

Council Votes to Implement PDD Pilot Program

By Julie BUTCHER

Mayor Ardy Kassakhian announced upcoming events early in Tuesday night's meeting of the Glendale City Council before the council took up a lengthy discussion on the future of delivery robots.

Glendale's Summer Concert series started at the Brand Library this past Friday evening with the folk funk band Dustbowl Revival and will run through the summer on Fridays starting at 7 p.m. Details can be found at <https://www.brandlibrary.org/summer-music-series>.

The concert series is organized by the Glendale Arts & Culture Commission through funding from the Urban Art Program, with support from Glendale Library, Arts & Culture, Glendale Community Services & Parks and the Brand Associates.

Mayor Kassakhian urged folks to bring a blanket or a lawn chair, pack a picnic, and enjoy a free concert from "an incredible line-up of live music from around the world in one of Glendale's most beautiful settings."

Glendale's mayor also invited the public to a Summer of Soccer Viewing Party for the World Cup's third-place match on Saturday, July 18 from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. on the Artsakh Paseo, 125 N. Artsakh Ave. More information can be found at <https://www.glendaleca.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/>

You can read more at [CVWeekly.com/NEWS](https://www.CVWeekly.com/NEWS).

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Glendale Hosts 31st Annual Cruise Night

By Clare BUCHANAN

*Live music,
information
booths and
more awaits
visitors to this
free event.*

On Saturday, July 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., the City of Glendale will be hosting the 31st Annual Cruise Night, an antique and exotic car show on Brand Boulevard that draws crowds of over 45,000 to the heart of Glendale. With support from Pacific BMW, Cruise Night is a free family-friendly event showcasing some of Southern California's most unique automobiles and hotrods. Complete with a backdrop of the historic Alex Theatre, Cruise Night offers attendees the opportunity to step back in time and immerse themselves in a community of car connoisseurs.

Cruise Night will be hosted by KRTH 101 radio legend Brian "Mr. Rock N' Roll" Beirne.

Families can spend time enjoying the hundreds of pre-1985 cars on Brand as well as music from several live performers.

"The evening kicks off at 5:30 with Ring of Fire - The Ultimate Johnny Cash Tribute. At 7 p.m. it's Yachtzilla - The Monsters of Soft Rock. You'll hear all those great hits of the '70s and '80," said Beirne. Additionally, to end off the night at 9 p.m., the headlining premier Eagles tribute band, Desperado, will be performing classic Eagles hits.

Several parking structures will be available for guests to park their vehicles in, including the parking garages located on Orange Street, the Exchange and the Glendale Marketplace (located on Maryland Avenue). If visitors wish to take public transportation, buses run to Brand Boulevard via Metro Micro and Glendale Beeline routes. Those wishing to ride their bikes to the event can access a free bike valet service on the corner of Brand and California, provided by Walk Bike Glendale.

Attendees will be able to pop into any of the open restaurants along Brand Boulevard for dinner while browsing over 300

see CRUISE NIGHT on page 4



File photo
All types of cars will be on view during Cruise Night in Glendale on Saturday night, July 18.

PART 1

How Much is Too Much? Seminar Offers Tips on How to Stop Scams

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Tuesday Assemblymember Nick Schultz hosted a Scam Stopper Seminar in partnership with California Privacy Protection Agency, California Dept. of Financial Protection and LA City Councilwoman

Monica Rodriguez. The event was held in Tujunga.

Schultz started the event by reminding the audience that the California annual budget has been approved and signed, and goes into effect this month.

see SCAMS on page 18

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

(Right) Assemblymember Nick Schulz hosted a Scam Stopper Seminar on Tuesday with partners from offices of LA City and the State of California. From left are Ricardo Flores, representative, LA City Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez, Assemblymember Nick Schultz, Antonia Villaseñor with Dept. of Financial Protection and Innovation and Melissa Rosser with California Privacy Protection.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Fun Down South

Steve and I headed to Temecula this past weekend for a Temecula Getaway with members of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale. I’ve never stayed in Temecula and actually only went there once for a wedding. Being a “wino” I was really excited to try the wine down south (it wasn’t bad!).

I have to state, right up front, that the drive down was horrible! It took us over three hours to get to Temecula! I tried to convince Steve that at least he had good company for the drive, but he was having none of it!

We stayed at a place called the South Coast Winery Resort, which was *gorgeous*. The rooms were spacious and vineyards were just outside the doors of our bedroom. We immediately were made to feel like we were in wine country.

Kudos to our Club president Albert Hernandez and his wife Elizabeth. They opened their room up to accommodate a time of hospitality. For their guests they had beverages and a beautifully done up charcuterie board.

Though dinner on Friday night was the responsibility of each of us Steve and I ended up joining several other Kiwanians (including our lieutenant governor) for dinner at the resort’s restaurant.

On Saturday morning, fellow Kiwanians picked me up for a service project that we did with the Kiwanis Club of Temecula. The goal was to sort through clothing and toys for the mothers and their children living in the temporary housing program at Empowerment Village. However,

a presentation by the Development director was so fascinating that we didn’t have time to do any sorting!

Shortly thereafter, we met with Kiwanians from the Temecula Club at a wine tasting near our hotel. Though many folks left afterward to go to a nearby casino, Old Town Temecula or the hotel for a dip in the pool, Steve and I stuck around and chatted with members of the two Clubs. I’m so glad we did! Not only did we learn about the Temecula Club, we learned about the changes over the years in Temecula. It was a great time.

On Saturday night, all 20 of us gathered for dinner in the Carter Room at our hotel. Again – it was a great opportunity to learn more about our fellow Glendale Kiwanians. The food was delicious – and the wine plentiful!

Before we knew it it was Sunday and time to head back north to La Crescenta. The amount of time on the road? About an hour and a half – less than half the amount of time it took us to get to Temecula on Friday afternoon.

But will I go back? Absolutely!

To find out more about the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, which meets Friday afternoons at noon, visit <https://glendalekiwanis.info/>.

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

INSIDE	NEWS	3	BETWEEN FRIENDS	12
	RELIGION	4	LEISURE.....	15
	VIEWPOINTS	10	JUST FOR FUN	16
	YOUTH	11	CLASSIFIEDS	19

» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

This weekend I spent time attempting to make up for the many weekends I was not busy. I cleaned and brushed out the endless tangles from my dog’s fur. I also did other things, like reviewing bills [very depressing] and following up with the pharmacist about a medication not yet refilled – even though it is on automatic refill.

First of all, dealing with the AI [Artificial Intelligence] agent that answers the big brand pharmacy phone calls has changed – a little. For one thing, the voice that answers the phone actually sounds like a real person rather than the automated voice we’ve come to expect. In the cases of the many pharmacies I called over the weekend, there was the voice of a pleasant young woman that answered the phone, which I guess was designed to fool me into thinking it was a real person on the line ... though it was not. When AI answers and says, “I am able to answer many of your questions” what it actually meant is “I can only answer one question several times.”

I did not want to renew a prescription nor did I want to check on the status of a prescription because I knew the status appeared to be frozen. What I wanted to know was when would the prescription be filled. I went through the automated pleasant voice system last week, ordered the meds that were on automatic renewal and was told, “Thank you – we are processing your prescription.” That was a lie because it was not being processed.

All I wanted was the truth about what was going on with the meds.

I am sure many of you can relate; at first when faced with AI responses you try to be polite; after all it may be a machine but being polite for many of us is a natural response. However, soon you turn into a screaming person demanding, “I want to speak to a human!” I, of course, was screaming in my car and when I looked at the person in the car next to me the driver just nodded; obviously she was a kindred spirit who was able to relate to what I was going through.

When I finally got to a human, I was told the medication was on “back order.” I asked what that meant and the pharmacist assistant said ... very slowly ... “It means it’s on back order.”

I tried to maintain my composure as I said I understood the words but not the meaning. Does that mean another month, two, three – maybe never; what exactly did that mean? She responded that she had no idea. This was somehow comforting because at least it was an honest, *human* answer. When I asked if she had any suggestions as to what I should do, she advised me to contact other pharmacies – which meant more AI relationships I had to forge.

I called several large pharmacies and had to listen to the same young AI woman’s pleasant voice telling me over and over that the pharmacy could help me – by not actually helping me. I found that at some pharmacies I had to leave my name and “someone would call me within an hour.” That was true; I would receive a call but when I answered the other end would hang up.

So in fact a call was made; though see WEATHER on page 9

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

CV TOWN COUNCIL PLANS MEETING

The next general meeting of the CV Town Council is tonight, Thursday, July 16 at 7 p.m. in the community room of the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd. On the agenda is a featured presentation by the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works. Representatives will discuss the upcoming Pine Cone Road, et al. Phase I and Phase II Parkway Concrete Repair and Pavement Preservation Projects. This presentation will provide residents with important information regarding planned infrastructure improvements, project timelines, and how these efforts will help preserve and maintain our local roadways.

All are invited to attend.

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP WITH ALTHEA EDWARDS

On July 18 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., artist Althea Edwards (who is one of the Preserve’s nature photography contest judges) is having a photography workshop dedicated to creating abstract images of nature.

From capturing abstract patterns to utilizing photographic techniques to creating a conceptual image, there are many ways to unconventionally portray the beauty and forms of the natural world. In this workshop, participants will experiment with composition, movement, light and perspective to explore the genre of abstract photography using Rosemont Preserve as the subject.

Note: RSVP is required; go to <https://tinyurl.com/mryjaj78> to RSVP for this free event.

Then on July 19 there will be an “open gate” event. This is a chance for residents to visit the Preserve and wander the trail at their own pace and enjoy the tranquil setting, the wildlife and the natural beauty. Photographers: bring your camera to capture the morning light and citizen scientists, bring your iNaturalist and Merlin apps to identify birds and add wildlife sightings!

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

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

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

These events are free to the public and suitable for all ages; no reservations required for the open gate event. Rain cancels. Sorry, no pets please.

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

CVCA TO MEET

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its meeting on Thursday, July 23 at 7 p.m., this month in the community room at the La Crescenta Library. The meeting will include discussion on topics of concern to the community. The library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd. Contact the CVCA at crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com with any questions.

All are welcome.

see IN BRIEFS on page 7

Working to Support Sea Lions and Seals



Photos by Jessy SHELTON
Seals, like this one, have been attacked and even shot at.

By Mary O’KEEFE

Sea lions and seals are cute – of that there is no debate. They are funny as they slide through the water along the beach. Harbor seals, with their big eyes, seem to look through to a person’s soul. However, the cuteness found in sea lions and seals can be a double-edged sword.

A few days ago two territorial seals lumbered onto a La Jolla beach, chasing away beachgoers and tourists. When looking at the video, which can be seen via ABC News at <https://abcnews.com/video/134631613/>, the sea lions looked like they had just had it and wanted back their beach.

On social media La Jolla locals have been pleading for tourists, and others, to not disturb the sea lion and seal population. There are scenes of people throwing rocks at them and many who feel a selfie is worth separating a mother from her pup (mothers and pups can dart in separate directions when approached by a human).

CVW wanted to know what was happening to the California sea lions and seals. To get answers CVW went to the Marine Mammal Care Center in San Pedro.

David Bader, chief operations and education officer, walked CVW through its facility where sea lions and seals are rescued, treated and released.

“Almost all of our patients here, right now, were either born in January or they were born in June, so they [range from] a year to seven/eight months old,” he said.

The Care Center treats all types of sea life, from adult elephant seals weighing about 4,400 pounds to California sea lions that weigh about 700 pounds.

“We have a couple of harbor seal lions right now and [there is a colony of] northern fur seals on San

Miguel Island,” Bader said.

He pointed out there is a large colony of northern fur seals that are not guests from Alaska but are true Californians.

“California is their home,” he added. “The [northern fur seals] can stay out to sea for a year. When they’re born, the females only weigh about 150 pounds, so they are small.”

The good news is San Miguel Island is protected; the bad news is that for 40 years NOAA has monitored the fur seal population annually but funding for that program has been cut.

This monitoring not only tracked the fur seals but also California sea lions and elephant seals. How does this affect humans?

Sea lions and seals are the oceans’ “canaries in the coal mine.” Scientists monitor northern fur seal populations to understand their health, diet and movement patterns. For example, the sea lion pup population declined as the ocean warmed. According to NOAA, scientists use population and survival data to balance sea lion protections.

“In a moment of extreme change, from the increase in harmful algal blooms that we’re seeing year in and year out plus the possibility of highly pathogenic avian influenza impact [on the] population due to the El Niño and marine heat wave that we have right now, we’re not going to have the resources that we’ve had in the past to know what is the impact they have had on the [seal and sea lion] population,” Bader said.

see SEALS on page 5

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CV Weekly The Finest 2026

NOTES & NODS

MOVIE NIGHT AT UUCVH
On Friday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills will have its monthly movie night. Popcorn and snacks provided. Those interested can bring a snack to share. Come join the growing group of fans! No reservations are needed, just stop by 4451 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.

CRUISE NIGHT from COVER classic cars that will be on display “along with modified imports and motorcycles,” according to Beirne. Porto’s Bakery will be open until 8:30 p.m. and Hot Wings Cafe will be open until midnight. Cruise Night is one of Glendale’s most popular events, drawing in folks from across the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. Held in the evening at the height of summer, this event allows families to cool off and cool down while enjoying the friendly buzz of antique cars and motorcycles. “It’s all free and Glendale’s biggest family fun event of the year,” said Beirne.

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ent in the church sanctuary. Gallardo L.’s election represents “God doing a new thing,” according to the Rev. Norma Guerra, rector emergent of St. Paul’s Church in Tustin, preaching in Spanish and English amid laughter, applause, cheers and choruses of “amens.” The ceremony was celebrated on the feast of St. Benedict of Nursia. “One of the most important things to remind you is you are not alone in this journey; God is by your side and we are, too,” Guerra said, offering advice from her father, the Rt. Rev. Armando Guerra, who had served as bishop of Guatemala from 1982 to 2018 and archbishop of the Anglican Church in Central America from 2010 to 2015. “I know you can feel the love in this room and across the diocese and across the distance all the way to Venezuela and in other places,” she said. “Because the Spirit of God is moving in Los Angeles. My brother, we are in this together. “You also stand on the shoulders of earlier bishops whose faith and integrity have provided a sure foundation and cornerstone for your ministry. You have the wisdom and support of your fellow bishops and a wonderful diocesan staff,” said Guerra, who until February 2026 had served as diocesan associate for formation and transition ministry. “Each of them is a treasure; their commitment and love for this diocese is evident in everything they do,” she added. *Written by Pat MCCAUGHAN*

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Surrounding Areas

SEALS from page 3

Bader added that part of the job of the Marine Mammal Care Center is to help shape the narrative of sea lions and seals.

“We’re kind of at the point of the spear when it comes to understanding what’s happening with [seals and sea lions] and then communicating that out to stakeholders and the public,” he said.

Marine Mammal Care Center works with individuals and local representatives so it can continue to do its work and perform outreach. Bader said that many elected officials in the area are supportive of Marine Mammal Care Center efforts.

“One of the things we’ve recognized is that we serve a function that goes beyond animal welfare, and ocean conservation and advocacy,” he said.

Bader added that part of the facility’s function is to rescue sea lions that have stranded on beaches and spoke about one sea lion that had been stranded on a Santa Monica beach in the middle of summer. He said rescuing these seals and sea lions is not only important for their health but also for the safety of humans. For example, many times people get too close to the animals and take selfies. These animals are scared and some may be injured or sick and may lash out to protect themselves.

“People will get too close [to animals], especially with the harmful algal blooms that we’ve seen [lately]. These animals are neurologically impaired so they’re not going to be behaving [well]; they [can be] be lethargic and aggressive at the same time,” he said.

According to the internet, algal blooms create dangerous poisons that travel through the ocean food web.

The Care Center will send a team out to rescue animals at sea as well that have been reported as injured. Many times these mammals are entangled in gill nets. A gill net is a “vertical wall of netting suspended in water that catches fish by their gills,” according to NOAA.

California has banned the use of gill nets. In 2025, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a bill that ended the use of gill nets in state waters. This stopped new permits from being issued but older permits are still being used.

“Gill netting still happens in Mexico and in international waters. It doesn’t happen in California waters but [those are] only three miles off the coast,” he said. “Sea lions still get entangled in them.”

Sea lions and seals that get entangled have deep cuts in their flesh as the thick net works like a dull knife that cuts into their skin. One of the sea lions that was at the Care Center during CVW’s visit had deep cuts around his neck. That sea lion that was rescued no longer had the net around his neck; it had lost so much weight the net had apparently slipped off. When the sea lion arrived he was suffering from starvation – malnutrition is commonly seen at the Care Center.

“We had another adult male [that was entangled] that was cut all the way through to his trachea. We thought we had an easy rescue,” Bader said. “We thought we would just snip the net off and let him go but then we saw bubbles coming out of the blood [around his neck].”

Ultimately, the story of the sea lion had a happy ending; the Care Center was able to save and rehabilitate him.

The sea lions and seals that were at the Care Center during CVW’s visit were mostly recovering from malnutrition; however, that is not the only threat to these mammals. Reports from up and down the coast of the Pacific have shared stories of seals and sea lions that have been shot.

Bader added this is an increasing problem for seals and sea lions that have been rescued though it may not have been the initial reason the mammals were rescued. The mammals are resilient, though, and some were able to survive being shot.

Why these mammals were shot is difficult to deduce. One reason may be people shooting them for fun or sport while others have reported that some fishing ships, both commercial and recreational, shoot at them to keep them away from their area.

Seals and sea lions are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act; however, it is difficult to find those who have shot the seals or sea lions, much less prosecute them.

The Marine Mammal Care Center does offer a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of anyone who shot a seal or sea lion.

Bader said the best things people can do to protect the sea lions and seals is to not approach them, not take selfies and if a seal is found in distress to call the Care Center or another nearby care center.

In addition, things that can be done include people being up-to-date on laws and protections and supporting local California fisheries. Bader stressed that by supporting local fisheries that are following California laws, like observing the ban on gill nets, everything – from the fishing economy and the seals and sea lions – can benefit.

The Marine Mammal Care Center in San Pedro is open to the public for tours; however, reservations are required. It also participates in several outreach events. The Care Center is also a non-profit and is only able to continue its work through donations.

For more information on the Marine Mammal Care Center, visit <https://marinemammalcare.org>.

For those who find stranded sea life, contact the Marine Mammal Care Center at (800) 399-4253.

To report a live sea turtle, contact Marine Mammal Care Center’s toll-free hotline at (800) 39-WHALE. In Malibu, contact the California Wildlife Center at (310) 924-7256.

To report a dead marine mammal or a dead sea turtle, contact the Ocean Animal Responses and Research Alliance stranding hotline at (949) 276-2237. In Malibu, contact the California Wildlife Center at (310) 924-7256.

To report an entangled whale, call NOAA’s entanglement reporting hotline at (877) SOS-WHALE or hail the U.S. Coast Guard on VHF Channel 16.

For those who do not know what agency to call within LA County visit <https://locator.lacounty.gov/animal/Shelters>.

PART II

The Story Behind a Fatal Hit and Run

By Mary O’KEEFE

Brandon Duplessis was only 23 years old when he was struck and killed in the early morning by a vehicle on July 29, 2025. Brandon was in the crosswalk; the driver struck him and did not stop but drove off instead.

It took hours for his mother Misty and father David to finally find out what happened to their son – or at least learn a portion of the story.

The male driver who struck Brandon and left the scene turned himself into police at 12:30 p.m. the same day, July 29.

There was an immediate outpouring of support from various agencies for Misty and David. They offered grief resources and victim support, but what was really wanted were answers.

“David resigned from his job in order to ensure he could attend every court date,” Misty said of the next several months. “We haven’t been able to receive a clear answer as to why it took the driver so long to turn himself in or why he didn’t see my son in the crosswalk.”

The couple has several concerns including if distracted driving played a role in their son’s death; these and other unanswered questions continue to haunt Brandon’s parents.

“We wish there had been earlier and more transparent communication, a fuller investigation into unanswered questions, and more sensitivity toward victims’ families navigating trauma and grief, and an understanding of the case from those involved,” Misty said.

Misty said it didn’t appear those who were supposed to help her and David really knew that much about the case itself. She began to reach out to support groups and found a few families that shared the same frustrations.

“I have a sincere appreciation for victim advocacy groups, which I’ve learned from many start [with] victims who find themselves seeking answers,” she added. “I have learned that victims are often left feeling blamed or unheard.”

The 64-year-old man who was allegedly driving the vehicle was taken into custody on July 29 and released on Aug. 1. The LA district attorney charged him with one count of “hit and run driving resulting in death or serious injury to another person.” It is alleged that the man was driving at the time of the “accident resulting in death.”

His next court date is Aug. 18 in downtown Los Angeles.

MSAR Honored

Team members of Montrose Search And Rescue were honored by American Legion Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614 at the veterans’ monthly breakfast on Saturday, July 11.

The team was presented with a proclamation by the veterans for the work it does that includes rescuing people who are injured while hiking, searching for those who get lost while hiking and extrication from automobiles that go over the side of the road. These types of responses are particularly popular in the nearby Angeles National Forest.

The non-profit team is composed of volunteers who are trained and ready to respond to virtually any wilderness emergency 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The team is affiliated with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept.

Making the presentation on behalf of the veterans was Victor Bustillos; accepting on behalf of the team were Robert Panza, Sean



Photo by Dick CLUBB
Accepting the proclamation from Victor Bustillos (right) are MSAR team members (from left) Robert Panza, Sean Morrisroe and Collin Lievense.

Morrisroe and Collin Lievense.

The Montrose Search And Rescue team is supported by donations. To learn more and to donate, visit <https://montrosesar.org/>.

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

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Parasite Outbreak Not Yet Seen in California

By Mary O’KEEFE

There has been a lot of reporting regarding cyclosporiasis, an intestinal infection caused by the microscopic parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis*. Reports are warning about its symptoms and the number of people who have been found with cyclosporiasis. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] has confirmed over 1,600 cases of the infection; however, it is believed that number is much higher with more than 30 states reporting cases of the parasite – cyclospora. The Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health is monitoring a “domestically acquired multi-jurisdictional cyclosporiasis outbreak.” “Although no cases linked to this outbreak have been identified in Los Angeles County at this time Public Health is providing information to help the public reduce their risk of illness and recognize symptoms if they become infected,” according to Public Health. That finding is echoed by the California Dept. of Public Health. “There are no known local outbreaks in the state, and no California cases are currently known to be linked to outbreaks affecting other states ... To date in 2026, California has seen fewer cases of cyclosporiasis than in 2025. From January to June 2026, California has reported 41 provisional cases of cyclosporiasis, compared to 80 cases during the same period in 2025. Annual averages from 2015-2025 are 106 cases (range 15-240), and current counts for 2026 fall

within expected ranges.” So while cyclosporiasis is not new it has affected people – even in California – over the years but the recent reports are more about the outbreak with thousands being infected. Neha Nanda, MD, hospital epidemiologist with Keck Medicine of USC and chief of Infectious Diseases, said she became aware of the outbreak a few weeks ago. “We first heard about it from a group of people who were part of our conference in Michigan,” she said. She heard more about the cases throughout the Midwest. Nanda explained that typically at the conferences she runs there will be attendees from the local area – not only local physicians – and those from other areas as well. “[Cyclosporiasis] is a natural thing that happens,” she said. The cyclosporiasis infection has been traced to a parasite that is on fruits and vegetables and although California is not part of the outbreak it could happen here because “[the parasite] could be anywhere.” “It’s basically when you haven’t washed your produce – lettuce, greens, basil etcetera. If this parasite is on [the fruits and vegetables] and if they haven’t been washed that is how you would have acquired it,” Nanda said. “So we [recommend washing fruits and vegetables] thoroughly.” This should be done especially if the produce does not have a peel. For example, bananas have a peel that protects the fruit but cabbage does not. Nanda added that it is better to wash all produce. “If you’re having berries, like blackberries or strawberries, you

see PARASITE on page 8

Obituary

Dennis T. McNerny



Sept. 27, 1930 – Aug. 17, 2025

Dennis Thomas McNerny, 81, of La Crescenta passed away peacefully last month at Verdugo Hills Hospital. A private memorial celebration and remembrance with family was held soon after to honor him. Born in Kenmore, New York on Feb. 17, 1945, Dennis graduated from Niagara Community College in Niagara Falls, New York. After working at Linde Air Manufacturing in Buffalo, he moved to Glendale. There he worked part time for the City of Glendale while attending and graduating from Glendale Community College after he decided to travel extensively through Europe and Australia. Dennis started a successful business as a painting contractor that lasted 30 years, until he retired. During his life he had many hobbies: traveling, collecting, playing and watching sports. He also loved music and restoring vintage cars. Dennis was an excellent bowler and he enjoyed his time with his family and friends, especially some who followed in his father's footsteps. Dennis is survived by his wife of 53 years Susan (Laney) McNerny; son Dennis William McNerny; and many extended family members. He will be remembered for his integrity, love of his family and friends – and his great sense of humor. He is greatly missed by all who knew him.

“Needing to place an Obituary or Memorium for a loved one? Please submit 325-350 words plus a photo (preferred photo size is 200 dpi, 4x6 inches) to robin@cvweekly.com CV Weekly Subscribers: \$50 Non Subscribers: \$100”

Obituary

Valerie Jean Andrew



June 10, 1953 - June 25, 2026

Valerie Jean Andrew, 73, of Clovis, California passed away on June 25. Born June 10, 1953, Valerie will be remembered with deep respect and lasting affection by all who were fortunate enough to know her. Valerie attended Culver City High School and later graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism from Cal State Dominguez Hills as part of its first graduating class. Her work ethic and steady devotion to those she loved were evident throughout her life. She worked alongside her husband in the accounting office, faithfully keeping the books while managing a full and active home. After several years, she devoted herself to caring for others in a new way by opening a daycare – an extension of the generous, attentive spirit that defined her. She met the love of her life on a blind date at a USC football game beginning a marriage marked by loyalty, perseverance and steadfast companionship. Valerie and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October 2025, having walked together through life's joys and hardships, always standing side by side. A Shania Twain song, “Looks Like We Made It” became “their song,” a fitting reflection of the commitment they shared. Valerie wore many hats through the years – daughter, sister, wife, mother and friend – but the title she held highest and cherished most was “Gammie.” Her love for family was constant and her care extended well beyond her own household. She was known for her honest way of speaking – never one to sugar coat the truth – and for the protective, compassionate attention she gave to those around her. She took a genuine interest in the lives of her daughters’ – Jessica and Alicia – friends, questioning them as though they were her own, always hoping they were doing well and staying on the right path. In countless ways, Valerie became “everyone’s mom and grandma” with a home – and especially a kitchen – open at nearly any hour to nearly anyone. A fan of the Olympics, Valerie loved how the games brought people together from around the world. That same appreciation for connection showed in everyday life: wherever she went, she delighted in meeting people and talking with those around her offering warmth, kindness and a sincere interest that made others feel seen. Valerie was a 25-year member of the Presbyterian church where she served as a deacon. With a servant’s heart, she was someone others could lean on. She was also known for thoughtfully acknowledging the lives of others – whether celebrating a marriage or the birth of a baby or offering comfort in illness or loss – always with a card ready, a steady gesture of care that reflected her selfless nature.

In her later years, Valerie often called in to KFI News Station and became known as “Valerie from Glendale.” She knew the DJs and the DJs knew her – so much so that many were invited to her 70th birthday party. It was a fitting testament to how naturally she built community wherever she went and how beloved she was in both ordinary and unexpected places. Valerie was preceded in death by her husband Charles Andrew; her parents Charles and Peggy Reidy; and her brothers Charles Reidy and Jerry Reidy. She is survived by daughter Jessica Badgiue (Yegue) of Clovis, California; daughter Alicia Grell (Jeffrey) of Galt, Missouri; grandson Peter Badigue; and granddaughter Adah Grell. Valerie's legacy is one of compassion expressed through action, generosity offered without hesitation and a steadfast honesty grounded in love. She will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

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Price Gouging Prosecution Results in Fines and Probation

By Mary O’KEEFE

The State of California and County of Los Angeles are continuing their prosecution and investigation into reports of price gouging in regard to the Eaton and Palisades fires in January 2025.

On July 9, California Attorney General Rob Bonta announced the sentencing of real estate agent Mike Kobeissi for false advertising arising out of an attempt to price gouge a couple who lost their home in the Los Angeles Eaton Fire.

Announcement of the charges being filed was initially made on Jan. 22, 2025. At the time, Kobeissi stated the rent hike was a “misunderstanding;” however, in the end, the State’s case prevailed.

Kobeissi’s sentence includes 12 months of probation, 100 hours of community service and a mandatory professional ethics course through the National Association of Realtors. Additionally, he must pay \$20,000 to a disaster relief fund and submit a letter of apology to the victims, according to the statement from the office of the California Attorney General.

“As I have said repeatedly, price gouging during a state of emergency is illegal,” said Attorney General Bonta. “May this announcement serve as a stern warning to those who would seek to further victimize those who have lost everything. My office is aggressively and relentlessly pursuing those who are trying to make a quick buck off someone else’s pain.”

The California Dept. of Justice (DOJ) filed charges against Kobeissi following an investigation spurred by a consumer complaint sent to the DOJ by the evacuated couple, which detailed their attempt to rent a home after the Governor’s Emergency Order took effect. The Emergency Order explicitly prohibited the price gouging of wildfire victims. The investigation revealed that the couple applied to rent a home listed by real estate agent Kobeissi but after the application was received they were informed that the price had increased by 38%. They decided not to rent the house due to the price increase.

California law – specifically Penal Code section 396 – generally prohibits charging a price that exceeds by more than 10% the price a seller charged for an item before a state or local declaration of emergency. For items that a

seller only began selling after an emergency declaration, the law generally prohibits charging a price that exceeds the seller’s cost of the item by more than 50%. This law applies to those who sell food, emergency supplies, medical supplies, building materials and gasoline. The law also applies to repair or reconstruction services, emergency cleanup services, transportation, freight and storage services, hotel accommodations and long- and short-term rental housing. Exceptions to this prohibition exist if, for example, the price of labor, goods or materials has increased for the business.

In another case of price gouging that was prosecuted by the District Attorney of Los Angeles, the Langham Hotels Pacific Corporation will pay \$320,000 to settle a consumer protection civil lawsuit brought by the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office and Los Angeles County Counsel’s Office alleging the company price gouged wildfire victims and other guests who stayed at its Pasadena hotel during the January 2025 wildfires and resulting state of emergency.

“It is reprehensible to overcharge and take advantage of wildfire victims who were in desperate need of housing as they fled their homes from raging fires last year,” Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman said. “During a time when our community was meant to come together to help those in need, Langham Hotels Pacific Corporation profited from other people’s tragedies. Since the devastating fires, my office has been working closely with our law enforcement and consumer agency partners to combat price gouging, looting, unlicensed contracting and other crimes of opportunity in disaster zones. I’m grateful for our Consumer Protection Division, particularly Head Deputy District Attorney Alex Karkanen and Assistant Head Deputy District Attorney Steven Wang and our partners at the Los Angeles County Counsel’s Office for achieving this important victory for wildfire victims.”

“My office values our partnership with the District Attorney’s Office on consumer protection enforcement, and we are committed to preventing price gouging in the County,” said Los Angeles County Counsel Dawyn R. Harrison. “This settlement provides full refunds of the illegal overcharges

to consumers who were price gouged during a horrifying wildfire emergency and sends a message to other businesses to comply with the law.”

On Jan. 7, 2025, the day the wildfires broke out, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for Los Angeles and Ventura counties. This proclamation triggered California’s price gouging protections under California Penal Code section 396, which were extended through July 1, 2025. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors also passed a series of motions extending price gouging protections for hotel guests in Los Angeles County from Jan. 7, 2025 to March 29, 2026.

Langham’s Pasadena hotel, LanghamHuntingtonPasadena, offered 379 hotel rooms, 26 suites and eight cottages for rent in Pasadena through its website and third-party websites. The lawsuit alleged that Langham violated California’s anti-price gouging law and therefore the state’s unfair competition law by charging its Pasadena hotel guests more than 10% above the hotel’s regular rates as advertised immediately prior to the proclamation or declaration of emergency.

Under the judgment, Langham will pay \$300,000 in civil penalties and \$20,000 in investigative costs to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office and Los Angeles County Counsel’s Office.

In addition, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office Langham must pay restitution and issue refunds to eligible hotel guests who stayed at its Pasadena hotel between Jan. 7, 2025 and March 29, 2026 for all amounts paid above the maximum allowable hotel rate. The parties have calculated the total refund amount due to hotel guests at \$216,795 between January and April 2025 alone.

Langham must pay the Los Angeles County Dept. of Consumer and Business Affairs any refund amounts that remain undeliverable after reasonable efforts to locate and refund all eligible hotel guests.

Further, Langham must modify any automated, algorithmic or other pricing systems to ensure prices are not unlawfully increased during a declared state of emergency.

Langham cooperated with the investigation and did not admit liability.

IN BRIEF from page 3

CITYWIDE FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE

The City of Glendale adopted a new citywide fee schedule on June 23. Many fees took effect on Tuesday, July 1, but depending on the type of fee, some will take effect on either July 23 or Aug. 22. Please review the schedule as these changes may affect current applications and any outstanding invoices.

Those who have any questions can contact the Glendale Permit Services Center at (818) 548-3200.

GWP RELEASES WATER QUALITY REPORT

Glendale Water & Power (GWP) recently announced that its Water Quality Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is now available online at GlendaleCA.gov/WaterQualityReports. The report summarizes water quality monitoring data for calendar year 2025, informs customers about the quality of the water delivered by GWP and emphasizes the importance of protecting drinking water sources.

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires GWP to provide the CCR to all customers by July 1 each year.

For questions regarding the CCR, customers can contact Martin Manucharyan, water quality manager, at (855) 550-4497.

CONCERTS, LECTURES AND MORE AT MT. WILSON OBSERVATORY

A public “star party” is being held on July 11-July 12 at the Mount Wilson Observatory. Telescopes are provided by the members of the Los Angeles Astronomical Society.

No RSVP is necessary. This event is a fundraiser to support the outreach of the Mount Wilson Observatory and Los Angeles Astronomical Society. Donations are accepted at the front gate. *Note: No alcohol is permitted at this event.*

CRIME BLOTTER

JULY 11

1100 block of Lavender Lane in La Cañada Flintridge, deputies responded to a residential burglary call at the location. When they arrived they found the resident who stated she and her husband had left their home for a short time and when they returned found their front door ajar. They looked inside the home and found rooms had been ransacked. They did not notice anything missing at the time. Surveillance footage revealed a white SUV with tinted windows parked in front of the residence. There was a “quick glimpse” of two people, believed to be the suspects of the burglary, walking toward the home. An investigation revealed a window that was not secured.

The residential burglary occurred between 1:45 p.m. and 2:10 p.m.

JULY 10

2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, an employee of the business at the location reported that a woman, described as a Black adult in her 40s, 5’11” tall and weighing about 200 lbs. wearing a colored crop top and blue shorts, entered the store and took multiple items, placed them into a stroller and left the business without attempting to pay. An employee followed her out of the store and confronted her, asking for a receipt for the items in the stroller. The suspect said she did not have to show a receipt and began throwing on the ground the items she had taken from the store. The employee had stopped the stroller with her foot, but then the suspect hit the employee with her fist.

The suspect then left the area at 7:28 p.m. victim’s vehicle. The witness called 9-1-1 to report the crime and also yelled at the suspects. Both suspects then entered a dark colored SUV that was parked on the street and left the area.

The theft occurred between 2:10 a.m. and 2:20 a.m.



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see WEATHER on page 18

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

A Darker Side of The “Father of Glendale”

Cecilia Rasmussen was the local history writer for many years for the LA Times. She wrote on subjects similar to those that I often cover: crime, cons, murders, tragedies; in other words, the darker side of local history. I admired her for that. This side of history has always appealed to me as it brings the past to life. Historical figures were real people with both good and bad in them. The past was not better; it was just a time that had the same problems as today but without surveillance video and cellphone cameras. In 2008, Cecilia retired from the Times. She went out with a bang reporting the true story behind the so-called “father of Glendale” Leslie Combs Brand. Here are her findings.

Today, L.C. Brand is an icon in Glendale: Brand Park, Brand Library, Brand Boulevard. Mr. Brand came to Los Angeles in the late 1800s when real estate

was booming. At the turn of the century he targeted Glendale, at that time a sleepy rural town of 550 souls. Brand partnered with Huntington to bring a trolley to Glendale. He developed a water and power company, and brought telephones to town. And in the process, he made a fortune selling Glendale real estate.

With his wife Mary, he built an incredible mansion called El Miradero at the top of Grandview Avenue. They were childless but had a rich social life. Brand was a flying enthusiast and built an airfield in his front yard. He owned a war surplus fighter plane and used it to get to his ranch in the Eastern Sierra. In the teens and ’20s, he hosted “fly-in parties” where rich people flew their private planes to his Glendale mansion. He rubbed elbows with the rich and famous, and Hollywood elite. He was a player, which leads us to the dirt that Cecilia Rasmussen dug up

on him.

Cecilia met with a Judy Brand, who was married to a descendant. Judy told her of a rumor of Brand’s “second family.” Judy connected some dots on this rumor and ended up comparing notes with descendants of Brand’s second family.

The rumor went that Mr. Brand (in his 50s) met a pretty young woman named Birdie on a train ride from LA to Oregon. Birdie was a beauty, a former Miss Nevada. He gave her a job and sent her to secretarial school. He bought her a house and property in Hollywood. He took her to his get-away ranch in the Eastern Sierra. When she turned up pregnant he took her to Tijuana and made her his second wife.

As Judy Brand put it, “I assume at that time of the century it was better to be a bigamist than to bring a bastard into the world.”

Eighteen months later, Birdie had another child. Brand was

furiously, even accusing her of infidelity (that’s rich). Brand died of cancer just three years later.

A great rumor but Cecilia Rasmussen needed proof in order to do this story justice. The Times ponied up for a DNA test. Both sides of Brand’s double family agreed to participate. When the results came in it was verified that both sides were descendants of the Brand family.

Cecilia wrote up the story and followed it up with a public meeting of the two sides of the Brand family, appropriately held at Brand Library! I was actually there in the audience. When the two sides came together in person for the first time, I think maybe everyone expected a knock-down fight (like on the “Jerry Springer Show”). But actually it was a very cordial meeting. They were several generations removed and there were no inheritances on the line.

Since then, it’s quietly accepted that Brand was a bigamist although it’s not publicized. You won’t find a picture of Birdie and her two sons at the Brand Library. However, what you will find there is a beautiful building over 120 years old, lovingly restored to its former grandeur. Worth a visit!

And worth remembering that L.C. Brand, the “father of Glendale” was just human, and not perfect.



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

OP-ED » PATRICK ATWATER

La Crescenta is Getting Hotter – Let’s Plant Trees

Growing up, I didn’t know any kids who loved blacktop. Grass meant you could fall and get up; asphalt meant you fell and got all scraped up. Grass was cool underfoot on a June morning; asphalt was already radiating by 9 a.m. I don’t remember ever choosing to sit on the blacktop when there was a patch of lawn nearby. Nobody did.

And yet, decades later, that’s mostly what we’re still asking our kids to play on.

Walk the elementary school campuses in La Crescenta at midday (when not on summer break!). You’ll find good teachers, dedicated staff and communities that genuinely care about these kids. You’ll also find a lot of asphalt. Black, flat, heat-absorbing expanses that were probably just called “the yard” when they were built and never questioned much since.

The questioning, though, is now overdue, particularly in this last unseasonably warm winter. A tool from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science called Future Urban Climates lets you look up any city and find out where it’s headed, climatically speaking. Punch in, La Crescenta. The answer is sobering: under

current emissions trajectories, we can expect our foothills to feel, by mid-century, roughly the way Rialto, way out by Riverside, feels today – and the projections extend to 2080, by which point the gap widens further.

Rialto is not Siberia. But it is meaningfully, materially hotter than La Crescenta and the difference matters most during the few hours when kids are outside at school, parents are waiting in pickup lines and coaches are running practice under a bleaching sky. So here is a simple question: Why are our elementary schools still almost entirely paved?

Asphalt is cheap, low-maintenance and easy to sweep. When these schoolyards were laid, the climate looked different and the science on urban heat islands was not what it is today. The ARLA (Arroyo Regional Land Arboretum) Depaving LA study documents just how much impervious surface blankets the LA region and how much of it sits on school grounds that could, with investment and imagination, be something else entirely.

Replace asphalt with permeable surfaces, bioswales and native plantings, and something else

happens too: rain soaks into the ground instead of running off into the storm drain. That water recharges the local groundwater basin. And groundwater is not an abstraction in the foothills – it’s a direct substitute for the expensive imported water our community already pays for every month. Every acre of schoolyard that captures rain instead of sheds it is, over time, a water supply investment as much as a parks investment.

Our community already pays for this. Measure W – the Safe Clean Water Program – passed in 2018 and it funds exactly the kind of permeable surface and green infrastructure work that turns school blacktops into living, water-capturing landscapes. The County collects Measure W dollars from every resident making a purchase. That money is meant to come back as projects that benefit our neighborhoods. There is no good reason why La Crescenta should not have green schoolyards, shaded campuses and recharged groundwater to show for it.

The whole community could benefit. Drive through parts of Spain or Turkey and you see wide sidewalks flanked by trees heavy with fruit.

Orange trees on public plazas that anyone can pick. Citrus planted not just for ornament but for shade, for sustenance, for the simple pleasure of a neighborhood that smells good in the morning. Seville is famous for its bitter oranges; Istanbul’s older neighborhoods have fig trees shading courtyard walls; Valencia has streets where the trees are a kind of public pantry. These aren’t cities that are richer than ours or have more land – they just made a different choice about what public space is for.

La Crescenta, for its part, has some lovely trees. But drive Foothill Boulevard and compare what you see to what that street might hold. We have the climate for citrus, for jacarandas, for sycamores and native oaks. What we mostly have instead is concrete curb and pavement shoulder and a few sparse trees and shrubs. Plus, increasingly, a few bike lanes.

I understand the maintenance concerns. Roots and sidewalks are not natural allies. The liability imaginations of municipal attorneys are vivid and well-exercised. None of that is a reason not to plant trees. It’s a reason to plant the right trees, in the right places, with the right

infrastructure around them.

Trees take time. An oak planted in a schoolyard today will cast meaningful shade in 10 or 15 years. An orange tree on Foothill Boulevard, given decent water and care, might fruit in three to five. We are not talking about quick wins. We are talking about the long game – which is exactly the timeframe that a community with young children should be comfortable with.

La Crescenta in 2080 will still be a beautiful place. We have geography on our side and a community that takes care of what it has. But beautiful and hot is a harder combination than beautiful and shaded. The kids who will be grown and living here in 2080 are in kindergarten right now, running around that blacktop, squinting at the sun.

We have time. But trees don’t plant themselves. Ensuring a bright future means preparing today.

Patrick’s a husband, father, son, brother, avid cyclist, fervent reader, enjoyer of adventures, lover of board games, the author of “A New California Dream” and blogs at Pioneering-Spirit.xyz. He writes for CV Weekly in his personal capacity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REFURBISHED OWL PARK HAS SAFETY CONCERNS

I am writing about Glendale’s Mayor’s Bicentennial Park, which can be seen just east of the CA-2 Freeway.

We bring our grandsons to

the park. It is nice and quiet and has a great path to walk. There are bridges on the path and my grandson renamed it “Bridge Park.”

In June, a crew removed the play equipment and is installing

a large owl. At first, we thought that it was great to get an upgrade. But as we have been watching the new installation, we are seeing major safety concerns.

My wife and I are looking at this design not only with eyes

as parents or grandparents, we are also looking at it from a professional background. My wife was a firefighter and I have been a health & safety manager.

(Pictures are available for viewing at www.cvweekly.com/

VIEWPOINTS.)

The first issue is when children are on the opposite side of the owl they are out of sight of their caretakers and there is no way to get to them if something arises.

see LETTERS on page 14

YOUTH

Fremont Elementary School Celebrates 100 Years



John C. Fremont Elementary School celebrated its 100th anniversary with a centennial celebration that brought together hundreds of current families, alumni, former staff, neighbors and community leaders to honor a century of educational excellence and community spirit. The celebration began with remarks from Principal Vickie Atikian, Fremont Foundation

President Elizabeth Anderson, PTA President Caroline Larson, Glendale Unified Superintendent Dr. Darneika Watson, GUSD Board Vice President Kathleen Cross, Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian and representatives from the Office of State Senator Laura Friedman, who presented commemorations recognizing Fremont’s milestone. Special guests also included members of the Glendale Police Dept., Glendale Fire Dept. and Glendale Council PTA. Throughout the afternoon, guests enjoyed live music from Rock Bottom Betty, strolling magicians,

a juggler and a stilt walker while children and families took part in carnival games and enjoyed food trucks, complimentary popcorn and water, and other festive activities. One of the highlights of the event was a Fremont History Museum where attendees explored historic photographs, yearbooks, memorabilia and school archives documenting the school’s rich legacy over the past century. The centennial celebration was a fitting tribute to Fremont Elementary’s first 100 years, celebrating not only the school’s history but also the generations

of students, families, teachers and community members who have helped shape its legacy. As the school looks toward its next century, the event served as a reminder that Fremont’s greatest strength has always been its strong and supportive community.

Images provided by Fremont Elementary
LEFT: Dr. Darneika Watson spoke at the celebration.
MIDDLE: Parents volunteered at the centennial celebration.
RIGHT: Glendale mayor Ardy Kassakhian was another guest who spoke at the centennial celebration.

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ALF Teens Registration is Open



Action League of the Foothills provides volunteer opportunities for students in grades eight through 12 through the ALF Teens program. ALF Teens was established in 1967 and since then individuals and organizations have greatly benefited from the charitable endeavors of this student committee. The goals for students are to develop a sense of personal responsibility, self-reliance, public speaking, leadership skills and to learn the importance of contributing their time to the community. ALF Teens meet one day a month during the school

year to work on a variety of collaborative projects with special opportunities offered over the course of the season. ALF Teens also staff the Bargain Box Thrift Shop on the second Saturday of the month, working side-by-side with ALF members to raise funds for the League’s philanthropic programs. The 2026-27 season of ALF Teens begins Aug. 24 and continues through May 2027. Meetings are held in the Action League of the Foothills meeting room at 4607 Oakwood Ave. in La Cañada Flintridge. Students from the nearby foothill

communities are encouraged to sign up for this rewarding volunteer experience. Online registration is now available through the ALF website at ALFoothills.org or call (818) 790-2211 with any questions. Action League of the Foothills always welcomes new members. Anyone interested in joining or just would like more information about ALF, information is available on the website at ALFoothills.org or call (818)790-1328. Submitted by Donna SHEPHERD, ALF

CORRECTION
In the July 9 article “Rosemont Middle School Buzzes with Summer Learning and Exploration” (in the YOUTH section) the name of the teacher is Janet Welsh.

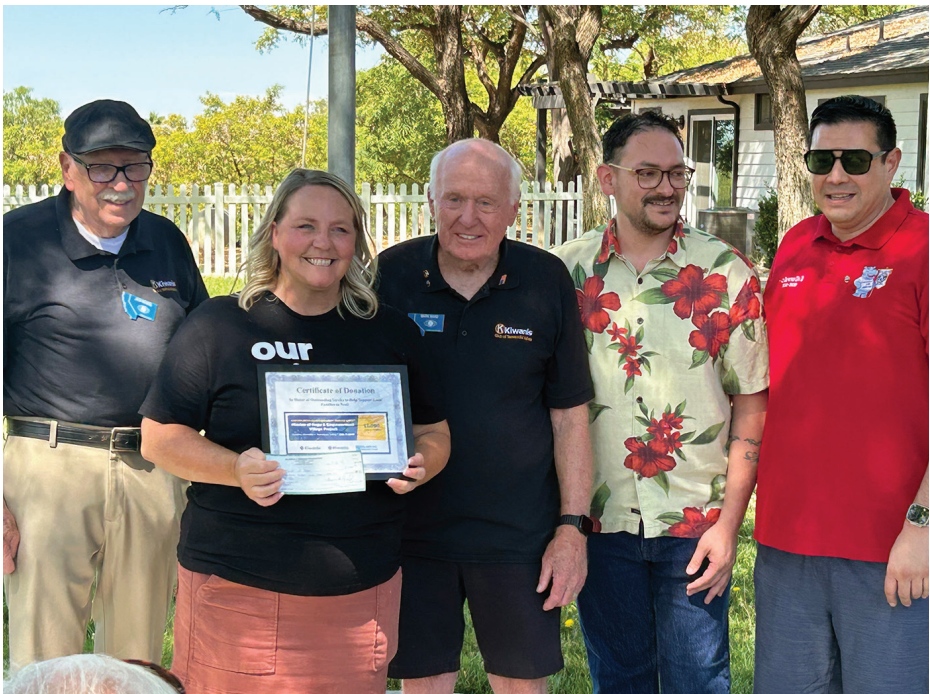
BETWEEN FRIENDS

Glendale Kiwanis Holds Temecula Getaway



Photo provided by KIWANIS CLUB OF GLENDALE

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, including its lieutenant governor, recently traveled to Temecula.



Photos by Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Empowerment Village Development director Kristi Piatkowski accepted the check from the Kiwanis Clubs. With her, from left, are Kiwanis Club of Temecula treasurer Jack Nendel, Kiwanis Club of Temecula secretary Mark Ward, Kiwanis Club of Glendale president Albert Hernandez and Lieutenant Governor Mauricio Lopez.

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, including its lieutenant governor Mauricio Lopez, recently traveled to Temecula. Among the planned activities was the presentation of \$3,000 to Empowerment Village from the Kiwanis clubs of Temecula and Glendale and the California-Nevada-Hawaii District of Kiwanis.

Empowerment Village is Mission Hope's long-term housing and support program for

single mothers with children ages 0–10 who are ready to take steps toward stability and independence. This 12–24 month program is for working moms within Riverside County with transportation, and includes personalized support in career development, education, financial planning and wellness. According to its website it had a 100% success rate last year of moms moving into permanent housing.

After the presentation members of the two clubs headed to the nearby Carter Reserve Winery where they enjoyed a wine tasting. At the wine tasting, members of both the Glendale Club and Temecula Club shared information, details of how meetings are run and stories of how each help their respective communities.

The Glendale Club meets Fridays at noon at the Elks Lodge at 120 E. Colorado St.

Each week a speaker presents information regarding what it is s/he does or what his/her organization is about. The cost to attend a meeting is \$25 and includes lunch.

For more information, contact president Albert Hernandez at kiwanisalbert@gmail.com.

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY



Photos by Robin GOLDSWORTHY

(Left) Bob Hailey, president of the Kiwanis Club of Temecula, welcomed members from the Kiwanis Club of Glendale to the wine tasting at Carter Reserve Winery.

(Right) Kiwanis Club of Glendale president Albert Hernandez prepares the presentation to Empowerment Village representative Kristi Piatkowski as Mark Ward looks on.



Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Implications Of Accepting An Offer Using VA Financing

Dear Phyllis,

We received an offer using a VA loan. I would love to support a veteran if I can. What are the implications of accepting an offer using VA financing? — Curious

Dear Curious,

A VA loan is a home loan program backed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and designed for eligible military service members, and veterans

The property must meet certain Minimum Property Requirements (MPRs) during the VA appraisal. These guidelines ensure the home is safe, sound, and structurally secure. In some cases, the appraiser may require the seller to make minor repairs before the loan can

close. Examples would be that there is no peeling paint or broken window panes.

VA buyers can purchase with little or no down payment, which helps expand the pool of qualified buyers. The overall transaction process is very similar to other financed offers. The primary differences are the VA appraisal standards and the buyer's loan approval through a VA-approved lender.

Another key difference involves closing costs. VA rules prohibit buyers from paying certain fees considered "non-allowable" to prevent excessive charges. If those fees are charged, they must typically be paid by the lender, seller, or real estate agents.

Examples of non-allowable VA fees include:

- Lender/Broker Fees: Loan application or processing fees, underwriting fees, broker fees, and interest rate lock-in fees.
 - Professional Fees: notary fees
 - Administrative Costs: Document preparation, postage, courier, and photograph fees.
 - Certain Inspection/Appraisal Costs: Some lender-required inspections not mandated by the VA Notice of Value (NOV).
 - Other Charges: Prepayment penalties, tax service fees, and some escrow fees.
- Important considerations:**
- The 1% Rule: Some lenders charge a flat 1% origination fee instead of

itemizing costs. When they do, many additional administrative fees cannot be charged to the buyer.

- Who Pays the Fees: If non-allowable costs appear, they must typically be paid by the seller, lender, or agents rather than the VA buyer.
- Seller Concessions: VA guidelines limit seller concessions to 4% of the home's appraised value.

In most cases, a VA loan simply means the buyer has earned a benefit through military service. With proper pricing and disclosures, most VA transactions can close just as smoothly as conventional loan sales.

Phyllis



Phyllis Harb
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COLDWELL BANKER HALLMARK

Village Poets to Feature Poets Beth Paulson & Nicholas Yingling

The next Village Poets reading at Bolton Hall Museum will be on Sunday, July 26 at 4:30 p.m when Beth Paulson of Altadena and Nicholas Yingling will be featured.

Hosted by Joe DeCenzo and Alice Pero, there will also be an open mic and poets are invited to participate in the open reading segment of the event. Bolton Hall Museum is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

The reading goes until 6:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Beth Paulson has been widely published in national literary journals, anthologies and online sites for the past two decades. A former writing teacher at California State University Los Angeles for over 20 years, Paulson has most recently taught poetry workshops and facilitated writing events in Ouray County, Colorado where she was named poet laureate in 2019. Since early 2025 Paulson has lived in Altadena. Her poems were nominated for Pushcart Prizes in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2016 and for Best of the Net in 2011. Her poems have also been awarded prizes from Cloudbank, Eleventh Muse, Passager, Naugatuck River Review, Third Wednesday, Common Ground Review and Able Muse Review. Paulson has seven published poetry collections: The Truth About Thunder, The Company of Trees, Wild Raspberries, Canyon Notes, Immensity and Luminous, which won the National Press Women Book Prize in that year. Her newest book, Postcards from Altadena, was published in 2026.

Nicholas Yingling is the author of The Fire Road, which was a finalist for the Julie Suk Award. His poems have appeared in Best New Poets, Poetry Daily, Pleiades, Colorado Review, The Adroit Journal, and elsewhere. In 2023, Bellevue Literary Review adapted one of his poems – Reading the Body – for their interpretive dance series.

He has been a finalist for the Fugue Poetry Prize, Berkshire Prize, Sunken Garden and Snowbound Chapbook Awards; a semifinalist for the Frost Place Chapbook Competition and the Chad Walsh Chapbook Series; and long listed



Beth Paulson
Nicholas Yingling



for the Frontier Chapbook Contest. He received his MA in creative writing from UC Davis and lives in the Bay Area where he teaches ESL.

Most days he can be found walking his one-eared pit bull Clementine.

Introducing Ginga Soccer Academy



Former Brazilian professional soccer player Paulo Victor, founder of Ginga Soccer Academy, is bringing authentic Brazilian soccer development to Los Angeles County.

Developed through Brazil’s highly competitive youth academy system, Paulo Victor played for a first-division club in São Paulo and became a professional player at the age of 17. Today, he is dedicated to developing a select group of young athletes in Los Angeles with the same technical excellence, creativity, discipline and tactical intelligence that have made Brazilian soccer one of the most respected in the world.

As founder and head coach of Ginga Soccer Academy, Paulo Victor combines his experience as a professional player with education in physical training and sports nutrition. Throughout his career, he has built an international network within the soccer world with professional connections in both Brazil and Europe. He has visited clubs such as PSG (France), Arsenal (England), Benfica, and Sporting (Portugal), where he spent time alongside elite level coaches. In Brazil, he also spent time at Santos FC, the world-renowned club that developed legends such as Pelé, Neymar and Rodrygo. Among the players he has personally trained is the captain of Santos FC’s U-12 team.

“The right type of training is what makes you improve,” said Paulo Victor. “It’s about developing confident and intelligent players who understand and love the game and continue to improve every day.”

Ginga Soccer Academy specializes in individualized technical and physical development through private training sessions fully customized to each athlete’s needs and goals.

Among the results of his methodology, one of the athletes trained by Paulo Victor currently plays for one of LAFC’s U-11 teams and is being monitored by Brazilian soccer clubs – a reflection of the level of development his program provides.

Training is available by appointment throughout the Los Angeles area, including La Crescenta, Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge, bringing an elite Brazilian-style training standard to families who expect nothing less than excellence for their children in soccer.

Paulo Victor is the head coach of Ginga Soccer Academy.
Instagram: @gingaacademy; for more info, call (323) 948-2352.

CV WEEKLY ON THE MOVE



Local resident and former American Legion commander Johnie McDowell took the CV Weekly along on a recent trip to Michigan.

CV Weekly loves to travel! Take us along on your next trip and send us a photo. You may find yourselves on the pages of the community's favorite newspaper.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE CRESCENTA VALLEY

Dignity Health Raises Awareness of Extreme Heat’s Impact on the Heart

As temperatures climb across California and heat advisories become more common, Dignity Health is urging residents to recognize the serious impact extreme heat can potentially have on the heart, particularly for older adults and those living with cardiovascular disease.

When temperatures soar, the heart must work harder to keep the body cool. For some individuals, that added stress could increase the risk of heat-related illness, heart attack, stroke and other cardiovascular complications.

“Many people think of heat exhaustion and dehydration during a heat wave, but fewer

realize that extreme heat can place significant strain on the heart,” shared Dr Raed Bargout, cardiologist at Dignity Health Glendale Memorial Hospital. As the body works to cool itself, the heart pumps harder and faster. For individuals with underlying heart conditions, that additional workload can become dangerous.”

High temperatures can potentially increase heart rate, reduce blood volume through dehydration and disrupt electrolyte levels that help regulate normal heart function. These factors may place vulnerable individuals at greater risk for serious health

complications.

Those at highest risk may include:

- Adults age 65 and older
- Individuals with heart disease, heart failure, high blood pressure, or a history of stroke
- People taking medications such as diuretics, beta-blockers, or ACE inhibitors
- Outdoor workers, athletes, and first responders who spend extended periods in the heat

Dignity Health encourages Californians to take the following steps to support their safety:

- Stay hydrated by drinking water throughout the day, even before feeling thirsty
- Seek air-conditioned

environments whenever possible

- Limit strenuous outdoor activities during peak heat hours, typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing and take frequent breaks in shaded areas
- Talk with your healthcare provider about how heat may affect medications or existing health conditions
- Check on older family members, neighbors and others who may be more vulnerable to heat-related illness
- Residents should also be aware of warning signs that could require immediate attention.

Symptoms such as dizziness, nausea, rapid heartbeat, confusion, fainting, or difficulty breathing may indicate a serious heat-related emergency.

Extreme heat is more than a seasonal inconvenience – it can also be a health threat, Dr Bargout said.

“By staying hydrated, limiting heat exposure, and recognizing the warning signs early, people may significantly reduce their risk and protect their heart health,” he said.

For more information about heat-related illness and heart health, visit DignityHealth.org and CommonSpirit.org.

» TASTY TREATS » CHEF RANDY

Open-Face Tomato Sandwiches

For those looking for something different to do with the tomatoes that are beginning to ripen, look no further. Here’s a fresh way to enjoy them.

I love the combination of feta, tomatoes and chives. If you can’t find or don’t like sunflower sprouts, substitute whatever type you like – or change the cheese. I like these equally well with sharp cheddar.

Ingredients:

3 ounces feta cheese (crumbled)

½ cup Vegenaïse or mayonnaïse

2 tablespoons chives (minced)

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

6 thick slices of focaccia bread (toasted or grilled)

2 pounds mixed heirloom tomatoes (sliced)

Extra-virgin olive oil (for drizzling)

Sunflower sprouts (for garnish)

Directions:

In a medium bowl, mix the feta, Vegenaïse, and chives. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Spread the mixture on the bread and top with the tomatoes. Drizzle with olive oil and season with a touch more salt and pepper. Garnish with sprouts and serve immediately.

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

People Making News

Clark University announced that Oliver E. Briskin and Karina H. Fischman of La Crescenta were named to first honors on the spring 2026 Dean’s List.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow’s most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 44 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

www.clarku.edu

Sarah Dea of La Cañada Flintridge earned a spot on the Dean’s List for the spring 2026 semester at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have earned a 3.0 or higher academic average for the semester.

The Institute offers business, computing, design, engineering, liberal arts, and sciences degrees, as well as professional development and K-12 programs for fostering success at every stage of life. Its more than 56,000 undergraduate and graduate students represent 54 U.S. states and territories and more than

146 countries. They study at the main campus in Atlanta, at instructional sites around the world and through distance and online learning.

Georgia Tech is a leading technological university and engine of economic development for Georgia, the Southeast and the nation, conducting more than \$1 billion in research annually for government, industry and society.

For more information, visit gatech.edu.

Elaine Kim of La Crescenta-Montrose graduated from the University of Tampa. Kim received a Bachelor of Arts in communication and media studies BA.

The commencement ceremony honored 1,992 undergraduate and graduate candidates and included remarks by President Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg.

The University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located on 110 acres on the riverfront in downtown Tampa. Known for academic excellence, personal attention and community-engaged experiential learning in its undergraduate and graduate programs, the University has about 200 programs of study and serves approximately 11,400 students from all 50 states and most of the world’s countries.

Stephanie Kiang of La Cañada Flintridge has been named to the spring 2026 chancellor’s list at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Students receiving a 3.9 grade point average or higher are placed on the chancellor’s list, while those receiving a grade point average of between 3.5 and 3.89 are named to the deans’ list. The lists recognize students’ outstanding academic achievements.

UAF is a Land, Sea and Space Grant institution and is the leading doctoral degree-granting institution in the state of Alaska. Since it was founded in 1917, UAF has been internationally recognized for research relating to the Arctic and sub-Arctic in areas such as biology, geophysics, engineering, natural resources and climate.

Vanad Mousakhani of Tujunga received a doctor of medicine degree from Quinnipiac University during a commencement ceremony held in May.

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 9,700 students in more than 100 degree programs through its schools of business, communications, education, computing and engineering, health sciences, law, medicine, nursing and the College of Arts & Sciences. Quinnipiac recently completed a significant capital expansion on its main campus, including a state-of-the-art new School of Business and an interdisciplinary science and innovation hub. For more information, please visit qu.edu.

LETTERS from page 10

On the rear of the owl’s right wing there are handholds for climbing. The handholds go to the top of the wing, which seems to be [about] 15 feet off the ground. On the front of the right wing there are more handholds. These are placed in a way that the child must lean back to climb, similar to professionals who climb overhangs. I envision children climbing on the owl’s head and down to the other wing – which

doesn’t have handholds. The City’s own picture on the [park] fence shows a child on top of the wing.

There is a slide on the back of the owl. Next to it are the owl’s tail feathers that are at the same angle as the slide. Those will be used as a slide also.

They have installed an old fashion teeter-totter. It looks like someone tried to design in safety, but the high side seems to be five

feet off the ground. The ground will be rubberized, but those are some long drops.

There are signs installed showing that one area is for 5-12 year olds while another area is for 2-5 year olds. I can’t tell how the two sides will be divided.

After it is completed, we will have to see if Mayor’s/Bridge/Owl Park is a place for us.

Bob Bell
Shadow Hills

GRATEFUL FOR COLUMN

Thank you so much for “loving fireworks” on the 4th [“Booms Heard Throughout the Valley,” From the Desk of the Publisher, July 9]. You are well aware that this is one of the most important days of the year for Americans, especially on our 250th birthday. I’ve had six great dogs in my long life and only one had a real problem with July 4th. My wife and I stayed home with her every

4th and I was able to take her mind off of the racket. Unfortunately too many people in this state don’t appreciate our history or even understand “the rocket’s red glare; the bombs bursting in air” and use the excuse of fire danger, harm to animals and PTSD to disregard what the 4th means to the majority in this country.

Peter Rosenthal
Glendale

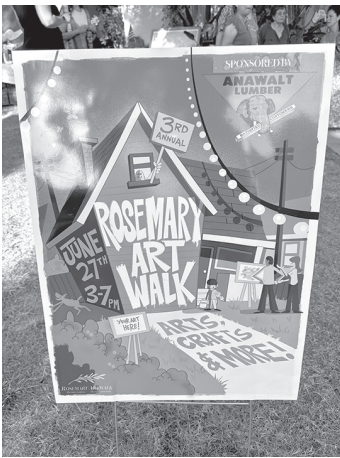
TRAVEL & LEISURE

Yards of Artwork

Three years ago artist, teacher and illustrator Valerie “Val” Angulo transformed her front yard on Rosemary Avenue in Glendale and those of several neighbors into a gathering place where local artists could showcase and sell their artwork.

Angulo launched the event at age 26 covering many of the initial costs herself while collecting donations to bring in a taco vendor who offered free meals to attendees. This year’s festival featured artists specializing in jewelry, crochet, sewing, silkscreening, cartoon art, handcrafted furniture, plants and clothing.

“In the beginning, the goal was to just have everyone be supported, heard and grow in community,” said Angulo. “I didn’t want this to feel like a gallery. I wanted it to feel like ‘Welcome to my front yard.’”



Initially, the event featured four artists, then 17 in 2025 and 27 last month. This year’s festival also attracted its first sponsor, Anawalt Lumber and Hardware in Montrose, to help pay for the free tacos.

Families wandered from yard to yard browsing artwork displayed beneath pop-up tents as children played nearby and neighbors stopped to chat,

giving the event the feel of a block party as much as an art fair.

Lauren Pierre, 26, was among the returning artists showcasing her jewelry.

“I think the art walk is great because it brings all the neighbors together, helps people share their creativity with each other and just helps build the community,” Pierre said.

Carolyn Ingram was a visitor this year.

“The actual Montrose [Arts and] Crafts Fair is great,” Ingram said. “I really appreciate all those events that go up on Honolulu. But this is really grassroots. It’s a lovely community-building event.”

“After the first event, I came away with so much gratitude because it was very successful,”

Photos submitted by
Luz VILLARREAL

LEFT: A sign welcomed guests to the event.

MIDDLE: Lauren Pierre showcased her jewelry.

ABOVE: A taco vendor served free tacos to participants and guests.

said Angulo. “I feel like every year has been amazing. It just gets better and better.”

Submitted by Luz
VILLARREAL

Indie Book Crawl

Thirteen independent bookstores, including Once Upon A Time bookstore, are joining forces to create an unforgettable weekend for Los Angeles’s bibliophiles. The inaugural Los Angeles Indie Book Crawl will take place on Friday, July 24, Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26 during regular store hours. This special event, modeled after popular book crawls in San Diego and Seattle, is an invitation for readers to explore the diversity of LA’s indie bookstores, shop local and have fun while discovering a new favorite read and a new favorite spot to get properly lost in. The event is free and open to everyone.

Participants are invited to find a new favorite book, make some friends and become a Los Angeles expert while traversing Los Angeles’ literary landscape. To participate, visit any one of the bookstores anytime between July 24-26 and make a first purchase of at least \$10. From there, receive a Book Crawl Passport and first passport stamp. Then simply visit the next bookstore (in no particular order) and make a purchase of \$10 or more at each stop. Many prizes and exclusive merchandise are available at every

store. The more that are visited the more prizes that are accrued, and the more of LA’s diverse and welcoming literary scene is explored.

People who get their passports stamped at all 13 stores will receive a goodie bag full of fun bookish treats including the grand prize: \$25 gift cards at each store, totaling \$325 in value.

“Independent bookstores are having a resurgence,” said Jennifer Caspar, founder and owner of Village Well Books & Coffee, an independent bookstore and café located in downtown Culver City, opened in 2020. “They are the third places people need more than ever in this era of digital optimization which can be very alienating and lead to loneliness. People still like to browse, touch and see physical books, and hang out in stores that are third places, where community and culture – and sometimes coffee! – meet. We are modeling our event after the highly popular San Diego Book Crawl and are thrilled that so many great stores are joining together to explore LA’s literary scene.”

Supporting independent bookstores in Los Angeles sustains the city’s diverse

culture, keeps money in the local economy, and provides vital spaces to read, work and simply be in community with others. Indie shops, the backbone of LA’s literary and

culture ecosystem, offer human-curated recommendations and serve as essential hubs for local authors, book clubs, and grassroots civic engagement.



THEN & NOW



Then: Here’s a 1921 aerial view taken from an airplane approaching L.C. Brand’s beautiful mansion and airstrip in Glendale. The event was one of Brand’s famous “fly-in parties” in which his rich friends flew their airplanes to Brand’s private airstrip, seen in the bottom left. In the foreground, Grandview Avenue ends at Brand’s long driveway leading up to his mansion.



Now: The same view today, looking up Grandview Avenue toward the expanded Brand Library. Brand Park and its baseball fields occupy Brand’s former orchards and the airfield is now rows of upscale homes. L.C. Brand left his home to the City of Glendale. It was turned into the Brand Library and expanded with an auditorium and art gallery. The house itself has been restored.

Brand Library
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV

JUST FOR FUN

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

July 13, 2026 - July 19, 2026

ARIES *March 21 - April 19*
Anything you can do to make your contact with people more pleasant on Monday and Tuesday can see you feel more balanced and better prepared for the week ahead. It will be easy to present yourself in a more positive, assertive manner midweek. Expect helpful encounters. Someone may give you insight into people and problems that sparks creative solutions. Family demands may need to take priority at the end of the week. Be alert to any good work you see.

TAURUS *April 20 - May 20*
Be as professional and polite as possible. Even if you don't like your job, improved communication on Tuesday and Wednesday helps you feel more satisfied. The energy supports teamwork between people who have a conservative way of doing things and others who are risk takers. There's a unique energy at work at the end of the week that helps bring people together who'd usually be in separate camps. Friday promises a few changed schedules or unexpected distractions.

GEMINI *May 21 - June 20*
This can be a very upbeat week. Stick with your regular routines. Network as much as possible to get the best results on Wednesday and Thursday. This is a great time to be on your feet and on the move. Work that offers a great deal of variety will be the most satisfying. The end of this week is a very fluid time. You may feel very enthusiastic about some things in the morning that you reject by day's end.

CANCER *June 21 - July 22*
You can learn a great deal this week if you're willing to put aside any personal doubts and push forward. Bringing in some food to share can be a pleasant mini-event. Tuesday and Wednesday are best for little errands and finishing up things you may have been avoiding. Co-workers or customers could challenge you on Thursday. The best use of this energy is friendly banter or teasing. If you do it right, it can build loyalty.

LEO *July 23 - August 22*
Expect some challenges to your authority this week. Give feisty people room to vent unless you want a confrontation. Wednesday is positive for any sort of team-building activity. Work friends could present you with a new way of seeing or doing things. This is a positive time for making sure you have all the materials to do a good job. What isn't said could be more important than what is at the end of the work week.

VIRGO *August 23 - Sept. 22*
This is a very positive week for developing good working relationships. Spend some time sorting out your workspace, wardrobe, or paperwork by the middle of the week. Putting things in order supports confidence. Expect multiple demands or sudden changes of plan on Thursday. Pick your battles wisely. You may have to accept less than you expect. Be willing to volunteer to help others. Do what you can to help people feel more at home.

LIBRA *Sept. 23 - Oct. 22*
It's a naturally upbeat time for you. You can enjoy pleasant conversations early in the week. Artistic interests can be especially satisfying. Your naturally diplomatic nature is strong. This is a positive time for research. Wednesday and Thursday are lucky for any team project or event that brings people together. Your ability to explain things clearly works to your advantage. If possible, make some time for a short holiday. People can be especially touchy at work.

SCORPIO *Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*
It's a naturally upbeat time for you. You can enjoy pleasant conversations early in the week. Artistic interests can be especially satisfying. Your naturally diplomatic nature is strong. This is a positive time for research. Wednesday and Thursday are lucky for any team project or event that brings people together. Your ability to explain things clearly works to your advantage. If possible, make some time for a short holiday. People can be especially touchy at work.

SAGITTARIUS *Nov. 22 - Dec. 21*
It's a naturally upbeat time for you. You can enjoy pleasant conversations early in the week. Artistic interests can be especially satisfying. Your naturally diplomatic nature is strong. This is a positive time for research. Wednesday and Thursday are lucky for any team project or event that brings people together. Your ability to explain things clearly works to your advantage. If possible, make some time for a short holiday. People can be especially touchy at work.

CAPRICORN *Dec. 22 - Jan. 19*
After a potentially stressful period of change, things may at last be more settled. This can be a productive week personally and if you're meeting with co-workers, clients, or customers. Stick with the familiar. On Wednesday and Thursday, don't neglect necessary maintenance or repairs on tools you use regularly. Expect some people to want to talk rather than work. Your options may be limited at the end of the week. Do what you can with what you have.

AQUARIUS *Jan. 20 - Feb. 18*
Much of the energy generated this week could be hard to channel constructively. Competition fueled by ego concerns, disagreements, and unexpected roadblocks are possible. If you stay active and work hard toward a common goal or against a common enemy, you can be quite successful. Be ready to review or revise whatever's necessary. The energy lightens on Thursday and is the best time for pleasant contacts. Help when asked, especially at the end of the week.

PISCES *Feb. 19 - March 20*
There's a mixed energy that's best used sticking with routines at the beginning of the week. You may be able to work with some people but not realize you're isolating others on Tuesday and Wednesday. There could be sudden estrangements midweek. Do your best to be a good listener and don't believe rumors or gossip. Things will settle down by the end of the week. It's a great time for team development or making pleasant contact with co-workers away from work.



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No, that's not a coyote from the canyon--that's just Doozle, a friendly retired racing greyhound who lives his life to the absolute fullest in the foothills. If you see him out on a walk, don't be a stranger!

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

ACROSS

DOWN

7.16.26

1) Butcher's discards

2) Cold and ___ season

11) Four winter wks.

14) Flared dress style

15) Type of bench in front of keys

16) No way to be conceived?

17) Basic

19) Regret bitterly

20) ___ out a living (barely making do)

21) They walk on two feet

23) Cause of many a split

26) Moves back, as a hairline

27) Back somersault dive

28) Dehumidifying gel

29) Illumination unit

30) Lopsided wins

32) Some burial sites

35) Small things in wallets

37) Abnormal breath sounds

39) "Nobody doesn't like ___ Lee"

40) Angler's boot

42) Bob Marley was one

44) Tom, Dick or Harry, e.g.

45) Word with "free" or "travel"

47) Painter of zaftig women

49) Indian appetizers

51) Familiar with

52) Relative of "Skoal!"

53) They bring tears to one's eyes

55) Large flightless bird

56) Certain fragrant pink flowers

61) Day's end, in poems

62) Related on the mother's side

63) Word with spitting

64) EPA-banned bug killer

65) Grown dogie

66) Tie for a dandy

LEAVE IT TO BEAVER

By Timothy E. Parker

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66

ANSWERS on page 17

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

American Airlines Delayed My Flight, So I Drove. Why Can’t I Get A Refund?

After an airline delay leaves him stranded in Phoenix, Michael Damarino rents a car to finish his trip. But American Airlines voids his refundable ticket because he’s technically a “no-show.” Can he get his money back?

Question: My wife and I were recently scheduled to fly from Boston to Tucson, Arizona via Phoenix on American Airlines. We booked refundable tickets through Expedia.

The first flight was delayed 90 minutes because the first officer fell ill and it also had a problem with weight calculations on checked baggage. Because of the delay, we missed our connecting flight to Tucson.

There were no later flights with space available so we had to rent a car and drive the 100 miles to Tucson.

American Airlines is offering me a flight credit. It has erroneously stated my ticket was non-refundable. I have gotten nowhere, and I need help getting my refund. – Michael Damarino, Brockton, Massachusetts

Answer: I admire your initiative. When American Airlines handed you lemons in Phoenix you made lemonade by renting a car and hitting the highway so you wouldn’t miss your vacation.

Here’s the thing about airline logic: It rarely aligns with the logic

of a rational human being. You purchased a refundable ticket. In the real world, that means if you don’t use it you get your money back. In the airline world, however, “refundable” often comes with strings attached.

The most important string is the “no-show” clause. If you aren’t at the gate when the flight closes and you haven’t canceled the reservation before your departure, the airline assumes you aren’t coming. It marks you as a no-show, cancels the rest of your itinerary and you often forfeit the value of the ticket.

When you decided to rent a car and drive to Tucson, you effectively became a no-show for that second leg. You solved your own problem, which is commendable, but you didn’t tell American Airlines you were doing it so that their computers wouldn’t categorize you as a no-show.

Since you booked through Expedia, there was an extra layer of complexity. The online travel agency saw that the airline had marked you as a no-show, which tied its hands regarding a refund.

Expedia told you to talk to American. American told you to talk to Expedia. It was the classic

travel industry game of Pong with you as the ball.

To be clear, you should have received a full refund for the unused portion of your ticket. The delay was caused by the airline’s operational issues – a sick pilot and baggage weight problems – not an act of God. Under the Dept. of Transportation’s rules, you’re entitled to a refund if the airline cancels your flight. When it comes to a delay, it must be “significant” (more than three hours for a domestic flight) to be considered for a refund. Your delay wouldn’t have qualified if you had a non-refundable ticket, but your ticket was refundable so you should have received it, as long as you notified American before the flight departed.

However, because you took matters into your own hands without formally canceling that second leg first, you gave the airline a technical loophole.

For future reference, if you decide to bail on a connection and drive, make sure you cancel the remaining flight segments immediately. Get an agent to document that the cancellation is due to a significant delay. That preserves the value of your



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

refundable ticket.

If you ever find yourself stuck in a customer service loop between an agency and an airline, you can often cut through the red tape by escalating your complaint to an executive. I publish the names, numbers and emails of the top executives at American Airlines and Expedia in the company contacts section of my consumer advocacy website Elliott.org.

I contacted Expedia on your behalf. The company reached out to American Airlines regarding your situation. The airline initially stuck to its no-show policy, adding two \$50 trip credits to your existing credits for the inconvenience

but then did an about-face and refunded the entire ticket. You say it would have been impossible to notify American that you weren’t going to use the next leg of your flight because of the initial flight delay and the airline eventually agreed.

Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (<https://elliottadvocacy.org>), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems. Email him at chris@elliott.org or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>. © 2026 Christopher Elliott

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meet on Fridays at noon. On July 17, Jessy Shelton from 7 Seas Collective will be making a presentation to the Club.

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.

BRAND BOULEVARD CAR SHOW

The Cruise Night car show on Brand Boulevard takes place at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday evening, July 18. The show is free to attend.

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:

- Camp Runamuk: Camp Runamuk (ages 5-10) runs weekly through Aug. 14 with exciting themes each week. Learn more/

register today at cclcf.org/register

- 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.

- Fall I Registration: Fall I registration opens July 29 at 9 am. The Fall I session is eight weeks and starts on Aug. 24. View upcoming Fall I class info as it becomes available at cclcf.org/register.

- Coach Andy’s Wiffle Ball Classic: Save the date. Coach Andy is putting together a Wiffle Ball Classic for ages 8-12 on the weekend of Aug. 1 and Aug. 2 at CCLCF. Register a team of three to five players to compete for the championship in a fun-filled tournament. More info is coming soon.

- CCLCF Open House: CCLCF will host an open house on Sunday, Aug. 16 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. to showcase classes and programs. Free class demos, music, games & more. 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.

LOCAL REALTOR AND SENIOR HOUSING PROFESSIONAL LAUNCHES SENIOR HOMEOWNER EDUCATION SERIES

To help older adult homeowners local Realtor and certified senior

housing professional (CSHP) Diana Tyson is launching the Senior Homeowner Education Series.

The inaugural seminar, “Can You Afford to Sell Your House?” will take place on Thursday, July 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd. The event is free and open to the public.

Joining Tyson will be Kenneth Chafin, CPA, who will provide expert guidance on tax and equity realities.

FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP & FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, July 18 from noon to 2 p.m., the Women’s Twentieth Century Club welcomes new club member and celebrated florist Amelia Posada of Birch & Bone for an intimate, hands-on workshop/fundraiser at the clubhouse.

Posada has created floral works of art for clients including Netflix, HBO, the Sundance Film Festival and Vanity Fair, and her work has been prominently featured in several print media. See more of her work and learn more about her on Instagram at [@birchandbone](https://www.instagram.com/birchandbone).

Join her for an afternoon of creativity, connection and gorgeous blooms as she guides participants through the techniques behind her signature style – skills that can be carried to a dinner party, celebration or soiree.

Every ticket directly supports the WTCC historic clubhouse! Tickets are available on a sliding scale, depending on the level of donation guests would like to make.

Members get 10% off with a special discount code – they need to check their email!

Space is limited! Get tickets on Eventbrite at <https://tinyurl.com/2mvmnn3>.

WILDERNESS WORKDAY

A wilderness workday at Deukmejian Wilderness Park is planned for Saturday, July 18 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Volunteers will assist with trail repairs and remove invasive species from the park. Please wear sturdy shoes, protective clothing and water. In case of rain, this event will be canceled.

RSVP and sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/36uz7d6p>.

Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road, La Crescenta/Glendale

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.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

ANSWERS for page 16

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29	L	U	X		30		R	O	M	P	S		32		T	O	M
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49	S	A	M	O	S	A	S		51		U	S	E	D	T	O	
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SCAMS from Cover

“Even amid really challenging economic times where we’re seeing less and less federal dollars coming to California we still found ways to make pretty good investments in health care and human services, and really building out that social safety net to help our community right now,” he said.

He then told the audience that he is the chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Prior to serving first on the Burbank City Council and then in the State Assembly, he worked for over 10 years as a prosecutor and prosecuted a lot of people on mortgage fraud, financial fraud and organized retail theft.

“I can tell you that this year we’re taking fraud very seriously in the state – not just looking at our own programs but adding more tools so local law enforcement can go after fraudsters,”

he said.

He added that a lot of the ideas for bills come from constituents who have contacted him concerning specific crimes, like scams.

Melissa Rosser from California Privacy Protection, aka CalPrivacy, was the first to speak.

“You may not have heard of our agency. We’ve only been around since 2021 when voters approved us in 2020,” Rosser said. “We protect the personal information of Californians.”

She spoke about how people can exercise their privacy rights.

“Californians have a lot of privacy rights. California is actually the only state that has a dedicated agency to protecting your personal information,” she added.

Other states do have privacy rights; however, they are enforced by an entity like the attorney general’s office instead of a dedicated agency. CalPrivacy has

lawyers and technologists who can look at websites and find out where personal information is going, she explained.

Rosser said that many people have an attitude that “My information is out there already” so there is nothing anyone can do about it – but that is not the case.

“You’re really good at protecting your physical safety, right?” Rosser asked the audience. “You don’t leave your house with the door unlocked and you definitely don’t leave your key in the door so somebody could just let themselves in.”

She added that even though a lot of personal information is on the web and accessible it is still important to protect personal information from bad operatives.

“Personal information ... is basically any information that can identify you and can be connected to you. It can include your

email address or more sensitive information like your Social Security number, your health information and your financial information. Under California law you have the right to limit what information businesses can collect about you,” she said.

She said the best way people can protect themselves is to take their time whenever a business or application asks for information.

Rosser advised that when a company asks for information the question should be asked, “Why would they need this information?”

“Do they need this to do business with me?” Rosser asked.

She said lately she noticed that when she is shopping businesses will ask for her email address.

“They even offer you a discount if you give them your email,” she said. But since she started working at CalPrivacy

she has learned to stop and think, she said.

People should ask themselves, or the business, what they are going to do with the information.

“The executive director of our agency says personal information is the new oil. It’s the currency that drives the marketplace. And so what do they do with it? Maybe they’re trying to serve you targeted ads to get you to buy something and other personal services,” she said.

Sometimes that type of targeting can be advantageous; for example, if people buy diapers and are sent a notice when diapers are on sale that could be advantageous. But sometimes the information requested is a bit invasive.

“And so you just have to decide what you are comfortable with,” she said.

Companies will also use information on purchase and spending habits or for market research. So there is good and bad with releasing information; people could begin getting contacted or be targeted by advertising, not by their familiar stores but from more sources. That is because companies can sell your personal information, she said.

She also spoke about cellphones and how they can not only track buying habits but locations as well.

“How many of you have ever downloaded an app and then used it once and never used it again?” Rosser asked the audience. Several hands went up. “You may have forgotten about it but it hasn’t forgotten about you. It’s still tracking you, still collecting information depending on the permissions that you have [allowed].”

She said it was a good idea to get through the phone often and delete apps that are not being used any longer. When an app is being used it can look and see what information people are using; for example, not every app needs access to the phone’s camera or a person’s location.

“You can tailor access based on the benefit that you’re getting from the app,” she said. “When [the app] starts off they want everything [location, camera, information] but you can scale that and always opt out of selling and sharing [your information].”

She also advised to delete browsing data from whatever browser is being used, like Safari or Chrome.

“One thing that you can do is delete browsing data and delete third party cookies,” she advised.

By doing that it limits how much data is being collected and used by companies.

Next week CVW will give examples as to how people can protect themselves from sharing too much information.

WEATHER from page 9

Our weather is not controlled by AI, at least not yet.... Our high heat and an extreme high heat warning will be in effect today but then things will start cooling down (a little) on Friday and through the weekend. Temperatures will tend to be more normal in our area at this time of the season – in the mid 80s. That should trend through the weekend with a little bump midweek to the 90s, then back to the upper-to-mid 80s. There is no rain predicted, according to NOAA, but the humidity will continue but will be as high as in the past week.

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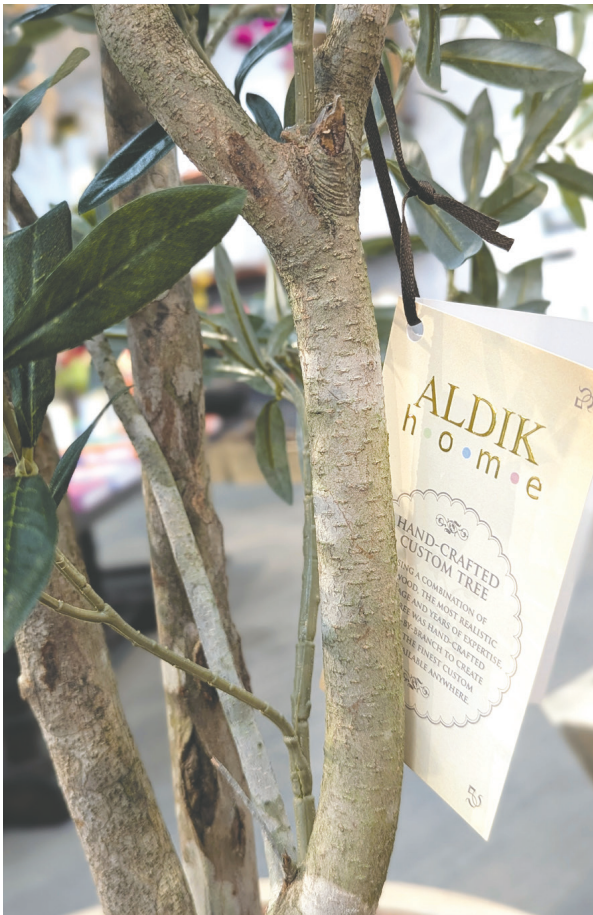


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