

## Delivery Robots Halted in the City

By Julie BUTCHER

At an afternoon and an evening meeting on Tuesday, the Glendale City Council tackled a plethora of matters, large and small.

After a fair amount of debate, the Council voted 3-2 to bring back a moratorium of delivery robots currently operating in the city, mostly in the downtown area, primarily delivering food from local restaurants. The action will allow city staff time to study what other cities are doing and to fashion appropriate regulations limiting the operation of the delivery robots.

Mayor Ara Najarian voted against the moratorium.

"I see them coming and going and I don't see any problem with them. They're using advanced technology – they're able to stop for pedestrians; they're not going fast; and they're not knocking down disabled people," he said.

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian reported that the "personal delivery devices" are not permitted in Burbank or Pasadena.

"It's like something out of a 1950s sci-fi movie – these robots just showed up on our streets," he said. Kassakhian has been advocating for a moratorium on the devices since they first appeared on the city's streets.

"I see a lot of potential benefits to these," Councilmember Dan Brotman countered. "They potentially take cars off the road, which is great. If they're displacing a delivery driver with a robot, I think that's a good thing."

Mayor Najarian agreed.

"Do we know how many Uber Eats delivery drivers there are?" he said. "The typical Uber Eats driver is driving, stops, double-parks – blocking a land of traffic – opens his door into traffic,

You can read more at  
CVWeekly.com/NEWS

## Cheers – It's Time Again for The Montrose Craft Beer Fest

*Honolulu Avenue will be filled with beer connoisseurs when the beer fest returns to Montrose.*

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Sunday, April 12, the Montrose Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce (MVCC) will sponsor the Montrose Craft Beer Fest from noon to 4 p.m. in the 2200 block of Honolulu Avenue.

The event, formally known as the Brewfest, will be celebrating its 11th year.

"[The event] is a closed, beer garden-style event for attendees 21 and older," said Molly Burke, MVCC president/CEO. "Everyone checks in at a single location to have their ID verified and tickets scanned. There are two ticket types: Designated Driver, which includes all food sam-



File Photo  
Tricia Goldsworthy is ready to taste a sample poured for her by Kelsey Weber of Old Stump Brewery, one of the booths that was at the 2025 event.

ples and non-alcoholic beverages, and All Sampling, which includes all food, non-alcoholic drinks, and alcoholic drinks."

There will be a variety of brewers, many who are returning from years past.

"We focus on small, independent craft breweries," Burke said. "Each year we're lucky to connect with new local breweries, some through personal connections

with the event planners. When the stars align, they join the festival."

One of those breweries is local favorite Frogtown Brewery, an independent craft brewery and taproom located in northeast Los Angeles along the LA River.

It started in 2016 with home brewers, Chicagoans Adam Kestel, owner and master brewer, and Mike Voss, owner. Along with

Gustavo Rojas, LA native who is involved in the brewery's development, the brewery has been steadily growing for a decade.

Ian Brown, head of sales, said he feels the success of the brewery is in part because of its "slow and steady approach." The owners started out renting a location to sell bottles and cans of their brew but as its popularity spread the

see BEER FEST on page 7

## No Kings Rally Held at Glendale City Hall

By Julie BUTCHER

"We couldn't not be here," a Sparr Heights couple explained why they were attending Saturday's No Kings rally in front of Glendale City Hall. "No one in the world is safe if the United States stops being a democracy."

Organizers estimate a crowd of 4,000 at the Glendale protest, one of 41 in Los Angeles County, one of an estimated 3,300 similar events in cities and towns across the country.

Organizers from Indivisible, co-sponsors of the event, celebrated the third No Kings event.

"Yesterday was the largest single day of protest in modern U.S. history," the organization wrote. "Across more than 3,300 protests, marches, and demonstrations in all 50 states and abroad, at least 8 million of us gathered to say: America is a democracy, not a dictatorship. This country does not belong to kings."

"Trump's authoritarian regime wants us isolated, afraid and silent. Instead, in the face of tyranny, 8 million of us courageously took to the streets – loudly, nonviolently, powerfully and joyfully."

Locally, people attended Saturday's rally for a variety of

see NO KINGS on page 6



Image provided by Julie BUTCHER  
A couple hold up signs declaring No Kings at a rally held outside Glendale City Hall on Saturday.



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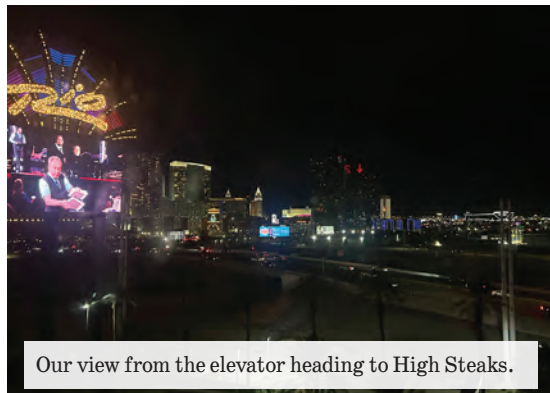
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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

# Fun – But Exhausting

On Thursday Steve and I headed to Temecula to see a favorite band of ours: Train. Now, you might only remember Train for its hit “Drops of Jupiter” but it’s so much more. “Hey, Soul Sister” and “Meet Virginia” are two more of its hits. In addition to playing the songs the audience knows and loves, we got to hear a bit of “The Weekend,” a song the band recently released.



Our view from the elevator heading to High Steaks.

We had a ball! Then it was off to Las Vegas for the annual Baker to Vegas relay run (read my story that starts on page 3). I had never before been to the race and relied heavily on Steve (who has worked it many times) and others who were regulars to tell me what was up. The few days we were there were filled with things to do, from dinner on Friday night to a barbecue on Sunday afternoon. Congratulations to Team Glendale, which took first place in its category, the 300.

I didn’t realize how far reaching the race was. I saw members of the U.S. Border Patrol, San Diego PD, Santa Ana PD and even a team called the Flying Pigs! To see a listing of each category and how teams placed, visit <https://tinyurl.com/vasdat77>.

We stayed at the Rio and let me

just say that the “all suites” Rio was fantastic. Not only were the rooms big, but it had plenty of parking. Also, its restaurant High Steaks was a true find. Steve and I had an urge for a steak on Sunday night and headed over there. The restaurant is on the 50th floor and man! What a view! A glass elevator takes you to the top floor where we enjoyed dinner before heading to a show (Penn & Teller, also at the Rio) then headed back to High Steaks. We sat outside on the patio and enjoyed the views of the strip! It wasn’t too cold or too windy, either, so we were really comfortable.

Will I go back? Yes, definitely!

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

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## » WEATHER WATCH

### Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

LA Climate Week is from April 8 to 15; however, it is really a year round “community-powered movement.”

“We envision a Los Angeles region where climate action is visible, culturally embedded and shaped by the people who live here – where neighbors, institutions and industries see themselves as part of building a just, regenerative and hopeful climate future,” according to [laclimateweek.com](http://laclimateweek.com).

Most people will agree that keeping the Earth clean and healthy is important. There are a variety of events hosted for LA Climate Week – from seminars to beach fun. There are also numerous opportunities to volunteer.

LA Climate Week is unique in its approach to educating and providing boots-on-the-ground support for the planet. Instead of offering one seminar or climate fair-like event, it is highlighting organizations and efforts of those who do this type of work year round.

*Full disclosure:* My daughter’s non-profit – 7 Seas Collective – is part of LA Climate Week. I am so proud of her work with the non-profit she founded. She continues to work with LA County, Aquarium of the Pacific, Alta Sea and so many other organizations and individuals who focus on keeping the planet healthy.

Personally, as a parent you often wonder if your kids listen to you and, if they do, if anything you say will sink in. “Pick that up, don’t litter, we don’t waste, we recycle, respect the Earth” – all of those statements my husband and I seemed to have said every minute of every day

while they were growing up were not actually just “white noise.” It appears all of my kids actually did listen. They also listened and learned from the village that helped raise them, including their grandparents, uncles, friends, teachers, Jet Propulsion Laboratory seminars/outreach and community leaders like Steve Pierce, Jean Maluccio, Robin Goldsworthy, Lynn McGinnis and all of the veterans at American Legion Post 288. And they are passing that well-rounded knowledge on to the next generation.

There are a number of events throughout the area where the public can volunteer, learn and support efforts to help the planet.

Here are some examples of events:

*April 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Verdugo Park, 1621 Canada Blvd. in Glendale.*

The public is invited to the Earth Day Fair “Embracing a more climate resilient Glendale.” There will be a petting zoo, book rescue, Pasadena Pet Adoptions, face paintings and so much more.

On April 8 there is a call for volunteers to help the Eaton Canyon Landscape Restoration with LA County Parks and Recreation Office of Service. Volunteers will help remove invasive species and help the resilience of the land. The event will run from 8 a.m. to noon and all are asked to meet at the Altadena Golf Course, 1456 E. Mendocino St. in Altadena.

On April 8 from 11 a.m. to noon join a virtual event “Feeding Purpose: Jumpstarting Youth Climate Action Through Food Systems.” The virtual webinar will explore how people can drive climate impact across generations through

see WEATHER on page 18

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# NEWS

## IN BRIEF

### EASTER BUNNY AT MSP

The Easter Bunny will be at the Montrose Shopping Park on Saturday, April 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be at the corner of Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard. All are invited to this free family event.

Hosted by the Montrose Shopping Park Assn.

### REPAIR CAFÉ SFV

Repair Café SFV is returning to Elks Lodge in Tujunga for its next free community repair event on Saturday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Repair Café is a free, roving, all-purpose repair event for and by the community. The event aims to promote repurpose, reuse and recycle to help keep unwanted items from the landfill. Another mission of the Repair Café is to advocate skill sharing to enable people to regain knowledge in the art of fixing things.

Repair Café SFV will also host a Really Really Free Market where people can bring unwanted items to exchange or give away.

Pre-registration for repair items available at <https://tinyurl.com/em6beres>.

Interested volunteers can sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/mrp36hmu>.

Elks Lodge is located at 10137 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

### POET LAUREATE APPS ACCEPTED

The Library, Arts & Culture Dept. is seeking proposals from poets interested in the role of poet laureate. The selected poet laureate will serve as an ambassador for Glendale's rich culture and diversity, promoting the art of poetry. Compensation will be \$8,000 for services for one year. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 17 at 5 p.m.

To apply, visit <https://www.glendaleartsandculture.org/poetlaureaterfp>.

### GWP LAUNCHING REBATE PROGRAM

Glendale Water & Power (GWP) is launching a Commercial Energy and Water Saving Rebate Program for local businesses that install high-efficiency energy and water-saving equipment.

The program enables Glendale businesses to reduce energy and water consumption, lower monthly operating costs, and contribute to the City of Glendale's sustainability goals. By offsetting the initial cost of high-efficiency upgrades, GWP is making it easier for businesses to transition to modern, eco-friendly equipment.

### 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.

see IN BRIEFS on page 18

# Runners Met with Heat and Cold at Annual Relay Race



By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

The annual Baker2Vegas Challenge Cup Relay race was held this past weekend. This year marked the 40th year of the event, which originally was an LAPD-only relay race. It has since grown to a global race that features more than 280 teams. For the first time in more than a decade the Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept - Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station (CVSS) had its own team - it did not partner with another station.

"Right now we're likely to have our own team in the future...there's a lot of interest in having our own team," said Sg. John Gilbert of the CV Sheriff's Station.

In a Las Vegas restaurant on Friday night, spirits were high as station personnel - of which there was a strong turnout - celebrated coming together.

"Baker2Vegas is about bringing the station together," said CVSS captain Ryan Vienna, reminding runners (multiple times) to hydrate.

"[It's] about the journey of our station," he said, extending thanks to all present. "Every single aspect of the station is involved."

A La Cañada donor covered many of the costs affiliated with the run, which also minimized the need for additional



fundraising.

In addition to station personnel, former CVSS captain, now commander, Robert Hahnlein ran leg 19 of the 20 leg race.

Each leg of the race encompassed anywhere from 3.2 to 10.7 miles. The terrain was treacherous with temperatures exceeding 96 degrees in the middle of the day then hovering around 62 degrees at night.

And there were hills - lots of hills. Gilbert ran leg 13 - 6.9 miles - which saw an increase in elevation.

"It was a very tough hill," he acknowledged.

Each leg of the journey had alternate runners available "in case the main runner goes down [due to] an injury or is unable to complete the race," he added.

Unfortunately the only female runner for the CVSS, Dep. Peyton Miko, was unable to finish the race. The alternate for her leg -



Dep. Brandon Budwig - completed the race for her. Whether due to heat exhaustion or another reason, she was unable to complete leg 6. After being transported to the hospital and recuperating Miko was released.

Matt Anderson of the Montrose Search & Rescue team handed off the baton to Miko.

"This heat zaps you," he said. "You train for something like this [race] and everything goes 'right' 99% of the time but

see RELAY RACE on page 5

TOP: The runners from the CV Sheriff's Station.

BOTTOM LEFT: From left are Jessica Bolstad, Dave Bolstad, Matt Anderson, Capt. Ryan Vienna, Lt. Jeremy Carr and Steve Goldsworthy.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Hand off by U.S. Border Patrol.

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# Third Salem Lutheran MobilePack Event Yields Even More Meals for Families in Need



By Eliza PARTIKA

Salem Lutheran Church in Glendale recently held its third annual MobilePack event. Around 800 volunteers joined one of nine sessions that were spread across three days, helping to pack as many meals as they could for families in need across the globe. This year, more churches and students participated with volunteers coming to participate from as far away as Bethel Encino Lutheran Church.

While many of the volunteers have been participating in Salem Lutheran's MobilePack since it started packing sessions in 2023,

many attendees were brand new. Pastor Amie Odahl said Salem Lutheran's MobilePacks projects have kept growing over the years, and she hopes they will continue expanding.

Volunteers packed 612 boxes – enough to feed 356 families for one year – exceeding their goal of packing 132,000 individual meals.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), a Minnesota-based Christian non-profit organization, distributes these meals – manna packs made of vegetables, soy, rice and vitamins – to missions, schools and humanitarian aid organizations throughout the world.

For Pastor Kenneth Davis of Bethel Lutheran, participating in this year's MobilePack was much more than packing food. Raised in Kingston, Jamaica, Davis experienced wealth disparities and hunger disparities firsthand. When he became involved with Feed My Starving Children in Arizona 15 years ago he realized the impact the event made in a culturally relevant way. Instead of merely providing the meal mix – vitamins, vegetables, soy and rice – with water, FMSC travels to the places where the meal packs are distributed and cooks meals with families who receive the food, helping them to integrate the

manna packs as an ingredient in their cultural dishes.

"After we cooked the meal with them, we served them the meal and then we sat down and we ate with them. So it was not just, 'Here's a handout that we could help you and bye,' but it was really building community and building relationships so that when you come back, they identify you as a child of God, helping other children of God. So that's the powerful part about this whole organization. It's not just air dropping things to people, it's actually hand-delivering and building relationships and showing the face of God to people,"

Davis said.

Mary Stanford, a member of Salem Lutheran Church, said she enjoys coming to Salem Lutheran's MobilePacks because of how simple and fun it is to get involved.

"It's great to make a difference with something so simple that the

see MEALS on page 7

LEFT: Pastor Kenneth Davis of Bethel Encino Lutheran Church packs meals for Feed My Starving Children.

TOP RIGHT: A volunteer fills a bin with soy.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Mary Stanford waits to fill a manna pack with a cup of rice.



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RELAY RACE from page 3

sometimes it just doesn't. Although [the situation is concerning] it won't stop me [from running] next year."

In addition to alternate runners, there was support staff who helped out. A follow vehicle (donated by Bob Smith Toyota) followed each runner, maintaining their pace. At each leg, the baton is quickly passed on, then the runner who just completed the leg is swept up by "catchers" – those who greet the runner and, especially in the heat of the day, pour water on them and help them walk around as they regain their strength.

Despite the extreme temperatures, not one runner stated he would not run again next year.

"I always plan to run – this is my 11th year running," said Gilbert. "I much prefer running to support."

The overall champions of the race – that is the fastest team across all divisions – was the California Highway Patrol Elite team.

For more photos, visit [www.cvweekly.com/NEWS](http://www.cvweekly.com/NEWS).

## Shocking News at Baker to Vegas

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

It was shocking news for all team members and support staff to learn of the death of San Dimas deputy Levi Vargas. Vargas, 30, was participating in the Baker to Vegas relay race when he suddenly collapsed and died from undisclosed causes.

On Sunday afternoon, friends gathered at the mortuary in Las Vegas when Vargas' family arrived. According to Las Vegas Metro Police, Vargas was escorted to the mortuary – "a safe place."

Sheriff Robert Luna was on-scene.

"Amanda [Vargas' wife] and the entire family: On

behalf of all of the men and women of the Los Angeles County's Sheriff's Dept., we are so sorry. We are so indebted to you for what Levi has meant to each and every one of us. Thank you for sharing him with us," Luna said.

Luna was also effusive in his appreciation of the Las Vegas Metro Police Dept.

"The minute we called you you showed up at the hospital," he said. "Anything we needed you delivered ... we are indebted to you."

County Supervisor Kathryn Barger ordered flags to be flown at half-staff in honor of Dep. Vargas.

## Wanted: Hometown Country Fair Vendors

By Mary O'KEEFE

April 25 is the Annual Hometown Country Fair (HTCF) at Crescenta Valley Park, 3901 Dunsmore Ave. The event is hosted by the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce (CVCOC) and Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation.

"This year we have some great music from the CV jazz band and our local Mary Dyer Band, plus our first ever 5K run," said Robert Manciero, CV Chamber vice president and committee lead for the HTCF.

The 5K run will include a 1K dog run.

The Chamber is looking for additional vendors.

"I anticipate [having] a much larger attendance

than previous years, [with the addition of the 5K run]. HTCF makes a great opportunity for both vendors and non-profits to connect with the local community," he added.

The booth prices have been kept the same as in previous years. The HTCF is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For vendors interested in taking part in the HTCF please register at <https://www.crescentavalleychamber.org/upcoming-events#!event/2026/4/25/home-town-country-fair>. For any questions please call (818) 248-4957.

The event is free to the public and will include music, face painting, inflatables jumpers and games and much more.



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# Prescribed Burns – How and Why They are Done

By Mary O'KEEFE

Recently there were some prescribed burns in the Angeles National Forest and within the Crescenta Valley area. There were warnings posted on social media, in CVW and by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. - CV Station; however, many people still did not realize these were controlled/prescribed burns and the CV Station, as well as the offices of CVW, received many calls from concerned community members.

The concern is real. Residents along the foothills are always looking toward the mountains concerned about fire; however, the use of a prescribed burn is a way to be proactive in protecting the area from the spread of wildfires.

A prescribed burn is a "low intensity planned fire conducted by trained and experienced crews and land managers completed within a specific weather and fuel condition window or 'prescription'" to achieve land management goals, such as clearing hazardous fuel, improving wildlife habitat, and/or restoring ecosystems. Prescribed fires are set under carefully monitored conditions matching a detailed plan, including factors of weather, fuel moisture and wind speed," according to the LA County Fire Department (LACoFD).

Prescribed burns have been used by indigenous peoples for many millennia. "Cultural burns" were ceremonial events by indigenous people that links back to the tribal philosophy of fire as medicine, according to National Park Service.

According to Frank Kanawha Lake, a research ecologist with the USDA Forest Service and a wild land firefighter of Karuk descent, "When you prescribe it, you're getting the right dose to maintain the abundance of productivity of all ecosystem services to support the ecology in your culture."

According to the LACoFD there are five main methods of fuel reduction:

1. Prescribed Herbivory – the use of goats and sheep to reduce fine fuels.
2. Prescribed Burning – controlled fire to clear dead vegetation.
3. Mechanical Thinning – masticators and graders to change fuel orientation and fire behavior.
4. Manual Clearing – crews removing ladder fuels by hand.
5. Herbicide Application – Spraying vegetation with herbicide to kill vegetation or retard growth. The primary target with herbicide application is invasive weeds, such as star thistle or Arundo.

Prescribed burning is a cost-effective method to reduce large fuel loads.

There are long-term benefits including the ecosystem naturally regenerating, and prescribed fire burns allow native obligate seeders to grow where they were previously crowded out. This can increase biodiversity and allow resprouters the opportunities to grow back.

Fuel breaks can help slow or stop a fire from a wild land area from entering into a neighborhood, and can also prevent a fire originating in the neighborhood from spreading to wild lands beyond the community, according to LACoFD.

Conducting a prescribed burn takes a lot of planning and everything has to be just right including cooperating weather conditions.

The fire agency first starts with a burn plan that includes an incident action plan for burn operation covering all resource assignments as well as all safety, communications, medical and contingency elements.

The agencies take into consideration the time of year and seasonal rainfall prior to planning the prescribed burn.

"All burns must be completed inside a defined 'window' with optimal weather and fuel conditions to limit risk and satisfy project objectives," according to LACoFD. "All County of Los Angeles Fire Department fuel reduction projects are California

Environmental Quality Act compliant. The fire department follows local, state and federal environmental laws. For this project, Dudek Environmental completed a Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan (EPP).

The EPP was developed to fulfill Governor Newsom's State of Emergency Proclamation signed on March 1, 2025 seeking to expedite fuel reduction projects to protect communities and reduce severe risks of catastrophic wildfire.

This EPP provides best management practices (BMPs) and measures to minimize environmental impacts while completing fuel reduction projects.

Specifically, these BMPs have been designed to protect air quality, water quality, tribal cultural resources, special-status species, their habitat and other habitat resources."

The LACoFD monitors the area of the prescribed burn after the burn is completed.

"We revisit each treatment site every six months and assess vegetation growth," according to LACoFD. "After the assessment and based on the season, a plan is determined for treating new growth."

There are not any scheduled prescribed burns in the near future by LACoFD, according to a LACoFD spokesperson.

## CRIME BLOTTER

### MARCH 25

4300 Woodleigh Lane in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that her driver's side and passenger's side windows were broken and a dash camera was stolen from her locked vehicle between 3:30 a.m. on March 25 and 6 a.m. March 26.

200 block of Baptiste Way in La Cañada Flintridge, a man reported that the rear window of his vehicle was shattered. The vehicle driver's door had some damage and indentations on the lower right side of the window. The cracks in the driver's window caused a spider-web like effect but did not shatter the window. It did

not appear anything was missing from his vehicle.

The vehicle burglary occurred overnight.

4500 block of Commonwealth Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that someone had see CRIME page 18

NO KINGS from COVER reasons.

One couple shared, "We're both immigrants – and we know what a dictatorship looks like."

Another weighed in.

"I'm just so sick of Trump. The corruption is blatant: billionaires are doing better and better and working families are struggling to get by."

A group of retired GUSD teachers from La Crescenta attended "to make our voices heard."

"Do you know about the 3.5% rule?" one of the teachers asked. "It makes a difference. And it's why I need to be here – even if I woke up with a headache."

Wikipedia reports the 3.5% rule is a concept in political science that states that when 3.5% of the population of a country protest nonviolently against an authoritarian government, that government is likely to fall from power.

Rally participants lined Broadway and Glendale Avenue, urging passing cars to honk their support. Many did.

Others gathered in the courtyard behind city hall to listen to local politicians and candidates for local office.

A local Glendale resident spoke about her 18-month-old niece

"I don't want her to know anything about any of this. None of it," she said. "That's why I'm here. For her."

"It may sound corny but I'm here to show my solidarity with everyone out here trying to defend democracy. It is my civic responsibility to participate in our country's destiny," a local retiree shared.

A young man attending the rally observed, "We're here because we hate wars of choice and we love our neighbors."

Organizers are planning the next action, a "general strike" on May 1: <https://indivisible.org/events/may-day-strong-no-work-no-school-no-shopping/>.

To see more photos, visit [www.cvweekly.com/NEWS](http://www.cvweekly.com/NEWS).



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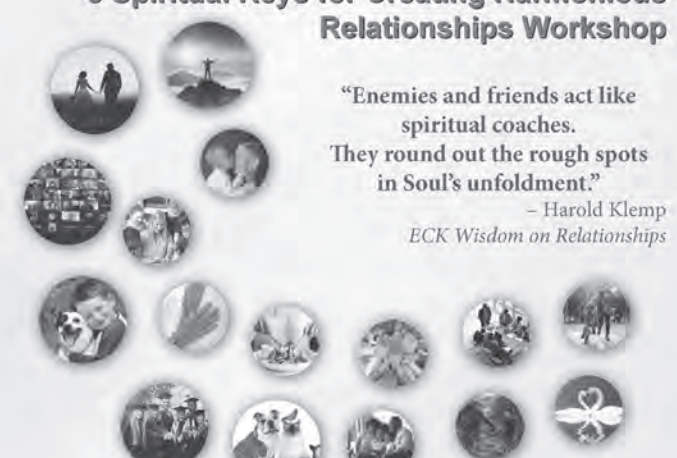
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4545 Oakwood Ave.  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

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MEALS from page 4

whole community can come to. There are so many people we don't know here and we are all coming together for this cause," she said.

Luis Melendez, a community member, has attended all three MobilePacks events with his teenage daughters.

"It's amazing that with so little time we can have such a great impact on so many kids around the world," he said.

Davis said the experience was much more than packing meals; it's about helping the hungry everywhere and bucking some of the misconceptions about hunger.

"The reality is that people are hungry and you don't have to go across the waters to find people who are hungry. We can live right in America, in Downtown LA, on Skid Row, and see people [who] are hungry. And this is not a handout. [There is a misconception that] these people need to pull themselves up by their bootstraps and just have some drive and initiative. Well, how do you expect people to pull themselves up by their bootstraps when they don't even have boots? So those misconceptions we have of the homeless and the unhoused - people don't choose to eat out of [trashcans]. They are desperate situations that force them to be in that situation," he said.

Lysette Guardian, a member of Feed My Starving Children in Arizona, said she has worked with FMSC, and with Salem Lutheran, each year because of the great impact they have on people who are food insecure.

"I can see how much they love this mission, and how much they love their community," Guardian said. "Growing up, I didn't always have access to food myself, so food in general is a very important thing to me. If you asked me as a kid, if I thought that growing up I'd be able to make a difference to kids in the same situation around the world, it makes me feel empowered," she said.

Community members wishing to know more can go to the Feed My Starving Children website at <https://www.fmsc.org/>. For those wishing to donate to Salem Lutheran's MobilePack, visit <https://www.fmsc.org/ways-to-give/donate-to-a-MobilePack>.

BEER FEST from COVER

company began to grow. The location they started in was bought and they expanded to the parking lot creating a beer garden. They have created a comfortable place where people can sit, talk and drink beer. For those who want to eat, they have invited food trucks to the location.

They are now looking to expand to include Frogtown Brewery's pizza kitchen, which hopefully will be completed by the end of the year.

Brown said the company has set its own standards and is always working to maintain those high standards, so if a beer is created that just doesn't pass the taste test it won't be sold.

"We don't compromise on quality," he added.

He also added Frogtown is in their community and they support other businesses, schools and community events.

Frogtown Brewery has participated in the Montrose Craft Beer Fest for about three years and enjoys coming back to the event and seeing familiar faces. Those who have visited their booth in the past know Marco Botaroco, who will once again be at the event this year.

"Guests with the All Sampling wristband receive a 5 oz taster glass to visit all the pouring stations. There are no additional costs once inside the festival," Burke said. "We're excited to feature local band Hardcastle this year! They will be performing near the lawn games area. In addition, we'll have ambient music throughout the festival to keep the vibes going."

Pre-sale tickets are available until midnight the day before the event and are offered at a lower price, so purchasing early helps save money. Including fees, the

pre-sale price is \$28.52 for a Designated Driver ticket and \$60.54 for an All Sampling ticket, according to Burke.

"Tickets will also be available on the day of the event and we encourage guests to purchase them through our website ([montrosechamberofcommerce.org](http://montrosechamberofcommerce.org)) or via a QR code at the entrance. We use the Eventbrite app for check-in and can process ticket sales if needed. If someone prefers to pay with cash, we accept exact change only. Day-of pricing is \$30 for a Designated Driver ticket and \$75 for an All Sampling ticket when paying cash. Online day-of pricing is \$33.85 for the Designated Driver ticket and \$81.88 for the All Sampling ticket," Burke said.

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# VIEWPOINTS

VIEW OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

## Little High House on the America 250

The Sunland-Tujunga Bicentennial Trail, developed in 1976, is now the America 250 Trail ... and you're on it! Today, we arrive at location #10, the McGroarty House, located at 7570 McGroarty Terrace. Let's begin once again with the words left to us from half a century ago about this historic house.

John Steven McGroarty and his wife Ida came to Tujunga in the early 1900s. Their first home was a small wooden-framed bungalow located on the side of the hill, just southwest of the present house. For his editorial work with the Los Angeles Times, McGroarty commuted downtown in Model T Fords, each nicknamed "Henry." There was "Henry the First" and on through "Henry the Eighth," after which, for some reason, he purchased an Essex.

The house you see today caught fire shortly after its completion in the '20s and the whole town turned out to save the furnishings. Tragically, McGroarty's fine library of rare manuscripts and books burned. Once rebuilt, Mr. and Mrs. McGroarty were friendly hosts and enjoyed meeting everyone who visited this house they called Rancho Chupa Rosa.

Much can be learned about the storied career of John S. McGroarty. He was a U.S. Congressman, a poet, a historian, a dramatist, a journalist and perhaps the most beloved Tujunga resident of all time. My focus today is not the man but the houses he built on his little Hummingbird Ranch in the Verdugo Hills. That's right: houses – three to be exact,

and you might even say three and a half.

Not many people are aware that John and Ida's original house was a much smaller affair, perhaps 60 yards or so further up the hill behind the present house. They lovingly called this first cabin the Little High House.

In a matter of years, they began construction on their second, slightly larger house just down the hill in about the same location as the house you can see today. After moving into their second house, John McGroarty began using the Little High House as his office. It's said that many of his early writings were penned there. According to Bolton Hall records, in December 1922, John and Ida's second house caught fire and burned to the ground. They most likely retreated back to the Little High House as they began to rebuild in 1923.

Their third house would be quite large and built mostly of stone in the expanded footprint of their second house. After the beautiful new residence was complete, the McGroartys invited a great number of guests to join them for a housewarming party on Dec. 11, 1924 to show off their lovely new digs. Late that night, after all the guests were gone, an ember jumped from the fireplace and a new inferno arose. This was the fire referred to above by the originators of this trail. John and Ida were safe but much of their new house was destroyed. Some of the structure did survive, and it was rebuilt. This was number three and a half, and the house you



can visit today.

The Little High House disappeared sometime along the way. I've been unable to find any mention of its demise. When Ida's mother Mary arrived in Tujunga, the Little High House became the mother-in-law quarters for a time. I found an ad that McGroarty placed in January 1925: "FOR RENT – Our upper house, fully furnished. Apply at our residence. John S. McGroarty."

Today, the big, beautiful house on the hill is house to the McGroarty Arts Center. Its mission is to provide access to the arts, community and history by offering arts instruction and a wide range of creative experiences and events. It's a very special place in our community and well worth a visit. Information can be found at [mcgroartyartscenter.org](http://mcgroartyartscenter.org).

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Mental Wellness Outreach Launched by Hubbard Dianetics Foundation of Foothills

Many Angelinos started 2026 with resolutions for positive change. The most common ones related to exercise, diet, finance and mental health. But now, two months into the year, many resolutions have already faded. According to a Forbes Health poll, many resolutions are lost by January while the average resolution lasts only three to four months. The failure rate is so widespread that the second Friday of January has been informally dubbed "Quitter's Day."

With so many people struggling to maintain their resolve, volunteers from Hubbard Dianetics Foundations, both in LA and around the world, wants people to know that those setbacks don't need to define 2026 goals.

To close out February, volunteers from the Dianetics Foundation

of Foothills, located in Montrose, brought the message to markets and fairs to bring a proven, lasting mental health solution to their communities.

Concurrent to the activities in LA, similar outreach activities are happening across the world. Teams provided free stress tests to tens of thousands in more than 250 cities and offered the book *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health* by L. Ron Hubbard, the all-time bestselling book on the human mind.

The word "Dianetics" is derived from the Greek dia, meaning "through," and nous, meaning "mind or soul," and is further defined as "what the mind (or soul) is doing to the body." The book describes the single source for a person's stress, anxiety and unwanted emotions and gives

practical tools one can apply to remove them.

With many in Los Angeles and across America seeking to make a fresh start while the year is still young, Dianetics offers a proven path to take control of mental health and find relief from stress and anxiety. The path starts with reading the book that 22 million people worldwide have turned to for a clear understanding of the mind.

Every week the Foothills Dianetics Foundation offers free introductory seminars where people looking to improve their mental well-being can start on their journey to do so. For more information, visit [www.scientology-montrose.org](http://www.scientology-montrose.org).

Jean Dale Glass  
Kagel Canyon

**Easter @ LCPC**

Come celebrate the hope and new life of Easter with us on Sunday morning, April 5. Experience the story that changes everything and discover the joy of new beginnings.

6:30 @ Memorial Park  
8:00 Choir & Orchestra  
9:30 Choir & Orchestra  
11:00 Praise Band

Children's Programming, Egg Hunt, & Family Photos available at 9:30 & 11!

La Canada Presbyterian Church  
626 Foothill Blvd.

# Something to Talk About

According to astrological forecasts, the spring of 2026 ends a 13-year cycle of trust and reliance on others and enters a new phase described as fiery, bold and one that stimulates independence and self-discovery.

I feel the shift. It's been a crazy couple of weeks for me, full of emotional highs and lows.

My heart is exploding with the arrival of our new family member, a healthy and beautiful baby girl. Her parents have asked for privacy and no social media presence, which I fully applaud, but I have to say their decision stifles my bragging rights in the public domain. I have no doubt that this child will be fiercely independent and insightful, just like her Gramma. Contrasting with my utter joy, I have no fewer than five people in my circle who are struggling with a serious medical diagnosis and more with surgeries on the horizon. I can't expand on that topic either. In addition, our vacation home fire insurance is being cancelled and my assistant has left our office for an exciting career opportunity up north. What I can talk about is the massive five-story building that has been approved by the City of Glendale at the corner of New York Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. It feels like a stomach punch.

I remember the days following the release of the North Glendale Community Plan when I had hope that the comprehensive document would truly protect our community from overdevelopment. I served on the NGCP advisory committee. Our vision for the community became a roadmap for planners and developers to follow with specific design guidelines that kept infill projects compatible with the surrounding context and respected our connection to nature. After the document was adopted in 2011, Foothill Boulevard was downzoned from a 50' maximum height limit to 36', which

indicated Glendale's commitment to keeping new projects in scale with existing buildings. During this period, it was common for owners/architects to meet with neighborhood residents to get feedback on their projects, review the guidelines with respect to height, set-backs, floor-area ratio, quality of materials, etc. and revise their plans, sometimes reducing size and scale. Going through the process, I don't think any of us could have foreseen the upheaval that would take place in the decade that followed.

Due to a series of state mandates, housing laws and removal of environmental protections, the entire residential housing process has changed – and not for the better. Developers started proposing high density housing in commercial zones and building ADUs in single family backyards without giving a hoot about setbacks, parking or what the residents thought. The traditional "checks and balances" used by local jurisdictions to review and approve projects became one-size-fits-all ministerially approved monstrosities with little criticism by planning departments. In fact, Glendale Planning seems to be helping the developers even further by granting more accommodations than are mandated by state law to increase the housing stock and reduce lawsuits.

The project recently approved for 3411-3427 Foothill Boulevard at the corner of New York Avenue is a case in point. This massive residential project will be five stories tall, 74 feet from its lowest point, double the height allowable under the Commercial Hillside zoning ordinance. Whereas 58 units can be built on this location "by right," after applying the density bonus law SB1818, the owner/developer are going full throttle by building 87 units. Glendale approved additional waivers allowing first floor

parking, minimal open space and removed the commercial requirement. Obviously, neither the owner nor the City seem to care about the priorities of Crescenta Highlands residents or any silly community plan.

On March 25, the Glendale Planning Hearing officer granted approval of this density bonus housing project with three concessions and three waivers (everything they asked for) and determined that the project will not have a specific adverse negative impact to health, safety or the physical environment that could not be mitigated. The Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association strongly disagrees and will appeal the decision. See the letter here: <https://www.glendaleca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/82409/639100394257479232>.

Contact the CHNA at [crescentahighlands@gmail.com](mailto:crescentahighlands@gmail.com) for further information or if you want to join the effort. The deadline to appeal is April 9.

Susan Bolan  
susanbolan710@gmail.com

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# The Glory of Easter

At La Crescenta Presbyterian Church

<p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> ~April 2</p> <p>Simple soup and bread meal at <b>5:30pm</b> in Koopmans Hall, followed by Communion at <b>7pm</b> in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>Good Friday</b> ~April 3</p> <p>Worship Service focusing on the power and meaning of the Cross at <b>7pm</b> in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>Easter Sunday</b> ~April 5</p> <p>Two Easter Services <b>Contemporary Service</b> with praise band at <b>9am</b> <b>Traditional Service</b> with choir, organist and pianist at <b>11am</b></p>
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All services are on the La Crescenta Presbyterian campus, 2902 Montrose Ave., La Crescenta. For details, visit [lpcp.net](http://lpcp.net) or call 818-249-6137.

# YOUTH

## Lincoln Talent Show Returns with Music, Magic and Community Spirit

The Lincoln Elementary School talent show once again brought the school community together for an evening filled with creativity, confidence and student achievement. The annual event was directed by first grade teacher Nicolas James whose leadership helped ensure a smooth and successful performance night.

Before the show began, families and students gathered for a bake sale organized by PTA members and alumni Kimberly Brown, Heidi Dai and Peter James. Their efforts helped support the event and added to the festive and welcoming atmosphere.

Student leadership played an important role throughout the evening. Student Council members Kaydence Yuen, Ayla Wu, Jacob

Maikeo, Elodie Kamadrzarian and Ruby Levasseur worked behind the scenes as stagehands, assisting performers and keeping transitions running efficiently. Master of ceremonies Naiyeli Dixon, alongside James, guided the program and kept the show moving smoothly.

For the first time, the show began 30 minutes earlier with a special open mic session, giving Lincoln students the opportunity to warm up the audience by sharing their “knock-knock jokes” – a fun and inclusive addition that set a joyful tone for the night.

The talent show featured over 42 impressive acts, showcasing the wide range of skills and creativity within the Lincoln community. One of the evening’s most memorable



Photos provided by Lincoln Elementary Photography Club members  
LEFT: Principal Barbie Fariss with magicians Ayla Wu and Kaydence Yuen.  
RIGHT: Setting the night’s tone were open mic jokes.

moments featured Principal Barbie Fariss who enthusiastically participated in a magic act with Ayla Wu and Kaydence Yuen.

Musical performances were another highlight of the night. Chloe Lee, Ava Ghaffari Nik, and Valentina Lafaurie energized the crowd with lively performances of popular songs from KPop Demon Hunters. Twins Panayiotis

and Christopher Charalambous wowed the audience with their piano talents while Lily Koo received enthusiastic applause for her performance on the Korean *gayageum*, a traditional string instrument rarely seen on a school stage.

These performances represented just a few of the many talented acts showcased throughout the evening.

The Lincoln talent show celebrated students’ willingness to share their talents, support one another and shine on stage. The event served as a powerful reminder of Lincoln’s strong sense of community and the importance of providing meaningful opportunities for students to express themselves.

By Nicolas JAMES

## CAP Offers Scholarships to Local Students

The Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals (CAP) of Action League of the Foothills (ALF) is now offering two scholarships of \$1,000 for students who will be attending a two-year college or an accredited occupational program in fall 2026.

Eligible applicants must attend a high school in the La Cañada, La Crescenta, Montrose/North Glendale or Sunland-Tujunga zip codes, regardless of the community college or trade school the applicant will attend. Students already enrolled at Pasadena or Glendale Community College also may apply. High school applicants must anticipate graduation by June 2026 with a GPA of at least 2.5 and intend to enroll in a two-year college or occupational program in the fall of 2026.

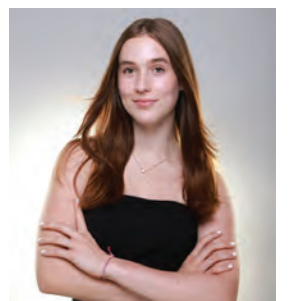
Applications can be printed from the ALF website – www.alfoothills.org – click on “Programs,” then “Scholarships.” Applications also may be obtained from counselors and/or scholarship staff at applicants’ schools. The application deadline is May 1.

Completed applications must be submitted to the CAP Scholarship Committee, ALF, 4607 Oakwood Ave., LCF, CA 91011, no later than May 1. Applicants: please include a one-page typed personal essay (not to exceed 300 words) addressing career goals, achievements, talents, character traits, experiences and life activities; transcript verification of grades; résumé; and one letter of recommendation with a completed CAP scholarship recommendation form in a sealed envelope. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications are reviewed in May and awards are presented at school end-of-term awards ceremonies. Selected candidates and family will be invited to attend the September CAP meeting to be introduced to the organization’s membership. For further information, contact Action League of the Foothills at info@ALFoothills.org or call (818) 790-1328.

Special congratulations to Mona Dillard, the 2025 CAP Scholarship recipient. Dillard is a graduate of La Cañada High School

(LCHS) and is currently studying at Santa Barbara Community College with plans to pursue a career in international business law. During her time at LCHS, she was a finalist for the Harvard International Relations Scholars Program Capstone Team and a finalist for the William G Ericson Photography Competition. She was extensively involved in the Model UN serving as its president. In addition, she served as an LCHS college and career student representative, interned for a city council campaign, participated in the Tournament of Roses rose court and worked as part of LCUSD Facilities grant writing team.



Mona Dillard, 2025 CAP Scholarship recipient

## CVHS Recognized for Arts Education

The California Dept. of Education has awarded Crescenta Valley High School the California Exemplary Arts Education Award. This award recognizes the high school for outstanding excellence in arts education. Schools selected demonstrate broad-based achievement in arts instruction and a commitment to advancing the arts for all students.

This award is an exclusive honor as only 19 schools in the entire state of California received this

award this year. It was also a true team effort.

“Our dedicated CV staff and administration collaborated on this application before winter break, and we are so proud that the CDE recognizes the falcon awesome work happening here at CV,” said Christine Benitez, principal at Crescenta Valley High School.

To read more about the award and to see the official list of winners visit <https://tinyurl.com/2p9nduup>.



Provided by CVHS  
The work of its student artists, like this, are one reason why Crescenta Valley High School was recognized by the California Dept. of Education.

# BETWEEN FRIENDS

## YOU uniqueness, A Festival of International Food, Songs, Dances and Arts, Celebrated at YMCA



Photos by Ruth SOWBY  
The Hula Hālau Nā Mamo O Pana ewa dancers from Hawaii were especially popular with the audience.



Ireland is represented by dancers from the Cleary Irish Dance Group.



The Armenian Lark Dance Group was the last dance performance of the evening at the Glendale YMCA's International Festival.

By Ruth SOWBY

YOU uniqueness, a collaboration among the City of Glendale, the YMCA of Glendale and the Foothills, GUSD, GCC and other local organizations, was held on Saturday, March 21 at the YMCA at 141 N. Louise St. Welcomed were several dance troupes that took the stage to show their stuff. After a hearty welcome, event Co-Chair Edith

Fuentes announced the opportunity for guests to meet, mix and mingle. Glendale VIPs present included former Glendale mayors Elen Asatryan, Dan Brotman and Ardy Kassakhian.

“Fifty percent of Glendale residents are from outside the U.S.,” said Brotman.

Fuentes’ co-chair was George Saikali who introduced the first act of the evening.

Mariachi EP Estrellas Del Pacifico,

representing the Latino culture, took the stage as some 700 guests returned to their seats after sampling a wide variety of international foods. Especially popular was the Italian booth where hungry guests loaded their plates with pizza slices. The Cuban restaurant Porto’s served its signature potato balls (papa rellena).

The entertainment included the Korean Fan Dance group represented by JangGo

Chum, followed by dancers from the Nanta Group Drum Hiza Yoo Korean Dance Institute. Dancers also represented Hawaii, Ireland, the Philippines and Armenia.

“The festival brings the community together,” said YMCA Board Chairwoman Elizabeth Manasserian. “All of our ethnic groups are part of the wonderful family called Glendale.”

La Cañada Presbyterian Church Presents

# Jazz Vespers

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5 PM

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» DR ADRIA NAVARRO, PHD, LCSW

## Spring Cleaning: Decluttering, Finding Peace

Adria Navarro, PhD, LCSW  
Program Manager  
USC Verdugo Hills Hospital  
Community Resource Center for Aging

For many older adults, home is more than a place – it’s your living archive of memories, milestones and meaningful possessions. Yet over time, even the most cherished items can accumulate to the point where they begin to feel overwhelming. Decluttering isn’t about erasing the past; it’s about creating a safer, calmer and more livable environment for the years ahead. And for many in our community, the process can be surprisingly empowering.

Clutter is more than an inconvenience – it can pose real safety risks. Piles of papers, crowded hallways and overfilled closets can increase the chance of falls, block exits and even contribute to poor air quality. Safety experts note that excessive clutter can create tripping hazards, fire risks and difficulty navigating the home, especially for those with mobility challenges. Decluttering helps older adults maintain independence by making the home easier to move through and manage. A clear path is not just a visual relief – it’s a practical investment in long-term safety.

*The Emotional Weight of “Too Much Stuff”*

Many people describe a sense of mental relief after decluttering. Research shows that people who view their homes as cluttered tend to experience higher stress levels than those who feel their spaces are orderly. One older adult shared that clearing out a long-neglected room “lifted a weight not just from my home, but from my mind.” Decluttering can reduce anxiety, improve sleep and create a sense of calm – benefits that matter at any age, but especially in later life when emotional well-being is closely tied to overall health.

*Starting Small Makes the Biggest Difference*

Facing decades of accumulated belongings can feel daunting. Experts recommend beginning with a single drawer, shelf or corner rather than tackling the entire home at once. Small wins build momentum and confidence. Older adults who have successfully downsized often say the key was

setting realistic goals and working in manageable steps. One person who decluttered a large home after a major life transition shared that the process took a year – but each small step made the next one easier.

*Honoring Memories While Making Space*

Decluttering does not mean discarding what matters. Instead it invites thoughtful decision-making: What items still serve your life today? What memories can be preserved in new ways – through photos, digital archives or passing heirlooms to loved ones? Many older adults find comfort in involving family members in the process. Sharing stories behind treasured items can turn decluttering into a meaningful intergenerational experience.

*Support Your Life Now*

As needs change with age, so should the home environment. Decluttering professionals emphasize that the goal isn’t minimalism for its own sake – it’s creating a space that supports mobility, safety and peace of mind. For retirees, clearing out unused items can also open the door to new possibilities: a hobby room, a reading nook or simply a more open, breathable living space.

*When to Ask for Help*

Decluttering can be emotional, especially when sorting through items tied to major life events. Support from family, friends or professional organizers can make the process more manageable. Experts recommend approaching the task with empathy – both for yourself and anyone assisting. Listening, patience and respect for the meaning behind possessions are essential.

Decluttering is not about letting go of the past – it’s about making room for the future. At USC-VHH Community Resource Center for Aging we have heard that a simplified home can bring renewed energy, safety and a sense of control. Whether you’re preparing to downsize, hoping to reduce stress or are simply ready for a fresh start, clearing space can be the first step toward a lighter, more peaceful chapter of life. Connect with a resource specialist to discuss next steps! Email [Aging-Resources@med.usc.edu](mailto:Aging-Resources@med.usc.edu) or call (818) 949-4033.

# TRAVEL & LEISURE

## Full of Grace: ‘Project Hail Mary’ is a Beautiful, Hopeful Adaptation

MOVIE REVIEW  
By Jackson TOYON

When you think of sci-fi films, you usually think of a scarier and darker-toned movie, like an alien invasion, an extraterrestrial pandemic or a monster attack that characters must survive. What isn't too common to see is optimistic sci-fi – a story that fills you with hope and the spirit of cooperation, despite the presence of bleak circumstances. Directing duo Phil Lord and Christopher Miller have taken up the challenge of adapting “Project Hail Mary,” the latest novel by author and self-described “lifelong space nerd” Andy Weir, whose other work “The Martian” in 2015 also received a film rendition. Today, this film dares to ask, “Can Ryan Gosling have chemistry with a rock?”

Ryland Grace (Ryan Gosling), a scientist and schoolteacher, wakes up aboard a spaceship with no idea who he is or what he's doing there. Finding his crew mates deceased, he is the lone survivor on a craft that is already incredibly far from home. Slowly, Grace receives flashes of memories about his identity and purpose ... and it isn't good news. The sun is dying and Earth doesn't have an answer. Scientists are predicting a global ice age and total human extinction within 30-40 years. The discovery of an interstellar microbe called Astrophage, the source of the sun's woes, at least gives humanity a direction. Earth and its governments band together under the international banner of Project Hail Mary, a desperate space mission with impossible odds. Led by Eva Stratt (Sandra Hüller), a tough woman given authority by the United Nations to do anything necessary to save the human species, the people of Earth sacrifice and throw everything into the effort. The mission: send a spacecraft and her crew on a one-way journey to a star far outside of our solar system that has mysteriously not been infected by Astrophage (as have other stars around it), and send back their findings. With the help of an unlikely ally, Ryland Grace is our planet's

last hope – and the clock is ticking.

Having read and thoroughly enjoyed the novel myself, I went into this with high expectations – and I'm pleased to say this film met them with flying colors. While the story has been somewhat compressed, like most book-to-film adaptations, the film is a wonderful interpretation of the source material. Any film adaptation can cover plot beats correctly, but not all of them can maintain the spirit and heart of the original story, which this movie achieves. What has been trimmed off is mostly fat – lots of scientific

explanations and details about why certain things happen. Such things are great fun to read, but could potentially make a film too heavy with exposition.

In addition, the film is a visually dazzling crowd-pleaser with some brilliant technical execution. Impressive, lived-in sets add a tactile realism to the spaceship where Grace spends most of his time while breathtaking visuals capture the terrifying and wondrous nature of deep space. Gosling is a one-man show here but what I most appreciate, perhaps, is the directors' and writer's understanding that the most important part of this story is the core relationship between Grace and his mysterious ally (no spoilers here!). Their bond is the emotional center of the film and it's what really completes this optimistic film about ingenuity and cooperation.

Phil Lord and Christopher Miller are known for their



Image provided by Jackson TOYON  
Ryan Gosling is a scientist and schoolteacher in “Project Hail Mary.”

comedic work (“The LEGO Movie,” “21 Jump Street”), but they have made an admirable first directorial foray into drama. “Project Hail Mary” is a gorgeous, humorous and heartfelt space epic that gives you a shot in the arm of hope, coming together as one of the best space films since Christopher Nolan’s “Interstellar.” Dedicated novel readers will be relieved and those jumping into this story for the first time will find plenty that is amazing. It's enjoyable by older and younger audiences alike, quite re-watchable and, if you can manage it, a pretty fun time to experience in a theater with others. With any luck, it'll be the type of film that inspires younger generations to turn their heads up to the stars again.

Rated PG-13.



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# ‘The Holdings’ at ace/121 Gallery

Glendale Arts presents “The Holdings,” a solo exhibition featuring new and recent paintings and sculptures from Los Angeles-based artist Lucas Novak, on view at ace/121 Gallery from March 28 through April 25. The public is invited to attend the opening reception on Saturday, March 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. Guests will have the opportunity to experience the work and meet the artist.

In “The Holdings,” Novak explores the tension between permanence and transience, positioning the fragile duration of biological life against forces that unfold over vastly longer scales of time. The works on display evoke quiet states of reflection while asking larger questions about existence, interconnectedness, and the shared material of life itself.

For Novak, each piece is more

than an object – it is an “art-being,” imbued with a presence that carries traces of human emotion, experience, solitude and connection.

“In a world where technology has woven an intricate web of instant communication, personal connection can feel increasingly fragmented and distant,” Novak stated.

Through his work, he strives to

convey that “despite the solitude of creation, art remains an open hand and a bridge between souls.”

The Southern California native artist’s work has been exhibited nationally and internationally.

ace/121 Gallery is operated by Glendale Arts and located at 121 N. Kenwood St. in Glendale. The gallery is open Wednesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free on-site parking directly

adjacent to the gallery is made possible by the YMCA Glendale for opening reception attendees. The YMCA parking garage entrance is located at 140 N. Louise St. Visitors are encouraged to check ace121gallery.com for additional details.

# Tickets Now On Sale for Pasadena Showcase House of Design

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts (PSHA) has opened ticket sales to the public to visit Baldwin Oaks Estate through its only fundraiser, the Pasadena Showcase House of Design, one of the nation’s most celebrated home and garden tours.

The historic Baldwin Oaks Estate, a 1907 shingle-style landmark, has never before opened to the public. Now ticket holders will have the unique opportunity to see and feel the grand estate’s interiors and stroll through its lush gardens, up close, for a limited time only. Visitors will be surprised and delighted in their tour through the thoughtfully reimaged spaces designed by 28

Los Angeles area designers.

Cindy Bengtson, Benefit co-chair, said, “When its doors are open in April, we will do more than reveal spectacular room design, we will open windows to the vibrant, artistic community of Arcadia and the power of volunteers working together to turn inspiration into community impact.”

Lynne Graves, Benefit co-chair, added, “We are thrilled to welcome guests to experience this year’s Pasadena Showcase House of Design at the beautiful Baldwin Oaks Estate. From inspiring interiors to special events and unique experiences, there are many wonderful ways to celebrate great design while supporting music

programs in our community.”

This season, guests can enhance their visit to Showcase House with a curated collection of refined experiences designed to delight the senses. Beyond the beautiful interiors and gardens, linger a little longer. Sip exceptional wines beneath the oaks, indulge in an intimate cocktail tasting. Create something beautiful in a floral or candle-making workshop. Enjoy a leisurely brunch accompanied by music and mimosas. For history buffs, take a guided walking tour to learn a bit more of the charm and character of the estate’s nostalgic past. Each offering has been thoughtfully designed to

complement a visit at the House. This year, it is truly more than just a pretty house!

Following its renovation, the estate will welcome more than 30,000 visitors to 30 interior and landscape spaces transformed by leading designers, offering a contemporary reinterpretation of a Gilded Age landmark.

As Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts’ signature fundraiser, the event supports music education, scholarships, concerts and therapy programs throughout Los Angeles County.

The 61st Pasadena Showcase House of Design will be open to the public from April 19 through May 17.

WWW.CVWEEKLY.COM

## THEN & NOW

### Gaylord’s Marine Drydock Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



THEN: In the late 1950s, Gaylord’s Marine Drydock in Tujunga offered boat sales and service at 6934 Foothill Blvd. And why would a boat dealer be located in this dry Tujunga location? Because back then Hansen Dam, less than 10 miles away, had a full lake behind it that offered water-skiing and fishing.



NOW: The same building that once housed a boat dealer is now Big Tujunga Veterinary Hospital and the shop areas in the back where mechanics once wrenched on Johnson Outboard Motors now serve as a kennel for pets. Veterinarian Dr. Edward Ancu is a second generation veterinarian and offers a full range of services to Tujunga pet owners.

## Worship Services This Holy Week

**April 2 + 7:30 PM**  
Maundy Thursday Service

**April 3 + 7:30 PM**  
Good Friday Service

**April 4 + 7:30 PM**  
Saturday Easter Vigil Service

**April 5 + 9:30 AM**  
Easter Sunday Service



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PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

# UPS Kept My \$400 After Damaging My Computer – Can It Do That?

*Vaughn Warriner's Apple computer gets damaged in transit when he sends it to his granddaughter. Now UPS is refusing his \$400 claim. Can it do that?*

**Q**uestion: I shipped my old 27" Mac to my granddaughter through the UPS Store. UPS lost it.

I had purchased \$400 of declared value coverage and paid \$53 for shipping. UPS told me to file a claim directly online, which I did.

UPS then asked for the serial number. Then it asked for proof of value. Then it asked me for the original Apple purchase receipt from 2015. Finally, UPS asked me to provide the serial number of the computer. I provided all of it.

Then it asked me to upload everything again. The UPS site is confusing and seems designed to make me give up.

I spent hours on the phone and online chat with UPS and got nowhere. I've tried contacting the UPS executives on your site but they have not responded. After five months of back and forth, UPS still refused to pay. Can you help me recover my money?

– Vaughn Warriner, Irvine, California

**A**nswer: You bought UPS' "declared value coverage," which is UPS' maximum liability if a package is lost or damaged. In theory, it's supposed to reimburse you for the item's actual worth up to the declared value.

In practice, as you discovered, UPS

makes the process so bureaucratic that many customers walk away. It demands serial numbers, receipts, invoices and repeated uploads.

UPS should have offered a way to file your claim quickly and only once. I've seen this kind of thing before and you're absolutely right – the bureaucracy makes it look like they're trying to make you give up. But you didn't.

You did everything right: you saved the box, kept receipts and even dug up a 10-year-old Apple invoice. Reaching out to a UPS executive should have worked. I list the names, numbers and emails of the UPS executives on my consumer advocacy site [elliott.org](http://elliott.org).

Your case is a reminder of two things: First, if you declare a value be prepared to prove it with receipts, serial numbers and documentation. Second, persistence pays. UPS' claim system may be confusing by design but if you keep pushing – and bring in a consumer advocate when necessary – you can get what you paid for.

When I contacted UPS, it reviewed your case and agreed to pay \$453 – the \$400 declared value plus \$53 for shipping.

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

## CALENDAR this

### GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On April 3, the Club is dark in observance of the Easter holiday. On April 10, interim GPD chief Robert William will be making a presentation.

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.

### 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 for CCLCF Spring I Session is open! New classes and returning favorites will run through May 2. Learn more at [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org).

- Spring Break Camps: Options include Coach Andy's Sports Blitz (ages 5-12), Make It! Bake It! (ages 7-12), Skyhawks Sports (ages 6-13), Theatre/Improv (ages 8-15), World Dance (ages 6-14), and Youth Guitar (ages 8-17). Spring Break Camps run March 30 thru April 3 (LCUSD spring break). Learn more at [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org).

- 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, including a counselor in training program (ages 12-15). Learn more/register at [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org).

- Summer Camps. Check out the junior & pre-teen Ceramics Camps (ages 5-13) and Professor Egghead Camps (ages 5-10). Learn more at [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org).

- Family Bingo Night: Save the date! Family Bingo Night is on Saturday, May 23 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. More info coming soon.

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

### EASTER FUN

A Saturday morning of Easter fun, including real live bunnies to pet, crafts, an Easter egg hunt, refreshments and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny (wear your Easter best!) takes place on Saturday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills, 2254 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose (entrance and free parking at the back of the building).

There is no charge and all are welcome! Please phone (818) 957-1500 or email [events@scientology-montrose.org](mailto:events@scientology-montrose.org) to let them know you are coming.

### LEARNING ABOUT THE HOLLYWOOD BOWL – COURTESY OF AAUW

The Glendale Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will meet on Saturday, April 11 at 11 a.m. at the Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive

in Glendale. Luncheon will be served. By April 8, please make a reservation by email to [secretary@aauwglendale.org](mailto:secretary@aauwglendale.org). Non-AAUW members are invited.

The cost is \$65 payable at the door by cash or check. The program is "100+ Years of Stars, Under the Stars."

Discover how in the early 1900s a popular picnic spot in the hills above Hollywood became the summer home of the LA Philharmonic and America's most iconic outdoor entertainment venue. For millions of music lovers across Southern California and beyond, the Hollywood Bowl is an oasis in the city where performers from around the world appear on the newly-named John Williams Stage.

The presentation includes an interactive Bowl nostalgia quiz and an invitation for audience members to share their own cherished memories of the Bowl. It will be presented by Alison Maggart, a member of the LA Phil's Affiliates Speakers Bureau and an accomplished musician, and historian Vic Pallos, chair of the Speakers Bureau.

AAUW's mission is to advance equity for women and girls through

advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For information about membership, activities, and meetings, visit <https://glendale-ca.aauw.net/>.

### 3 SPIRITUAL KEYS TO CREATING HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIPS

La Cañada Flintridge Library invites the community to this spiritually enriching workshop on Saturday, April 11 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the La Cañada Flintridge Library, 4545 Oakwood Ave. in La Cañada Flintridge. Discover spiritual tools and techniques to help stay physically, emotionally and mentally in balance. Participants will be asked to pick a challenge

from their life to work on and discover how these three keys can widen their perspective. Participants can start using them immediately in any area of their life.

This free workshop – 3 Spiritual Keys to Creating Harmonious Relationships – is a community service sponsored by ECKANKAR, The Path of Spiritual Freedom.

For more info, call (877) 504-6364.

### INVENTING PARADISE – TOPIC OF PRESENTATION

In 1895 Los Angeles was a 29-square-mile pueblo with a few thousand residents.

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

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

## Hybrid DocTalks

### Prostate Cancer in 2026:

Smarter Diagnosis, Artificial Intelligence, Targeted Treatment, Better Outcomes

**Thursday, April 16th 12-1 p.m.**

Learn how new imaging technologies, including MRI fusion biopsy, are transforming prostate cancer detection. Discover who should be screened, how MRI and artificial intelligence improve diagnostic accuracy, and how targeted focal therapies and other modern treatments can effectively treat cancer while preserving quality of life.

**Andre Abreu, MD**

Dr. Abreu is an Associate Professor of Clinical Urology and Radiology at USC and Director of Image-Guided Surgery, Focal Therapy, and Artificial Intelligence for Prostate Cancer at the USC Institute of Urology. His work centers on advancing prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment through image-guided and robotic surgery, focal therapy, and AI. He leads a nationally recognized program in prostate cancer imaging and biopsy and serves as a principal or co-investigator on multiple clinical trials and federally funded studies. Dr. Abreu is also a dedicated educator who has trained learners worldwide and delivered invited lectures across the U.S. and internationally.

**Location:**  
USC Verdugo Hills Hospital  
4th Floor Council Rooms A & B  
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**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](http://Events-KeckMedicineofUSC)

For updates and announcements, follow us on:  
[@USCVerdugoHillsHospitalFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/USCVerdugoHillsHospitalFoundation) [@uscvh](https://www.instagram.com/uscvh)

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## NOTES &amp; NODS

## LCIF OBSERVES HOLY WEEK

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) invites the community to its April 2 Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. In the Lutheran tradition, Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus' final celebration of Passover, or the Last Supper, with his disciples.

The solemnity continues April 3 with a Good Friday service at 7 p.m. to commemorate the crucifixion and death of Jesus.

The week will culminate with the celebration of Easter on Sunday, April 5, marking the resurrection of Jesus and the triumph of life over death. Worship will be held at 10 a.m.; however, all are invited to arrive early and enjoy breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 a.m. Families with young children can enjoy

an Easter egg hunt, as well as a "bunny cuddle corner." Worship will be led by Pastor Viv Vega. The service will include music under the direction of Mark Anzelon, as well as Holy Communion. Holy Communion at LCIF is open to all with an open heart.

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.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT LA CRESCENTA  
PRESBYTERIAN

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church has a full calendar of worship services to celebrate Easter, all open to the community:

On Maundy Thursday, April 2, a simple meal of soup, bread and oranges will be served at 5:30 p.m. in Koopmans Hall, followed by a worship service including communion at 7 p.m. in the LCPC sanctuary.

On Good Friday, April 3, there will be a moving worship service focusing on the power and meaning of the cross beginning at 7 p.m. in the LCPC sanctuary.

On Easter Sunday, April 5, LCPC will offer two opportunities to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The 9 a.m. service will feature contemporary worship led by our praise band. The 11 a.m. traditional service will feature the

choir, organist and pianist.

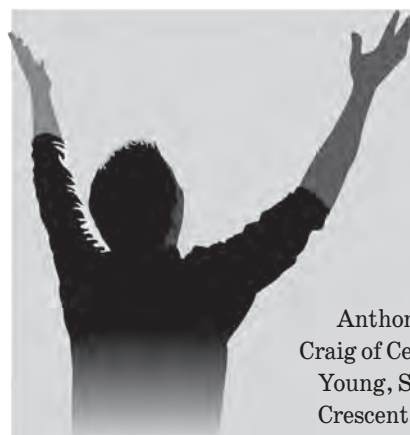
All Easter events and services will take place on the La Crescenta Presbyterian campus at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, visit lcpc.net or call (818) 249-6137.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS AT MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Today, Thursday begins the "The Three Days," or the Triduum, which is one worship service in three parts over three days. The first service begins with:

Tonight, Maundy Thursday on April 2 at 7:30 p.m. - Triduum Part I.

You can read more at  
CVWeekly.com/RELIGION



## SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church;

Rev. Kimberlie Zakarian of Holy House Ministries;

Anthony Kelson RScP, Laney Clevenger-White, RScP, and Rev. Dr. Beverly Craig of Center for Spiritual Living-La Crescenta; Rabbi Janet Bieber, Carolyn Young, Sharon Weisman; Rev. Mary Morgan, Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta Rev. Dabney Beck, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel;

Lucinda Guarino, Rev. Karin Ellis, La Cañada United Methodist Church;

Rev. Sherri James, UP Church; The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman,

Upland Christian Church; Rev. Rob Holman, St. Luke's Anglican Church;

Rev. Sharri Johnson, One Heart Retreat Center; Larry Maib Emeritus, Highlands Church La Crescenta;

Rev. Valerie Reeves, Staff Minister, Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living

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

**Q**uestion: I was raised going to church and I have spiritual beliefs that are important to me. I'm home from college on spring break and am thankful to reconnect with like-minded spiritual people as it's challenging to live out my faith on a college campus. A number of my classmates say they believe in God but don't depend on Him, nor do their lives reflect it. They say disparaging things to try to undermine my strong faith.

I don't feel I should have to explain my commitment to God or my church. Is there a way to quash these discussions without sounding self-righteous?

- An Authentic Believer

**A**nswer: Dear Authentic Believer,

Your steadfast commitment to God is to be commended and encouraged.

When we go out into that "real world," especially a college environment, we get confronted with things that test our faith and are challenged by those who are

skeptical of our commitment to the Lord. Unfortunately, in today's world many people have become jaded, unreceptive or even hostile toward people of faith and look to discredit or diminish our witness for God.

Be encouraged! There are many people who are genuinely looking for those with authentic faith. People want assurance that we're people of faith who don't just "talk the talk, but walk the walk," as the expression goes.

Matthew 5:16 (Amplified), says, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good deeds and moral excellence, so they recognize and honor your Heavenly Father."

Live out your faith rather than getting into debates over it. If we live our lives with integrity, graciousness and forgiveness, loving and serving others, it speaks volumes to those around us. Ask God how you can love and serve those you know so that He will get the credit for your actions and will be drawn to the God you serve.

I have a grandson who for the

past four years has effectively ministered to those within his university's fraternity/sorority system. He has lived out his faith with joy and authenticity and doesn't have to "preach" it. Because of his unwavering devotion, many young men and women have made commitments to follow God. As a result, he disciples a large group of men and women who meet regularly to encourage, strengthen and pray for each other.

Hopefully you have also surrounded yourself with a group of strong believers for accountability and support. We need them for encouragement to prayerfully stand alongside us when our beliefs, values and commitment to God are being tested. If you don't have such partners, ask God to show you like-minded and like-hearted brothers and sisters and get connected as soon as possible.

Standing with you and praying for you, as you let "your light shine,"

Pastor Dabney Beck

## Jazz Vespers at LCPC

La Cañada Presbyterian Church will present an Easter themed Jazz Vespers on Sunday, April 12 at 5 p.m., both live in-person and live-streamed online.

This session features the Jack Lantz Sextet (Jeff Kaye on trumpet, Lance Rickman on saxophones and Abdullah Ibrahim on trombone, plus Zac Matthews on bass and Dave Marks on drums, with Jack on piano) improvising on a wide range of familiar hymns and spirituals. Everyone will recognize every song and enjoy following how the jazz musicians embroider the musical tapestry. The liturgy for this Jazz Vespers is the Easter celebration after Jesus' resurrection.

No charge (free will offering received) and no

reservations required for this hour-long event, held in the church's sanctuary. It will be a time for exuberant celebration of joy, energy, meditation and liberation, as we take an hour to celebrate the joy of Easter.

If you cannot attend in-person, follow this link to watch: live.lacanadapc.org.

Jazz Vespers will also be live-streamed via the church's pages on YouTube and Facebook.

La Cañada Presbyterian Church is located at 626 Foothill Blvd. Worship services are conducted in-person and are streamed on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. (traditional style) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary style).

# BUSINESS

NEWS FROM THE CV CHAMBER » ROBIN GOLDSWORTHY

## Just Around the Corner - the Hometown Country Fair

As April gets underway, much of the attention of the Chamber board is on our biggest event of the year: the Hometown Country Fair! In addition to many of the events that the Fair promises (car show, vendors, pie-eating contest among others) this year we're kicking off a 5K trail run! Runners, come prepared: this 5K is a trail run, not a street event. And for our pups, we will have a 1K "run." The dogs will run at 1 p.m. and the 5K begins at 2:30 p.m. To register, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/LaCrescenta/CrescentaValleyHomeTown5K>. Organized by Aztlan Athletics.

Attendance to the Hometown Country Fair is free to the public! Visit our website to learn more – and I invite you to wander the website and learn of all the events the CV Chamber is hosting and the businesses that have joined the Chamber.

For example, on Monday, April 6 you are invited to a ribbon cutting at Luna Pilates at 3:30 p.m. Located at 2635 Foothill Blvd., this boutique studio "offers a results-driven approach to movement. Our classes are rooted in authentic Pilates methodology, focusing on strength, flexibility, balance and control through intentional exercise. With an emphasis on quality over quantity, Luna Pilates provides personalized instruction that supports healthy alignment, improved mobility, and greater confidence in a focused, welcoming environment," according to its website.

Meet some dignitaries, network with other businesses and enjoy studio tours and light refreshments. This is a free event.

On March 19, members of the Glendale and CV chambers joined organizing chamber Montrose-

Verdugo City in a ribbon cutting for new business Montrose Adult Day Healthcare Center. According to its website, "We help individuals achieve and maintain their optimal health. Rehabilitate participants to the fullest extent possible, helping individuals to achieve independent living or preventing premature placement in long-term care. Family benefits include relief from round-the-clock caregiving duties, access to high-quality medical care for participants, opportunities for socialization and therapeutic activities, continuous medical and psychological evaluations, and counseling on caregiving, family matters and other related concerns." Delicious food (and hearty beverages) was served plus there were certificates presented and photos taken – a good time was had by everyone.

Looking ahead to the last



The ribbon cutting at ADHC was well attended

Wednesday of the month, on April 29 we will be having our Chamber social hour at Sabrina's Pizzeria at 2200 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose. The last one, held on March 25 at Town Kitchen & Grill, was well attended. Among those welcomed were Bob and Marty Kawahara of the Crescenta Valley Lions Club (<https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/crescentacanada/>) and

Lou and Miryam Finkelberg of the Kiwanis Club of the Verdugos (<https://k20863.site.kiwanis.org/>). The Kiwanis Club of the Verdugos is having its inaugural Verdugo Wine Fest on April 18 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; visit its website to learn more.

Robin Goldsworthy, President  
CV Chamber of Commerce

MONTROSE-VERDUGO CITY CHAMBER » MOLLY BURKE

## From Easter Magic to Beers and Beats

April is here and we're excited to kick things off with one of our most joyful traditions. First, we want to thank everyone who joined us in celebrating the grand openings of Crescenta Cañada Cat Clinic and Montrose Adult Day Health Care! It's always special to come together in support of our local businesses. Insert photo here



This weekend, we'll be out in the community delivering Easter magic through our annual Easter Bunny Yard Drop event, proudly supported by the YMCA of the Foothills. Thank you to everyone who placed orders and to those who generously donated eggs to help us create baskets for the Glendale Police Dept. to deliver to deserving children in our community! We always look forward to making magic in the community we serve!

Right after Easter, we're hosting the 11th Annual Montrose Craft Beer Fest, proudly supported by Environmental 911, on Sunday, April 12 from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. on the 2200 block of Honolulu Avenue. This is truly a festival in your own backyard bringing together local businesses, delicious local food vendors and the incredible breweries that make Southern California so special. Grab tickets online at [bit.ly/CBF2026](http://bit.ly/CBF2026) (case-sensitive) and join us for an afternoon of beer and beats you won't want to miss!

We're also wrapping up applications for our 2026 MVCC Scholastic Scholarship Program, open to high school seniors from Crescenta Valley and Clark Magnet. If you know a student who may be eligible, we encourage you to have them apply at [bit.ly/MVCC2026SCHOLARSHIP](http://bit.ly/MVCC2026SCHOLARSHIP) (case-sensitive) and take advantage of this

opportunity.

And looking to May, our largest mixer of the year is right around the corner on May 5 at Jenkins Properties. With taco catering, a live band, drinks, exciting opportunity drawing prizes and the chance to celebrate this year's scholarship recipients, it's always an unforgettable evening of networking and community.

There's so much happening this season and we hope to see you out and about in Montrose!

*Celebrating Our New MVCC Members:*

- *Netwrk* – The best way to organize, understand and power your network. [netwrk.vip](http://netwrk.vip)

- *Patrick's Auto Repair* – Dedicated to keeping you on the road with expert knowledge, honest service and a commitment to your satisfaction. [patricksaautorepair.net](http://patricksaautorepair.net)

*Celebrating Our Returning MVCC Members:*

- *Eye Love Co* – Premium high-end luxury lash extensions, NoGlue Korean lash lifts, and pure organic spray tans. [instagram.com/eyeloveco](http://instagram.com/eyeloveco)

- *Clear Minded Marketing* – "We help conscious small businesses grow through SEO [search engine optimization], digital

ads, website design and strategic content. Our focus is clear, honest marketing that gets results." [clearmindedmarketing.com](http://clearmindedmarketing.com)

- *Nicole Schlueter with Think Real Estate* – "I'm a creative problem solver who won't take 'no' for an answer. I'm a 'yes and' individual who enjoys nothing more than making clients happy." (760) 420-5181

- *The Hummingbird Nest* – Offers DIR Floortime® therapy and social skills groups in La Cañada Flintridge with in-home services across Greater Los Angeles, including Glendale and nearby areas. [thehummingbirdnest.org](http://thehummingbirdnest.org)

*MVCC Upcoming Events:*  
On Sunday, April 12 – 11th Annual Montrose Craft Beer Fest from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. on the 2200 block of Honolulu Avenue in Montrose. Find more info at [bit.ly/montrosecbf](http://bit.ly/montrosecbf).

On Tuesday, May 5 – Cinco de Mayo Mixer and Scholarship Celebration from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Jenkins Properties, 2626 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose. Pre-register at [bit.ly/cincomixer2026](http://bit.ly/cincomixer2026).

Remember to shop local!  
Molly Burke  
MVCC President/CEO

MONTROSE-VERDUGO CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

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**WANTED**

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**WEATHER** from page 2

food systems change, in partnership with Plant Based Treaty and Better Foods. Registration is required; visit https://tinyurl.com/4yfd9rdv.

And my daughter's non-profit, 7 Seas Collective, is hosting an LA Week event - "Coastal Health Survey" on April 11 at 10:30 a.m. at Avenue J, Redondo Beach. She has been hosting these citizen scientists events monthly. Volunteers collect sand that is then analyzed.

"We use this data [that you actually collect!] to work with districts and administrations on how we manage our beaches to ensure long-term health, as well as educate the public about coastal issues. These events are fun, free and kid-friendly, and no prior experience is required," according to 7 Seas Collective.

It is a great way to get the kids to the beach and to help them learn how the beach can be protected. To

register go to https://forms.gle/xgqvfxe1fXb2DWWz7. Please join us.

There are so many events that help educate and are fun. You can find them all at https://laclimateweek.com and click on "See Full Calendar."

It will be sunny but cool today with a high near 69. Winds are expected to increase from 5 to 10 mph during the day to gusts up to 15 mph later in the afternoon. These will be Santa Ana winds - dry and hot. The winds will increase Friday into Saturday with gusts from 30 mph to 50 mph. Since they are Santa Anas we will see higher temperatures and Friday will be a little warmer in the mid-70s, with a low of high 50s. Saturday and Sunday will be sunny and in the low 80s ... perfect volunteer weather. Monday will continue with temperatures in the low 80s with sunny skies. It is expected to cool a little on Tuesday with slight onshore, cooler winds [not Santa Anas].

**CRIME** from page 6

broken her locked vehicle's driver's side window and rear window. A baseball bag with equipment was stolen.

The vehicle burglary occurred overnight.

4400 block of Oakwood Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman parked her vehicle at the location early in the evening. She then woke to find a text message from her neighbor, around 1:12 a.m., stating both of her vehicles had their front driver and passenger windows broken. She went outside and found that her windows had been smashed and the interior had been ransacked. Personal items were found to be stolen from one of the vehicles.

The vehicle burglaries occurred overnight.

*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..

**IN BRIEFS** from page 3

**GLENDALE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES GALA**

Diamonds Gala 2026, the annual Glendale Educational Foundation gala, takes place on Friday, May 1 at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 3067 E. Chevy Chase Drive in Glendale from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

To learn more, visit glened.org.

**Correction**

In last week's cover story, GPD interim chief Robert William's heritage is Assyrian and Armenian, not Syrian as was written. We apologize for the error..

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