night was also about looking forward.

"Beyond traditional policing, our work today includes prevention, education, and meaningful partnership with the community we serve," he said. "Through growth, change and challenge, our focus has remained steady: service, integrity and safety."

"This milestone reminds us how generations of public servants have helped shape our community. For 120 years, public works has grown alongside Glendale. In the early 1900s, our focus was on essentials: unpaved roads, basic water and drainage, infrastructure for a small but growing city," said public works director Daniel Hernandez. "Today, public works supports a modern city of close to 200,000, maintaining streets; managing traffic and stormwater; delivering capital improvement projects; providing reliable transit services; advancing sustainability; and supporting integrated waste services that keep our city clean and healthy."

see GCC on page 7

CVHS Hosts Annual Jazz Night

By Dominique ROCHA

The community is invited to a night of listening – and dancing – to jazz favorites.

Crescenta Valley High School's (CVHS) annual Jazz Night at the Café is back. On Feb. 20 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. attendees can share in a night of music and fun hosted by CVHS Instrumental Music (CVIM).

The dance will be held at the CVHS Café, located on the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Prospect Avenue.

Jazz Night is an important annual event that serves both as a gig for the jazz band members and a fundraising event for CVIM. Event proceeds are dedicated toward the purchase of instruments, repairs to existing instruments and travel costs to gigs for the band.

"Unfortunately, a lot of support for music programs is not paid for by the district, and funding for the arts is very limited," said Ameri-

Photos provided by CVIM
 At a previous annual Jazz Night at the Café, students gathered to share in a night of music and fun.



Ramirez, president of the CVIM Foundation. "We need to make money somewhere."

The event also allows the band to gain experience in playing.

"For those who want to 'gig' [play] either part-time or full-time as musicians, the more ex-

perience they can have in that vein the better," said Ramirez.

The event features a mix of jazz standards, swing and big band.

The night will include swing dance lessons provided by Kelli and Mike Miller.

"It is fun for all ages," said

Ramirez. "Last year we had 8 year olds dancing and 80 year olds dancing."

Along with the music and dance, the event will serve an array of desserts, such as cupcakes, eclairs and, of course, a chocolate fountain.

see JAZZ NIGHT on page 8

Goats: Keeping Glendale Fire-safe – One Blade of Grass at a Time

By Mary O'KEEFE

The goats are back in Glendale and on Wednesday began to happily eat their way from one side of a Verdugo Park hillside to another.

Two hundred goats from California Grazing ran up the hillside, stopping along the way to chew on some grass.

Although Glendale Fire Dept. had used goats to mitigate vegetation in the past, the goat program actually began when local resident Rick Stern invited firefighters to his backyard in 2020 to talk about goats.

"My wife had heard that goats most likely saved the Reagan [Presidential] Library,"

Stern said. Firefighters have credited goats with preventing the 2019 Easy Fire from destroying the library as the land they had cleared created a protective barrier.

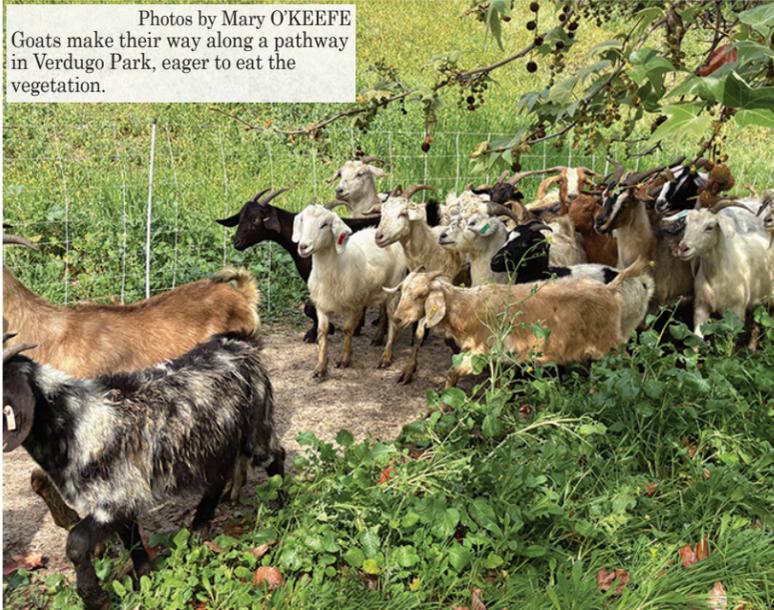
Stern said he thought this would be a good way to protect the hillsides throughout Glendale.

"I'm glad they are starting earlier this year," he said.

"They [the goats] are very effective in steep rocky, hard to get to areas," said Patty Mundo, specialist, Fire Environmental Safety, GFD Vegetation Management Program.

She added goats are being introduced to the area earlier this year due to the rain,

Photos by Mary O'KEEFE
 Goats make their way along a pathway in Verdugo Park, eager to eat the vegetation.



see GOATS on page 19

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Love Is In the Air

Ah, love is in the air! Looking over my life I understand the importance of having someone at my side who I love – and who loves me! And apparently Steve and I have relayed to our four sons the importance of having a “special someone” to call their own; each of them is either married or has a “significant other” in his life.

I thought that this would be a good time to look at the romantic movies made over the years (courtesy of IMDB.com) and see how many of them I’ve seen:

Gone with the Wind. Made in 1939, this classic still stands solid as a contender for most romantic film.

Titanic. Made in 1997, this epic film (it lasts 3 hours and 14 minutes) is a retelling of the infamous night on April 15, 1912 when the unthinkable happened: the British ocean liner sank after striking an iceberg on its maiden voyage.

When a Man Loves a Woman. Made in 1994 and starring Meg Ryan and Andy Garcia, the film looks at the new direction a relationship goes when grappling with alcoholism.

Ever After: A Cinderella Story. Made in 1998, the story (according to IMDB.com) is about the Brothers Grimm who arrive at the home of a wealthy Grande Dame who speaks of the many legends surrounding the fable of the cinder girl before telling the “true” story of her ancestor.

Tristan + Isolde. Made in 2006, this movie is about an affair between the second in line to Britain’s throne and the princess of the feuding Irish.

Romeo + Juliet. Made in 1996, this remake of the Shakespeare play (written some time between between 1591 and 1595) tells the story of the doomed lovers torn apart by their feuding families – the Montagues and the Capulets.

Revolutionary Road. Made in 2008, this period piece focuses on “a young couple living in a Connecticut suburb during the mid-1950s [who] struggle to come to terms with their personal problems while trying to raise their two children.” Interesting side note: This movie stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet, reuniting after their roles in Titanic.

What Dreams May Come. Made in 1998 and starring Robin Williams, this movie is about a man (Williams) who discovers that his beloved wife has killed herself out of grief over his death causing him to embark on an afterlife adventure to reunite with her.

A Walk to Remember. Made in 2002, this movie is about two North Carolina teens who are thrown together after one gets into trouble and is sentenced to perform community service.

The Notebook. Made in 2004, this movie is a tearjerker about an older man who reads to a woman with dementia the story of two people in love but divided by their social classes.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

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

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» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

In late January of this year, Doyon Rig 26, aka “The Beast,” the largest mobile land drilling rig in North America, tipped over and caught fire. It was being moved on Alaska’s North Slope about eight miles from the village of Nuiqsut.

The oil rig weighs about 10 million pounds and is currently operated by Doyon Drilling, Inc. for ConocoPhillips. A statement was sent out concerning the incident:

“At approximately 4:45 p.m. [on Jan. 23], an incident involving Doyon 26 occurred while traveling on a [road] on the North Slope of Alaska while operating on behalf of ConocoPhillips. A fire occurred and is currently contained and controlled. All personnel have been accounted for and there are no serious injuries. There was no damage to local community infrastructure and no impact to pipelines or fuel transportation. Emergency response personnel remain on-site. We will provide additional details as they are available.”

They soon went from an “emergency response” to an “environmental impact assessment and mitigation effort,” according to Doyon Drilling, Inc..

Now here’s some irony: according to reports the rig most likely tipped because it was moved in warmer than average weather of about 30 degrees, which would have caused the road to be softer.

Alaska, according to the Alaska Climate Research Center, has been experiencing significantly warmer temperatures than historical averages. A study in 2024 showed that January of that year brought warmer than average temperatures.

“Overall arctic trends continue to show significant warming compared to pre-1970 averages,” according to Alaska Climate Research Center.

So, see the irony. Gas-powered vehicles are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, which is the reason the Earth is warming. Warming temperatures make the ground softer.

Conoco-Phillips, by its own estimates, produced 1.987 million barrels of oil equivalent per day in 2024 and projected an even higher number in 2025.

Isn’t it amazing that book that was written over 2,000 years ago can be so relevant: Galatians 6:7-8 – “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.”

Several people with North Slope experience have said the rig likely tipped due to being moved in warm 30 degree weather, which would have caused the road to be softer. Once it went off the shoulder onto the soft ground, tipping over was probably inevitable.

But don’t worry – this will not slow down the winter oil-drilling campaign planned by ConocoPhillips.

Get ready for more rain. Starting on Sunday we will be looking at a “long period of rain, every day,” according to NOAA along with cooler temperatures.

The rain will continue throughout next week and will bring snow to the mountains. There is also a chance of thunderstorms. Windy conditions are predicted Sunday into Monday.

In lower elevations we could see an inch or two of rain spread out over the long period of time.

NOAA reminds people to plan accordingly as they go about their week. Road conditions will be wet and slick, mountain areas will see “dangerous snow packs.”

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

ROSEMONT PRESERVE RESTORATION DAY

The community is invited to the Rosemont Preserve Restoration Day on Saturday, Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. to help protect the natural habitat at Rosemont Preserve. Volunteers will be removing invasive, non-native plants and cleaning up the trails for upcoming field trips. Wear sturdy shoes, comfortable clothes and garden gloves (long pants and sleeves are recommended). Tools will be available.

Then on Sunday, Feb. 15 an "open gate" event takes place at the Rosemont Preserve from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. This is a chance for residents to visit the Preserve and wander the trail at their own pace and enjoy the tranquil setting, the wildlife and the natural beauty. Photographers: bring your camera to capture the morning light and citizen scientists, bring your iNaturalist and Merlin apps to identify birds and add wildlife sightings!

Volunteers are needed to host open gate events. Open gate hosts unlock the gate, welcome in visitors and field questions about the Preserve. Those who would like to be trained to host an open gate event can email Kyle Cavazos at kylecavazos@arroyosfoothills.org.

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

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

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

ASCENCIA ANNUAL GALA

Ascencia is holding its 18th annual gala, named Creating a Lasting Impact!, on Saturday, April 11 at 6 p.m. at the Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive in Glendale. This fundraiser will support Ascencia's essential programs that create a lasting impact on the individuals it serves. Tickets, sponsorship packages and underwriting opportunities are available now. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/dwdxjwpm> to take part in this event.

Unique Performances Found at St. Luke's

By Mary O'KEEFE

There is an art transformation occurring and La Crescenta is part of it – thanks to artist and organizer Sebastian Gonzalez (he/they) and St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church.

Gonzalez brought new and exciting projects to St. Luke's Sadler Hall, inviting the audience to not only enjoy the performances but to contribute as part of The Balcony.

"[The Balcony] is a community-rooted art lab and cultural platform that is designed to support artists through accessible programming, infrastructure and fair compensation," Gonzalez said. "It functions as both a creative incubator and gathering space where performance, education and community engagement intersect."

This is a place – a movement – where all are welcomed and where none are judged.

For centuries art has been a way for people to share everything, from the beauty that surrounds them to the ugliness as well. Artists through music, film and live theatre explore the world around them. This takes place around Los Angeles County including at Sadler Hall at St. Luke's.

"What makes The Balcony unique is that it prioritizes process and people as much as output," he said adding, "and it's pretty much a place where art can develop responsibly without relying on burnout or unpaid labor."

Gonzalez's creative partner is Chris Siders, who does a lot of the booking for The Balcony at Sadler Hall.

Art is shared in several mediums, from film to music.

"It's a place where folks could come and express freely through whatever artistic medium that they please – not only artistic mediums but also holding space and ground for meetings and dialogue ... conversations about things that are going on in our community," Siders said.

The Balcony features a show on April 18 titled "Silhouettes of Scarlet – A New Hip Hop Musical." Siders is the co-creator/co-director of the production; Gonzalez is the executive producer/co-director.

Siders describes the creation of "Silhouettes" as a creative collaboration where "we look out for each other through music, art and community care."

The community care aspect of the project was designed by BOI XOCHI (they/them), who is the composer and musical arranger of "Silhouettes."

XOCHI said those involved have been "great" in having open conversations and meeting COVID protocols, masking and educating the community on "what it's like to really look out for each other."

"We are trying to be that flagship for the rest of Los Angeles during these hard times and what it means to be a community with one another," they said.

Each project takes into consideration the issues that each person is facing. For example, people who are immunocompromised need to be very cautious of being in groups, and therefore going to the theatre or attending a concert becomes a difficult (if not impossible) action.

XOCHI added the creative people who are part of these Balcony productions have been very supportive, which allows everyone to participate.

The audience is intentionally broad with young artists and creatives in their late teens and 20s.

"We operate with a lot of working professionals and families or longtime community members attending those same events," they said.

The programs/productions also include working with the Great Film Club – a community-driven club of film makers that hosts weekly screenings that include short films, Great Film Nights, Reel Ladies Night and Rainbow Reels Night.

"Silhouettes of Scarlet" is based on Siders' personal loss.

"I lost my father on Valentine's Day three years ago ... at the same time I was going through an abusive relationship, and it was a bit difficult to leave," he said. "And so what we have done with this show is just to have different intersections or different presentations ... different ways to present the story."

"Silhouettes of Scarlet" is a Hollywood Fringe Scholarship recipient winner.

"We beat out hundreds of applicants to be one of the 10 winners," Siders said. "And we sold out our entire first run."

The production has been at several theaters throughout LA and has done well with ticket sales and positive feedback.

According to the Hollywood Fringe website, "Silhouettes of Scarlet" navigates the seven stages of grief and how it coincides with the seven deadly sins amidst dealing with Stockholm syndrome.

"In this psychological-drama and romance production based on real life events, James, a 30-year-old spoken word/rapper artist, suddenly loses his father to death while exiting an abusive relationship with his former partner Scarlet," according to Hollywood Fringe.

"Silhouettes of Scarlet" will be at the Regent Theater, 448 Main St. in LA. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/nhht8s84> for tickets and more information.

In addition to Siders, XOCHI and Gonzalez, the production includes others including Itzel (Hzel) as composer and musical director.



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NOTES & NODS

LUTHERAN CHURCHES UNITE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church of La Crescenta are joining together to host an Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 18. The service will be held at 7 p.m. in the LCIF sanctuary in La Cañada. All are welcome to attend. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period during which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ. Lent is a time of reflection and asking for forgiveness. Ultimately, it is a preparation to celebrate Jesus' resurrection at the feast of Easter.

A central element of the Ash Wednesday service is the imposition of ashes. These ashes, traditionally

made from burned palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday, are applied to the forehead in the shape of a cross. This act symbolizes mortality, repentance and humility.

LCIF will continue its tradition of "Soup Suppers" and worship at 7 p.m. on Wednesday nights during Lent. The services will be led by Pastor Viv Vega. Anyone wishing to prepare or help with the suppers should contact the church office. Sunday worship is held at 10 a.m.

For more information about all activities at LCIF, please visit the church's website lcifoothills.org.

Those who need pastoral care can 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN

Mount Olive holds a community luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, every month, and the community is welcome. The cost is \$10 for a three-course luncheon: salad, main course and dessert, followed by entertainment. Doors open at 11 a.m.

Every Wednesday night Mount Olive Lutheran Church has a Bible study and prayer group that starts at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Also in February, the Mount Olive Lutheran members will travel to Lutheran Church in the Foothills, 1700 Foothill Blvd., for the Feb. 18 Ash Wednesday service. This is a service where the two congregations gather and begin the journey into Lent.

On the third Saturday of the month, there is a breakfast Bible study at Panera starting at 8:30 a.m. Participants typically meet at the back of the restaurant; all are welcome. The group is studying 2 Corinthians on Feb. 21.

Mount Olive is located at 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. Questions? Call the Mount Olive Lutheran office at (818) 248-4253 or visit the website MOLC.org.

GRYGUS RETURNS TO UUCVH

UUCVH – Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills – welcomes back non-theist pagan Andrew Grygus on Feb. 15 for another scholarly presentation titled: Consciousness. Grygus will share the latest scientific and philosophical developments regarding consciousness and how they relate to spirituality. In-person at 10:30 a.m. at 4451 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta or visit the UUCVH website for the ZOOM link <https://www.uuverdugo.org/>

ANXIOUS GENERATION ADDRESSED

The community is invited to La Crescenta Presbyterian Church

ICF to Host St. Joseph's Table, Pasta Lunch & Silent Auction at St. Bede the Venerable

The Italian Catholic Federation announced its annual St. Joseph's Table and Silent Auction, a cherished community tradition celebrating faith, generosity and fellowship. The event will take place after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, March 21 and after all Masses on Sunday, March 22 at St. Bede the Venerable Catholic Church, 215 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.

St. Joseph's Table is a beloved Italian Catholic custom honoring St. Joseph through the sharing of food and acts of charity. Parishioners and community members are invited to purchase an abundant table filled with homemade baked goods, breads, casseroles and desserts, lovingly prepared by volunteers. The event also offers the perfect opportunity to gather in and view the newly completed parish hall. The accompanying silent

for a free presentation on The Anxious Generation – Discussing the intersection of technology, mental health and faith. The presentations will be on Wednesday evenings continuing through March 18 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. They are given by Dot Kim and Jamie Given in the Fireside Room.

Dinner available for purchase. La Crescenta Presbyterian Church, 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta.

CSL OFFERS GENTLE MOVEMENT CLASS

The Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta is offering a gentle stretch and relax chair movement with Michelle Gillette. 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.

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 Feb. 15 & 22. 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.



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 • Jackson Toyon
Anne McNeill, proofreader

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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St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church

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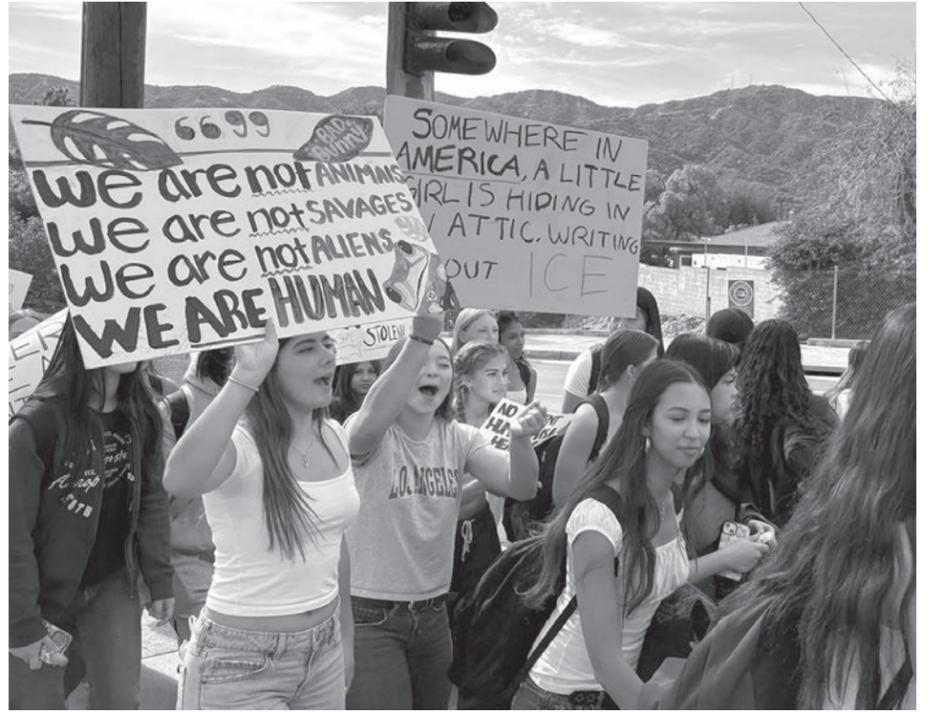
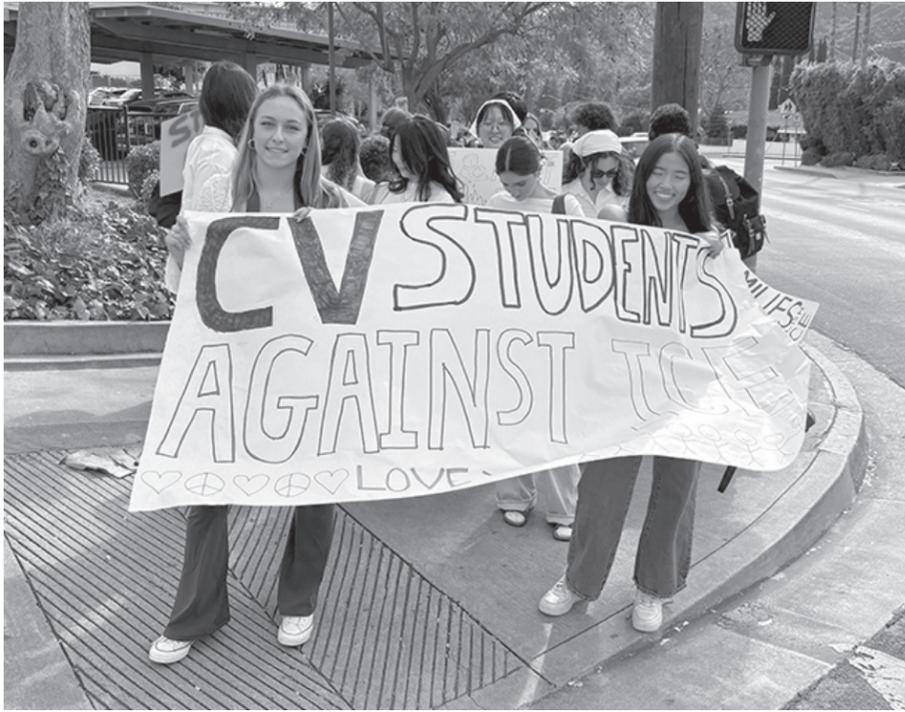
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CVHS Walks for Solidarity and to Protect Fellow Students



By Mary O'KEEFE

Members of several student clubs from Crescenta Valley High School gathered in front of the school's gym on Ramsdell Avenue on Thursday, Feb. 5, in the early afternoon to exercise their First Amendment right to protest.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." – Constitution of the United States, First Amendment

The students were protesting the actions of ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement].

"We blended with all the clubs and all the kids [who] are interested in coming out," said one of the organizers. She added there were several kids who didn't feel safe protesting due to personal safety concerns, even though they are U.S. citizens. So the clubs hosted week-long activities in the school's quad

including distributing Know Your Rights worksheets and phone numbers to call if ICE is in the area.

When asked if she knows kids personally who are afraid due to the possibility of an ICE arrest, she said, "One hundred percent, especially kids [who] have immigrant parents that don't have citizenship status, and even ones [who] do have citizenship status – just because of how violent everything has been recently and how ICE doesn't really see any legal limits to their actions."

Student organizers said they just want to get the word out and to stand in solidarity with fellow students.

"This is mainly just to show that our voices won't be silenced and that we still have our right to protest for law and freedom of speech and we are going to use [this right] while we still can as students," she said.

"We definitely want to use this as a platform [to raise] attention because we are looking to host even more community fundraisers and activities where we can help provide resources to families that need [them] in these times," a student

Photos by Mary O'KEEFE
 TOP LEFT: Students hold a sign as they begin their protest walk to the La Crescenta Library.
 TOP RIGHT: Crescenta Valley High School students walked to show solidarity.
 BELOW: CVHS students gathered in the courtyard of the La Crescenta Library.

organizer said. The students reached out to law enforcement to make sure they were safe as they walked from the school's gym on Ramsdell Avenue to the La Crescenta Library where they held a rally.

shared with the protestors that she was afraid. "Even though I was born in this country, as a brown person I have never been more afraid," she said. "I have never been more afraid to be Latina in America."

Once at the library, another organizer

CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
 Robin@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
 Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
 Lisa@CVWeekly.com
 818.523.1234
 La Cañada
 Montrose

Sonya Marquez
 Sonya@CVWeekly.com
 818.381.2000
 La Crescenta
 Sunland-Tujunga

Jon K
 Jon@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Toluca Lake and surrounding

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Suspect Arrested And Charged For Sexual Crimes Against Minors

On Dec. 19, 2025, Glendale Police Dept. officers responded to a report involving a student who disclosed sexual abuse by an agency-contracted special education assistant at a Glendale elementary school. The incident involved an 8-year-old special needs student and occurred on school grounds.

Detectives immediately initiated an investigation that revealed evidence corroborating the reported crime.

On Dec. 20, Glendale police arrested the suspect, identified as 25-year-old Joseph Vladimir Sanchez of Glendale, on charges related to lewd acts with a child and sexual acts with a child under 14 years of age. Following his arrest, Sanchez posted bail and was scheduled to appear for arraignment on Feb. 4.

Detectives continued their investigation and successfully identified and located two additional underage victims.

The newly developed evidence was presented to the court on Feb. 4 at Sanchez's arraignment, where he was ordered back into custody. He is currently being held on \$6,000,000 bail.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has filed the following charges against Sanchez: two counts of California Penal Code (PC) 288.7, three counts of PC 288(b), two counts of PC 288(a), and one count of PC 311.11.

At the time of this incident, Sanchez was a contracted special education assistant from Covelo Group and assigned to Columbus Elementary School and Glenoaks Elementary School. He was not an employee of the Glendale Unified School District or City of Glendale.

Glendale Police Dept. detectives are actively seeking additional victims or witnesses related to these incidents involving Sanchez.

The investigation has led detectives to believe there may be additional victims dating back as far as three years. The Glendale Unified School District is cooperating fully and has offered its support in assisting with identifying potential victims and witnesses.

Anyone with information related to this case is encouraged to contact the Glendale Police Dept. - Assaults Bureau at (818) 548-4840.

Pasadena Fire Captain Faces Nine Felony Sex Abuse Charges Involving Three Children

A Pasadena Fire Dept. captain has been charged with nine felony counts for allegedly sexually abusing three children under the age of 14 over a period spanning more than two decades in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

"These allegations describe years of sexual abuse of children by someone who was repeatedly placed in positions of trust," said Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman. "The harm alleged

here is profound and no title, badge or uniform places anyone above the law. We commend the courage of those who reported this abuse, request any others who have information about such abuse to come forward and assure the public that our office will aggressively pursue justice and stand with survivors."

Christopher James Ramstead of Thousand Oaks is charged with nine felony counts of committing a lewd act upon a child. It is further alleged

that Ramstead committed these crimes against more than one victim.

Ramstead pleaded not guilty during his arraignment on Feb. 9 and a bail hearing is scheduled for Feb. 13 in Department 112 of the Van Nuys Courthouse. At the prosecutors' request, the Court ordered the defendant be held without bail.

Ramstead is a firefighter/paramedic with the Pasadena Fire Dept. and holds the rank of captain. The alleged abuse

occurred during various time frames between March 2003 and July 2025.

If convicted as charged, Ramstead faces 135 years to life in state prison.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Vira Samouhi of the Sex Crimes Division and remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Dept.

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Dept.'s Juvenile Division are asking anyone

who may be a victim or has additional information about Ramstead to contact Juvenile Division detectives at (818) 374-5415. During non-business hours or on weekends, calls should be directed to 1-877-LAPD-24-7 (1-877-527-3247).

The charges filed in this case are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

From the Office of Los Angeles County District Attorney

CRIME BLOTTER

FEB. 7
Angeles Crest Highway in Angeles National Forest, a woman reported she and her mother went to the location, parked in a parking lot and both left to go on a hike. Prior to leaving they both left their wallets inside the vehicle. When they returned they discovered all four doors of the vehicle were unlocked and both wallets were gone.

The theft occurred between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

FEB. 5
900 block of Town Center Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a store employee reported he witnessed a suspect, described as a White adult male, about 18-19 years old, about 5'8" to 5'9" tall, weighing approximately 180 lbs. with black hair and a mustache and goatee. At the time he was wearing a brown colored shirt and dark pants. The suspect entered the store and walked toward the Lego aisle with a female. Security cameras showed the suspect taking toys from their

packaging and placing them in his waistband. He then walked toward the front of the store toward the self-checkout stands. He then removed a pack of chewing gum from the shelf and placed it in his back pocket.

As the suspect and the female attempted to leave the store, a loss prevention employee attempted to stop them. The employee told them they would have to walk to the Loss Prevention Office; however, on the way the two exited the store by pushing past the employee.

The theft occurred between 6:30 p.m. and 6:39 p.m.

FEB. 4
2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, an employee heard a coded message being broadcast on the store's loudspeaker. The code was to warn all employees that someone in the store was possibly shoplifting. An informant stated she saw two suspects: Suspect No. 1 was described as a Black male, wearing a black hoodie, carrying two bags full of items and had zipped up bags. Suspect No. 2 was described as a Black male wearing a red beanie. He walked out of the east door of the store after the loudspeaker code was announced.

Suspect No. 1 exited out of the

west door. Suspect No. 1 dropped the bags he had just outside of the door after the sensor alarm sounded. When the informant went to the parking lot she saw a man who matched the description of Suspect No. 1 jogging to his vehicle, a blue Tesla, and got into the driver's seat.

The attempted theft occurred at 10:47 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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A loving home is still being sought for these kittens - Serafina, Simba, Zero, and Ember. They have all been fixed (i.e., spayed or neutered) and have been seen regularly by a veterinarian.

As a reminder, they were raised with a dog and cat, so they are socialized and do well with both older cats and (chill) old dogs.

"We are hoping that whoever adopts them will keep at least two of them since they love each other so much and need a buddy to play with," said one of the foster parents.

For more information, call or text Mary O'Keefe at (818) 535-5962 or email her at mary@cvweekly.com.



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GCC from Cover

Mayor Ara Najarian recalled that it was “only yesterday that we celebrated our centennial at the Civic Auditorium. I was a freshly-minted councilmember.”

“I recently visited Malibu, incorporated in 1991 – Santa Clarita [incorporated] in the 1980s. We’ve been at it for 120 years. It’s not easy running a city. It is challenging for everyone – not just the electeds – and it’s great that we’ve managed to maintain our own identity,” the mayor observed.

Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian credited the “people who started this city” with having a “great vision – the way the city’s developed.”

“It’s a full-service city: fire department, police department, public works, landfill, our own Glendale Water and Power power plants, and on and on,” said Gharpetian. “Everything you see in the city is strategically located and situated so the fire department can get to any part of the city within four

to five minutes. It’s not by accident; it’s by design. Water reaches our homes by gravity; it’s not pumped to our homes, so even if there’s a power outage, we will have water.”

Gharpetian noted the intentional development of a central downtown core surrounded by increasingly less dense neighborhoods, eventually reaching single-family areas.

“It’s all designed well so people can have a comfortable life,” he said. “We have a good quality of life in Glendale because of the vision that they had at that time.”

Following up on concerns raised by parents of special needs children, the Council considered fencing several of the city’s playgrounds to best protect children. Director of Community Services and Parks, Onnig Bulanikian, recommended starting with Maple Park as it is already an all-inclusive park, then Pelanconi and Montrose parks. Montrose Park is slated for a full upgrade, the first it has seen since 1999. Enclosing each of the three parks in four-foot fencing would cost approximately \$110,000.

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian wants to pursue joint efforts with the school district to co-utilize safe school grounds as well as moving forward with fencing the playground at Maple Park, seeking potential grant or other funding.

Mayor Najarian requested updates on long-standing proposals for cooperative uses of park areas around Wilson and Cerritos schools.

Councilmember Gharpetian raised concerns he has heard about a house on Aspen Oak Lane being utilized as a drug rehab facility and the lack of local control over this kind of zoning. He also raised concerns about California taxing the bonuses of Super Bowl athletes and whether this would deter in the future such sporting events being played in California. Gharpetian cited pending legislation he worries will increase the cost of housing by charging developers – actions he said will disproportionately harm low-income and working families.

“ACA 14 was voted down – that was a ban on taxing your savings, your retirement and the equity in your home because that’s coming too – they’re talking about it. Wake up, people! The county tax measure? Cities are celebrating. Palmdale and Lancaster would be over 11% in sales tax – the highest in the nation – Palmdale and Lancaster are not Malibu or Santa Monica; they’re working-class people who live there,” Councilmember Gharpetian concluded his warnings.

Mayor Najarian addressed his

concerns about the Glendale school district “as a mayor, a parent, a grandparent and a longtime member of this community who cares about every child in Glendale.”

Najarian recounted concerns he raised “two and a half years ago and the considerable controversy caused at the time.” Now, the mayor reports, there is an “ongoing case of horrific sexual abuse at a GUSD school perpetrated by an aide against the most vulnerable children. This tragedy should never have happened. Yet it has happened before.”

“In March 2025, a superior court judge delivered a ruling and an order holding GUSD accountable for the sexual abuse of an autistic student who was non-verbal but able to communicate to his family in 2015 that he was being beaten, tortured and sexually abused by one of his teachers,” said Mayor Najarian, explaining the process the parents went through over 10 years to get the case to trial, which resulted in a judgment against the school district of \$4.1 million. The judge assigned 90% of the blame to the school district and 10% to the teacher.

“That was last March and I was warned that this is a school district issue and the school district will handle it,” he said. “City hall cautioned me against criticizing the school district again and some told me, ‘You saw what they did to you last time when you wanted to be mayor.’”

“I deeply regret not speaking about this back in March,” he said. “I anticipated that both the administration and the board would address the court’s decision and begin implementing the required reforms. I expected them to inform parents, students and the public about the significant ruling that had just been delivered.”

“And yes, we heard about the sexual abuse incident last week involving autistic students – again by a teacher’s aide. This is not an isolated incident – this is a devastating, highly predictable consequence of inaction, of ignoring warning signs, and of failing to act decisively to safeguard our children, a failing to remedy the failures in the system that the judge pointed out in her ruling.”

The mayor made several specific recommendations. They are to:

1. Fully acknowledge the findings of the April verdict
2. Implement comprehensive reforms to prevent abuse
3. Cooperate with law enforcement and child protective agencies to assure accountability

see GCC on page 19

4. Communicate openly with parents and the community about steps being taken

5. Set up a Glendale hotline directly to the police department for any student, teacher or parent to report concerns directly to ensure they are “no longer ignored by the GUSD”

Councilmember Elen Asatryan added that the letter the school district ultimately sent to district parents was vague and linked to important resources solely in English regardless of the language of the parents.

Councilmember Asatryan also extended a “shout-out to the local students who have been walking out and joining in peaceful protests. High school students organized marches to city hall and I’m very proud of our students. One of the greatest rights we have in this country is the right to protest – I come from a country where my grandparents definitely didn’t have the right to speak their minds, to speak to power in that way. Thanks to the students involved and thanks to the police department for ensuring the safety of our students.”

Councilmember Kassakhian remains hot on the trail of food delivery robots he sees everywhere on the city’s sidewalks.

“I am incredibly frustrated with our slow pace in acting on this,” he said. Assistant City Manager John Takhtalian assured the Council a report on the issue is forthcoming, expected by the end of March.

Additionally, Councilmember Kassakhian wants the city to address concerns about food trucks and sidewalk vendors. In some cases, they have “completely taken over the sidewalks.”

“Some of these are using the buildings in front of which they’re parked as their addresses from which people can come using one of the other delivery services to pick up their food,” he said. “They’re using the address of a physical brick and mortar business that pays property tax and sales tax; they’re using that as their address – I don’t even know if that’s legal – and they set up gas-powered generators and tables and furniture and many of them appear to be in violation of parking regulations I’d certainly be cited for. I’m at my wit’s end.”

Mayor Najarian announced a series of meetings coming up for the public to hear updates on the North Hollywood-Pasadena BRT: a virtual meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 6-7:30 p.m. and in-person on Monday, March 9 at 6 p.m. in the Fremont Park Community Room.

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New Public Counter Hours at Glendale Permit Services Center

Starting on Monday, Feb. 9, the Permit Services Center implemented new public counter hours to provide customers with in-person access to permit support in the afternoon for two days every week.

Customers will have access to permit assistance from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The new hours also more closely

align with permit counter hours at Glendale Water & Power (GWP), allowing customers to maximize their permit support when they visit the Glendale Civic Center.

The new hours will be paired with staff who will exclusively support customers at the counter, providing a more efficient customer experience.

The Permit Services Center will

remain open from 7 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, and will be closed on Fridays.

The City of Glendale encourages all customers to provide feedback on permit services in-person at the counter or via email at Engage@GlendaleCA.gov. Learn more about permit services at the City of Glendale at GlendalePermits.org.

Provided by City of Glendale

www.cvweekly.com

JAZZ NIGHT from Cover

Tickets to the event cost \$15 each; the cost is \$75 to reserve a VIP table for four which allows entrance to the event, a dance lesson and dessert. It is recommended that folks purchase tickets ahead of time because in the past Jazz Night has been a sold-out event. Tickets can be purchased

through a CVIM student or through PayPal or Apple Cash (QR code attached).

Attendees are encouraged to dress in jazzy attire.

“We are big on community engagement at CVIM,” said Ramirez. “This is a really great event and it’s local.”



Ticket purchasers will have access to desserts, such as cupcakes, eclairs and a chocolate fountain.



Jazz Night at the Café provides an opportunity for jazz band musicians to play a “gig.”



Students and community guests crowded the school’s cafeteria for the annual Jazz Night at the Café.

CV WEEKLY ON THE MOVE



- Ron Merlo took the CV Weekly to countries along the Arabian Gulf: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and all seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates. On the observation deck of the Burj Khalifa, the tallest structure in the world, he looked down on Dubai, the capital city of the Emirate of Dubai.
- 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.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

The Glendale and Montrose Railway

Our little town, Montrose, once had its very own electric trolley line that connected riders with Glendale and Los Angeles. That line, which ran both freight and passenger service, was key to our valley's growth in the boom years of the 1920s.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, before everyone had a car there was a business model that tied land development to rail travel, particularly in Southern California, which was more spread out than other cities. It was common for a developer (or railroad owner like Huntington) to buy a tract of land out in the suburbs and run a rail line out to it. The fares for the rail service were not profitable, but sales of home lots were – and wildly so. Everyone wanted a piece of that action.

And so in 1910 a real estate guy, Robert Walton, and an investor, J. Frank Walters, teamed up to run

a business deal just like the one above. They bought 300 acres of scrub brush and laid out streets and plotted out home lots. Their intention was to run an electric trolley line up from Glendale up to their new development of Montrose.

An existing trolley line ran up from Eagle Rock to Glendale. They bought that railroad and paid to have rails laid and poles planted for the overhead electric wires, all heading north to Montrose. They laid tracks north along Glendale Avenue. Then a straight run up the Verdugo Canyon (what is now Cañada Boulevard), over Verdugo Creek and up the center of Verdugo Road. From there it would run along Montrose Avenue. There were even ambitious plans to extend it into Tujunga and La Cañada. They named their new rail line the Glendale and Montrose Railway.

But the main purpose was to get people to the new town of Montrose to buy land. The line was not completed when they opened for sales in February 1913. Hundreds of people came up to the wilds of the Crescenta Valley for a free barbecue by wagon or very early autos. The trolley line did reach Montrose just a few months later in April.

At the same time, a generator was brought up to power the trolley line. A small building was built to house the massive generators that supplied the 600 volts needed for the electric trolley line that ran uphill from Glendale. The generators, weighing 30 tons, were acquired second-hand from the Pacific Electric Company. Moving them up to Montrose required a huge house-moving wagon pulled by a team of 14 horses and 12 mules, and it took two days to get up the Verdugo Canyon from

Glendale.

Besides regular trolley cars, several small trolley cars were bought second-hand. They were single-truck cars, meaning they had a single set of wheels under the center of the trolley car. This made for a very rocky ride, described by some being like riding in a small boat in waves. Because of the cars' small size, locals called the trolley "the Dinky."

The Glendale and Montrose Railway ran not only passenger cars but also freight cars. Electric locomotives pulled flatcars from La Crescenta to Glendale and back again. They brought building materials to the Crescenta Valley, particularly in the boom years of the 1920s, and returned with fruit from the many orchards, along with other commodities the valley produced. The Glendale and Montrose lines

eventually extended from Glassell Park up through Glendale and into the Crescenta Valley, initially stopping at La Crescenta Avenue but later extending to Pennsylvania Avenue. A large maintenance barn was constructed just below Montrose.

The line was never wildly profitable but it did serve a vital service to the growth of the valley. The line finally fell victim to the Great Depression, making its last run on the night of Dec. 31, 1930.

These are the basic facts but there are many stories to be told about the Glendale and Montrose Railway, including many, many things from the old railroad that still exist today. I'll tell you about them in the next few weeks.

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

NEWS FROM THE CVTC » KERRI LEWIN BRAUTIGAM

Looking Ahead to a Robust 2026

The Crescenta Valley Town Council (CVTC) started the year with a sense of renewal and a steadfast commitment to representing the voices of La Crescenta residents. From new leadership to the ongoing monitoring of local developments, here is the latest news for February 2026.

At the first meeting of the

year, LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger presided over the swearing-in ceremony for the 2026 CVTC leadership.

• Jeffrey Rodriguez was sworn in as the new president.

• Daniel Kim assumes the role of vice president.

• Jo Ann Stupakis was welcomed back as a new member and as the recording secretary,

joining newly sworn-in or returning members including Donna Libra (treasurer) and Harry Leon.

The council expressed its gratitude to departing president Frida Baghdassarian for her leadership and unwavering commitment as she remains an active council member. The 2026 executive officer board was

welcomed as it prepares to tackle the year's upcoming challenges.

The CVTC Land Use Committee continues to closely monitor communications from the LA County Dept. of Regional Planning regarding the proposed Briggs Project (the 80-unit affordable housing development at Foothill Boulevard and Briggs Avenue). Community concerns

regarding traffic congestion, fire safety and emergency evacuation routes remain a top priority. The Council is striving to facilitate a "harmonious relationship" by balancing the community's needs with county oversight and developer goals. Supervisor Barger's office recently requested that the developer,

see CVTC on page 18



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GUEST OP-ED » DANNY PESSY

As AI Advances, Salesmanship Matters More Than Ever

Every few years, a new technology arrives that's supposed to make sales obsolete. Spreadsheets were going to do it. CRMs were going to do it. Now it's artificial intelligence.

Companies now train as if technology can carry the weight. Reps are handed tools without being taught how to think. Scripts replace judgment. Dashboards replace coaching. When results slip, leaders blame effort instead of recognizing the deeper issue: the loss of skill, the skill of the individual.

AI is powerful. It can write emails, analyze data, predict behavior and automate follow-up at a scale no human can match. But after nearly two decades working in home services sales, from solar and roofing to HVAC and security, I've seen a different truth emerge.

As technology gets smarter, salesmanship matters more – not less.

The real risk isn't that AI will replace salespeople. It's that too many organizations will mistake automation for skill and stop teaching the fundamentals that actually close deals: trust, communication, presence and judgment.

Salesmanship isn't about talking faster or pushing harder. It's about reading a room. It's about understanding hesitation before it's spoken. It's about earning confidence one interaction at a time. Those are human skills and they don't download automatically with new software.

The problem is that many

When results slip, leaders blame effort instead of recognizing the deeper issue: the loss of skill, the skill of the individual.

That gap is what led me to focus so heavily on systems that teach salesmanship, not just process.

Over the years, I've watched capable people fail not because they weren't intelligent or motivated but because they were never trained to sell, only to follow steps. When conditions changed, when objections went off-script, or when AI-generated outreach sounded just like everyone else, these people didn't know how to adapt.

When used correctly, technology frees leaders to focus on teaching

answers about contracts, enforcement decisions, development approvals and the flow of public money. Lack of transparency breeds mistrust and makes it harder to separate legitimate concerns from reckless accusations.

California needs better scrutiny – public audits, clear oversight, consistent enforcement and leaders willing to reject the politics of collective blame.

That is what real leadership looks like.

When used correctly, technology frees leaders to focus on teaching

AI should support salespeople, not replace their development. Learning management systems, real-time role play and regular, specific coaching that turns experience into improvement can now scale training in ways that weren't possible before.

When used correctly, technology frees leaders to focus on teaching

judgment, communication and decision-making – the things that actually differentiate one rep from another.

In a world where automation is everywhere, sameness becomes the enemy. The salespeople who stand out will be the ones who can think clearly, communicate simply and connect authentically. That doesn't happen by accident. It has to be trained.

I often say that systems should handle the repeatable so people can focus on the irreplaceable. AI is exceptional at repetition. Humans are exceptional at trust.

Sales has always been a human profession. That hasn't changed. What's changed is the cost of neglecting it. Organizations that treat salesmanship as a real skill, one that requires practice, feedback and structure, will continue to grow. Those that outsource thinking to technology will struggle, no matter how advanced their tools become.

The future of sales won't belong to robots – it will belong to people who know how to work alongside them, and who never stopped learning how to sell.

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*Danny Pessy
Los Angeles*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We Can Fight Fraud Without Scapegoating Our Neighbors

By any honest measure, health care fraud is a serious problem in California. Billions of taxpayer dollars are lost each year through abuse of Medi-Cal, Medicare and other programs that are poorly overseen and rarely audited transparently. All governmental leaders have an obligation to demand accountability, enforce the law and protect public funds.

But that effort collapses when it turns into ethnic scapegoating and political theater.

That is what happened when Dr. Mehmet Oz framed fraud concerns through the lens of the Armenian community in Los Angeles County. Rather than presenting specific cases, naming indicted individuals or outlining systemic failures, he relied on implication and innuendo, standing in front of what appeared to be lawful, community-oriented businesses while suggesting a broader conspiracy. That approach did nothing to advance accountability; it only inflamed tensions and distracted from real solutions.

Fraud thrives not because of ethnicity but because government systems are opaque, fragmented and rarely held to account. Oversight is weak, audits are delayed and enforcement is uneven.

When officials turn structural problems into ethnic narratives, attention shifts away from procurement practices and political favoritism – the very conditions that allow abuse to continue.

Glendale shows why this distinction matters. It is a diverse, hardworking city with deep immigrant roots and a strong small-business culture. Yet residents often struggle to get clear

answers about contracts, enforcement decisions, development approvals and the flow of public money. Lack of transparency breeds mistrust and makes it harder to separate legitimate concerns from reckless accusations.

California needs better scrutiny – public audits, clear oversight, consistent enforcement and leaders willing to reject the politics of collective blame.

That is what real leadership looks like.

Celebrating Washington's Birthday – But Exactly When Is It?

On Monday we will enjoy Washington's birthday, a moment when trivia lovers like to spring their favorite "gotcha" on friends and coworkers: "When was George Washington really born?" When someone confidently answers "Feb. 22," the self-appointed historian savors the moment before explaining that Washington was actually born on Feb. 11 under the Julian calendar and then launches into the familiar story of Great Britain and the American Colonies adopting the Gregorian calendar in 1752. This pushed Washington's birthday forward 11 days and moved New Year's Day back from March 25 to Jan. 1, making his birthday Feb. 22.

And so, as the holiday arrives, Monday will be the federal observance officially designated as Washington's birthday. Federal agencies do have administrative authority to use another name, but that's a story for another day.

*Lynn McGinnis
Glendale*

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First time on the market in 17 years! This expanded Webster Wiley architect-designed property is located at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac in Briggs Terrace, offering 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Residents enjoy the benefits of a natural setting while remaining only minutes from local amenities and major freeways. This well-maintained residence has been thoughtfully updated over the years, including the kitchen, primary bedroom, bathrooms, windows, pool, fencing, landscaping, driveway, and ductless HVAC units. The kitchen is centrally located between the dining room, with a cozy fireplace, and the spacious living room. All three rooms overlook the backyard, which includes a refreshing pool, a large deck for relaxing, and a covered patio—perfect for indoor/outdoor entertaining and dining alfresco. There are two bedrooms downstairs sharing a bathroom, and the third bedroom has a private bathroom and a walk-in closet. Upstairs, you'll find the primary bedroom and bathroom, a walk-in closet, and a relaxing balcony with mountain views. Additionally, there is a 200 sq ft multipurpose space with vaulted ceilings, suitable as a family room, home office, or gym. The low-maintenance yard features synthetic grass, multiple fruit trees plus a practice golf hitting area. Adding the award-winning schools, this is a truly wonderful home in a great location, not to be missed!



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**You are cordially invited to USC Verdugo Hills Hospital's
State of the Hospital**



We invite you to join our CEO and senior leadership team for an engaging conversation on innovative approaches and patient-centered care in an evolving healthcare landscape. Connect with us as we share our commitment to exceptional community care and our vision for the future. We look forward to seeing you there.

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Council Rooms A & B
1812 Verdugo Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91208

10:00 - 10:30 am
Welcome Reception

10:30 - 11:30 am
Panel Discussion

11:30 am - noon
Q & A



USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Part of Keck Medicine of USC

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Keck Medicine of USC

Please RSVP by calling 818-952-2228, scanning the QR code, emailing marie.filipian@med.usc.edu or visiting <https://bit.ly/2026VHHStateoftheHospital> by March 6.



BETWEEN FRIENDS

Lincoln Elementary Turns 100



By Ruth SOWBY

La Crescenta's Lincoln Elementary School celebrated its centennial birthday on the 100th day of the school year. The celebration took place on Feb. 5 and was kicked off with an assembly when a new and improved DanD Lion mascot was revealed to much applause. After the assembly, students and staff gathered on the playground. All wore red shirts and assembled in the shape of "100." A drone flew over and took a photo of the grouping.

The party didn't end there. Self-guided tours from 3:30-5:30 p.m. brought together teacher and students alums. Alum Karen Gertz Fries found her 1961 kindergarten photo in one of the yearbooks on display in the school gym.

"The best years of my life were here. Both my son and daughter went to Lincoln, too," said Fries. "I still keep in constant touch with my friends from here."

Marilyn White Bayles' sixth grade graduation from Lincoln was in 1962.

"My favorite teacher was Dr.

Reiden. He loved all of us," said Bayles. "Four of my grandchildren went here."

Lincoln Principal Barbie Fariss couldn't say enough about the school.

"Lincoln is the most amazing community school," she said. "We work with our parents, side by side."

Among the VIPs present were Shant Sahakian and Neda Farid, members of the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education. From Lincoln was Stacy Garnica, 2025-26 PTA president.

Photo courtesy of Lincoln Elementary
1: Lincoln Elementary Principal Barbie Fariss poses with new school mascot DanD Lion.

Photos by Ruth SOWBY
2: Joining in Lincoln Elementary's 100 birthday party is kindergarten student Natalie Fitzgerald, 6.

3: Glendale resident Karen Gertz Fries shows off her Lincoln kindergarten yearbook photo from 1961.

4: VIPs at Lincoln Elementary's 100th birthday party are, from left, Neda Farid, GUSD board of education member; Barbie Fariss, Lincoln principal; Shant Sahakian, GUSD board of education member; Stacy Garnica, Lincoln PTA president, 2025-26; and Lea Awni, Glendale Council PTA president.

5: The CVHS jazz band provided live music for Lincoln Elementary's 100th birthday celebration.

The CVHS jazz band Cho, Brian Burke and joined in the celebration, Samantha Boyer – all which included Hoon graduated from Lincoln.

La Cañada Congregational Church
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Our Spring 2026 Session
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Songs inspired by nature
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Les Tupper Award Nominations Open

The La Cañada Flintridge Coordinating Council is accepting nominations for the 2026 Les Tupper Community Service Awards. Each year since 1969, the Coordinating Council has honored individuals and groups who have given outstanding service to the community. Service to the community includes volunteerism in the areas of education, youth activities, cultural pursuits, religious, civic or social service. Nominees should demonstrate leadership and service that strengthens the LCF community.

Nominations are welcome

from individuals or organizations. Nomination forms have been provided to organization presidents and are also available at city hall, the chamber of commerce, the library on Oakwood Avenue, and on the council's website lcfcc.net.

Criteria for nomination: adult (individuals or couples), students in grades 11 or 12, as well as organizations or businesses that have given long-term, broad-based community service (beyond job related duties) in the areas of education, youth activities and cultural pursuits as well

as religious, business, civic or social service. Student nominees should be actively participating in service-related activities in their school and in the LCF community. Nominee must be a resident of La Cañada Flintridge.

The deadline for nominations is March 2. Recipients will be notified in late March and will be honored at a public ceremony on Monday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at Flintridge Preparatory School's Norris Hall. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, visit lcfcc.net.

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Ron Koertge To Give Solo Reading at Village Poets

Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga will feature renowned poet Ron Koertge on Feb. 22 at 4:30 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum. There will also be an open mic and poets are invited to participate in the

open reading segment of the event. The Bolton Hall Museum is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. Bolton Hall is a Los Angeles historical landmark built in 1913. The reading starts at

4:30 p.m. and goes till 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Please visit the Village Poets blog for more information about the feature and to read some of Koertge's poems: <https://villagepoets.blogspot.com/>.

Ron Koertge lives and writes in South Pasadena. He was appointed poet laureate of South Pasadena in 2018. Koertge taught at Pasadena City College for 37 years, retiring as professor emeritus. A prolific writer, he began his poetry career in what was then known as the little magazines, like *The Wormwood Review* and *Poetry Now*.

A chance encounter with an author of young adult novels led him into writing for middle grade readers and young adults. His *Stoner & Spaz* is still the "most stolen book" from libraries' teen sections.

In the last 40 or so years, he has written many books for young readers and won two PEN awards. His most recent books are co-authored

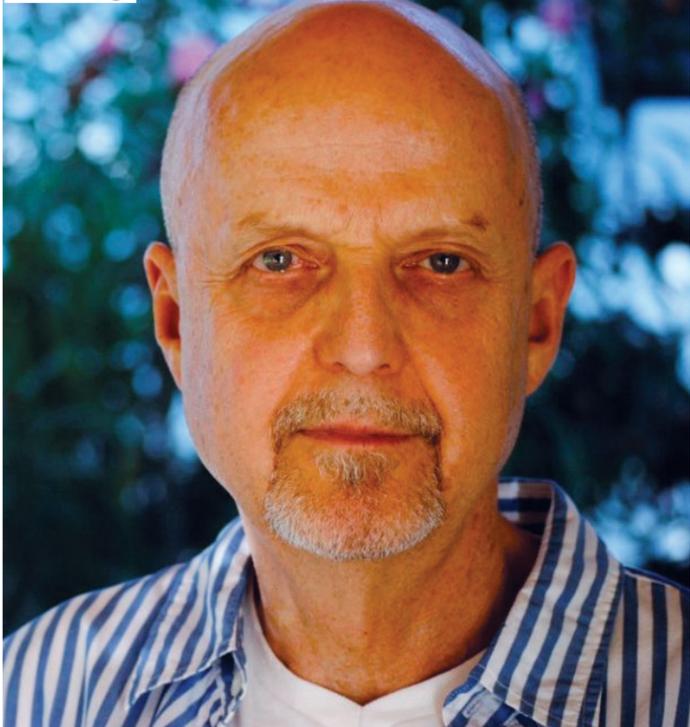
with Gary Schmidt: *A Day at the Beach* and *Styx & Stones*, a fantasy novel due out this spring.

Always restless, he is also the author of a dozen books of poetry. He is grateful for grants from the NEA and the California Arts Council and is a winner of a Pushcart Prize in 2018. Koertge's recent books of poems are *I*

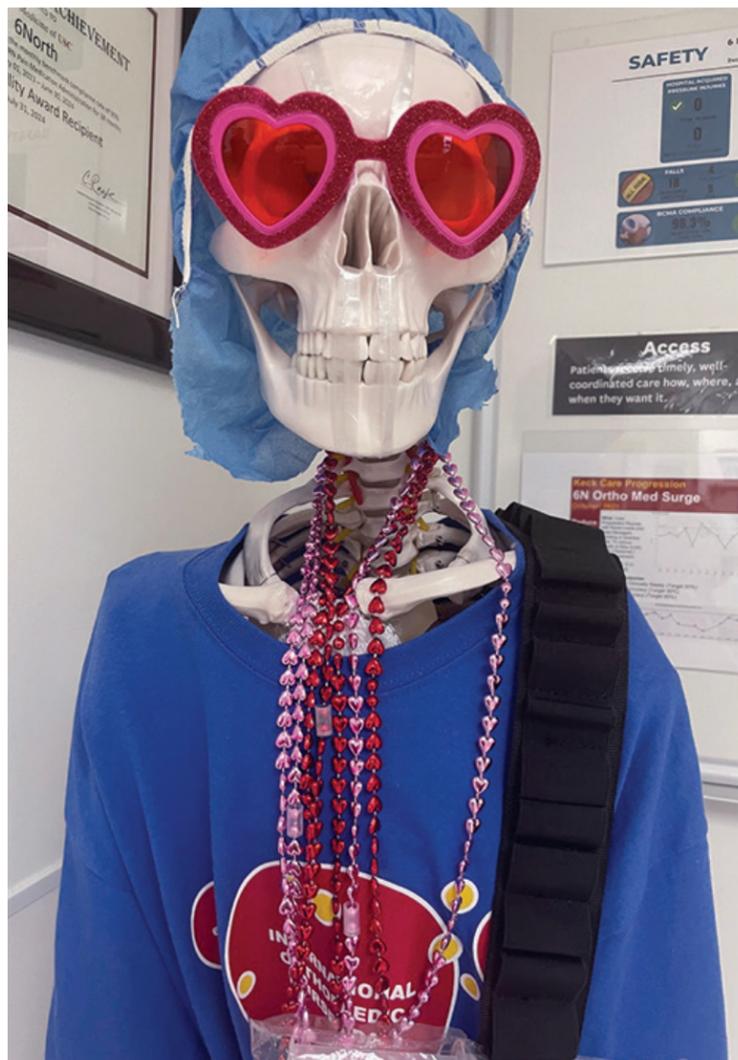
Dreamed I Was Emily Dickinson's Boyfriend, *Yellow Moving Van*, and *Pandora's Kitchen*. An entertaining and dynamic reader, Billy Collins calls him "sly, inventive and deeply good-hearted."

Koertge is also the author of *Negative Space*, short-listed for an Oscar in animated short films.

Ron Koertge



Bony Greeter at USC Keck



By Ruth SOWBY

A Valentine skeleton at Keck Hospital of USC's downtown LA campus welcomes visitors to its 6th floor.

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Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis! Probate With Court Confirmation

Dear Phyllis,
I have been a fan of your real estate advice for years. My late brother never had a trust or will and was a hoarder. I have been tasked with managing the sale of his Canoga Park home. I spent months going through the contents verifying that we were not going to dump anything valuable. I listed the home with a local Realtor who conveniently lives in the neighborhood. This home is a major fixer and additionally a lot of things don't work, such as the heater and the stove. The attorney I hired set the probate up requiring court confirmation. It's been two months, and we have not received even one offer.

My Realtor claims that requiring a ten percent escrow deposit is scaring away investors. He explained that investors don't want to tie up this much money waiting for probate court to confirm a sale

or worse be outbid. He said that the escrow deposit could easily be tied up for three months. Do you think this could be the reason the home is not selling?
— Mark

Dear Mark,
Yes, the 10% escrow deposit could absolutely be a major reason the home isn't getting offers, especially in a court-confirmation probate sale. Most investors want to move quickly. Probate sales with court confirmation are slow and uncertain. Investors don't like tying up large sums—like a 10% deposit—for months without a guaranteed sale.

Even if an investor opens escrow, someone else can show up at the court hearing and outbid them. In that case, the original buyer gets their deposit back—but their money was tied up for months while missing other investment opportunities.

You mentioned the home is a major fixer with non-working systems. This already limits your buyer pool to mostly cash investors. Adding a high deposit and a long, risky process makes it even less appealing.

To improve your chances, ask the attorney whether court confirmation can be avoided. You might be able to switch to the Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA), which allows the sale to proceed without court delays and gives you more flexibility. Also, consider lowering the escrow deposit requirement. While a 10% deposit may be recommended it's not required. Reducing it to a more common 3% could make the property more appealing to investors who are currently hesitant to tie up large amounts of money.

Best of luck to you on a speedy sale and closing.

Phyllis



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USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, in partnership with YMCA of the Foothills, presents:

Hybrid DocTalks

The Science of Sight: How Doctors Detect and Treat Common, Vision-Threatening Eye Diseases

Glaucoma, cataract, diabetic retinopathy, and macular degeneration are the leading causes of vision loss in the United States. In this talk, we will discuss how these diseases develop, how doctors detect them, and how modern treatments help preserve sight. We will conclude by highlighting research focused on early detection of glaucoma and understanding how early detection can prevent vision loss.

Tuesday, March 31, 2026
12-1 p.m.

Kyle Bolo, MD
Dr. Bolo is a board-certified ophthalmologist, specialized in treating glaucoma and cataracts. He is also a clinician-scientist and medical educator, who receives funding from the National Institutes of Health to study how glaucoma screening affects vision. He welcomes new patients at the USC Roski Eye Institute in Los Angeles and USC Ophthalmology in



Location:
USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
4th Floor Council Rooms C & D
(enter from hospital main entrance)
1812 Verdugo Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91208 **FREE PARKING**

To Register:
We will have box lunches for take-away at the end of the talk for our in-person attendees. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., and the talk will begin promptly at 12 p.m. Reservations for takeaway box lunches are required 48 hours in advance.

To register, please call (818) 952-2228, scan the QR code or visit Events - Keck Medicine of USC



For updates and announcements, follow us on:

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USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Keck Medicine of USC



TRAVEL & LEISURE

Peanuts Celebration Returns to Knott's Berry Farm



Photos by Charly SHELTON

By Charly SHELTON

Knott's Berry Farm's annual Peanuts Celebration returns for another festival of Snoopy, Charlie Brown and the whole gang. They will be featured front-and-center across the park. Unlike other festivals, which lean heavily into Knott's history or culinary roots, this festival is less a transformation of the park and more a light seasonal overlay – a little extra color, a few more characters and a playful boost to what's already there.

That's both its strength and its limitation.

Knott's other festivals have some defining characteristic, some value add, that set them apart from normal operations. They are driven by food, like the Boysenberry Festival, or introduce major new entertainment offerings, like Ghost Town Alive. But Peanuts Celebration builds on the existing Peanuts presence with additional character appearances, dance moments and themed décor throughout the park. Charlie Brown, Snoopy and friends are out in greater numbers – dancing, posing for

photos and generally adding a little extra energy to the day – particularly for families with younger kids.

Food does play a role, though it's not the headline act. Several seasonal dishes are available throughout the park and we tried a couple last weekend when Knott's brought us out to experience the festival.

Neither the gruyere cheese Raclette baked potato or the Garlic Parmesan Juicy Lucy were spectacular. The cheese sauce on the potato was an odd texture, especially as it cooled over time. And the burger wasn't melted inside; it was just ground beef around a block of solid cheese, which defeats the purpose of the Juicy Lucy. This is a rare miss for Knott's Berry Farm food. Even beyond those, the culinary lineup is relatively modest compared to Knott's food-forward festivals like Boysenberry Festival or Merry Farm.

This isn't an event you attend with an empty stomach and a checklist; it's more of a casual add-on if you're already spending the day in the park. Entertainment follows a similar pattern. There's a returning stage show and a new cavalcade trolley dance party, but they're mainly just Peanuts characters dancing to generic music. For kids – especially those already familiar with the characters – that's more than enough. The joy is in the simplicity: seeing Snoopy break into a dance, stumbling across Charlie Brown mid-park or catching a quick photo with characters you don't always see.

That simplicity is ultimately what



defines the Peanuts Celebration. It's probably the weakest of Knott's annual festivals if you're measuring by food variety or unique entertainment, but it's also the most low-pressure. There's nothing you have to do, no long lines to chase, no sense that you're missing the main attraction if you take it slow.

For families, especially those visiting with kids, that can be a plus. The added Peanuts presence gives younger guests more to discover and the park feels lighter, friendlier and easygoing.

The Peanuts Celebration may not be a must-do event, but it's a pleasant reminder of Knott's identity – nostalgic, character-driven and rooted in simple fun. And sometimes that's enough.

THEN & NOW *Verdugo and Honolulu* Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then: The year is 1923 and this trolley car, part of the Glendale and Montrose Railway fleet, is dropping Montrose shoppers at the intersection of Verdugo and Honolulu Avenue. Note the new Montrose Pharmacy building under construction in the background. Since the trolley traveled the center of the wide boulevard it had to drop its passengers in the middle of the street. Back then the middle of the street wasn't heavily trafficked, as evidenced by the utility pole, the "bus bench" with the Anawalt elephant logo on it, and the motionless dog – all parked squarely in the center of the intersection. The trolley car shown here was a smaller, more economical electric rail car used by the G&M, which acquired the name "The Dinky" among valley residents. This car's most distinctive feature was its single truck configuration, meaning it had only one set of double wheels in the center of the undercarriage rather than two sets on either end. This gave the car an unstable undulating motion when traveling down the poorly leveled tracks, giving the rider a feeling like riding a small boat in the open sea.



Now: Here's the same view today, looking southwest towards the intersection of Verdugo and Honolulu, the entrance to the Montrose Shopping Park. The pharmacy under construction in '23 is now Gus and Andy's restaurant. The line of cars waiting to turn left is about where the Dinky used to stop to let off passengers. Imagine an MTA bus today dropping passengers in the middle of this street!



Tsai, Hudson on GNC Roster

On Wednesday, Feb. 18 from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. the free admission Glendale Noon Concerts will be performed live in the sanctuary of Glendale City Church, 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

Performing will be violist Sakura Tsai and pianist Natalia Hudson. They will be performing the works of Amy Beach (American, 1867-1944). The program includes the Violin Sonata in a minor, Op. 34

Violinist and educator Sakura Tsai enjoys a multifaceted career having performed nationally and internationally as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician.

A native of Southern California, Dr. Tsai earned degrees (B.M., M.M., and D.M.A.) in violin performance from the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. Her mentors and

teachers included Midori Goto, Kathleen Winkler, Hagai Shaham and Alice Schoenfeld.

Natalia Hudson has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the U.S. and Europe in numerous festivals and concerts, including the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, First Night Charleston, the International Piano Series and the Young Artist Concert Series. A native of South Carolina, Hudson was awarded the Isabella Mebane Piano Performance Scholarship to pursue a performance degree under Uruguayan pianist Enrique Graf at the College of Charleston. She continued her artist education at the Conservatory in Madrid, Spain under German-born pianist, Uta Weyand. Her other main influences include Vitalij Margulis (Ukraine), Ilana Vered (Israel) and Oxana

Yablonskaya (Russia/Israel).

She received her master's degree from the University of Southern California and has participated in the World Piano Pedagogy (WPPC), MTNA and Focus on Piano Literature conferences. A member of the California and National Music Teacher Associations, Hudson is a sought-after teacher, jurying competitions and conducting lessons and master classes in numerous music schools and festivals. She currently teaches at her private piano studio, Hudson Conservatory, and serves on the piano faculty at Colburn School of Performing Arts in downtown Los Angeles.

For more information, visit <https://glendalenoonconcerts.blogspot.com/2026/02/glendale-noon-concerts-live-in-person.html>.



Sakura-Tsai

GIFF Accepting Film & Screenplay Submissions

The Glendale International Film Festival (GIFF)'s 12th edition is open for film and screenplay submissions on FilmFreeway. GIFF 2026 is scheduled to be held in person from Sept/ 23-28, in its namesake Glendale. The multi-venue festival will once again screen at filmmaker and fan favorite Laemmle Theatre's Glendale location.

Presented by non-profit Glendale Arts (GA), GIFF offers a filmmaker-forward festival experience designed to showcase local-to-global creative artists and powerful storytelling on the screen while fostering meaningful connections and network-building opportunities off the screen. The annual six-day celebration of independent cinema is programmed with thoughtfully-curated film blocks including dozens of premieres; in-depth Q&As and panel discussions; a spirited awards ceremony; and fun-filled parties and mixers.

This year marks GA's five-year milestone of stewarding GIFF as its tentpole program and expanding the GIFF experience with care, integrity and a welcoming spirit. As film festivals remain a vital lifeline for independent filmmakers and continue to play a critical role in discovery, distribution and career development, GA and GIFF maintain their commitment to serving as a conduit between emerging and established storytellers and the audiences, collaborators, and opportunities that advance their work.

GIFF invites filmmakers and screenwriters from around the globe to submit work in 22 categories: feature film, international feature, documentary feature, animation feature, horror/thriller feature, Glendale film - feature & short, female filmmaker - feature & short, experimental film - feature & short, drama short, comedy

short, dramedy short, international short, documentary short, animation short, horror/thriller short, short short, web series/new media, music video, feature screenplay, short screenplay, student film - feature & short, student screenplay - feature & short.

Film and screenplay submissions are accepted through FilmFreeway, the industry-trusted platform used by festivals worldwide. Filmmakers and writers are encouraged to browse GIFF's FilmFreeway listing at <https://filmfreeway.com/GlendaleInternationalFilmFestival> to review detailed guidelines, explore feedback shared by past participants, and submit their projects. Submissions are open until the June 26 final deadline.

GIFF is a Gold-designated festival, giving FilmFreeway Gold members access to discounted submission fees. GIFF is also

proud to be included on the Film Festival Alliance's curated list on FilmFreeway, which highlights member festivals of the leading organization dedicated to promoting best practices and professional standards across the global film festival industry.

GIFF is a celebration of storytelling and the cinematic arts – spotlighting the powerful medium of film, the creative artists who make them, and the tradition of moviegoin. Launched in 2014, GIFF is based in Glendale and has been ranked in the Top 100 Best Reviewed Festivals in the World on FilmFreeway. The multi-day festival features in-competition screenings, Q&As, panels and special programs at the iconic Laemmle Theatre in Glendale; a film, screenplay and student competition and awards ceremony; and networking opportunities with industry professionals.

Duo Exhibit Explores Eaton Fire

Glendale Arts announced the first exhibition of the 2026 ace/121 Gallery season: Remnants & Renewal: On the Anniversary of the Eaton Fire. This is a poignant duo show featuring artists DeAnn Jennings and Jane Szabo that will be on view through March 7.

A deeply personal exhibition, Remnants & Renewal marks one year since the Eaton Fire and brings together two artists whose practices respond to climate catastrophe through different yet intrinsically connected lenses. One body of work approaches the fire through direct witness and documentation while the other turns toward symbolic reflection, exploring planetary fragility, resilience and regeneration. Together their work creates a contemplative dialogue between memory and healing, loss and rebirth – an emotional and narrative arc visitors will encounter as they move through the space.

When her close friend Diane lost her Altadena home in the Eaton Fire, Jennings was compelled to capture the raw imagery of the scenes that had unfolded at the intersection of loss and survival. A photographer and educator

whose work has long explored identity and transformation, she photographed debris, altered landscapes and objects transformed by the extreme heat. Melted household items and twisted metal became quiet markers of impact, traces that speak not only to destruction but to the profound physical changes left behind.

Beyond the material remnants, Jennings' work is informed by the people she encountered while documenting the site including displaced residents, cleanup crews, and charity workers whose compassion and steadiness offered moments of inspiration amid upheaval. Rather than revisiting the fire as spectacle, her photographs convey acceptance and reflection, inviting viewers to consider how resilience emerges through community, care, and the inevitable process of reckoning with what remains.

In contrast, Szabo's work turns toward ecological symbolism shaped by both artistic inquiry and personal connection. In Remnants & Renewal, the Los Angeles-based conceptual artist presents work from her ongoing project The Anthropocene Epoch,

a series that explores planetary fragility, human impact and the possibility of regeneration.

Szabo stages still lifes and ephemeral interventions in natural environments using hand-crafted papier-mâché globes collaged with fragments of maps such as roads, waterways and patches of green, forming poetic metaphors for ecological imbalance. In the gallery, her work will be presented as framed photographs as well as a site-specific installation that incorporates her mixed media sculptures. While grounded in long-standing themes of balance and disruption, her work is deeply informed by the lived experience of the Eaton Fire.

In the wake of the fire, half of Szabo's community was destroyed and although her home remains standing she and her family were displaced due to smoke damage.

Together, Szabo's symbolic visuals and Jennings' photographic and physical preservation come together to form an interconnected dialogue that moves between the tangible and the metaphorical, creating space for the inevitability of grief while pointing toward awareness,

connection, and an ultimate hope for renewal.

ace/121 Gallery is operated by Glendale Arts and is located at 121 N. Kenwood St. in Glendale. The gallery is open Wednesday-

Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to check ace121gallery.com for additional information and program dates and details.

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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES Provided by horoscope.com February 9, 2026 - February 15, 2026

ARIES March 21 - April 19
It's time to cleanse your system, especially if you feel more tired than usual. Exercise is a great solution, especially if you do it regularly. You need to get a good sweat going to coax the impurities out of your body. If you combine this with a diet of fresh food, juices, and plenty of water, your skin will glow and you'll feel refreshed.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20
Pace yourself. When it comes to exercise, you might need to do more. Perhaps you love good food but don't care for the thought of working out. You don't mind the pressure and stress at work because these are about security. Work stress combined with too little exercise and too many gourmet meals creates a recipe for a health disaster. Delegate some work, eat more healthfully, and learn to love exercise.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20
Your enthusiasm for good health and a fit body is about to reach a new level. This isn't just about feeling great. It's also about looking fantastic and feeling great about yourself and your life. Whatever you're doing, don't burn yourself out. You may want to take it to the limit, but spare a thought for your body.

CANCER June 21 - July 22
It's time to look after your ankles and feet, especially if they tend to get swollen or puffy after a day at work. This condition could be frequent. Don't ignore it or any other signs of distress in your lower legs. Get any foot problems treated as soon as possible. If you have the time and inclination, neaten up your toenails yourself or get a pedicure.

LEO July 23 - August 22
How do you use your energy every day? If you feel tired for no reason, look at your eating habits and daily routines. If you suffer from nervous tension, find the root of it and eat foods that feed your nerves and brain. It might help to cut back on caffeine or eliminate it completely. Good or bad health depends on whether your habits contribute to well-being or keep you from being well.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22
It might be hard to resist rich, fatty foods. No matter how closely you've followed your latest diet, you might find it easier to enjoy that cake or ice cream than push it aside. It's no great sin to veer off course now and then. Just don't make a big deal about it. Enjoy it and then start over. The cosmos will help you get on the right track.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
This might be a good time for a cosmetic procedure. If you want to improve your image, you'll be happy with the outcome. Whether it's a minor or major fix, things should go well. The cosmos will bring more wonderful blessings to your health zone. The tendency to indulge may mean you put on some extra weight. If you aren't exercising regularly, this is a good time to start.

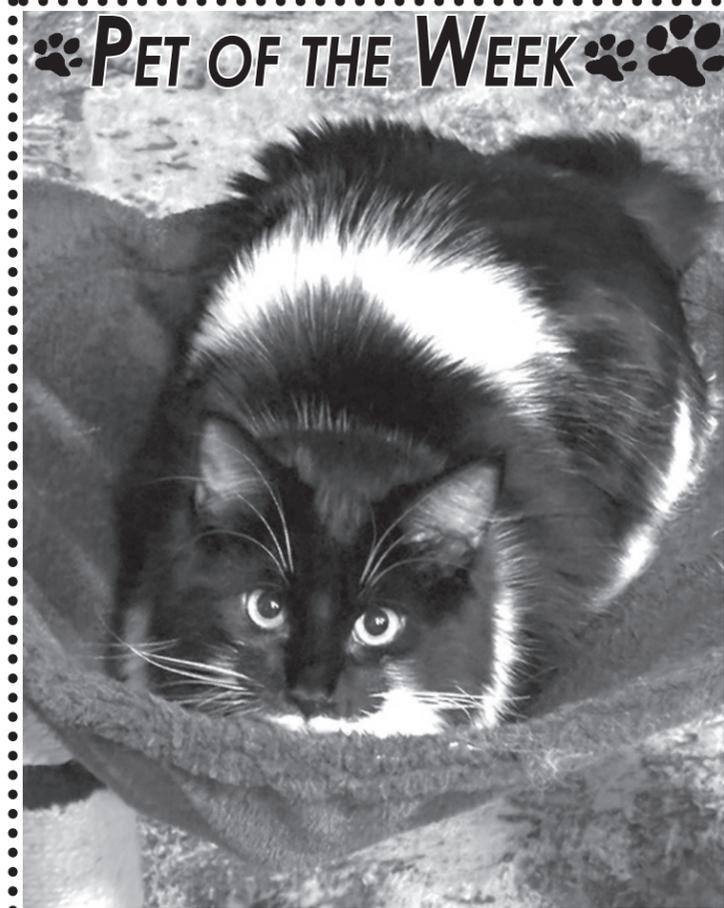
SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Life is treating you kindly, so take a few days to relax and enjoy your good health. Recent challenges that may have brought extra stress seem to have passed. Aspects could make you want to splurge on items that encourage your quest for total wellness. You might even want to set up a workout space in your home or reorganize your kitchen so you can eat more healthfully.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
You digest ideas and concepts as well as food. Some may be more easily assimilated than others. If you're taking the time to research issues associated with your well-being, go to a source you trust, one that feels right. Make sure that the next batch of ideas you consume really suits you. You'll find it easier to incorporate them into your life.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
You may be under pressure to deliver work on a deadline. You'll find it easier to cope if you can slow down and relax. When you work, you really work, and sometimes you find it hard to switch gears. But this is the key to creating a healthy life balance. When you leave work for the day, think about pleasant things and take it easy!

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
Let your renewed enthusiasm for health and wellness fill you with a powerful desire to exercise daily and eat nourishing food. Your diet might have more of an impact on you than you realize. It would be a good idea to check for food intolerances and sensitivities so you can tailor your diet to your needs. Ongoing symptoms could suddenly disappear. That would be a real relief.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20
The pounds could pile on if you aren't careful. If you're going to be doing a lot of socializing, the temptation to indulge could be too much. The weekend might be the worst time, but there are a few measures you can take to help yourself. Drink plenty of water - it will help you feel full. Drink hot water and lemon to dull a sweet tooth. Take control and don't let your discipline disintegrate.



PAW PET OF THE WEEK PAW

Meet Petey (Prince Peter the 1st). Mischievous, very energetic 1-1/2 year old rescue, shares home with big brother Sylvester.

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!

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

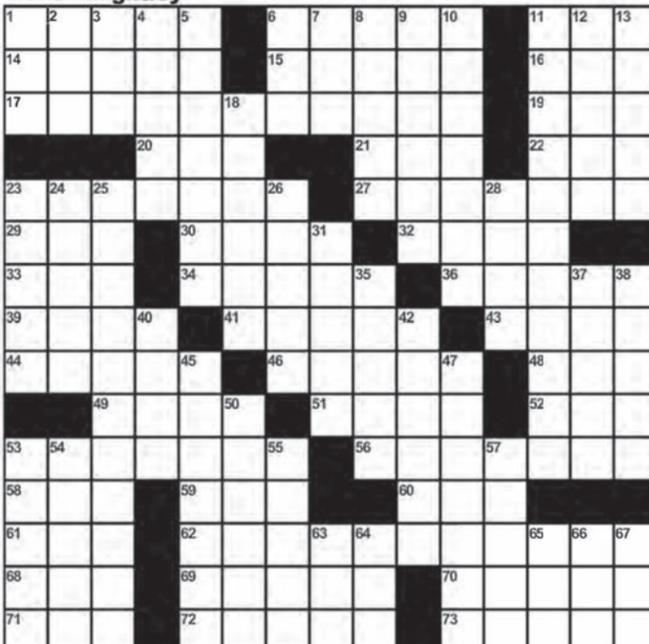
- 1) Barn attics
- 6) Gemstones for some Libras
- 11) Prankster with pointy shoes
- 14) Be useful to
- 15) High hideaway
- 16) Postal motto conjunction
- 17) Definitely not now?
- 19) Word with "cents" or "faced"
- 20) Longoria of TV
- 21) Title of respect, abroad
- 22) Decaf alt.
- 23) Roof supports
- 27) Groups of four
- 29) Sculler's item
- 30) Enormous birds of myth
- 32) In a minute
- 33) Canton that borders Bern
- 34) Casino machines, briefly
- 36) Postgame segment
- 39) Lushes
- 41) More in need of liniment
- 43) Bone-dry
- 44) Get in
- 46) Measuring tube (var.)
- 48) Misfortune
- 49) Some signatures of old
- 51) Kind of helmet
- 52) Egyptian cobra
- 53) Square dancer's need
- 56) Mariners' assents
- 58) Current or former court org.
- 59) ___ of Good Feelings
- 60) Movie, in Hollywood lingo
- 61) Ticket word
- 62) What a convict seeks
- 68) Keogh alternative
- 69) Form of lyric poem
- 70) Cornball
- 71) Yorkshire's home
- 72) Supergiant in Cygnus
- 73) Kitchen wrap

DOWN

- 1) Judges lay it down
- 2) Caesar's salad ingredients?
- 3) Wray of "King Kong"
- 4) Lhasa is its capital
- 5) Drools
- 6) Acorn producer
- 7) Seat at the wedding
- 8) Buddhist in Nirvana
- 9) Feudal vassals
- 10) Washington, D.C. resident
- 11) Threshold location
- 12) Emulated a cow
- 13) Leaping amphibians
- 18) December ditties
- 23) Force out
- 24) Brother of Moses
- 25) Squander slowly
- 26) Ice-cream portion
- 28) Reddish deer
- 31) Get naked
- 35) Brown tone
- 37) Sprang up
- 38) Makes baby chick sounds
- 40) Canonical hour
- 42) Fix a word-processing error
- 45) Continued a subscription
- 47) Some believers
- 50) Outerwear in Sonora
- 53) Home to Notre Dame
- 54) Cancel, to NASA
- 55) Synthetic fiber
- 57) African coastal capital
- 63) Poem of homage
- 64) Four winter wks.
- 65) Gas-station offering, sometimes
- 66) Bake sale organizer, for short
- 67) Suffix for "Hallow"

2.5.26

Della Knightley



PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Will StubHub's FanProtect Promise Protect Me When I Can't See Jason Bonham?

Charlene Burgett faces every concertgoer's nightmare when she discovers her expensive StubHub tickets offer no view of Jason Bonham, the drummer she specifically came to see at the Celebrity Theatre in Phoenix. Can she get a refund?

Question: I purchased tickets through StubHub for The Jason Bonham Experience at the Celebrity Theatre in Phoenix as a wedding anniversary celebration. My husband is a drummer and we specifically wanted to see Jason Bonham perform.

I chose Section A-3, Row 10, Seats 1 and 2 and paid \$348 because I thought they'd provide the best angle to watch the drums.

When we arrived, our view of Jason Bonham was completely obstructed by equipment and curtains. We could only see part of one cymbal! Additionally, stage lights were shining directly into our eyes, giving me the start of an ocular migraine.

A theater employee told us the stage wouldn't rotate and was configured for limited view – something neither StubHub nor the venue made clear.

I contacted StubHub

immediately for a refund under their FanProtect Guarantee, which promises to "make it right with comparable or better tickets or your money back." StubHub refused, saying it is just a third-party marketplace. The venue's promoter later confirmed the original tickets were marked "limited view," but my StubHub tickets weren't marked that way. We left before the show started. Can you help me get my \$350 refund? – Charlene Burgett, Fountain Hills, Arizona

Answer: Your tickets should have disclosed the obstructed view upfront. When companies like StubHub promise consumer protection through guarantees like FanProtect, they need to honor those commitments. That FanProtect guarantee states they'll make it right when there's an issue with your order.

The venue promoter confirmed to you verbally that the original tickets were marked "limited view," but your StubHub tickets had a limited view. StubHub's obligation under its own policy was crystal clear: provide comparable tickets or refund your money.

You could have prevented this by buying directly from the venue's authorized ticket outlet. Secondary marketplaces like StubHub buy up tickets and resell them, sometimes without complete information about seat restrictions. As the promoter bluntly told you: "This is why it is so wrong to buy through them."

Under Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act, businesses can't misrepresent their products. When StubHub sold you tickets without the "limited view" designation that appeared on the originals, it potentially violated state consumer protection laws.

You should have escalated



this to StubHub's executives. I publish their contact information on Elliott.org, including the CEO and other key decision-makers who have the authority to override frontline customer service denials.

After I contacted StubHub, the company investigated your case and found that there was no indication that your ticket had an obstructed view. The venue was also unable to provide written proof

of an obstructed view. StubHub offered you a full credit as a "one-time courtesy."

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/.

© 2026 Christopher Elliott

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On Feb. 13, Lunar New Year will be celebrated! There will be a fun musical performance and fun treats! Wear red to show support!

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.

DR. CAROLINE HELDMAN TO PRESENT TO CC DEM CLUB

On Sunday, Feb. 15, the Cañada Crescenta Democratic Club will present a lecture by renowned author and political science professor Dr. Caroline Heldman titled "How Did We Get Here? The Politics of Division in American Democracy."

The presentation will trace the enduring tension between America's founding ideals of equality and the persistent realities of exclusion based on race and gender, from the nation's origins through the present day.

The meeting will be held in the La Crescenta Public Library, second floor community room, 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta from 2:30-4:30 p.m. The library has two parking lots (off Dyer Street and La Crescenta Avenue).

For more information and to submit questions in advance, please contact canadacrescentadems@gmail.com.

DANCING AS EXERCISE

Dancing As Exercise is a free event sponsored by the Los Angeles County Park program for seniors (50 plus).

There will be live music 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 (CCLCF) hosts a variety of events for the community. Among them:

- Registration continues for Camp Runamuk and summer camps. Camp Runamuk for ages 5-10 will run weekly, June 8 to Aug. 14, with a different theme each week. Also offered are junior and pre-teen Ceramics Camps for ages 5-13 and Professor Egghead Camp for ages 5-10. Learn more/register at cclcf.org. More camps may be added as summer approaches, with additional details coming.
- The Foothills Community Choir is preparing for its spring concert. Rehearsals take place every Tuesday at CCLCF from 6:30-8 p.m. This free choir is open to anyone ages 18 and up, no experience necessary! For more information, email Jack Krimmel at jack@cclcf.org and/or sign up directly at cclcf.org.
- Registration for CCLCF Spring I Session opened on Feb. 4. New classes and returning favorites will run March 2 through May 2.
- Folks are invited to take a break and recharge their body and mind with a relaxing sound bath meditation on Wednesday, Feb. 18 from 11 a.m. to noon. Register at cclcf.org.
- Financial expert Annelise Li will lead a free one-hour workshop that focuses on Financial Planning for Families with Neurodivergent Children. The presentation will be on Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Sign up at cclcf.org.
- The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is located at 4469 Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, (818) 790-4353.

VALENTINE'S CONCERT – AN EVENING OF ROMANTIC CLASSICAL MUSIC

An intimate Valentine's concert of romantic classical music with Valentine's Day with a warm, intimate evening of romantic and expressive classical music performed by Anna Stafford, guest pianists and violinist Emilia Simeonov.

This intimate salon-style concert features solo piano works and chamber music ranging from poetic miniatures to passionate masterworks. Program highlights include works by Frédéric Chopin, Ludwig van Beethoven, Alexander Scriabin, Jules Massenet, César Franck and Karen Tanaka.

The concert is on Friday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at 4451 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta/Glendale.

Tickets are available at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1979112851816?aff=oddtcreator. Those with questions can contact annaspiano88@gmail.com.

AAUW WELCOMES LINKHORST

The Glendale Branch of the American Association of University Women

will meet on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 11 a.m. in the YWCA Glendale/Pasadena at 735 E. Lexington Dr. in Glendale. The speaker will be Joanna Linkhorst from Friends of Rockhaven. She will discuss the history of Rockhaven and its place in women's health.

Reservations are due by Feb. 10 to Susie Robinson at secretary@aauwglendale.org or call Susie at (818) 951-6104 (h) or (818) 317-5602 (cell).

Those who would like to attend should let Susie know. Lunch will be provided at no cost to guests!

LOVE IS IN THE AIR – CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S

DAY AT LCWC

The La Crescenta Woman's Club is having a Valentine's Day celebration on Saturday, Feb. 14. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; 7 p.m. festivities begin. Hors d'oeuvres, dessert buffet, musical entertainment, silent auction and a special presentation by a chocolatier!

Tickets are \$35 each and available now. Go to https://lacrescentawomansclub.org/valentines/.

HANSEN TO SPEAK AT BOLTON HALL

The uniquely shaped bells hanging from their shepherd's crook staffs that dot the highways of California have been seen since the dawn of the 20th century. The story of how they branded California, and the remarkable woman responsible not just for their design but their creation, is one that continues to resonate to this day.

California historian Phyllis Hansen will bring "The Bell Lady," Mrs. A.S.C. Forbes, to life as she relates Mrs. Forbes' remarkable life and legacy as a true Renaissance Woman. She will also share a number of unique artifacts from the estate of Mrs. Forbes.

Hansen will be speaking at the Bolton Hall 2nd Saturday Program on Saturday, Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

This event is free and open to the public and everyone is welcome. Additional information is available from Little Landers Historical Society, (818) 352-3420 or https://www.boltonhall.org or email llhs@boltonhall.org.

LANTERMAN HOUSE HOSTS EVENTS

•On Feb. 15 at 1 p.m., speaker and local professor Richard Demeter will talk about the legacy of St.

Francis High School, which has been a prominent feature of the La Cañada Flintridge area of Southern California since 1946. The story of the original building on the campus, however, begins about 1920 and shares in a heritage created by Frank Putnam Flint, a former U.S. senator from California and the founder of Flintridge.

Free to attend; seating is first come, first served.

•On March 1 at 2:30 p.m. all are invited for a special flute concert featuring the Angels Flute Orchestra. Performed in the Lanterman House's elegant ballroom, the program showcases a variety of beautiful and rare flutes in an unforgettable musical experience. Seating is free but limited, arrive early to ensure your spot!

Free to attend; seating is first come, first served.

•On April 5 at 1 p.m. the Lanterman House hosts guest lecturer Nathan Marsak for this exciting look at the layers of history of Bunker Hill and transportation in Los Angeles at the turn of the century.

Free to attend; seating is first come, first served.

•On May 24 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. is the Lanterman House Annual Summer Picnic. The community is invited on Memorial Day weekend as part of Fiesta Days in La Cañada Flintridge to the Lanterman House Annual Summer Picnic. It features music, living history craftsman and your choice of period attire.

For more information, visit https://www.lantermanhouse.org/list-of-events.

Lanterman House is located at 4420 Encinas Drive in La Cañada Flintridge.

see CALENDAR THIS on page 18

CVTC from page 9

Abode Communities, address specific community feedback including building height and scale before proceeding further. Letters of communication are available for public viewing on the CVTC website at www.thecvcouncil.com.

Mark Your Calendars: Annual Pancake Breakfast

The much-anticipated CVTC pancake breakfast is just around the corner! This event is a staple for community engagement and a vital fundraiser for local students.

Date: Saturday, March 7

Time: 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Cost: \$10 payable either via Venmo or cash at the door

Location: St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church, 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta

Why Attend?

All funds raised go directly toward youth scholarships and other community-focused CVTC events. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors, chat with council members and support the next generation of local leaders.

CVTC general Council meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. and are open to the public. They are held at the La Crescenta Library Community Room, 2809 Foothill Blvd. We encourage all residents to attend and stay informed. We hope to see many new faces in 2026 as the community bond develops, participation is expanded and welcomed.

February General Meeting | Thursday Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. See you there!

*Kerri Lewin Brautigam
Corresponding Secretary*

CALENDAR THIS from page 17

THE CALTECH WIND ORCHESTRA PRESENTS "WINTER" CONCERTS

The Caltech Wind Orchestra, directed by Dr. Glenn D. Price, presents its winter concert on Feb. 21 and Feb. 22 in Ramo Auditorium on the campus of Caltech.

The performance begins with a diverse showcase of chamber ensembles, featuring works by composers ranging from J.S. Bach to Richard Strauss. The second half brings the full wind orchestra together for powerful renditions of Omar Thomas's "A Mother of A Revolution!" and Viet Cuong's "Deciduous." A major highlight of the program is Ney Rosauro's "Concerto for Marimba and Wind Ensemble," featuring acclaimed soloist Wade Culbreath.

Admission is free and no tickets or registration is needed. For more information visit pva.caltech.edu or email hschoe@caltech.edu.

EMBLEM CLUB HOSTS BINGO

Emblem Club #104 of Glendale will hold a bingo night fundraiser on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at the Glendale Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado St. in Glendale. Check-in is at 5:30 pm. Food available for purchase. Bingo starts at 6:30 pm. 10 game packs are \$25

presale or \$30 at the door.

All proceeds go to the Emblem Club scholarship fund. Any questions contact Margie at (818) 404-3257.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Salem Lutheran Church & School and Bethel Encino Lutheran Church is having its third annual Feed My Starving Children MobilePack. Volunteers (aged 5 and older) will be packing MannaPack® meals that will be distributed to those in need.

The event takes place at Salem Lutheran Church, 1211 N. Brand Blvd. in Glendale.

For more information, visit <https://www.fmsc.org/>.

LCWC SOLES4SOULS

Donate gently used shoes to the LCWC Soles4Souls shoe drive. Drop them off at the La Crescenta Woman's Club clubhouse, 4004 La Crescenta Ave., on Sunday, March 1 any time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Website: events@lacrescentawomansclub.org; email event@lacrescentawomansclub.org; phone (818) 957-9806

CALLING ALL TRIVIA BUFFS

Trivia buffs and those who just want to have a good time while supporting

educational programs throughout the Crescenta-Cañada community are invited to the annual Smart-A-Thon on March 13 at 11:30 a.m.. The event is open to the public and includes a delicious lunch, surprise guests, a trivia contest that takes place with community members divided into teams of four members and a Pot O' Gold drawing. The entry fee for teams of four are \$240; individuals are \$60 each. More information and registration forms are available on the website pinolafund.org or call (818) 292-7912.

The event is sponsored by the board of advisors of the Mary Pinola Education Fund – Leila Bell, Rick Dinger, Robin Goldsworthy, Jo Loomis, Bobbi Parker, Teri Rice, Patty Steur and Chris Waldheim.

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.

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>.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

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WANTED/NEEDED

WANTED

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WANTED/NEEDED

WANTED

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GOATS from Cover

which has created a lot of vegetation growth. Normally the goats come to Glendale in June and July – and they will be back during those months – but Mundo said the need for clearing was necessary now as well and her agency didn't want to wait until summer.

The fire department was awarded a grant that is helping to pay for the goat grazing/fire prevention.

Fire Chief Jeff Brooks said the department will do mechanized brush clearance using hand crews but the goats are able to get into the trees and eat the vegetation to levels low enough to slow or prevent the spread of fires.

"They are very valuable," he said.

Michael Clane, the owner of California Grazing, knows how valuable the goats can be.

"I am a fire captain and saw the need," he said.

Clane was with CALFIRE and is now with the Conservation Fire Camps Program through the State of California. He realized how goats could clear brush and decided to start California Grazing in 2018. He now has about 1,700 goats and 1,200 sheep.

On Wednesday, 200 goats began to eat and clear the Verdugo Park hillside; an additional 200 goats will be dispatched to graze over 20

acres of the park.

The goats eat the flashy fuels.

The goats will be in the area for about a week. GFD has applied for another grant to continue the program. Last year neighborhood residents of Chevy Chase in Glendale pooled their funds to get goats to clear their area.

Any neighborhood or homeowners association that would be interested in this process of fire prevention can contact GFD for guidance. And those who would like to donate to help GFD get more goats to more areas can donate funds by going to the Glendale Fire Foundation at glendalefirefoundation.org.

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More information including details about the upcoming community meetings can be found at Metro.net/NoHoPasBRT.

Early during Tuesday night's meeting, the Council recognized February 2026 as Black History Month, "recognizing and honoring the history, culture and achievements of Black Americans whose leadership and service have helped shape the nation. In 2026,

this observance marks 100 years since the 1926 national commemoration, offering an opportunity to reflect on the courage and leadership that advanced civil rights and expanded opportunity."

The Council will not meet next week in honor of President's Day on Monday. The next meeting of the Glendale City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 6 p.m.

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You're invited to join us for a Wine & Cheese Evening as we celebrate the Lunar New Year and welcome the Year of the Horse — a year symbolizing momentum, growth, and opportunity.

This evening is about celebrating tradition, strengthening neighborhood ties, and sharing a moment together as we welcome a year filled with prosperity and possibility.

Bring a friend, stop by, and raise a glass to good fortune in the year ahead.

Hosted by Sandy Kobeissi

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 19

7:00PM - 9:00PM



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