

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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MAY 21, 2026

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Council Reduces Trash Fees

By Julie BUTCHER

On Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council took unusual action and voted to reduce two previously approved increases to the solid waste fee set to go into effect on July 1, 2026 and July 1, 2027 from 10% to 4% and 3%, respectively.

In 2023, the Glendale council voted unanimously to phase in dramatically increased trash collection rates, at the time justified by rising labor, recycling and waste disposal costs, as well as new state legislation mandating the collection of organic (food) waste. The steep increases were determined to be necessary to meet future obligations and to keep the city's Refuse Fund from being depleted by FY 2024. The five-year rate adjustments approved in 2023 kicked in on July 1, 2023 with an average rate increase of 90%; an increase of 45% in 2024; and 25% in 2025.

For 2026 and 2027, the increase was approved at 10% for each year. However, based on an updated analysis of the cost of service (called a COSA), revenues are coming in higher than anticipated and expenditures are lower than expected. Therefore, staff and consultants recommend adjusting the increases to 4% on July 1, 2026 and 3% on July 1, 2027.

These increases align with the current rate of inflation and allow for a stable cash balance through 2031 and projects cash balance reserves sufficient to best manage future costs, including the closure of the Scholl Canyon landfill; improved organics diversion participation; implementation of a recycling center master plan; and electrification of the integrated waste management fleet, the consultants explained to the Council.

Councilmember Ara Najarian responded to a public comment accusing the Council of adjusting rates because of the current municipal election: "It's election season and there's a lot of discussion of utility rates."

see GCC on page 7

Keeping Alive the Power of Moving Forward

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

The newly created Charles K. Beatty Memorial Scholarship was awarded to a local student.

Charles "Charlie" Beatty loved the community. He was a regular fixture at the Ralph's supermarket on Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta and donated his time with the Montrose Chamber of Commerce, the Santa Monica [Mountains] Conservancy, was part of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Advisory Council, served for a time on the Crescenta Valley Water District board and was on the Crescenta Valley Town Council (CVTC).

It was especially fitting then that on Thursday night, May 14, his daughter Allister Traber presented Crescenta Valley High School student Aaron Mendoza with the first Charles K. Beatty Memorial Scholarship.

Charlie died on March 1 and presenting the scholarship annually will keep his memory alive.

"My parents, Charlie and Andrea, would donate every year to the CV Town Council scholarship," recalled Traber. "They liked to make sure all students had the ability to attend any college, whether a tech school, a community college or a university."

Students who reside in the Cres-



Photo provided by Allister TRABER
 Receiving the first award of the Charles K. Beatty Memorial Scholarship was Aaron Mendoza with his father Robert and, from left, Maddalena, Alec, Tatum, Kevin, Allister and (standing in front) Treyton Traber.

centa Valley and attend either Crescenta Valley or Clark Magnet high schools will be eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Presenting the scholarship was a last minute opportunity, Traber said. Kerri Lewin Brautigam, corresponding secretary of the CV Town Council, reached out to her to let her know that the opportunity existed for the creation of the scholarship in memory of Charlie. Allister and her husband Kevin eagerly accepted.

"I think we'll give it out via the town council every year," Traber said. "We would like to encourage students to participate."

Traber had nothing but praise for the town council.

"The people on the CVTC are so passionate," she said adding that so many people spoke so highly about her dad during Thursday night's meeting.

"It made me feel so good to hear about my dad," she said. She said that one of the council members said she only wanted to go to his checkout line when he was working at Ralphs.

"It's a caring community," she said about the Crescenta Valley. "That's what the community is all about."

The scholarship is \$500 and no

fundraisers are planned for it. Traber said that her family will continue awarding the scholarship as long as there are funds to support it, which will come mainly from her and her husband.

"It's a nice way to recognize the students and encourage them to move forward," she said about the scholarship adding that giving it via the town council was really "enjoyable."

"It was really heartwarming," she said. "It's important to have the students put their voice out there."

A celebration of life for Charles Beatty is planned for Sept. 12 with details to come.

E-Bike Discussion Hosted by CVTC

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Monday the Crescenta Valley Town Council hosted law enforcement in a talk about e-bikes and e-motors.

The talk began with officers from California Highway Patrol explaining the difference between e-bikes, e-scooters and e-motors and the laws that apply to each classification.

"Our big thing is that we are looking to provide safety, security and a service to the communities," said CHP Officer Katherine Hendry.

She told the audience not to be afraid to ask questions – and the audience did ask questions including teens who wanted to talk about their e-bikes.

"There are three different levels of e-bikes. Level three is the one that's considered the one that goes really fast and is considered to be the most dangerous right now," she said.

The three different class levels of e-bikes are:

see E-BIKE on page 7



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE
 7148: Members of the CHP and CV Sheriff's Station were on hand to answer questions regarding the use of e-bikes.

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

How Time Flies

My youngest son and his wife celebrated their wedding anniversary this past weekend. I thought back to the day when they got married (in Camarillo) and what life was like in their early days (prior to the arrival of their two kids). Of course, I also thought of my wedding.

It's hard to believe that in April Steve and I celebrated 45 years of marriage. (As an aside, thank you to those who sent cards and well wishes; I really appreciate it.) We got married at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in North Hollywood and on the altar were both my priest and Steve's minister (unusual at the time).

I remember walking down the aisle after being married. I whispered to Steve to switch his wedding ring to his other hand. I was so nervous during the ceremony that I put his ring on the wrong hand!

Our reception was held at the Hilton in Sherman Oaks (now a Marriott that can be seen from the 405 Freeway). My nephews (who are now nearing 50 – if they haven't already crested that) as toddlers danced at our wedding.

I also remember that the food was fantastic. We had a buffet and from what I recall the food was delicious.

My dad had died just a couple of years earlier and my mom didn't have a lot of money set aside for my wedding. I think she was able to give us \$2,000, which I thought was a bundle.

I bought my dress in downtown Los Angeles at the corner of Broadway and 3rd Street. It was \$300 and on the cover of Brides magazine. I remember it had a "sweetheart neckline" and to this day the dress is boxed and stored on the shelf of our closet.

We had a rainbow wedding, meaning the bridesmaids wore different colors (yellow, pink, blue and green) and thankfully all agreed on a dress. I was 20 years old at the time and couldn't afford to buy their dresses!

Our wedding wasn't without drama; I remember crying on Steve's shoulder because I thought my mother didn't like my wedding dress. I also tossed out from the wedding the gal who was to wear peach because she got me mad. (We made up years later.)

The one thing I do question is how many years Steve and I have been married. It seems to me that only "old people" have been married for as many years as we have ... and I certainly don't consider myself old!

Hopefully my son and his wife will celebrate 45 years, too – and marvel at being "old!"

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

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» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O'KEEFE

This month is Wildfire Awareness Month but in our area it is mostly a year round awareness. There is not one month, week or day that we do not think about fire.

The Crescenta Valley is in the middle of two mountain ranges that are spectacular and, with the rains we've had, they are green and full of vegetation. That is a double-edged sword because we know as the weather warms the green we've seen will quickly turn brown. Even with green vegetation the chance of wildfires in California, and throughout the nation, is high.

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, on May 14 there were 118 "new" fires reported and 16 large fires that were still burning nationwide.

"So far this year, 25,568 fires have burned more than 1.9 million acres nationwide. New large fires were reported in New Mexico, Nebraska, Wyoming and Texas," according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

As of May 20, CalFire had 1,479 wildfires reported with 40,848 acres burned. These include the Santa Rosa Island Fire that began on May 15 and is 26% contained as of May 20, the Sandy Fire that began on May 1 and is 15% contained, and the Kirby Fire that began on May 19.

With fire comes smoke, which we can smell throughout the area. As of press time, the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) had a Wildfire Smoke Advisory and Air Quality Alert for west and east San Bernardino County and west San Gabriel Valley including Burbank, Northridge, Glendale, Sunland-Tujunga, Universal City, Pasadena, La Cañada Flintridge and La Crescenta/Montrose.

This is due to four fires: Verona Fire and Bain Fire in Riverside, Sandy Fire in Ventura near Simi Valley and the Santa Rosa Island

Fire, which is part of the Channel Islands. The advisory continued through Wednesday and it is pretty certain it will be extended.

"Smoke impacts have primarily been in the moderate air quality index (AQI) category," according to the AQMD.

We are in the area of "potential direct smoke impact."

"Smoke from the Santa Rosa Island Fire that is already over the ocean is expected to come onshore overnight impacting the entire coastline of Los Angeles and Orange Counties leading to moderate AQI category over a wide area. Areas adjacent to the Sandy Fire may reach the unhealthy for sensitive groups AQI category or higher. Smoke impacts can vary over time and by location. If you see ash or smell smoke, take precautions to protect your health," AQMD reported on Wednesday.

It was expected that smoke conditions would improve on Wednesday in areas not adjacent to the active fires.

For those who are sensitive to smoke the AQMD has tips: Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Avoid vigorous physical activity. Run air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do not use swamp coolers or house fans that bring in outside air. Avoid burning wood in your fireplace or fire pit. Minimize sources of indoor air pollution, such as candles, incense, pan-frying and grilling. If you must be outside, a properly fitting N95 or P100 respirator may provide some protection.

According to NOAA, winds are expected to shift today blowing west to east. Any smoke from the Sandy Fire will be headed our way. Of course, this all depends on how contained the fire is during Wednesday night.

We will be seeing winds in the morning and overnight at 10 to 15 mph gusts. Temperatures will be cooling down from the 80s today to the low to mid 70s Friday through Tuesday.



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NEWS

IN BRIEF

CVIM HAVING LAST FULL CONCERT OF THE YEAR

Crescenta Valley Instrumental Music is having its last full concert of the year on May 22 at 7 p.m. in the MacDonald Auditorium (located in the 4300 block of Ramsdell Avenue) at the high school.

Tickets are \$10 at the door; cash, check or Venmo @CVIM-Foundation. Rosemont students, with ID, get in for free. A bake sale takes place before the concert, at intermission and after the concert.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVATIONS

Memorial Day will be observed at local locations including: Two Strike Park, 5107 Rosemont Ave. in La Crescenta. Service begins at 8 a.m. and is hosted by members of the VFW and American Legion. Vietnam War Memorial Wall, corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue. Service begins at 8 a.m. Several dignitaries will attend. City Hall Veterans Memorial, 613 E. Broadway in Glendale. The City of Glendale will host a ceremony on May 25 at 9:30 a.m. McCambridge Park War Memorial at the corner of San Fernando Road and Amherst Drive in Burbank. The City of Burbank will be hosting a Memorial Day ceremony from 10 a.m. to noon; a pre-ceremony concert featuring the Burbank Community Band begins at 10:15 a.m. Memorial Park in La Cañada. Service begins at 9 a.m.

CVCA TO MEET

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its meeting via Zoom on Thursday, May 28 at 7 p.m. The meeting will include discussion on projects at Twelve Oaks, Briggs & Foothill, New York & Foothill and others, as well as an opportunity for area residents to bring their own concerns.

Contact the CVCA at crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com with questions and for Zoom meeting information. All are welcome.

CITY HOLDING MEETING FOR FOOTHILL & NEW YORK PROJECT

The City of Glendale is having a meeting with the Planning Commission regarding the New York Avenue and Foothill Boulevard project at the Glendale Municipal Building, 633 E. Broadway (xst. Glendale Avenue), on June 3 at 5 p.m. in room 105.

STUDENT COMMISSIONER APPS ACCEPTED

The City of Glendale Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission is accepting applications for student commissioners to serve a one-year term from October 2026 to October 2027. The deadline to apply is June 12.

Ex officio student commissioners are active, non-voting members of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission. It is an opportunity for students to share their experience and expertise in recreation programs, human services, workforce programs and the development and maintenance of public parks, recreational facilities and open space. Input on the Commission will help ensure the continuation of Glendale's high-caliber parks, recreation programs and services.

Qualifications:

- Must be a student
- Must reside in the City of Glendale
- Must be 25 years of age or younger and must be available to meet in person on the third Monday of every month at 2:30 p.m.

For more information and to apply, visit GlendaleCA.gov/ParksStudentCommissioners.

Foothills Community Choir Prepares for Performance



The Foothills Community Choir, under the direction of Jack Krimmel, meets at the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge. Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

By Mary O'KEEFE

“The only thing better than singing is more singing.” – Ella Fitzgerald
That quote from Ella Fitzgerald is the foundation of the Foothills Community Choir. People from all over the area, from Lake View Terrace and Burbank to La Cañada and Pasadena, join a choir that is truly a community.

Under the direction of choral director Jack Krimmel, the choir brings together people of all ages and all walks of life. Some may have some musical background and some have never before sung in public. CVW was at the choir rehearsal on Tuesday night and was able to speak to many of the choir members.

Gay McMichael from Lake View Terrace had heard about the choir through her pickleball friends – a common path to the choir. She came to one of the rehearsals and from that point she was hooked.

“It was so amazing. I went up to Jack and he asked me to join,” she said. “I told him, ‘No, you don’t want me to sing.’”

Her friends encouraged her but she was still on the fence as she did not sing or read music.

“But two days later I heard a podcast that said, ‘Do something you were always afraid to do or thought you couldn’t do,’” she said. “And I joined the choir – and it has been great.”

Drew Massingill and his wife are also happy to be part of the choir.

“[My wife and I] had been looking for a way to get involved with music again, so we went to the interest meeting and we’ve been here since!” he said. “It’s been a great release for me. It’s a hole I didn’t realize I needed to fill. And the people are very welcoming and fun to be around. It’s been very rewarding.”

The mix of people who haven’t before sung in public and those who have a strong musical background seems to work well with this choir.

Naomi Conners from Pasadena saw the choir on social media.

“I’ve been singing in choirs from the time I was in third grade,” she said. “Then there was a period [when] I didn’t sing.”

In 2000 she just stopped singing.

“Something happened to my voice where I thought I wasn’t going to be able to sing again,” Conners said, “but then I saw this [social media post] and something just lit up.”

She has rediscovered her voice and she said it’s getting stronger every day. She has even joined the a cappella group. Conners said it is therapeutic and joyful to be part of the singing experience.

The choir is a family affair for the McCrearys from La Cañada/Sagebrush area. Eve, her brother-in-law and her dad are all members of the choir.

“It’s a family operation,” she said.

She added singing with her family members is a good bonding opportunity since they all came to singing from a variety of skill levels.

McCreary is probably the youngest person in the choir but loves the inclusive feeling she gets from being part of it.

The rehearsals are once a month for about an hour and half, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. with optional Saturday rehearsals once a month.

“It’s very easy,” McCreary said of her time with the choir. “I work [and] it’s easy to come after work.”

McCreary is a Crescenta Valley High School alum and sang with the Charismatics when she was in school. When she went to college she didn’t study anything related to music and missed it. Being part of the choir is a good way to return to singing.

Although every member may have taken a different path to get to the choir, being part of it gives them a feeling of belonging. And everyone interviewed for this article praised Director Krimmel and how he makes the experience so positive.

The bonds among members is also strong. Tana Gaudi and Meline Tovmasian are two friends who love the choir. The two had taken part in the “Lightning Thief” at Pasadena City College. Gaudi was the assistant stage manager and Tovmasian portrayed the oracle in the play. Gaudi said although she had been in a choir before she was not in one at the time of the play. Tovmasian invited her to come to the community choir... and she did.

Gaudi wanted to acknowledge Tovmasian for inviting her to the choir. Gaudi said after moving to Montrose she wanted to find a way to connect with the community. Though she has a degree in music for many years she hadn’t been doing anything in music. Gaudi has a dance background. Both she and Tovmasian agreed the choir was a beautiful, creative outlet.

Throughout the rehearsal, Krimmel offered guidance and encouragement. He gave instruction mixed with positive comments and laughter.

On Tuesday, the singers went over and over, and over, one part of a song. At first a viewer would wonder if this segment was ever going to come together; but then, all of a sudden, they are all singing with one harmonic voice... and Krimmel said, “Okay, let’s move on.”

The Foothills Community Choir has a performance open to the public on June 20 at 7 p.m. at La Cañada Presbyterian Church. It is free to become a member of the choir. Rehearsals are at the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr. The choir is a CCLCF program.

For more information, email Jack Krimmel at jack@cclcf.org or call CCLCF at (818) 790-4353.

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NOTES & NODS

LUTHERAN CHURCH TO CELEBRATE DAY OF PENTECOST

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) welcomes all to celebrate the

Day of Pentecost on Sunday, May 24. Celebrated 50 days after Easter, the Day of Pentecost marks the historic culmination of the Easter season and is widely recognized as the "birthday" of the Christian Church. The festival commemorates the biblical account of the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus' disciples, empowering them to preach the gospel in diverse languages to people from many nations.

LCIF Pastor Viv Vega said, "The Day of Pentecost reminds us that

the Spirit is still alive and moving among us in beautiful and powerful ways."

Vega extends a warm invitation to

the community to join in the celebration. "After worship, stick around for coffee, snacks and conversation in a super casual setting where neighbors can simply get to know one another. Sit for a while, chat about life, ask questions, laugh a little or just enjoy being

together. Heck, I'll be there too – and you can ask me whatever questions you'd like" said Vega, adding, "Let's meet. Let's talk. Because we know life can be hard sometimes, but the Spirit is alive – and it's alive in every person you'll meet here at LCIF: the Spirit of truth and justice, compassion and understanding, grace and peace and, above all, the Spirit of love." Day of Pentecost worship at LCIF begins at 10 a.m. with fellowship time following the service.

Children's Church is offered during

worship time.

For more information about upcoming events at LCIF, visit the church's website at lciffoothills.org. Those who need pastoral care can email office@lciffoothills.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.

ICF - BRANCH 374 SPONSORS ITALIAN WORKSHOP

Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) - Branch 374 is sponsoring workshops on conversational Italian. The workshops are on six Saturdays through June 13 from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Bede Catholic Church. The cost for the workshops is \$130 for ICF members, \$150 for non-members.

The workshops will be taught by Laura Godin and Raffaella La Scala, native Italian college professors, at St. Bede, 215 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.

For more information call (818) 599-6626 or email icf374@outlook.com.

UUCVH MOVIE NIGHT

On Friday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. the community is invited to the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills for movie night. This month's movie is a travelogue! Countries, creatures and climates! Join members Mary M. and Mel for an evening of adventure as they present pictures and videos of their recent South America to Antarctica trip. Popcorn and snacks provided. Bring a snack to share – if you like.

No reservations needed, just stop by. Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills, 4451



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LCPC Parent Ed Collects Diapers for Younglives Pasadena

La Cañada Presbyterian Church (LCPC) Parent Ed held its 2nd Annual Diaper and Wipe Drive benefiting Pasadena YoungLives, part of Pasadena YoungLife, from April and into May. Over three weeks, LCPC Parent Ed collected physical and online donations of diapers and wipes, ultimately collecting 2400 diapers, 106 packs of wipes, books and literary resources from the Eriksine Compassion Fund and \$500 in Visa gift cards for teen mothers in Pasadena. This exceeded last year's diaper donation numbers by 400! This year's donation drive was organized by Heather Adamick, the Community Outreach chair of the LCPC Parent Ed Board, in partnership with Stephanie Porter, the Pasadena Area director of YoungLife.

"Thank you so much for your incredible care and generosity. Your support is a true extension of God's love and we are so grateful for these contributions," said Porter at the donation pickup.

YoungLives is an extension of

Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta.

CSL OFFERS GENTLE MOVEMENT CLASS

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

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

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

WALK AND WORD

Walk and Word participants will meet in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge

Road in La Crescenta/Glendale at 8 a.m. on May 24 & 31. Participants will walk for the first hour and then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.

Participants are asked to bring something to write with, anything wanted to eat or drink, and a chair to use for the writing part of the morning. Because people will be outdoors and social distancing will be practiced, masks will be optional.

Those with questions can email Jeanne at jnlavieri@earthlink.net.

All are welcome. If the hike is too strenuous, there are level paths at the park. There are ramps from the parking lot to the field where the group gathers after the hike.

YoungLife Pasadena and offers support to teen moms and dads navigating parenthood with a focus on unconditional love and encouraging them to become the men and women, and fathers and mothers, God created them to be.

LCPC Parent Ed Registration is open online for summer and fall

classes. To learn more visit <https://lcpcparented.org> or call (818) 790-6708 x 205.

Written by Ellie RICHARDSON

Photo by Holly MILLER
From left are Stephanie Porter, director of YoungLife - Pasadena Area, Anne Bierling, LCPC Parent Ed executive director and Heather Adamick, chair of LCPC Parent Ed Outreach.



» THE CANDIDATES RESPOND

Glendale City Council

By Mary O'KEEFE

There are many issues facing Glendale – from budget shortfalls to new bike lanes to strained city services; however, housing is one of the biggest issues voters will be tackling. The corporate purchase of homes in Glendale, and throughout California and the nation, has been reported in various media outlets. It was made even more evident when a recent report released by RedFin found investors who had LLC, Inc. and Corp. in their names had purchased more than 40% of the vacant burned lots in Altadena.

In addition, specifically in Glendale, bonus density is a concern for residents. It is important to note that LLC includes small “mom and pop” owners who rent their property as well; therefore, it is thought that the number of homes purchased by larger corporations reported by RedFin is much lower. However, the topic of corporations buying homes to rent has been discussed at the national level as well as at the local one. In his most recent State of the State address, Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed working with the Legislature to limit the practice of large “private equity firms in Manhattan to become some of the biggest landlords here in our cities in California.”

Question: How would you address housing issues in the City? Note that answers are in alphabetical order.

Alek Bartrosouf: As a city planner with a master's degree from UCLA, I know this issue all too well.

Glendale leaders must be honest about our state-mandated obligations if we want to build trust, ensure community participation and plan a city together that we can take pride in. Any candidate [who] tells you we can stop development or growth is lying. Failing to adhere to state mandates is disastrous and we can learn from La Cañada and Santa Monica where “builder's remedy” went into effect after they bucked state mandates, consequently exposing their communities to extreme overdevelopment for not having a state-certified housing plan.

These mandates are shocking to many but most are not even aware of them when they are passed in Sacramento by state legislators. To me, that is Problem #1. I am committed to bringing Glendale communities together to resolve zoning and development in the best possible ways while understanding Glendale's role in meeting regional housing needs. As a city planner myself, with over a decade of experience working in various cities, I know zoning discussions are inaccessible for many people. Whether you're working, raising children or taking care of your elderly parents, this is just not something most people have time to dig into or get involved in. I believe we need a Community Engagement Strategy that overcomes these barriers and reaches people we traditionally do not reach. By extension, this will help articulate local housing policy concerns to our state legislators.

The way our city grows and where it grows is largely up to us. I believe

we need to build more entry-level housing for sale: townhomes and condos that appeal to younger generations looking to start a family or build equity. The lack of newer for sale housing units is the “missing middle” in Glendale for younger generations that grew up here and want to stay. Entry-level homes should be in areas with easy access to jobs, transit, cultural resources and daily amenities, and not in fire-prone areas, hillsides or canyons. The next generation deserves a chance at homeownership in our city. When we build new housing units, we should make sure it's the type of housing Glendale residents want to live in.

I encourage you to learn more about my campaign at alekforglendale.com or contact me at alek@alekforglendale.com – thank you for voting!

Alex Balekian: Mom-and-pop landlords almost always place properties within an LLC to shield their personal assets (e.g., primary residence) from lawsuits from any of their tenants. Therefore, LLC purchases are a distraction from the real problem, as demonstrated by this concrete Glendale example from February 2024.

Rick Lemmo, a Thousand Oaks resident and former business partner of Rick Caruso, bought 413-419 Irving Avenue, a property which was zoned for a maximum of seven units at three stories' height. He demolished the existing one-story structures totaling five units and would have qualified for a 50% density bonus (i.e. 10 allowable units) under state law if he set aside 15% of the units (i.e. two of them) for very low income renters. A three-story building containing 10 units with parking stalls on the first level would have fit with the neighborhood. Instead, Lemmo requested a 350% density bonus to construct 33 units in a four-story tower, justifying it with eight affordable units. Elen Asatryan and the rest of council approved his request. This was a defacto upzoning of the parcel.

Mr. Lemmo is an outside individual (not an evil venture capital fund like Blackrock) speculating a property as a real-estate developer. Most neighbors would have accepted a 50% density bonus allowing a 10-unit, three-story tower on that parcel, especially because there already was a decades-old three-story apartment tower with ground-level parking on the adjacent lot. But Elen Asatryan and city council allowed a 350% density bonus. 350%! How was that justifiable despite local neighbors voicing opposition? I suspect that Mr. Lemmo may have used his Rick Caruso connections to facilitate passage – but this is only speculation.

But as Glendale readers can clearly see, individuals with real estate LLCs aren't the problem. Statewide 50% density bonuses also aren't the main problem. The city council incumbents with their flexible morals and values are the real problem. I would never have allowed a 350% density bonus; that certainly was not in keeping with the character of the Riverside Rancho neighborhood. The Glendale residents are correct

to be skeptical and cynical of the incumbent city councilmembers who essentially upzone neighborhoods parcel by parcel so as not to attract attention or to raise suspicion.

No More Incumbents!

Beth Brooks: Politicians and developers want you to believe Glendale has a housing crisis. We don't – we have an affordability crisis. The median home price is ~\$1.1M, condos ~\$680K, and median rent ~\$2,900/month. Building more density is not the solution – it is a pretext to override our neighborhoods and our voices.

State Laws & The Density Threat. Sacramento is using a manufactured housing crisis to impose draconian laws on Glendale. I have personally fought high-density projects in inappropriate neighborhoods and will continue to do so. SB 79 allows four to nine story buildings near bus stops. AB 100/130 streamlines high-density construction with no traffic, environmental or community review. The Density Bonus Law lets a 50-unit project balloon to 112 units with only 10%–15% affordable. Surplus Property Designations turn business parking lots into high-density housing, decimating local commerce. High fire zones make these proposals a public safety disaster.

Solution: Push back at the city level, loudly and strategically. We are not powerless.

New Development. Nearly all new Glendale construction produces market-rate apartments with only 10%–15% affordable units. High downtown building costs mean only large corporate developers can build – and these buildings aren't lowering rents. Landlords citywide benchmark against new high-end units and raise their own rents accordingly.

Solution: Incentivize smaller-scale, two-story construction in less expensive areas where mom-and-pop developers can participate, with meaningful breaks on city fees and permitting.

Prospective Home Buyers. Younger buyers are priced out – but the solution isn't to destroy existing neighborhoods. Many aren't aware of federal and state programs that help them purchase existing homes.

Solution: Host Housing Summits. Promote affordable options in southern Glendale. Encourage co-ownership and multigenerational households.

Renters. As the only renter running for City Council, I believe rent control is not the answer – it would punish mom-and-pop landlords and risk their selling to corporate investors who create only expensive high-density units.

Solution: Audit Section 8 – this costs nothing and could free up immediate resources. Direct assistance to seniors, the disabled and veterans. Lower electric bills to benefit everyone.

Condo Seekers. Few developers build condos because California's construction defect liability makes it financially untenable.

Solution: A fixer-upper home in an affordable part of Glendale is the smarter path.

My Core Belief. You don't punish one group to help another. You don't

destroy the American Dream of those who've achieved it because others haven't yet. Always do the greatest good for the greatest number.

bethforglendale.com

Dan Brotman: Sacramento has imposed strict mandates on all cities to build more housing. Its intent is admirable. But Glendale has been doing its fair share and we should have the right to determine what gets built and where – higher-density apartments downtown, low-to mid-density townhouses, courtyard style and multiplex units along our commercial corridors, and detached homes, perhaps with ADUs, in the single-family neighborhoods.

We want to regain local control but what's the best strategy? Some will demand we sue to overturn state housing laws; but the courts have spoken and performative suits would just waste taxpayer dollars. The smart approach is to take advantage of coming leadership changes in Sacramento to lobby for more local flexibility and for incentives; i.e., funding for cities that do the right thing rather than mandates which leave the infrastructure burden on cities.

At the same time, we should strengthen design standards to ensure we get the highest quality architecture and materials. And we should work to remove barriers that are preventing the development of “for-sale” housing, so young families have a path to homeownership.

These are long-term solutions. Shorter term, we must strengthen protections to prevent displacement of established communities. While we want owners to keep their properties in good condition we could tighten requirements for renovation-based evictions; tenants [who] must relocate during renovations should be given a first right to return to their units when the work is complete. And we need to make sure both landlords and tenants know their rights and obligations.

Amidst all this, it's critical we

avoid fear mongering. One Council candidate is claiming that the Land Use Element (LUE) of our General Plan, which we are updating for the first time in decades, would double Glendale's housing stock and population. This is misleading. The LUE simply describes our current zoning. The city is required to calculate the theoretical number if every single parcel were developed to its maximum potential. It's disingenuous to claim that this is somehow the plan. Likewise, misinformation is circulating that the city wants to build high rises in our parking lots. City Council has expressed interest in the potential to develop some lots to generate revenue. But Council has not, and does not, support high-density housing on those lots.

As we address these challenging issues it is important that we stick to facts and not conjecture. We are all in this together!

www.danforglendale.com

see CANDIDATES on page 6



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Crash in Sunland Involves Firefighters



By Mary O'KEEFE

The Los Angeles Fire Dept. is reporting that two of its firefighters sustained minor injuries on Tuesday when their apparatus was involved in a

vehicle accident in the 8200 block of Foothill Boulevard in Sunland while responding to a structure fire.

Both firefighters were transported to a local hospital and where they were being

evaluated by medical personnel. No members of the public were injured in the accident. The identities of the injured firefighters was being withheld pending notification of their families.

The department asked that the media and the public respect the privacy of the members and their families at this time. The Los Angeles Fire Dept. will provide further updates as additional information becomes

available. The Los Angeles Police Dept. is investigating the accident.

Photos by Chris KILPATRICK and Sonya MARQUEZ

CANDIDATES from page 5

Carolyn Kaloostian: Dr. Carolyn Kaloostian is a fourth generation Californian who comes from a family rooted in service. She works as a physician with a flexible schedule so she may work with the Dept. of Public Health and American Heart Association on initiatives to improve the well-being of residents of LA County. She has decided to run for Glendale City Council after speaking with patients, residents, families and small businesses who have been burdened by increasing utility costs and taxes. She will bring a data-driven approach to problem-solving, leveraging assets the city has in excess. She pledges no new taxes and will donate her entire city Council salary to an independent microfund for small business facade improvements.

Question on housing: Housing is one of the most important issues facing Glendale families, seniors and young professionals. Residents are concerned about affordability, neighborhood character, traffic,

infrastructure strain and whether future development will truly benefit the people who already live here.

My approach is centered on balance, accountability and putting Glendale residents first.

First, we must protect opportunities for homeownership. Across California and the nation, large investors and corporate entities are increasingly purchasing residential properties, often outbidding local families. Glendale should explore every legal and policy tool available to increase transparency around bulk investor purchases and advocate for protections that prioritize working families and first-time homebuyers.

Second, development must match infrastructure capacity. Residents are understandably concerned about high density housing projects that increase population and traffic impacts without corresponding investments in parking, public safety, water infrastructure, parks and roads. As the safety-first candidate, every major housing proposal will be evaluated through the lens of long-term sustainability and neighborhood compatibility.

Third, Glendale should focus on smart revitalization and adaptive reuse. We should modernize aging commercial corridors, encourage mixed-use development near transit and business centers where appropriate, and improve existing housing stock rather than relying solely on large-scale expansion into established neighborhoods.

Most importantly, residents deserve a real seat at the table. Housing decisions should involve transparent communication, early community engagement and data-driven planning so residents feel heard, respected and informed.

As a physician and public health leader, I approach housing the same way I approach healthcare: by identifying root causes, focusing on prevention and prioritizing quality of life. Housing policy is not just about building units. It is about protecting safety, stability, economic opportunity and the long-term health of our community.

DrKforGlendale.com

Elen Asatryan: Housing is one of the most important issues facing Glendale because it impacts affordability [and] quality of life and whether families can continue building their future here. In fact, we are in a state of emergency when it comes to housing. Families are working hard, doing everything right, and still struggling to afford rent, buy a home and stay in the community where they grew up. This is not sustainable, and people are frustrated – for good reason. We need actual affordable and workforce housing.

The growing role of large corporate investors purchasing homes across California is also deeply concerning. In some counties, investors own more than 40% of single-family homes and we are increasingly seeing large investment firms

outbid working families and first-time buyers with all-cash offers. That drives up prices, reduces opportunities for homeownership and can turn neighborhoods into investment portfolios instead of stable communities. It's really important that we support first-time homebuyers in meaningful ways and increase transparency around corporate ownership. The only reason I was able to purchase my condo at the fall of the market in 2011 was because of the first-time home buyer's program. We should also work with state leaders on solutions that protect opportunities for local families to buy homes and remain in Glendale.

We need to do far more to prevent displacement and homelessness. This means investing in tenant assistance, eviction prevention resources [and] mental health support and cutting bureaucratic red tape.

I am concerned about bonus density, which doesn't take into account infrastructure, power and public safety needs, and doesn't provide cities with resources. The state mandates have tied our hands.

Housing policy should work for everyday people – not just those with the most money and influence. My focus has always been on making government work for everyday people and small businesses and ensuring that Glendale remains a city where working families, seniors, young people and longtime residents can continue to not just live, but thrive.

ElectElen.com

Evelina Sarian: Housing has to work for Glendale residents first – not outside investors, Sacramento mandates or developers looking to maximize profits at the expense of our neighborhoods. I am deeply concerned about corporations and investment groups buying up homes and properties in communities across California. When families are competing against LLCs and hedge funds, regular people lose. We need to explore every legal tool available at the local level to protect homeownership opportunities for Glendale residents and prevent speculative corporate purchasing from reshaping our neighborhoods.

I'm also hearing loud and clear from residents about bonus density and overdevelopment.

Glendale should decide what growth looks like in Glendale, not regional agencies or one-size-fits-all mandates coming from Sacramento. I support thoughtful housing that fits our community, infrastructure, parking realities, traffic conditions and quality of life. I do not support forcing projects onto neighborhoods without community input.

The same principle applies to transportation and bike lane decisions. I support safe streets but we cannot ignore the impact some of these projects have had on congestion, parking and small businesses on Brand [Boulevard] and other commercial corridors.

see CANDIDATES on page 7



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Structure Fire Investigation Reveals Two Deceased

On Sunday, May 17 at approximately 10:25 p.m., officers with the Glendale Police Dept. responded to the 1100 block of Sonora Avenue regarding a reported structure fire involving a commercial building.

The Glendale Fire Dept.

responded to the scene with assistance from the Burbank Fire Dept. and Pasadena Fire Dept. Fire personnel initiated an immediate response and worked to extinguish the fire.

Following the extinguishment of the fire, two deceased individuals were located inside

the structure. The identities of the decedents have not yet been confirmed.

The Glendale Police Dept. Homicide detectives are investigating the incident and working jointly with the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner's Office and the

Glendale Fire Dept.

The cause of the fire is unknown and the investigation remains active and ongoing.

If anyone has information related to this incident, contact the Robbery Homicide detectives at (818) 548-4840.

CANDIDATES from page 6

When local shops lose parking and customers are stuck in gridlock, it hurts the people who keep our local economy alive. These decisions need to involve the community and local businesses from the beginning not be pushed through in a way that ignores the real-world impact on Glendale families and merchants.

At the same time, we do need more attainable housing for working families, seniors and young people who grew up here and want to stay here. But the answer is balanced, community-driven planning [and] not surrendering local control to outside interests.

My approach is simple: protect Glendale neighborhoods, support local businesses, keep decision making local and make sure residents – not corporations or bureaucrats – have the strongest voice in shaping our city’s future. Bluntly put: Let Glendale residents decide what’s best for Glendale.

<https://votevelina.com/>

Gevorg Grigoryan: Housing is at the center of everything facing Glendale right now. It touches every resident, every family and every neighborhood in our city. People are struggling to afford their rent, hardworking professionals earning well above the median income cannot buy a home and outside investors are swooping in to purchase

properties for profit while local families are left behind. This is not just a policy issue. It is a crisis that demands bold, practical leadership.

I would support transparency requirements so residents know exactly who is buying in their neighborhoods and I would advocate for state level protections against predatory corporate purchasing. Glendale belongs to the people who live here, not to outside investors looking to make a profit.

The market alone will not protect vulnerable residents, ensure affordability or prevent corporate interests from pushing local families

out. The city has a responsibility to take an active role in guiding where and how housing is built, protecting tenants from displacement and ensuring that the people who live and work in Glendale can continue to afford to do so. At the same time, we need the market working for us, not against us. By streamlining permitting, reducing delays and making it easier to build, we increase supply and create competition that brings prices down naturally. The answer is not just regulation or just market forces. It is both, working together with residents at the center of every decision.

Protecting our residents starts with building more housing. When supply is this limited, prices skyrocket and the people with the most money – often corporate investors – win. The most powerful thing we can do is fill the market with more homes of every type, including condos, townhomes, missing middle housing and multifamily developments so that

local families have real options and real pathways to homeownership.

We should also ensure that bonus density is handled thoughtfully and directed to the right areas like downtown and the Civic Center, where infrastructure already supports growth. Residents deserve a voice in how their neighborhoods change and growth should be incremental and well planned in residential areas rather than sudden or overwhelming.

The shortage affects everyone and our solutions must reflect that reality. My goal is to make Glendale a city where hardworking people can afford to live, raise their families and build their futures without being forced out by rising costs or corporate interests that care more about profit than community. <https://www.electgrigoryan.com/>

Patrick Murphy: Addressing housing in our city will be a high priority for me if elected to City Council. I have said we do not have

a housing supply crisis; we have an affordable housing crisis.

We need to focus efforts to provide ownership housing. This will help to bring young families into our city. GUSD enrollment is experiencing a downward trend indicating families are leaving our city. The lack of affordable family housing is a primary reason for this trend.

The approval of a 682-unit apartment project on the former Sears property is an example of supply lacking family housing. Only 20% of this project will accommodate families.

Our municipal code has a “patchwork” of housing development regulations instituted over many years. In addition, our fee structure appears to be out of balance.

I was canvassing recently and noticed a permit on a home where an ADU was being constructed. Total fees were over \$16,000. Park fees were over \$4,200. Surprisingly,

see CANDIDATES on page 18

E-BIKE from Cover

•Class 1 – Pedal assist bike: This is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling. It ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour (mph).

•Class 2 – Throttle assist bike. A Class 2 electric bike or low speed throttle assisted e-bike is a bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and is not capable of providing assistance when the bike reaches the speed of 20 mph.

•Class 3 – Pedal assist bike. A Class 3 electric bicycle or speed pedal assisted e-bike is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling. It ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 mph. It is also equipped with a

speedometer.

Hendry referenced stories in the news media about accidents involving e-bike riders. She mentioned a fatal accident in April when a 13-year-old was struck and killed by a train while riding an e-bike in Simi Valley. The preliminary investigation indicated the e-bike rider failed to stop at the railroad crossing in time to prevent the accident. She also showed footage of a young e-bike rider who, while in traffic, was attempting to stand on the seat of the e-bike, and footage of another young rider who struck a parked vehicle.

She added that because of the speed of the e-bikes, drivers can’t see the bikes coming and many don’t expect the bikes to be traveling that fast.

There are also riders who modify the e-bike to go faster than intended, which is considered an

illegal modification. Some of those modifications include adding batteries that have been known to explode.

Office Bryan Bay is stationed out of the Altadena Office of the CHP and knows the Crescenta Valley area well.

Some in the audience shared stories of seeing e-bike riders speeding through neighborhoods and down streets, including riding on sidewalks along Honolulu Avenue in the Montrose Shopping Park.

There were many parents and kids in the audience, who were praised by other members of the audience, showing a willingness to understand the laws and how to keep riders safe.

The youth in the audience knew quite a bit about the classes of e-bikes and the rules that needed to be followed. Among the questions they asked were about

the best helmets for e-bikers. (Everyone on an e-bike must wear a helmet if they are riding a Class 3 e-bike.)

Bay and CHP Community Outreach Officer Keller stated they would advise that riders wear a helmet that covers the head – not a “novelty” helmet.

Bay spoke of how emergency departments are seeing an increase in e-bike accidents and stressed how important it was to have a good helmet – and to wear it.

CHP does offer an online course on electric bicycle safety and training. Its website also provides a lot of information on e-bikes, safety and laws. Deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept.-Crescenta Valley Station were at the event as well and spoke about issues they are seeing in the area, including kids on e-bikes who attempt to outrun patrol units. As

a policy, the deputies do not give chase due to their concern for the safety of riders and those on the roads; however, they usually can find the e-bike riders who are attempting to ride away.

There was also discussion on drivers and how it is not just the responsibility of e-bike riders to be safe on the road and to follow rules and regulations; those behind the wheel of vehicles also need to follow rules and regulations.

One member of the audience said parents are responsible for teaching good driving habits to their children via example. She said she has seen women putting on makeup and seen other drivers on their phones when driving their children to school. She stressed again that children learn through the example of their parents.

For more information on e-bike safety and training, go to <https://tinyurl.com/uuanb3zv>.

GCC from Cover

“This is a good example. We do a cost of service analysis, project income versus expenditures and set rates accordingly. That’s how rates are set. It’s not because it’s an election year, not set because we want to screw the residents or we want to fall into favor with the residents. These are the standards that we have set to establish a reserve fund enough to pay for any unforeseen cost. To the extent we can hire consultants to study those rates and the income and projected expenditures.

I hope all the candidates, near and far, read this report and understand it. This is how rates are set,” Councilmember Najarian detailed.

Also on Tuesday night, the Council approved proposed plans to spend \$5 million in transit funding to build out the city’s fiber optic network and to integrate the fiber optic system citywide as well as updating and adjusting previous funding requests from Metro.

Councilmember Najarian recalled the beginning of his tenure on the Glendale City Council and the work done to make certain the transit needs of Glendale were heard at Metro, particularly in light of the massive county transit

agency resources consumed by the City of Los Angeles.

In 2005, the Metro seat held by a councilmember from Lancaster came open. Najarian reported on the campaign he helped organize to secure the spot for “what was then the third largest city in the county.” Controversially at the time, the Metro board was split on how to fund public transportation. County supervisors Don Knabe, Mike Antonovich and Gloria Molina were adamantly opposed to a transit tax, Najarian recounted.

Ultimately, Najarian cast the deciding vote to put Measure R on the ballot after he secured a commitment to create a dedicated source of funds for cities that had no rail or transit at the time. Following the 7-6 vote, the half cent sales tax was approved by 67.93% of the voters (a two-thirds majority was required), authorizing the collection of approximately \$40 billion over the life of the measure.

Glendale’s share of the transit tax revenue is \$98.5 million. To date, the city has spent \$95 million of that. As Senior Civil Engineer Rushton Tavitian, P.E., summed up “17 years of consistent project development and delivery,” the city has completed 27 projects, spending

\$35.8 million since 2009: \$16.4 million on traffic signal upgrades and signal synchronization; \$10.9 million on road and intersection improvements; \$6.2 million on rail crossing safety; and \$2.2 million on active transportation and bike facilities. These projects have been formally audited, “reflecting our strong financial accountability,” Tavitian detailed.

Councilmember Najarian expressed his pride in the role he played in this transit history.

“When I’m gone, no one’s going to remember this,” he lamented.

The Council approved an increase of \$3.6 million to fund higher ambulance billing costs and authorized a new 10-year contract with Axon Enterprises, Inc. for \$22.9 million to consolidate the purchase and maintenance of police hardware, software and equipment such as tasers, drones and cameras.

Following last week’s introduction of an ordinance detailing objective design standards for multi-family and mixed-use residential developments in residential and commercial zones, the Council approved the ordinance with a few minor modifications.

Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian clarified, “This ordinance does not increase density; it does not increase square

footage. It’s just cleaning up existing laws that we have to make better projects.”

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

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TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Glendale and Montrose Railway – Driving the Route

During the big growth years of 1913 to 1930, the Glendale and Montrose Railway, an electrified trolley line, connected Montrose and the rest of the valley to the larger world of Glendale and Los Angeles. Last week I got together with a group of history buffs to drive the route of the old trolley line. We piled into my mini-van and headed to the terminus of the line at the edge of Los Angeles.

We pulled off San Fernando Road at its intersection with Verdugo Road. It's here that in the 1920s folks coming up from Downtown LA would get off the narrow-gauge Los Angeles Railway trolley (the "Yellow Car"), and walk over to climb onto the standard-gauge G&M trolley for the trip to La Crescenta.

We continued up a small road that parallels San Fernando Road where the tracks used to be until we got

to Ribet Academy, which had been Theme Hosery. The old track beds become private property at this point and we got chased off by a security guard, so we jumped over to San Fernando.

The tracks used to run by Forest Lawn Glendale, so we drove in the front gates and walked into an Employees Only maintenance yard. It's there that the original tracks have broken through the asphalt and we were able to "touch the holy rail."

At Forest Lawn, the old tracks would have transitioned onto the center of Glendale Avenue. We continued up Glendale Avenue. At the Glendale Civic Center just past Broadway we noted where the main ticket office for the G&M would have been. As well, the Pacific Electric trolley connected at Broadway and the Glendale and Eagle Rock

Railway connected at Wilson. Just past Wilson we noted the spot where the famous runaway flat car crash happened. And coming to California Avenue we looked left, to where Litchfield Lumber was (now Whole Foods). Lumber was delivered here via a Union Pacific steam engine then taken by the G&M electric locomotive to Montrose.

Continuing up Glendale Avenue and Verdugo, at Mountain Avenue we looked right where Kalem Studios was. It made many silent films set in Glendale and the Crescenta Valley and crashed one of the G&M trolleys for an action film. After transitioning to Canada Boulevard, we pulled in at Verdugo Park where a siding was located that brought picnickers up from LA for a day in the wilderness of Verdugo Canyon. The wooden ties had been visible under the grass until 20 years ago.

Then up Canada Boulevard to Verdugo again, and up to Montrose, passing the center median in Sparr Heights where the tracks had been. We turned left and parked at Anawalt Lumber. We all went into the lumber barn in back that had been the trolley maintenance barn. Here the asphalt had been laid over the tracks but cracks were forming over the rails ("track cracks") showing distinctly the rail line into the barn. Up in the rafters we spotted a couple of old "knob and tube" insulators left over from G&M days.

After that we drove over to the powerhouse, the structure that held the huge generators that powered the G&M. We went up the alley off Verdugo, between the martial arts place and the liquor store. It's easy to spot which building was the powerhouse (now a beauty salon) as it has a rock foundation. It's now the

oldest building in Montrose having been built in 1913. While there, we talked to the property owner who said several people lately have come up to see it – one of them even breaking into the crawl space to look at the generator mounting pads.

We continued up the wide Montrose Avenue where the trolley would have run in the middle of the street. We stopped at the end of the line, Pennsylvania Avenue. It's here that freight would have been loaded on flat cars, produce from orchards, granite from quarries in the Verdugos and graphite ore from a mine.

It was a fun trip through the past, revisiting a time when steel rails brought folks to our valley.

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

NEWS FROM SACRAMENTO » ASSEMBLYMEMBER NICK SCHULTZ

Assemblymember Schultz's Bills on the Assembly Floor

After nearly five months of work, the California State Assembly is quickly approaching the deadline to pass our measures over to the state Senate. I am so grateful for the many residents of the 44th Assembly District who have taken the time to interact with our office with questions, comments and concerns.

Since December, I've been

working on a package of bills to improve public safety, safeguard consumer health, improve access to affordable housing and keep post-production jobs in California.

I'm happy to report that the following nine bills have made it to the Assembly floor. Here's a brief summary of these measures:

AB 1546 – Vehicles: Driving Under the Influence. AB 1546

modernizes DUI penalties and strengthens accountability for repeat offenders in California by requiring that a third DUI within 10 years be charged as either a misdemeanor or a felony and a fifth DUI be charged as a felony. This bill would additionally increase the license revocation period, ignition interlock device installation period and probation conditions for specific reoffenders as well. By expanding the ability of the criminal justice system to effectively and proportionally address DUIs, California can restore its leadership in drunk driving prevention and prioritize public safety across all communities.

AB 1595 – Habeas Corpus. AB 1595 strengthens California's criminal legal system by ensuring courts can correct wrongful convictions while preserving appropriate judicial discretion. By reducing unnecessary litigation and conserving limited court resources, it allows courts to focus on the merits of credible claims rather than procedural technicalities.

AB 1603 – Protecting California Agriculture from Toxic Chemicals. AB 1603 puts an end to the use of PFAS pesticides in California. The bill establishes incremental benchmarks to halt the use of the forever chemicals between 2027 and 2035, allowing state officials and agricultural industries time to adjust, along with clear guidelines regarding their use before the full ban takes effect.

AB 1787 – Dynamic Pricing for Electricity Tariffs. AB 1787 requires investor-owned utilities to offer dynamic, wholesale-based pricing and real-time data access during their next smart meter upgrade cycle to help electricity customers reduce costs.

AB 2266 – CPUC Power Procurement

Streamlining. Determinations of how much energy is necessary to meet California's power needs are currently performed via a patchwork of separately enacted clean energy programs. AB 2266 directs the CPUC to streamline these planning decisions into one cohesive workflow, to use consistent methodologies across all programs and to improve accountability through a yearly evaluation of the real-world impact of their calculations on actual energy purchases.

AB 2319 – Film and Television Post-Production Incentive Program. AB 2319 establishes a targeted post-production incentive to encourage film and television post-production work to remain in California, supporting high-quality jobs, preserving long-standing industry infrastructure and generating significant economic activity throughout the state.

This bill would allow qualified post-production expenditures incurred in California to be eligible for a tax credit, even when principal photography takes place outside the state, ensuring California remains competitive with other jurisdictions that already offer standalone post-production incentives.

AB 2478 – Kinship Family Approval. AB 2478 strengthens California's commitment to placing children with family and other trusted adults when they cannot safely remain at home. Building on direction previously enacted by the legislature in AB 2830 (Rivas), the bill implements a streamlined Kinship Family Approval pathway, clarifies emergency placement rules and extends the eligibility of limited criminal record exemptions to a wider range of kin so that children can be placed quickly with safe caregivers familiar to them.

By reducing administrative delays and strengthening family-first placement policies, AB 2478 helps ensure that children entering foster care can remain connected to the people and communities that matter most to them.

AB 2560 – Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure. AB 2560 establishes the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) goals and authorizes the Transportation Agency (CalSTA) to update the CAPTI goals. The bill requires a project under specified programs to apply, where feasible, within the fix-it-first approach, the CAPTI goals as established or updated by CalSTA.

AB 2612 – Building Standards: Plug-in Photovoltaic Systems. AB 2612 requires the California Building Standards Commission and the Dept. of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to develop and adopt mandatory building standards that enable qualified photovoltaic systems to safely function as an energy source within residential and nonresidential electrical circuits. Beginning with the first triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code adopted after June 1, 2031, the bill directs state agencies to codify electrical circuit features and safety requirements to support plug-and-play solar technologies.

We have until Friday, May 29 to pass these bills out of the state Assembly and send them over to the state Senate.

Those who have recommendations for bills or budget priorities or need help with state services should not hesitate to contact our district office. Our phone number is (818) 558-3043, and email address is Assemblymember.Schultz@Assembly.ca.gov.

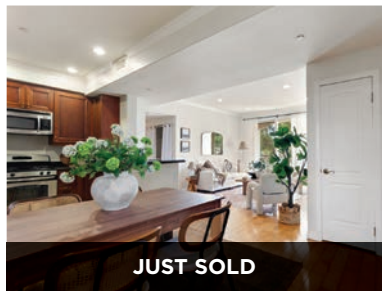


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

‘A Bigoted Community’ – Really?

I was at both of the meetings regarding the proposed development at Briggs and Foothill. I did not observe a “mob scene” as stated by Mr. Frank Colcord. There were over 300 people in attendance at the second meeting and, yes, they were animated and frustrated when questions were avoided or not answered factually and fully. The audience was vocal but no one was threatening or approaching the stage. A “mob scene”? Hardly!

“Bigotry”? The community is concerned about having 50 to [maybe] 175 TAY residents living in one location with no on-site programs or 24/7 on-site supervision. Our potential TAY neighbors are defined by the LA County Dept. of Mental Health as 18-25 year olds transitioning from programs that include: substance abuse disorders; [homelessness] or at-risk of homelessness; aging out of children’s mental health, child welfare or juvenile justice systems; leaving long term institutional care; experiencing their first episode of major mental illness. (Source: LACDMH website)

This project could offer a disservice to those young people. Most parents realize it is crucial to monitor who are [their] children’s associates and yet, in the wisdom of LACDMH, we are going to [house] up to 175 extremely fragile youth, living on their own for the first time, in one location with no supervision?

“Bigotry”? The problem is “behavioral” and has nothing to do with race, religion or ancestral origin. Mr. Colcord, if you equate behavior issues with ethnicity then possibly the only bigot is the one in your mirror.

Mr. Colcord, you sight an episode of bigotry that you witnessed when you first moved here in 1984. It is sad that in the past 42 years you have not been a participant in, or an observer of, all of the charitable events this community offers.

I am proud of La Crescenta. I have lived here since 1964, I raised my family here – it is a wonderful, caring place to call my home. I am blessed to be a part of this community; I am sorry that you, Mr. Colcord, aren’t appreciative of your neighbors who are the backbone of our amazing hometown.

*Eleanor Wacker
La Crescenta*

More ‘McMansions’ in the Crescenta Valley

I am writing to express deep concern regarding a recent LA County permit granted for a massive residential expansion in our neighborhood. A modest 1,600-square-foot lot – which once contained a historic local rock cottage that was sadly demolished after sitting vacant following a fire several years ago – is being transformed into a three-story, 5,500-plus square-foot structure. This looming build includes up to eight

bathrooms, a rooftop deck and a two-bedroom ADU.

This extreme “mansionsization” harms our community in three distinct ways:

- Scale: Replacing historic, single-family footprints with structures nearly four times their original size destroys the architectural character and “sense of place” that defines the Crescenta Valley.
- Privacy & Views: A three-story wall and rooftop deck looming over neighboring yards eliminates the privacy, natural light and beautiful views of our local mountains that residents have enjoyed for decades.
- Infrastructure: Adding a two-bedroom ADU and nearly doubling the bathroom count on a single lot places an unprecedented load on our streets, parking and local utilities like the Crescenta Valley Water District.

While property rights matter, they must not override the welfare of the existing neighborhood. I urge our county representatives to advocate for stricter “good neighbor” design standards. We must ensure our valley remains a community, not a collection of oversized compounds.

*Mike Piontkowski
Montrose*

We Should Hold Elected Officials and Candidates to a Higher Standard

Glendale is a diverse city with diverse needs and priorities. These needs are not met by the hateful, divisive comments being made by some of our local elected officials and candidates. While qualified candidates have discussed the real issues – climate and energy policy, rising utility costs, food insecurity, the rising cost of housing, public transportation and federal overreach – some others have taken it upon themselves to defame local residents, including myself. Fabricating stories about your neighbors does not make you more electable; it makes you look foolish.

As City Council candidate Alek Bartosouf has stated, “The politicization of every single topic in this city is truly toxic.” Bicycle lanes, public transportation and more housing? According to the MAGA slate running for office, they are all part of a nefarious plot to undermine their idyllic sundown town. In reality, these are all part of a vibrant city that is part of a major metropolitan area. If you are unable or unwilling to lead a modern city, please step aside.

Our officials and candidates should commit not to demagoguery but to civic engagement: thoughtful, informed dialogue focused on local issues. We need to work together as a community and not tear each other down over perceived culture war issues. Please: Keep your hateful comments to yourself and do something meaningful with your neighbors. Glendale has

survived up to now and will survive this latest assault on its institutions and norms.

*Shant Jaltorossian
Glendale*

Abode Project Not A Good Community Fit

As many residents know, developer Abode Communities has proposed the tallest and largest building ever built in our town at the corner of Briggs Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. This [66]-plus unit, three-to-five story low income/transitional youth housing project will be located in the highest fire zone.

Briggs Avenue is the sole emergency evacuation route for Briggs residents north of Foothill Boulevard. During evacuations from the Eaton and Station fires the road was gridlocked.

Abode’s proposed giant building will add hundreds of additional residents and a hundred or more vehicles at this crucial intersection, putting both existing residents and new residents of this proposed development at severe risk in case of emergency.

Our town also lacks many of the basic services that proposed low income and

transitional youth residents require. Public transportation is minimal, medical facilities are not close and jobs are scarce. Most employers are mom-and-pop businesses with few workers.

Over 300 residents attended a public meeting on May 4 and many concerns were expressed:

- The proposed project is dangerous because it is located on a blind curve on Briggs
- The project has insufficient parking and will negatively impact nearby businesses.
- The Sheriff’s Station across the street will suffer delayed response times due to
- congestion.
- There will not be 24 hour on-site resources for TAY youth
- Abode has not reached out to the schools to determine if they can support the
- additional kids
- The project does not comply with the La Crescenta Community Standards District nor local zoning codes and is proposed only because it has low-income
- housing
- This proposed project is far out of scale with our community in terms of size, massing and height

This is not a good fit for La Crescenta. Many other cities offer more suitable locations, which will provide a safer and welcoming environment.

I urge every La Crescenta resident to reach out to each LA County supervisor and express their thoughts on this project at <https://bos.lacounty.gov/executive-office/about-us/board-contact-information> or call (213) 974-1411.

*Doug Kilpatrick
La Crescenta*

Gridlock and Traffic Jams in CV’s Future?

Reflecting on a newspaper article in the CV Weekly about the gridlock and traffic jams during the Altadena and Palisades fires, I am concerned that the La Crescenta community faces a similar disaster with the proposed high-density housing at Foothill Boulevard and Briggs Avenue.

The 1975 and 2018 fires caused gridlock from Briggs Avenue west to Pennsylvania Avenue, hindering evacuation efforts and fire equipment deployment. Furthermore, Briggs Avenue would serve as a main artery that serves three schools with an estimated 2,546 students and approximately 6,000 single-family properties in the event of emergency evacuation.

In my opinion, it appears that State of California and Los Angeles County elected officials seem to be disregarding history by endorsing high-density housing in a critical fire zone. These disasters have demonstrated the consequences of such actions, and we should learn from them to create safer communities. Let us not put ourselves in a position for another disaster that could have been mitigated.

This project will create chokepoints for emergency equipment, residents, and schools, thereby increasing the risk of loss of life and property in the event of a major fire. If we continue to disregard the lessons learned and approve these chokepoints, we can only blame the lack of government oversight for failing to protect our communities.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to deny funding for high density housing in a Critical High Fire Zone (file IDs 26-555 and 26-2556) Public Comments Agenda items 1D and 3D to ensure the safety of our community.

*Jonas Williams
La Crescenta*

Supports Addition of Bike Lanes

As a former cyclist I am pleased

to see the city following through on its plan to add bike lanes on La Crescenta Avenue. The bold markings on the roadway will increase motorists’ awareness of cyclists. Critics of this plan have noted, with some validity, the small number of cyclists on this route. However, with the added safety we can expect to see more cyclists on this road. And with the increased popularity of e-bikes the numbers will grow even more.

Critics also note that should an emergency evacuation be needed it would be hindered by the reduced lanes for automobile traffic. In an evacuation, it is likely the city will have a contingency plan to designate the middle lane as a second lane for the exiting traffic.

Finally, the “traffic calming” effect of the “road diet” will be much appreciated by many [residents] who live near or travel on this road.

*Joseph Beerler
Glendale*

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Kathleen Cross is a school board member, social worker, and parent who brings compassion, transparency, and a focus on student well-being.

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YOUTH

Community Impact Breakfast Hosted by VH Council of Scouting America

The Verdugo Hills Council of Scouting America will host its 2026 Community Impact Breakfast on Thursday, May 28 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Glen Arden Club, 357 Arden Ave. in Glendale. The annual event will bring together community leaders, business professionals and residents to celebrate and support the positive impact of Scouting on local youth.

The Community Impact Breakfast highlights how Scouting programs are helping more than 1,300 young people in the region develop leadership skills, build character and engage in service to their

communities. The event also serves as an opportunity to strengthen partnerships and expand support for youth development initiatives.

This year's keynote speaker will be Mike Libecki, a globally recognized explorer, filmmaker and conservationist. Libecki has led numerous expeditions to some of the world's most remote environments and has been featured on major media platforms. His presentation will focus on leadership, resilience, and environmental stewardship – values that closely align with the mission of Scouting.



The breakfast is complimentary and open to the public. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about Scouting's impact and how community support helps expand opportunities for local youth. A voluntary contribution will be invited at the conclusion of the program.

Community members are encouraged

to register in advance at VHbreakfast.givesmart.com.

For more information about the event or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Amy Taylor, Verdugo Hills Council, Scouting America; email her at amy.taylor@scouting.org.

NMSC® Announces \$2500 Scholarship Recipients

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®) announced this year's National Merit \$2500 scholarship winners. The 2,500 Merit Scholar designees were chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding finalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.

National Merit \$2500 scholarship winners are the finalists in each state judged to have the strongest

combination of accomplishments, skills and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state's percentage of the nation's graduating high school seniors.

Among those selected were Nathaniel Chen, a resident of La Cañada Flintridge who attends La Cañada High School whose probable

career field is financial quantitative analysis, Ellery Engstrom, a resident of La Cañada Flintridge who attends Polytechnic School in Pasadena whose probable career field is business, Jessica N. Simonian, a resident of La Cañada Flintridge who attends La Cañada High School whose probable career field is in bioengineering and Bailee Kim, a resident of La Crescenta who attends

Crescenta Valley High School whose probable career field is in healthcare.

All scholarships were supported by National Merit Scholarship Corporation's funds.

These scholars were selected by a committee of college admissions officers and high school counselors who appraised a substantial amount of information submitted by both the finalists and their high schools: the

academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®); contributions and leadership in school and community activities; an essay written by the finalist; and a recommendation written by a high school official.

New Exhibit Opening at Discovery Cube Los Angeles

Wild Kratts®: Creature Power®, an interactive exhibit based on the popular PBS Kids series, will open at Discovery Cube Los Angeles on May 23 and continue through Sept. 13. In this exhibit – created by Minnesota Children's Museum in collaboration with the Kratt Brothers Company – kids and families explore four animal habitats and the creatures within them.

This adventurous exhibit – which focuses on cultivating STEM skills in children ages 3 to 9 – invites kids and families to explore animal habitats from around the globe, discover incredible creature powers and go on a mission to foil the villains' nefarious plans.

Visitors will explore four animal habitats

including:

- Tropical Rainforest
- The Antarctic
- Australian Outback Desert
- Your Neighborhood

Kids and families will get the chance to learn about and try out various Creature Powers® such as:

- Sneaking through the forest using the stealth of a jaguar
- Swinging through the trees like a spider monkey
- Testing their hops against a kangaroo
- And much more!

Creature Power Weekends

Throughout the summer, Discovery Cube

will be hosting Creature Power Weekends to explore the secret lives of amazing creatures. Visitors are invited to immerse themselves in animal habitats from around the globe and discover incredible creature powers like jumping, stealth, echolocation, and enhanced sight, touch, and hearing.

• *June 13 and 14* Discovering senses the animal way! Activities have guests explore the senses of sound, touch and smell.

• *July 3 – 5* Kick it Up! Connecting to the World Cup Soccer games being played in Los Angeles, guests can partake in soccer activities that focus on the scientific concepts of force, motion and trajectory to make connections with how animals employ

the same concepts and movements to evade predators, track prey, and communicate with each other.

• *Aug. 22 and 23* The World of Bats! International Bat Night is right around the corner, come learn more about these incredible creatures. Play a game to understand how bats use echolocation to navigate and locate prey, then try to match bats to their type of food (carnivores, insectivores, frugivores).

Reserve Discovery Cube tickets at: <https://www.discoverycube.org/losangeles>.

The museum is located at 11800 Foothill Blvd. in Sylmar, right off the 210 Freeway.

Balboa Elementary Students Present Check to Blood Cancer United

Balboa Elementary School students gathered on May 15 to celebrate the presentation of a \$13,000 donation to representatives from Blood Cancer United, continuing the school's strong tradition of supporting blood cancer research and advocacy efforts.

The check presentation, led by Balboa's Student Council, took place in front of the entire student body as students, staff and guests recognized the school community's fundraising achievements. Representatives from Blood Cancer United attended the event and accepted the donation on behalf of the organization.

Since 2022, Balboa Elementary has raised nearly \$65,000 for the cause under the leadership of Principal Dr. Sona Arakelyan. Through parent donations and school wide fundraising efforts, the initiative has become a meaningful tradition that brings together students,

families and staff in support of an important cause.

"Through experiences like this, students learn the power of working together to make a meaningful difference, lessons that extend well beyond the classroom and into their everyday lives," said Arakelyan.

The event began with remarks from Student Council students who spoke about the importance of supporting individuals and families affected by blood cancers. Students then formally presented the check to Blood Cancer United representatives as applause filled the crowd of Balboa students gathered to witness the celebration.

The presentation highlighted the compassion, teamwork and generosity of the Balboa community and celebrated the positive impact students can make when they come together to support others.

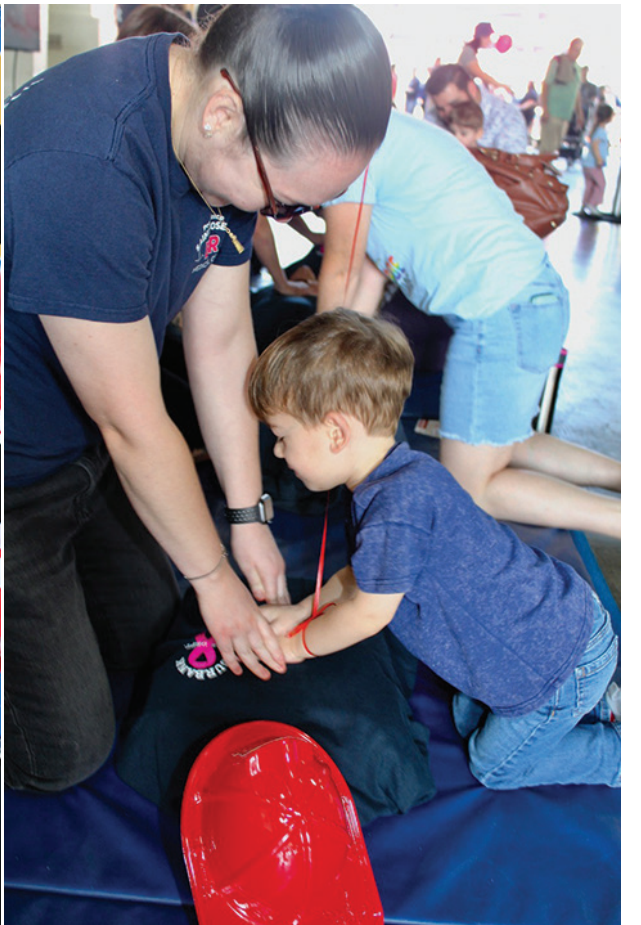
Submitted by GUSD

Provided by GUSD
Students of Balboa Elementary School, with principal Dr. Sona Arakelyan (left), donated a check to Blood Cancer United.



BETWEEN FRIENDS

A Record 2,000 Visitors Show Up for Burbank Fire & Police Service Day



By Ruth SOWBY

The popular, free, family-friendly Burbank Fire & Police Service Day had something for everyone. Held at the Burbank headquarters on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., there were station tours, vehicle and equipment displays, live demonstrations, such as “bystander CPR” in which

community members provide CPR, according to Jessica Strange, Pre-hospital Care coordinator at St. Joseph Hospital. “Hands-only CPR increases the number of community members providing ‘sidewalk CPR,’ thereby increasing survivors,” said Strange. At Service Day, the kids enjoyed jumping in with chest compressions on the three CPR dolls provided.

According to Burbank Fire Battalion Chief Erik Jueden, visitors to the annual Service Day increase every year. He said especially popular this year was barbecue fare served by members of Firefighters Local 778. Union members grilled the meat the day before to more quickly accommodate hungry customers. Burbank resident Drew Spracher and son Luke, 3, posing with Mickey and

Minnie Mouse, said, “We wait all year to come to Service Day.”

Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: Liev Tronik, 6, clambers all the way up the fire pole at Burbank Fire & Police Service Day. MIDDLE: Burbank resident Drew Spracher and son Luke, 3, pose with Mickey & Minnie Mouse at Burbank Fire & Police Service Day on Saturday, May 9. RIGHT: RN Leslie Lopez shows Christopher Apelian, 3, how to perform CPR chest compressions.

» TASTY TREATS » CHEF RANDY GRAHAM

Teleme, Squash & Onion Galette

This is a great appetizer and a great way to utilize the excess squash from your garden. If you can't find Teleme cheese, you can substitute Monterey Jack, mozzarella or provolone.

Dough Ingredients:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon sugar
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 3 to 4 tablespoons of ice water

Topping Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/3 cup yellow onion – thinly sliced
- 1 cup yellow summer squash – sliced 1/4 inch thick
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme or 1 1/2 teaspoons crushed dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black or white pepper
- 4 ounces Teleme cheese – coarsely grated
- 1 tablespoon milk

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Mix together the flour, salt

and sugar. Cut in the butter until the mixture resembles small peas. Sprinkle one tablespoon of ice water over the mixture; gently toss with a fork. Push the moistened dough to the side of the bowl. Repeat adding one tablespoon of ice water at a time until all the dough is moistened—then form it into a ball. Flatten the dough, cover it with plastic wrap, and chill for a couple of hours.

In a medium skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and squash. Cook and stir for two minutes. Add thyme, salt, and pepper. Cook and stir for three to five minutes longer or until the vegetables are tender but not browned. Set aside to cool.

On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough to form a 9-inch circle about 1/8 inch thick. Place it in a shallow baking pan or on a 12-inch pizza pan. Spoon the vegetable mixture onto the center of the dough circle, leaving a 1 1/2-inch border. Top the vegetable mixture with cheese. Fold the dough border back over the filling, keeping the middle open and uncovered. Brush the dough with milk.

Bake for 25 minutes or until golden brown.

Chef Randy Graham, the healthy chef. Providing consistently good vegetarian comfort food recipes. See his cookbooks at Amazon.



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More Awards Presented to La Crescenta Woman's Club

The La Crescenta Woman's Club (LCWC) received awards this spring for its contributions to the community during the past year in areas such as advocating for children and the environment, civic engagement and outreach, and the club newsletter. The awards were from the San Gabriel Valley District of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs.

Three individual members from LCWC also received special recognition. Besty Mortimer received the LCWC Kindness Angel Award for her diligence working behind the scenes to help the club run smoothly. Mortimer is a beloved member of the club and has a smile that welcomes all.

Denise Napiwocki was recognized as the LCWC Citizen of the Year. Napiwocki is in charge of Ways and Means and leads the club in organizing community fundraising events at the clubhouse, such as bingo, and organizing members to help out

at the Montrose Shopping Park Association Wine Walks. She is dedicated to supporting women but also advocates continuously for veterans. She is a member of the local American Legion Auxiliary Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614, and past-president of both of these local organizations. She has also been a Boy Scout leader and Girl Scout leader and was previously named the Citizen of the Year in Montrose.

LCWC Club Member of the Year was Pam Mosher. As Programs chairperson at LCWC, Mosher brings exciting events to club meetings such as musical performances and programs about local history. The programs are enjoyed by LCWC members and community members. In addition, Mosher has a unique, technical skill set and a background in production, which she has used to upgrade the audio-visual equipment at the



clubhouse, making it a desirable rental venue.

Those interested in learning about upcoming LCWC events, clubhouse rentals, or joining

LCWC can visit <https://lacrescentawomansclub.org>.

Submitted by Danette ERICKSON

Photo submitted by Danette ERICKSON
From left are Pam Mosher, Denise Napiwocki and Besty Mortimer.



Big Bucks Raised by YMCA of the Foothills

The YMCA of the Foothills announced the successful completion of its 2026 Annual Support Campaign, raising \$178,000 to support critical programs and financial assistance for the community.

This year's campaign, themed Heart of the Foothills, highlighted the YMCA's role as a central force in strengthening community connections and supporting individuals and families across

the region. The achievement reflects the collective dedication of YMCA staff, volunteers, board members and generous donors – some of whom have supported the campaign for more than 45 years.

"Each year, our community comes together to ensure that everyone has access to the programs and services that help them thrive," said Joanne Pingry, director of Mission Advancement. "This success truly represents the heart and spirit of the Foothills."

Although the official campaign season has concluded, fundraising efforts continue year-round to sustain the Y's financial assistance program. Through this program, thousands of individuals and families are able to participate in life-changing YMCA programs regardless of their ability to pay.

The YMCA of the Foothills remains committed to promoting healthy living, fostering connection, and expanding access to wellness opportunities for all.

To learn more or support the Foothills Strong Annual Support Campaign, visit: ymcafoothills.org/donate-now.

Provided by YMCA

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Who's Responsible For Reviewing Seller's Disclosures

Dear Phyllis,

My daughter and son-in-law recently purchased a home in San Diego for nearly \$3 million. The property includes a jacuzzi. They had both a general home inspection and a fireplace inspection, and since everything appeared to be in acceptable condition, they didn't request any concessions. Most of the paperwork was signed electronically via DocuSign, often on their phones.

They mentioned that their real estate agent wasn't very involved throughout the process—the transaction was largely handled by a coordinator. After moving in, they were exhausted and looking forward to using the jacuzzi, only to find they couldn't get it working. When they contacted

the seller's agent for help, they were sent a copy of the Disclosure, which indicated the heater was not functioning.

This was the first they had heard of it. Given the price they paid, it seems surprising—and frankly disappointing—that the jacuzzi wasn't working and this wasn't clearly addressed before closing. They admit they didn't review the disclosures as closely as they should have, likely because everything was done quickly on mobile devices. Still, I believe their agent should bear some responsibility for not highlighting this issue during the transaction.

Who's responsible for reviewing seller disclosures?

— Disappointed Mom

Dear Mom,

Thank you for sharing your daughter and son-in-law's experience—I'm sorry to hear about their disappointment.

I'd suggest they take a moment to review the home inspection report to see whether the jacuzzi was specifically inspected. As you noted, the seller did disclose that the heater wasn't working, so the issue was technically addressed, even if not adequately communicated.

Personally, I provide my clients with PDF versions of all key disclosures and documents before anything is sent through DocuSign. I also choose not to use a transaction coordinator, so I can review critical items like inspections and seller disclosures

with my clients.

It does sound like their agent should have been more engaged in the process. Even though the disclosure was signed by both the agent and your daughter, it's understandable that, in the rush of mobile DocuSign signatures, something this important could be missed. That said, it seems that their agent should have flagged something as significant as a non-working jacuzzi heater.

I recommend that your daughter contact her agent—and their manager—to express her concerns. Depending on how they respond, they may be open to contributing to the cost of repairs or replacement. It's worth the conversation.

Phyllis



Phyllis Harb

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www.HarbandCo.com



HARB & CO.
COLDWELL BANKER HALLMARK

Correction: In the May 14 article "Bob Keiter Celebrates Birthday," Keiter actually celebrated his 98th birthday, not his 89th.

We apologize for the oversight – and once again congratulate Bob!

TRAVEL & LEISURE

Downtown Burbank Welcomes Seven Sculptures

By Ruth SOWBY

On May 12 and continuing through July 21, Visit Burbank and Downtown Burbank have transformed the AMC Walkway into an open-air gallery featuring monumental sculptures by artist Richard Orlinski. The Richard Orlinski Exhibition is free and open to the public.

This large-scale exhibit marks Orlinski's Burbank debut. With more than 200 galleries and public installations, the French neo-pop artist has become one of the most exhibited sculptors working today.

A highlight of the exhibit is a King Kong gorilla with an angular form and high gloss finish. Another dramatic sculpture is a 12-foot standing bear of stainless steel with an open lattice structure refracting sunlight, giving the impression of a creature woven from light and air. Popular on the Walkway is a crocodile in Orlinsky Red resin, stretching 17 feet with jaws wide open. It anchors one end of the Walkway.

According to Burbank mayor Tamala Takahashi, "Public art plays an important role in bringing people together. ... It reflects Burbank's commitment to celebrating the arts and creating vibrant places where we can gather and engage."



Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: This signature Richard Orlinski piece was inspired by the iconic film character King Kong. RIGHT: This 12-foot standing bear of stainless steel soars over Burbank's AMC Walkway. In the background is a 10-foot tall rearing horse in orange resin. Both sculptures are by artist Richard Orlinski.

THEN & NOW Feed Sacks On Trolley Freight Car Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then: From 1913 until 1930, the Glendale and Montrose Railway, besides its passenger service, ran a lucrative freight business to and from the Crescenta Valley. There was a loading dock at La Crescenta Avenue and Montrose Avenue as well as at Pennsylvania Avenue. Wagons from all over the valley and Sunland-Tujunga would bring loads here to be transported to Los Angeles on the electric railway. Grapes from the many vineyards, olives and other fruit, gravel and silica from quarries, and graphite ore from a mine in the Verdugos were all Crescenta Valley products hauled by the G&M. This photo shows a flatcar delivering sacks of feed to Bonetto Brothers Feed and Fuel located at La Crescenta and Montrose avenues. The workmen in front are both holding bunches of grapes, perhaps part of the cargo to go on the flatcar after they've finished unloading the sacks. The car itself is an electrically powered flatcar, which was driven from a "tower" in the center of the car that can be seen sticking up above the feed sacks.



Now: Here is the intersection of Montrose and La Crescenta avenues today looking north. The G&M Railway disappeared in 1930 and the rails were torn out right after. The only evidence of the G&M here today is the unusual width of Montrose Avenue, as it was originally laid out to carry two lanes of cars with parking on both sides plus a set of trolley tracks in the center of the street.

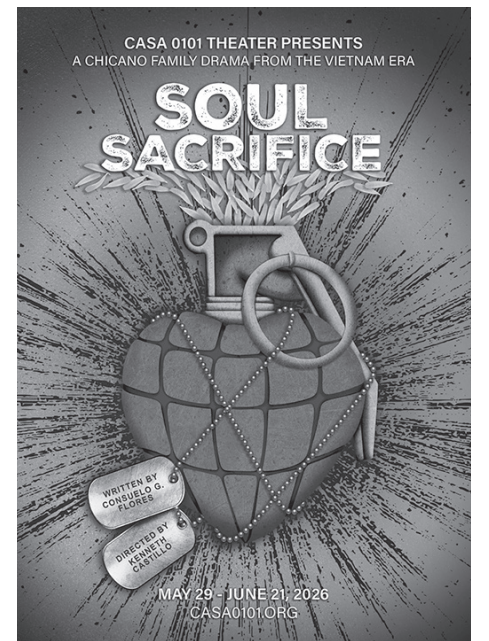
'Soul Sacrifice' Coming to CASA 0101

CASA 0101 Theater will present the premiere production of "Soul Sacrifice" for a four-week run at CASA 0101 Theater in the Gloria Molina Auditorium, 2102 E. First St. (at St. Louis Street) in Los Angeles from May 29 - June 21. Learn more at www.casa0101.org.

In "Soul Sacrifice," tense silences and sudden outbursts fill the East Los Angeles home of 9-year-old Connie as her family begins to fracture beneath the weight of war, activism and grief. Connie's beloved brother Luie has been drafted to fight on the front lines of Vietnam, leaving a void that ripples through every corner of the household.

"Soul Sacrifice" will be presented on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person for general admission; \$22 per person for students and seniors 60-plus and \$20 per person for Boyle Heights residents, veterans and groups of 10 or more.

On Sunday, June 7 the performance of the play will be preceded by a pre-show event. Ticket buyers for that performance will be invited to attend the pre-show event without any additional charge. There will be one discounted preview performance presented on Thursday, May 28 at 8 p.m.



Design by Itzel OCAMPO

for \$15 per person.

"Soul Sacrifice" deals with mature subject related to war and specifically the Vietnam War. Children under 10 years of age are not permitted.

For tickets, call the CASA 0101 Theater box office at (323) 263-7684, email tickets@casa0101.org or purchase online at www.casa0101.org.

Hyper SoCal Continues in Summer 2026

Glendale Library, Arts & Culture and Brand Library & Art Center announce the summer 2026 season of Hyper SoCal, a regional arts initiative spotlighting the breadth of creative expression across Southern California. Building on its inaugural launch, Hyper SoCal's summer season highlights a new group of partner programming featuring cities spanning across Southern California, from Santa Barbara to Lancaster to San Pedro. In addition to exhibitions highlighting specific aspects of the SoCal cultural landscape, the summer season also features a vibrant series of music and art festivals, and interdisciplinary public programs presented across its network of more than 40 partner spaces.

Originating at Glendale's Brand Library & Art Center, the initiative highlights the diversity of Southern California's cultural landscape through

both indoor and outdoor experiences designed to engage broad audiences.

"Hyper SoCal's summer season reflects the energy and creativity that define our region," says director of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Lessa Pelayo-Lozada. "By highlighting festivals, performances and public programs, our partners are creating more opportunities for artists and audiences to connect in meaningful and accessible ways."

On Aug. 1, celebrities, film stars, martial arts legends and significant figures will be featured in the exhibit Dragonfest Expo, part of the Martial Arts History Museum on display at the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road in Glendale. Admission is \$50; the event is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, including the additional exhibit sites, visit <https://www.brandlibrary.org/hyper-socal>.

JUST FOR FUN

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

May 18, 2026 - May 24, 2026

ARIES March 21 - April 19
 Whatever state your health has been in lately, it's now going to improve. Don't be surprised if the right treatment or information becomes available in order for you to resolve a frustrating physical issue. One word of warning is that you could feel more tempted than ever to indulge in forbidden foods. Be careful.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20
 Your main problem is your nerves. There's a lot going on - more than usual - and life could be both interesting and stressful. While you're more than ready to handle any challenge, you need to boost your body's resources by eating well, feeding your nerves, and above all, getting plenty of rest. You need the chance to slow down so you can be calm enough to make important decisions.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20
 You could find it hard to push yourself to work out daily or stick to your diet. You might be eager to achieve some big goals, but unless you're very firm with yourself, you could waver and give in to temptation. The secret to staying on track is to use the power of your imagination to help you reach the required level of health. Picture yourself as you want to be.

CANCER June 21 - July 22
 The cosmos is bringing a number of changes your way. Some of them may be profound and others more subtle. Whatever their nature, make your health your top priority. The more willing you are to get into shape and stay that way, the more easily you'll handle the exciting developments that are coming. Get to work. You won't regret it!

LEO July 23 - August 22
 The cosmos is bringing a number of changes your way. Some of them may be profound and others more subtle. Whatever their nature, make your health your top priority. The more willing you are to get into shape and stay that way, the more easily you'll handle the exciting developments that are coming. Get to work. You won't regret it!

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22
 Use this opportunity to get a thorough medical checkup, especially in those areas where you've experienced any ongoing symptoms. If you've gone off track as far as your fitness and eating routines are concerned, this is the time to pick up where you left off. Don't give up. Persevere for outstanding results.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
 Over are the delays you've experienced in getting results of hospital tests or healing from an illness. Everything will now improve, including your progress. You might need to lighten your schedule anyway. Aspects in your career zone could prove both stressful and promising at the same time. Find a way to relax.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
 You need to pace yourself more than you have been recently. If you've been working flat out and feel exhausted, delegate some of your tasks and begin to investigate any health issues. Check for food sensitivities, get a general checkup, and find someone who can help you plan a personal fitness program. Your body will thank you!

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
 You might feel a powerful need to detox your system. You may as well refresh your body and digestive system at the same time. If you go ahead with it, make sure to get plenty of rest. Don't even think about it if you don't have the time to relax. If you can't do it now, wait for the next quiet week to make this commitment to better health.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
 You might be interested in more esoteric ways of getting and staying well. You may be drawn to subtler therapies that are energetic in nature and that enable you to dissolve any hidden blocks. Those are the blocks that are retained as painful cellular memories. They can lie at the heart of many health problems. This will be an interesting journey for you.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
 The cosmos signals the beginning of a new era. You might even experience a health issue that encourages you to change your lifestyle and overall approach to life. It might also coincide with a decision to turn over a new leaf where your health is concerned from this point on. It will be a much greener and more rewarding leaf!

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20
 Try to feed your nerves now and make it a regular part of your daily diet. Your nervous system absorbs the brunt of life's pressures, especially if you're more stressed than usual. The cosmos could bring sudden events and challenges your way now. If you feel strong in body and mind, as well as fit and healthy, you will be better able to deal with anything that happens.

CALENDAR this

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT PODCASTS

Soroptimist International of Glendale presents Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Podcasts, a virtual presentation with Dot Cannon, today, Thursday, May 21 from noon to 1 p.m.

The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89119274257?pwd=f2nBwLGpo550TZkVVEDwBq5Wjmoaaa.1>

Meeting ID is 891 1927 4257

The passcode is 675022.

For more information, visit <https://soroptimistglendale.org/event-directory/>.

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On May 22, the Club will be dark for the Memorial Day holiday. When it returns on May 29, the Club will oversee the disbursement of

scholarships!

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

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

FUN FOUND AT BACK DOOR BAKERY

Back Door Bakery and Cafe is hosting live music every Friday and Saturday night at 7 p.m. On Saturday, May 22, the music of Spring Fling Thing will be performed and on Sunday, May 23, Paul Inman will be performing. Also, on Sundays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Reno Goodale hosts King Trivia!

Back Door Bakery is located at 8349 Foothill Blvd. in Sunland.

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 music from 10 a.m. to noon each Friday 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

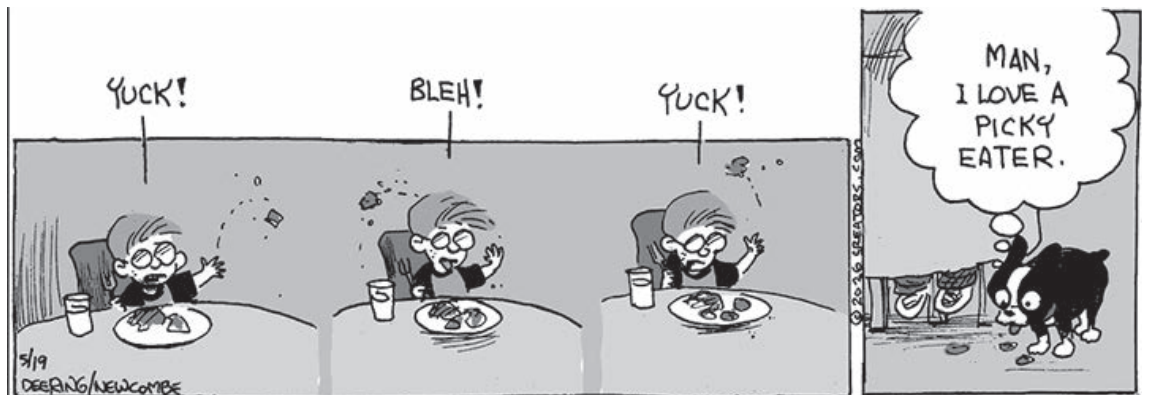
The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge (CCLCF) hosts a variety of events for the community. Among them:

• Senior Bingo & Brunch: Join the monthly Bingo & Brunch event for seniors on Friday, May 22 at 10 am. Register at cclcf.org/register.

• Registration continues for Camp Runamuk and summer camps. Camp Runamuk for ages 5-10 will run weekly from June 8 to Aug. 14 with a different theme each week. Learn more/register at cclcf.org/register.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

- 1) The silent Marx
- 6) Less dicey
- 11) Triangular sail
- 14) In-demand group
- 15) "Skyfall" singer
- 16) "___ been had!"
- 17) "Purple Haze" singer mentioned in "Rock and Roll Heaven"
- 19) Soccer star Hamm
- 20) Fraternal group
- 21) Japanese noodle soup
- 23) San Diego community
- 27) Steering system parts
- 29) How pills are taken
- 30) Life's work
- 31) Co-op alternative
- 32) Three-dimensional
- 33) Scott Joplin piece
- 36) "Lucky Jim" writer Kingsley
- 37) Board game turns
- 38) Split apart
- 39) ___ Palmas
- 40) Sugar portions
- 41) Sarandon of "Bull Durham"
- 42) Prison warden
- 44) Danson's role on "Cheers"
- 45) Weight-training partner
- 47) Edison's 1,000+
- 48) Sullen sort
- 49) Brand with a four-ring logo
- 50) Start of the Musketeers' motto
- 51) "Dock of the Bay" singer mentioned in "Rock and Roll Heaven"
- 58) Go slaloming
- 59) Acme's opposite
- 60) Opera role
- 61) Solo of "Star Wars"
- 62) Reaches across
- 63) Shangri-las

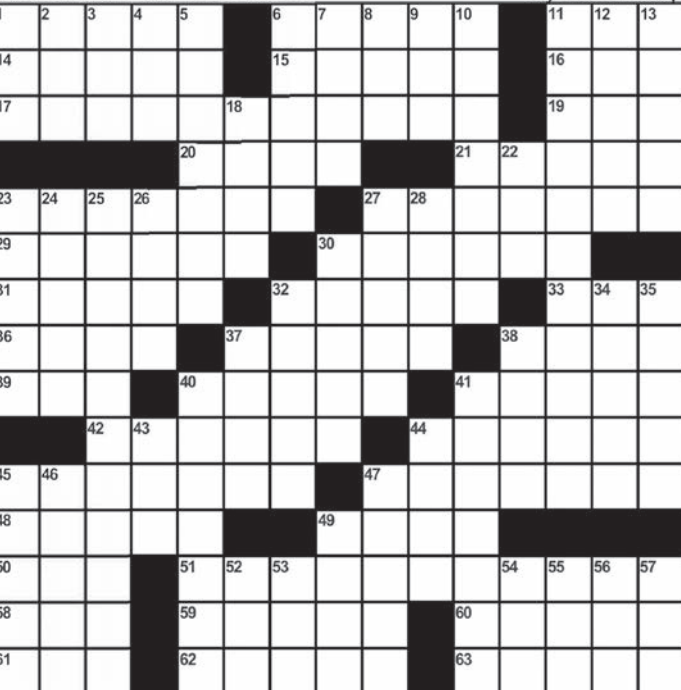
DOWN

- 1) Leon Uris novel, with "The"
- 2) "Aladdin" prince
- 3) Salt's place, in a margarita
- 4) Tire gauge meas.
- 5) Shakespearean Moor
- 6) Early deaf brand
- 7) Tosses in
- 8) In favor of, in dialect
- 9) Inventor Whitney
- 10) Former co-host of "At the Movies"
- 11) "Light My Fire" singer mentioned in "Rock and Roll Heaven"
- 12) Like some college walls
- 13) Pork go-with
- 18) TV rustic ___ May Clampett
- 22) "Facts ___ facts"
- 23) Kind of anesthetic
- 24) Kitchen allure
- 25) "Me and Bobby McGee" singer mentioned in "Rock and Roll Heaven"
- 26) Early auto maker
- 27) Old wives' output?
- 28) Camera or eye part
- 30) Nightclub charge
- 32) Like a designated driver
- 34) ___-garde
- 35) Chromosome units
- 37) Donkey-horse offspring
- 38) Hold sway over
- 40) Colorful bits in some cakes
- 41) Vegged out
- 43) Munched on
- 44) Put together
- 45) Hard tennis shot
- 46) Welk tune
- 47) Feline utterances
- 49) A, ___ "apple"
- 52) Gregory Hines specialty
- 53) First lady McKinley
- 54) Defective firecracker
- 55) Hotel freebie
- 56) "Delta of Venus" author
- 57) Petrol, stateside

5.21.26

ROCK AND ROLL HEAVEN

By Fred Piscop



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PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Amazon Asks for My ID Before Refunding A Defective DVD/VCR – But Why?

When David Cerullo returns a defective DVD/VCR combo to Amazon, he expects a quick refund. Instead, the company asks him to prove his identity – and keeps rejecting his valid Colorado driver’s license. Now he just wants to know why Amazon is making it so difficult to get his money back.

Question: I bought a DVD/VCR combo from Amazon for \$273. After using it for a few weeks, it stopped loading DVDs so I returned it. Amazon confirmed it received the item a few days later.

Then I saw a message on my account saying, “Your refund couldn’t be processed.” When I called, a representative told me I had to verify my identity before they could issue a refund. Amazon sent me a link to upload my driver’s license, which I did. But the system kept rejecting it saying my Colorado driver’s license wasn’t from the United States.

I must have done this five times. Each time I called, a representative told me to wait three days and try again. But nothing worked.

I’ve had this account for years and never had a problem before. I don’t understand why I suddenly need to prove who I am to get my refund. Can you help me find out

why Amazon made this so hard – and get my money back?

– David Cerullo, Denver, Colorado

Answer: Looks like you ran into one of Amazon’s automated security checks. The company flagged your account for “abnormal activity” – in this case, repeated returns and mismatched information – and required identity verification before issuing a refund.

Amazon’s verification system is far from perfect. It can reject perfectly valid documents. That’s why your Colorado driver’s license was repeatedly flagged as “not from the United States” and why you got stuck in a frustrating loop. Every time you uploaded your ID, a representative told you to wait three days and try again with no clear way to reach a human who could fix the issue.

You asked Amazon repeatedly

what had gone wrong. One representative said there was “possible” fraud on your account. Another claimed you had “suspicious activity.” Interestingly, this was your only purchase on Amazon in the last five years.

What can you do in a situation like this? First, save a complete paper trail – screenshots, emails, chat transcripts. That documentation will be critical if you need to escalate your request.

If you’re going in circles, escalate to Amazon’s executive contacts (I list them on my advocacy site Elliott.org). Persistence and thorough documentation are your best tools for breaking free from an automated system that’s failing you.

Colorado law also protects you in situations like this. Under the Colorado Consumer Protection Act, you have the right to a refund for defective merchandise. Retailers can’t create unreasonable barriers



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

to returning faulty products and you can file a complaint with the attorney general if a company acts in bad faith.

I contacted Amazon on your behalf. Because you used an Amazon store card additional identity verification was needed, which included mailing a code and a follow-up call. Two months after returning the defective DVD/VCR,

you finally received your money.

Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (<https://elliottadvocacy.org>), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems.

Email him at chris@elliott.org or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>.

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CALENDAR THIS from previous page

•Summer Camps. Coach Andy’s Summer Sports Camps, Skyhawks Sports Summer Camps, Junior & Pre-Teen Ceramics Camps, Musical Theatre Dance Camp, Cooking Camps, Art Camps, Professor Egghead Camps, and a Speech & Debate Camp promises something for everyone! Camp ages range from 4 to 14. Register today at cclcf.org/register

•Family Bingo Night: Gather the family for an evening of fun, laughter and delicious treats plus 40 chances to win at the CCLCF Family Bingo Night and Ice Cream Sundae Bar on Saturday, May 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 pm. Seating is limited. Get tickets today at cclcf.org/bingo.

•Summer Registration: Summer registration is open. Summer session runs from June 8 to Aug 1. View currently available classes at cclcf.org/register. New classes will continue to be added as they become available.

•Studio Arts Summer Registration: Studio Arts (ceramics & glass) summer registration opens on Wednesday, June 3, at 9 a.m. Studio Arts summer session runs June 21 to Aug 15. View currently available classes at cclcf.org/register.

•Foothills Community Choir Spring Concert - “Tell Your Story”: Enjoy an inspiring evening of musical storytelling on Saturday, June 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets available at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/theatreproductions/event/foothillscommunitychoir26/>.

•CCLCF Open House: CCLCF will host an open house on Sunday, Aug. 16 to showcase classes and programs. 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.

VERDUGO HILLS WOMEN’S CHORUS TO PRESENT FREE CONCERT

The Verdugo Hills Women’s Chorus will present its spring concert on Saturday, May 23 at 4 p.m. in Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. “A Trip Across America” will feature such beloved songs as “Shenandoah,” “I Left My Heart in San Francisco,” “St. Louis Blues” and more. All are welcome!

For more information, contact VHCW President Jody Weems at sparkyweems@aol.com or call (310) 701-4185.

The non-profit group, a member of California Women’s Choruses, has been entertaining since PTA days in the 1970s. It is currently directed by Rhonda Dillon. Singers hail from throughout the foothill communities.

FREE MENTAL HELATH EVENT

On May 23, a virtual event (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87801032106?pwd=iNaFZbu62r1JPGeGGn4pNHAqdrHp9f.1>) hosted by the SOR Storytelling Troupe, is being held. This no-cost virtual event, presented in partnership with Take ActionLA, features a live storytelling experience with women from across the Los Angeles community sharing lived experiences in real time.

Following the storytelling, participants will engage in a guided writing session and reflective discussion designed to help them begin shaping their own stories. The event supports mental, emotional, and creative wellbeing by providing a structured space for expression and connection.

Then on Sunday, May 24 Take ActionLA is sponsoring a free family-friendly wellness experience from noon to 3 p.m. focused on mental health awareness, connection and community wellbeing at 670

S. Anderson St. in LA. No RSVP required. For information, email support@christinadunbar.com.

LANTERMAN HOUSE HOSTS EVENTS

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

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

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

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR YWCA GALA

On May 29 at 6 p.m. at the La Cañada Flintridge Country Club, the YWCA Glendale and Pasadena Centennial Gala will honor the people who built the facilities and the work that continues today and in the future.

Individual tickets are \$200 each and available at <https://tinyurl.com/y2ux65yc>.

The country club is located at 5500 Godbey Dr. in La Cañada Flintridge.

FREMONT ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Fremont Elementary School, 3320 Las Palmas Ave., is celebrating 100 years on Saturday May 30. From 2 to 6 p.m. on the school campus, guests will enjoy live music by Rock Bottom Betty, games, food for purchase (provided by food trucks) and more! A “museum experience” will be in the school auditorium that includes school archives and photos from the last 100 years.

The community is invited but especially all former and

present Fremont attendees and/or parents. For more information, contact chair Elizabeth Butler at elizabethannbutler@yahoo.com.

ROSES IN JUNE: THE MUSIC OF FRANK LANTERMAN

The community is invited to the Lanterman House ballroom for a special fundraiser performance in partnership with La Cañada Congregational Church to support the restoration of its historic Wurlitzer organ, which was supported by the Lanterman family.

“Roses In June: The Music Of Frank Lanterman” will be performed on Sunday, June 7 at 1 p.m. It will be presented by Dr. Matt Thomas, CSU Fullerton and features Mallory Haney Loo, pianist and organist at the Congregational church. Also featured are vocalists Brooke Iva Lohman,

Theresa Patten-Koeckert, Christina Whitten Thomas, Jacob Christopher Walters and Matthew Ian Welch

Visit <https://www.lantermanhouse.org/list-of-events> to reserve a ticket.

THE GARAGISTE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO GLENDALE CIVIC

The Garagiste Festival, a premiere wine festival, returns to the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road, for the 11th Garagiste Festival: Urban Exposure on Saturday, June 20 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. It features 30-plus micro-production wineries from nearly every California American Viticultural Area (AVA) pouring over 150 exceptional and under the radar wines. Tickets are now on sale at <https://garagistefestival2026LA.eventbrite.com>.

The Garagiste Festival: Urban Exposure includes a rare and reserve tasting, grand tasting and a

silent auction.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

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

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

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

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

MONTROSE LIBRARY EVENTS

•The Montrose Library hosts canasta on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

•The Back Alley Painters is a vibrant group of adult artists who gather to create, share their work, offer constructive feedback and enjoy each other’s company.

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

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

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

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

CANDIDATES from page 7

the fire department fee was just over \$200. I think we can all agree that more parks are needed in South Glendale; however, a fee that is 20 times the amount for the fire department seems extraordinarily out of balance. It is imperative we conduct a top-to-bottom review of city regulations and development fees.

Another extremely significant issue facing our city are the housing mandates being pushed down from Sacramento. These one size fits all mandates, such as SB 9, 10 and now SB 79, have taken away local control. We need to join with other cities to first work with Sacramento legislators to amend these mandated laws to give back local control. If Sacramento does not work with us, then we, in collaboration with other cities, need to get the courts involved.

Lastly, as many people are aware, the incumbents up for reelection. Dan Brotman and Elen Asatryan, along with candidate Alek Bartrosouf, are in favor of developing the public owned parking lots in Montrose and other areas of our city into housing, taking away vital parking for customers of merchants and others such as college students. Ms. Asatryan and Mr. Brotman refused to remove this plan from the Draft Land Use Element when it came up as a proposed City Council agenda item. This is unacceptable.

People are tired of being told what they need instead of being asked what they want.

patrickmurphyforglendale.com

Ronnie Gharibian: Housing is one of the most important issues facing Glendale because it impacts working families, seniors, young professionals and longtime residents who want to remain in our community. We need a balanced approach that protects neighborhoods while also creating realistic housing opportunities.

While concerns about large investment groups purchasing homes are valid, the data shows this has been less aggressive in California compared to other states because of already high property values. However, the tragic fires in Altadena created a new challenge. For regular families, purchasing a vacant lot and rebuilding is extremely difficult because financing for land purchases and construction loans is limited and often requires a significant amount of cash upfront.

This is an area where state and federal governments should step in with special financing programs and incentives designed for owner-occupied buyers and first-time homeowners. We should advocate for programs that help local families rebuild and purchase homes instead of leaving those opportunities only to large investors and corporations.

Density bonus projects have also created understandable concerns regarding traffic, parking, infrastructure and neighborhood character. While state laws limit local control in some cases, Glendale still has a responsibility to ensure development is responsible and compatible with the community. I support updating Glendale's development standards to require better design, infrastructure planning, traffic mitigation, parking solutions and stronger community input before approvals are granted.

At the same time, we cannot ignore the housing shortage. The answer is not simply "build everywhere"

or "build nothing." We need smart growth. That means focusing housing in locations where development will not drastically change the character of established neighborhoods while protecting single-family areas from overdevelopment. We should encourage mixed-use projects and adaptive reuse of underutilized commercial properties so developments can support both residential and commercial needs. This approach allows residents to utilize nearby businesses and services while also generating economic activity and revenue for the city.

We also need to streamline permitting and reduce unnecessary bureaucracy that drives up construction costs because delays ultimately increase costs for renters and buyers.

Glendale deserves thoughtful planning – not extremes. We need policies that preserve the character of our city, improve quality of life and create realistic pathways to

homeownership and affordable living for future generations.

ronnieforglendale.com

Vrej Agajanian: Housing continues to be one of the biggest concerns for Glendale residents and it is an issue that requires practical, balanced solutions. Rising housing costs and limited availability have made it difficult for many working families, young adults and seniors to remain in the city. As a licensed professional engineer, I have already demonstrated leadership on this issue by helping initiate and deliver more than 500 affordable housing units, representing roughly a 40% increase in all affordable housing built in Glendale since 1978. That is a significant accomplishment and reflects a real commitment to increasing housing accessibility for residents who are struggling with rising housing costs. I support housing opportunities in Glendale; however, we must be mindful about how development is implemented to ensure it remains balanced, protects

neighborhood quality and keeps residents and community needs as the priority. In addition, we must always be aligned with the small businesses and homeowners in the area.

One of the biggest obstacles to addressing the housing crisis is the amount of unnecessary red tape in the permitting and approval process. Housing projects can spend years going through approvals and delays before construction even begins. These delays increase costs, discourage investment and slow the creation of housing. I support streamlining the permitting process and reducing unnecessary bureaucracy so projects that meet city standards can move forward more efficiently. Cutting red tape does not mean eliminating oversight or ignoring community concerns. It means making the process more transparent and efficient while still maintaining accountability and strong planning standards. When projects are delayed, those added

costs are often passed on to residents through higher rents and housing prices.

Glendale also needs to ensure that residents remain the priority when discussing housing policy. Across California, corporate investors have increasingly purchased residential properties, making it harder for families and first-time buyers to compete in the housing market. By continuing to support affordable housing initiatives and cutting unnecessary permitting delays, Glendale can make meaningful progress toward creating a city that remains accessible, stable and livable for future generations.

For those who are trying to contact us, there was a devastating fire in our building and two people have been found deceased. We have been operating under difficult circumstances. For now, our T.V. studio has been damaged, causing our two T.V. stations to go black.

For more information, please contact me at (818) 468-6666.

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LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS



Notice of Public Hearing For 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Availability of Draft Plans for Review

Foothill Municipal Water District (FMWD) hereby releases its Draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and Draft 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) for public review. The UWMP and WSCP will be available through June 1, 2026 at the following locations:

- FMWD District Office (4536 Hampton Rd., La Cañada Flintridge, CA)
- Online: www.fmwd.com/finance-management-reports

A Public Hearing will be held on **June 1, 2026 at 4:00 PM** to consider comments to the Draft UWMP and WSCP and to adopt the UWMP and WSCP. The Public Hearing will be held in person at the District's Office (4536 Hampton Rd., La Cañada Flintridge, CA). A Zoom virtual conference is also available for the public to attend and provide comments.

- Meeting ID: 627 041 3467
- Password: 477598

FMWD encourages the active involvement of its citizens. If you have any questions concerning the 2025 UWMP and 2025 WSCP, please contact: Michael Le, Water Program Technician, (818) 790-4036 or email: mle@fmwd.com.

LEGALS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2026082624 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SLPTLC, 1345 5TH STREET C, GLENDALE, CA 91201 LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: N/A Registered Owner(s): TIANA LOREN CORTADA 1345 5TH STREET C, GLENDALE, CA 91201 LOS ANGELES COUNTY. This business is being conducted by: an INDIVIDUAL. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed TIANA LOREN CORTADA, Title: OWNER NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published Crescenta Valley Weekly, May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2026.

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