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JULY 30, 2026

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Deadline in Place to Put Measures on the November Ballot

By Julie BUTCHER

On Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council took steps to advance several measures to a vote by the public this November, including the possibility of adding a quarter-cent sales tax.

Mayor Ardy Kassakhian noted that numerous measures have been under long consideration to update the City charter but that most of the proposed changes are ministerial and that he would not support the changes individually unless the expense of putting the measures on the ballot are offset by a measure that would generate revenue the City needs to deliver services.

Up to four measures could appear on the November ballot: changes to civil service rules including exempting department heads from the protections of civil service; updates to City procedures to modernize and "clean-up" the charter; term limits for the City clerk and treasurer; and the previously mentioned sales tax measure.

In order to put these measures on the ballot in November, the council needs to act before Aug. 5. Therefore, at least one special meeting will be scheduled for next week, including the consideration of declaring a financial emergency.

City Treasurer Rafi Manoukian argued against term limits for the positions of City clerk and City treasurer.

"These elected officials are executives who manage their respective departments and staff, and implementing an arbitrary limit for their service is not serving the City. It's tossing them out after they have years of service in their positions and starting anew, which is not prudent. I would think that the City would want to keep executives with years of experience," he said.

see GCC on page 7

Glendale Kiwanis and HALA Host Back-to-School Shopping Spree

By Clare BUCHANAN

In the foothills and surrounding areas folks will be celebrating National Night Out.

On Saturday, July 25, the Glendale Kiwanis Club and Home Again Los Angeles, a non-profit organization serving unhoused folks and their families, came together to host a back-to-school shopping spree for under-resourced youth. Held at the Glendale Galleria Target, over 10 families lined up outside of the store at 7:30 a.m. before it opened. Rocio Martinez, director of operations for Home Again LA, kindly handed out Krispy Kreme donuts to the waiting families.

Kiwanis volunteers also gathered early Saturday morning outside Target to organize the shopping spree. With help from Home Again LA, the Glendale Kiwanis Club was able to fund multiple back-to-school hauls for disadvantaged youth in preparation for the back-to-school season, providing the youth with the resources to purchase new backpacks, school supplies and clothing.



Photo by Clare BUCHANAN
Glendale Kiwanis Club volunteers stand outside Target before the shopping spree. Albert Hernandez, club president and Home Again LA CEO, is second from left.

plies and clothing.

Since COVID, the Glendale Kiwanis Club has been leading the shopping spree. For the past six years Kiwanis volunteers are paired with families in the Home Again LA program to assist them during the shopping spree, providing them with a gift card to shop for many of their needed supplies.

Albert Hernandez has been president of the Glendale chapter

of the Kiwanis Club for one year, and CEO of Home Again LA for 12 years.

"All the children who are here are either living in our shelter or living in low income housing," Hernandez explained. "This is really important to Kiwanis because we want to make sure that all the children, regardless of their financial status, start their first day of school on an equitable playing field."

As families waited for Target's doors to open at 8 a.m., Hernandez led his team through an overview of how the morning would take place. Along with Hernandez, four employees from Home Again LA were present at the event, acting as liaisons between the families and the Kiwanis volunteers, who were eager to get the shopping spree started.

see HALA on page 18

21st GPD Chief of Police Sworn In

By Mary O'KEEFE

On July 23 Robert William became the 21st Glendale chief of police in a swearing-in ceremony at the GPD main station. The event was attended by numerous officials and law enforcement leaders from around Southern California.

William was announced as the new chief on June 23; this follows his term as interim police chief since December 2025 when then-Chief Manny Cid announced his departure. Cid had accepted a position as police chief for the Anaheim Police Dept.

The swearing in ceremony highlighted that William is a "lifelong Glendalian." William grew up on East Garfield Avenue in South

Glendale.

"While [police] officers were keeping the city safe I was riding my bike to the top of Adams Hill, and riding as fast as I could down the hill without stopping at any stop signs just to see how fast I could go," he said.

He spoke of his days of sneaking onto the blacktop area of John Muir Elementary School with his friends to play roller hockey and, when he was older, would spend summers playing football with friends at Glendale High School, and then sneaking into the school's pool to cool down.

"Back then I never imagined that one day I would stand here as chief of police for the City of Glendale," he said.

see GPD on page 9



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE
City Manager Roubik Golanian (right) administers the oath of office to Robert William, who was sworn in as the new City of Glendale police chief.

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Déjà Vu - All Over Again

I was pleasantly surprised to hear this week that vans – specifically minivans – were making a comeback.

Early in our marriage, Steve and I had a minivan. It was bare bones – no luxurious carpet, no electric windows. We ended up selling it and I wanted to (in the worst way) get a full-size van. Thankfully, we were able to afford a full-size passenger van (over the years we bought two full-size passenger vans). My memory has blended the two vans into one – one was primarily green and the other primarily blue. There were four captains’ chairs, a TV and VCR (the boys later brought a game system into the van), and a bench seat in the back. Curtains covered the windows in one of the vans, shades in the other.

I have such fond memories of those vans. We took the younger boys to the Grand Canyon in it. Our older son used the van to go jet skiing in Mexico (he put his jet ski on the bench seat in the back). One year Steve and I drove the boys to San Diego for vacation (whenever I hear particular music I’m immediately transported to that vacation).

I remember driving the kids to school and even had a wood whistle that I would blow while saying, “All aboard!” After school, I’d pick up the kids and go to the Montrose Library where there was after-school help (older students would help the younger ones who were struggling in certain subjects).

We had these vans until the youngest

boy got his driver’s license; then we got a Toyota Camry, which was a true “beater car” that I shared with the three younger boys.

Learning about the resurgence in minivan sales (minivan sales increased by 21% in 2025) got me thinking about what other items are experiencing a resurgence in popularity.

I learned that, fueled by the demand by Gen Z’ers for tactile experiences, Polaroid cameras are making a huge comeback. If you remember, Polaroid was near bankruptcy in 2008; in 2025 it experienced a resurgence that saw a 45% increase in usage.

In addition, vinyl records and cassettes are seeing a surge in popularity, flip phones and dumb phones are becoming more attractive to people interested in reducing their screen time and independent bookstores (like Once Upon A Time on Honolulu Avenue) are responding to the desire of people who prefer paper products to e-readers.

I know that the CV Weekly is highly regarded for providing factual and relevant local information. I consider those who read it to be of the highest caliber.

Now, if I can only find a way for my body to experience a resurgence. Heck, I used to go dancing on the weekends; nowadays, the recliner is looking better and better!

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

» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

Lake Powell is a large man-made reservoir on the Colorado River that is between Utah and Arizona. It is the second-largest reservoir in the U.S.; however, the lake is now hovering near a critical “dead pool.”

“Put simply, dead pool occurs when the amount of water stored in a reservoir is so low water can no longer flow downstream,” according to the Sierra Club.

In an article titled, “Lake Powell inches toward critical threshold as water supply in West continues to dwindle” on The Weather Channel, Lake Powell’s elevation is around 3,527 feet above sea level – about 158 feet above the “dead pool” threshold when Glen Canyon Dam can no longer generate hydropower.

“The current level is close to the record low of 3,520 feet recorded in April 2023,” according to The Weather Channel.

The low levels are linked to a weak snow season and limited spring runoff into Lake Powell and Lake Mead. This area has faced an unusually high number of dry years since the 1990s, described as the Southwest’s “megadrought era,” according to The Weather Channel.

“Since 2001, declining water levels due to climate change and 20 years of drought have reshaped Lake Powell’s shoreline. Today we are experiencing low lake levels and their effects on boat ramp access points, on-lake facilities and the landscape. Significant changes to the shoreline will affect usability of boat launch ramps throughout the year, especially in warmer months. We ask visitors to plan ahead and prepare for longer lines, limited parking and

congestion at boat ramps and docks. To relieve launch ramp congestion, please ready your boat at a nearby parking lot before driving to launch ramps. View the current status of your preferred launch destination before heading to the lake,” according to the National Park Service website.

Lake Mead also has dangerously low levels at under 1,043 feet, breaking a March 2024 level.

“Together, the two reservoirs haven’t been this low since 1957, during the construction of the Glen Canyon Dam, before Lake Powell even existed,” according to a CNN report by Laura Paddison.

The Colorado River irrigates more than 5 million acres of farmland, generates enough electricity to power around 700,000 houses and provides water for 40 million people, according to CNN.

There are seven states that look to the Colorado River as a lifeline: In the upper basin are Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico. The lower basin states are California, Arizona and Nevada.

According to a water watchdog organization, LA Waterkeeper, California and lower basin states have cut use of the Colorado River by nearly 20% since 2015, but the upper basin states have gone in the opposite direction.

The droughts and changing climate have been watched closely by leaders in these seven states and arguments continue of what should be done.

“Since the negotiations do not seem to be producing any movement forward, the Trump Administration is now poised to impose sweeping cuts.

see WEATHER on page 18

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

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.

SOCALGAS HOLDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING

A public participation hearing is being held on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (remote only). The hearing is in regard to instituting rulemaking to consider new approaches to disconnections and reconnections to improve energy access and contain costs. The purpose of rulemaking is to find ways to reduce the disconnection rates of electric and gas services for California customers. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is exploring additional ways to reduce disconnections and seeking public input on programs, policies or other approaches that could further lower disconnection rates and reduce impacts on customers.

The website is adminmonitor.com/ca/gov; the phone number is 800-857-1917; the passcode is 1673482#. To make a public comment, participate by phone using the information mentioned. Once the passcode is entered, press *1 and record your name when prompted.

Note that no decisions will be made at this hearing.

APPS BEING ACCEPTED FOR LEADERSHIP GLENDALE

A diverse group of community leaders, professionals and engaged residents are part of the nine-month journey of learning, networking and civic engagement through Leadership Glendale.

Space is limited; visit <https://www.glendalechamber.com/leadership-application>, call the Glendale Chamber of Commerce for more information at (818) 240-7870 or email Taguhi Sogomonyan at tsogomonyan@glendalechamber.com or Judee Kendall at jkendall@glendalechamber.com.

CONCERTS, LECTURES AND MORE AT MT. WILSON OBSERVATORY

On Friday, Aug. 7 from sunset until 1 a.m. a free public star party is being held at Mt. Wilson Observatory looking through telescopes 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.

For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2t492wz3>.

By Mary O'KEEFE and Vanessa YNDA

On July 18, The Cool Group from the Fire House at St. Luke's of The Mountains Episcopal Church took a field trip to Olvera Street in downtown Los Angeles.

The temperature was already 80 degrees as the group started the free tour, which is offered by the City of Los Angeles. The tour taught the group about the displacement of the Tongva people, which spanned generations from 1769 to the 1850s, and the first settlers that were sent from Mexico through the Mission system.

The walk included a tour of the Avila Adobe, the oldest house in Los Angeles and reportedly built in 1818, and continued to the viewing of the famous mural on Olvera Street, América Tropical (<https://www.laconservancy.org/learn/historic-places/america-tropical/>). It was painted by Mexican artist David Alfaro Siqueiros in 1932.

The story behind the mural was deeply moving to everyone, according to a group leader Vanessa Ynda.

Cool Group members were all impressed with various aspects of the tour. For Kean, the mural was his favorite part of the day.

Cian was impressed by the history of the area; he had dates memorized and impressed the group's docent, who was leading the tour. Lorna's favorite part was seeing the statue of King Carlos III of Spain who authorized the 1781 founding of El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles, noted by many as the birthplace of Los Angeles.

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument is near the site of the early Los Angeles pueblo or town where 44 settlers of Native American, African and European heritage journeyed more than one thousand miles across the desert from present-day northern Mexico and established a farming community in September 1781. Since that time, Los Angeles has been under the flags of Spain, Mexico and the United States and has grown into one of the world's largest metropolitan areas.

Today, as a department of the City of Los Angeles, El Pueblo is a living

museum that continues to fulfill its unique role as the historic and symbolic heart of the city, according to the El Pueblo Historical Society's website.

"I think my favorite part was learning about the history of the birthplace of Los Angeles, and the friendliness of the workers at Olvera Street," said Michael.

Many in the group were in awe of the beautiful courtyard of El Pueblo, which features the oldest grape vine in California. They were also happy to beat the heat for a while as relief was found within the thick walls of the adobe bricks, which were used to build most of El Pueblo and dramatically dropped the outside temperature.

After enjoying food from La Luz del Día Restaurant and ice cream from Mr. Churro, the group headed home – but not before capturing a group photo in front of a gorgeous bougainvillea plant.

The Cool Group is a group of young adults from The Fire House, many of whom have been meeting in person and on Zoom for over 12 years, Ynda said.

St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church is located at 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. For information on The Cool Group or St. Luke's, call (818) 248-3539.

Tours of Olvera Street and El Pueblo Historical Monument are offered free of charge. Guided tours are offered Thursday to Saturday, with start times beginning at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 12 p.m. (noon). Visit <https://elpueblo.lacity.gov/tours> or call (213) 485-6855 to book a tour or for more information.



Photos courtesy of Vanessa YNDA
ABOVE: Members of The Cool Group captured a group photo in front of a bougainvillea plant near La Luz del Día Restaurant.
BELOW: The walk included a tour of the Avila Adobe, the oldest house in Los Angeles.



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Fire House Youth Center Seeks Volunteers and Donations

By Mary O'KEEFE

When the 2026-27 school year begins on Aug. 19 the Fire House Youth Center, located at 2563 Foothill Blvd. on the campus of St. Luke's of the Mountains, will again open its doors to Rosemont Middle School students on their late start days, which has been every Wednesday morning.

For over a decade the Fire House Youth Center has provided, at no cost, an early morning breakfast for Rosemont students that includes pancakes, sausages and cereal. The menu will change following requests made by students.

The Fire House has been open since 2010, following a year of preparation and organization. The Center was founded by members of the former Crescenta Valley Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition.

The Fire House is a mission of St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church and over the years the church has supported the Center by providing volunteers and paying for the costs of utilities. The facility includes a pool table, two foosball tables, a television, video games, a closet full of board games, a music room and much more.

The food, drinks and supplies are provided by volunteers, who also work at the early morning breakfast. In addition to middle



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE
The Fire House Youth Center prepares breakfast every Wednesday morning for Rosemont students when school is in session.

school breakfast, the Fire House plays host to several clubs and organizations like CV High School Prom Plus, CV Cares, CV Cares Ambassador High School Club, CV Fire Safe Council, Academy of Science and Medicine and JROTC.

Over the years the Fire House has offered outreach programs to educate students and adults. These include a Start Smart driving program through the California Highway Patrol, a college fair and a speaker series.

As the year begins, Fire House

volunteers need donations and adults [aged 18 and older] to support the program on Wednesday mornings from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Each Wednesday while school is in session parents can drop off Rosemont students at 7 a.m. to the Fire House. The Fire House is a drop-in Center; therefore students are able to come and go as they want. Parents are invited to visit and tour the Fire House on Wednesday mornings as well. At 9 a.m. students leave the Fire House to walk up Rosemont Avenue to school.

For donations, checks [made out to St. Luke's of the Mountains] or grocery gift cards are most needed so volunteers can buy items as needed, storage at the Fire House is limited.

For information on the Fire House or the Wednesday morning program please email thefirehouseyouthcenter@gmail.com

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NOTES & NODS

DONATION DRIVES AT LCIF
As the upcoming school year approaches, Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) has launched a dual-purpose donation drive to help students both around the corner and around the globe. To support local youth, the church is currently collecting brand-new backpacks. The backpacks will be delivered to "Making it Happen," a Sunland-based non-profit organization, which will distribute them directly to local families in need this fall.

Alongside the backpack initiative, LCIF is gathering general school supplies intended for international distribution to help children in need worldwide. Items needed are Pink Pearl-style erasers, unsharpened pencils, blue and black ink pens, small crayons (box of 24 colors) and blunt tip scissors. Donations can be dropped off at Sunday service or left at the church office.

In addition to its school supply collection, LCIF presented a monetary gift of \$1,000 to Tierra del Sol. The charitable organization, also based in Sunland, provides workforce training and support services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Tierra del Sol was recently selected as LCIF's new provider for on-site janitorial services, furthering the foundation's mission of creating meaningful employment opportunities for the developmentally disabled.

Summer worship at LCIF begins at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Children's Church takes place at the same time and includes a Bible lesson, snack, games and crafts. All are welcome.

For more information on all church events, or to receive pastoral care, visit lcifoorthills.org, email office@lcifoorthills.org, or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

see NOTES N NODS on page 18

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. is investigating both incidents as hate crimes.

"If Paramount succeeds in buying Warner Bros., the merged firm will be the largest buyer of original film and television programming in the United States," said WGAW President Michele Mulroney in a statement. "This would eliminate competition in an already consolidated industry, threatening the livelihoods of entertainment workers and the creative diversity of TV and film. We applaud the dozen state attorneys general who have stepped up to enforce our antitrust laws and are proud to file suit alongside them."

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By Mary O'KEEFE

been a project that has been in production for well over a year, said Antonio Gardea, assistant director of community development with La Cañada Flintridge.

The new owner had acquired the property about a year and a half ago. The planning division does not have a timeline of when the project will reopen; however,

the owner does want it to open quickly, according to Gardea.

The service station part of Foothill Car Wash, where oil changes were done, will be completely demolished and will not be replaced.

The owner of Foothill Car Wash also owns Bellagio Express Car Wash in Eagle Rock.



By Mary O'KEEFE

Recently CV Weekly wrote two articles about organizations that need support from the public: iMPACT Foundation LA/CV Cares and Marine Mammal Care Center.

The iMPact Foundation LA is a non-profit organization dedicated

to supporting individuals and families affected by addiction, mental health challenges and emotional isolation. Based in the foothill community of Los Angeles, its mission is rooted in compassion, connection and the belief that healing is possible when people are given access to the right

support systems, according to the organization's website.

People can donate directly or can support its fundraisers like the organization's annual golf tournament.

The Foundation is able to do the work it does through the donations received. For information and to

find out how to donate visit <https://theimpactfoundationla.org>.

Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles is a non-profit organization funded by caring people. There are many ways to support its life-saving work. As a 501(c)(3) public charity, all donations are tax

deductible. Unless otherwise indicated, any financial gifts received will be used in the area of greatest need.

For information on the Marine Mammal Care Center and to donate visit <https://marinemamalcare.org>.

JULY 26

2600 block of Prospect Avenue in La Crescenta a resident reported that he had received a motion-detection notification from his security camera. He reviewed the footage and observed a person wearing a dark-colored sweater and light-colored pants tampering with the bed of his pickup truck. He went outside and found that numerous tools had been stolen from an unlocked toolbox located in the bed of the pickup.

Security footage revealed the suspect wearing a dark-colored sweater with white lettering or a logo on the back and light-colored pants. The suspect was seen climbing out of the pickup bed while carrying items at 2:45 a.m.

open. Shortly after checking his security cameras, he discovered they were disconnected and no longer worked.

Deputies responded to the location and observed the rear sliding glass door had been shattered along with the rear sliding window glass, which was smashed. Security footage revealed two suspects, both dressed in black, appeared to jump the gate of the apartment complex. Suspect No. 1 was wearing a brown hat, Suspect No. 2 was wearing a dark colored hat. Both were seen jumping into the rear yard of the victim's apartment unit. They were able to make their way into the apartment and then exited the front door and walked away from the location. Several items were stolen.

The burglary occurred at 8:50 p.m.

Big Tujunga Canyon Road in Tujunga, a woman reported that she had parked her vehicle at

the location and went for a hike. When she returned she found the front driver's side door lock was punched and several personal items, including credit cards, were stolen between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

JULY 23

Trail Canyon Falls in the Angeles National Forest, a man reported that he had parked and locked his vehicle at the location and went for hike. When he returned to his vehicle he found

the passenger side front door window had been smashed. He found the interior of the vehicle had been ransacked and his wallet, with several credit cards, had been stolen between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



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-  You feel pressured to act immediately.
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-  You've been asked to lie or give false information.
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Friedman Unveils Federal Investment to Strengthen Community Safety in Glendale Ahead of the 2028 Olympic Games

U.S. Congresswoman Laura Friedman (CA-30) on Monday announced a new \$1,031,000 federal investment to strengthen community safety in Glendale ahead of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Friedman secured the investment after Glendale officials asked for help securing these tools needed to keep the community safe as the region prepares to welcome the world ... and for years to come.

The federal investment Friedman secured allows Glendale to expand and modernize its Real Time Information Center without putting the cost on local taxpayers or diverting funds from other essential city services.

“Glendale came to me with a real need, I made it a priority, and I fought in Washington to get it done,” said Congresswoman Friedman. “Keeping our neighborhoods safe should never depend on the size of a city’s budget. This is a million dollars to help our officers respond faster, prevent crime and protect our families, and not a cent of it comes out of the pockets of Glendale taxpayers. The Games come and go, but this investment stays. I will keep fighting to bring our tax dollars home and keep our communities safe long after the closing ceremony.”

Friedman was a longstanding Glendale City Council member from 2009 to 2016.

“Congresswoman Friedman

has always understood the importance of utilizing technology to keep communities safe and she continues that hard work now in Congress, bringing very necessary funds that will not cost Glendale’s taxpayers additional dollars. Sometimes even more important than the person who wears the badge is the information that arrives before they arrive. We need to give them information that helps them do their jobs better and safer, and that’s what this investment of over \$1,000,000 is about,” said Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian. “We couldn’t ask for a better partner as someone who came out of local government and went up the ranks at the state level and the federal level.”

“I want to start off by thanking Congresswoman Laura Friedman for her continued investment into the city of Glendale and her continued support for public safety, not just with the police department but with the fire department as well,” said Glendale Police Chief Robert William. “Our real-time intelligence center has already helped investigators solve murders, violent crimes and residential burglaries by providing critical leads that might otherwise be unavailable. At the end of the day, this isn’t about equipment. It’s about giving our officers every advantage to respond more quickly and investigate more effectively.”



Photo provided by the office of Congresswoman Laura Friedman
From left are Glendale mayor Ardy Kassakhian, U.S. Congresswoman Laura Friedman, police chief Robert William and City of Glendale council member Alek Bartrosouf.

The \$1,031,000 federal investment will:

- Nearly double the city’s public safety camera coverage in public spaces from 44 cameras currently to between 90 and 100.
- Upgrade Glendale’s Real Time Information Center.
- Strengthen the city’s real-time information capabilities using the existing team of four specialists with no new staff required.
- Improve response times so officers can respond faster and with better information when someone calls for help.
- Keep all data under local

control. Video is stored on the city’s own systems, is not accessible to any outside vendor or other agency and is retained for 30 days before deletion. Any request to share footage goes through the City of Glendale’s own policies and process first, keeping decisions in the hands of officials accountable to the community.

The announcement is the latest in a series of federal investments Friedman has secured to prepare the region for the 2028 Games, all at no cost to local taxpayers. In April, she unveiled a \$1,092,000

investment to replace the nearly 100-year-old water and wastewater systems at the Rose Bowl Stadium. In July, she announced \$500,000 to bring shade, seating and real-time arrival information to LA Metro bus stops and Metrolink rail stations across the district.

Friedman was joined by Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian, Glendale Police Chief Robert William and officers from the Glendale Police Department.

Submitted by the office of Congresswoman Laura Friedman

2026 FIRST LEGO League Robotics Applications Open Now

The Falcon robotics team is now accepting applications from fourth through eighth grade students for the 2026 FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League program.

Online applications are due on Saturday, Aug. 8 no later than 11:59 p.m.

The LEGO Robotics Program will be hosted at Crescenta Valley High School at 2900 Community Ave. in La Crescenta

on Mondays from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. from Aug. 24 through Dec. 14.

Students will learn the basics of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and apply their skills in a competition while learning and building teamwork skills along the way.

Families accepted to the Robotics Program will be asked to provide \$250 per participating child to cover registration fees

and materials throughout the season. Registration fees will be paid separately following acceptance into the program. If accepted, registration refunds are possible only by emailing friends@cvrobots.com before Oct. 5 at 11:59 p.m. PST. Payments via PayPal will only be refunded the amount paid, less the value of PayPal fees.

Refund requests made after Oct. 5 cannot be honored. Those who have multiple

students interested have to fill out one application per individual student.

As many students as possible are accommodated; however, space is limited and applicants are not guaranteed a spot on the robotics team.

Email coaches@cvrobots.com for further information and questions. This email inbox is monitored by Jacob Poole and Heather Abrams-Shintaku.

For information, and for the

application, visit <https://tinyurl.com/4xx2rds5>.

GCC from Cover

Manoukian argued that in light of the difficulty of the recent budget deliberations, which resulted in the “painstaking” closure of a \$15 million budget gap through the cutting of services and positions, this is not the time to spend \$779,000 to include this question “on a charter measure that was not budgeted and that will have little to no effect on city operations.”

Changes to civil service rules must appear on a general

election ballot and cannot be voted on during a special election. Scheduling a special election – one not already set for March or November – would cost the City an estimated additional \$2.6 million, versus the \$500,000 cost for putting the questions on an election already set – an amount which would increase incrementally by approximately \$70,000 for each ballot measure that would be put before the voters.

Council members indicated

they had been contacted by Glendale’s police officers’ union regarding potential changes to the civil service status of the police chief. City attorney Mike Garcia explained the continued protections that would remain in effect to assuage the concerns raised by the union and explained that a vote of the City council would still be required to fire a police chief and that the proposed changes would be prospective and would not affect the current chief.

Council members also announced a number of upcoming events:

A community meeting to gather feedback on plans for the South Verdugo Road street and sewer repair project is set for Wednesday, Aug. 5 from 6 – 8 p.m. in the council chambers in city hall, 613 E. Broadway. The details can be found at <https://www.glendaleca.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/56038/>.

see GCC on page 19

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YMCA Quarterback Club Prepares for Another Year of Promotion and Service

The YMCA Quarterback Club begins its 85th year of promotion and service to local area schools during the football season as a non-profit organization in association with the YMCA of the Foothills.

Pete Smith of Bob Smith Toyota will be taking over as the organization’s president. He will oversee the board and directors as well as welcoming the nearly 100 members and guests to the weekly Tuesday meetings of the YMCA Quarterback Club at the Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive in Glendale.

The annual kickoff party of the YMCA Quarterback Club will be on Tuesday, Aug. 18 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Los Gringos Locos, 631 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. In addition to saying hello to old friends this a time to meet new members and guests. There will also be the a chance to see some of the coaches who stop by to say hello.

The first meeting of the YMCA Quarterback Club will be on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at the Oakmont Country Club. Doors open at 11 a.m., lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and the program starts at noon.

Guest speakers will make presentations this year who will come to the podium to present insight and commentary on today’s football scene.

Aug. 25 – The Speakers Series starts with the traditional “women in sports.” The speaker will be Olivia Garvey from KNBC4 News/Sports. Garvey is known to be a dynamic sports anchor and reporter and has burst onto the local sports media scene with energy and knowledge. She has grown up in the sports world as her father is legendary Dodger Steve Garvey.

Sept. 1 – Eric Sondheimer from The Los Angeles Times, one of the Club’s favorite speakers, will be welcomed. Sondheimer is an award-winning writer and columnist who covers the high school football scene like none other. Sondheimer always gives inside information on the important issues.

Sept. 8 – The commissioner of the CIF-SS Mike West will be making a presentation. CIF-SS is the governing body of high school sports, and West will present news and updates of all things involving the ever-changing and growing world of high school sports – especially football.

The Speakers Series will include Jasmine Blevins from the Big-10 Network, Jens Weiden, CEO of the Rose Bowl, Lavar Arrington, college and NFL player/coach/radio host, Steve Hartman, KTLA5 sports anchor/ Fox News radio personality, Matt “Money” Smith from Fox Radio and voice of the Chargers and former players Wayne Cook (UCLA) and Shaun Cody (USC), among others.

This lineup promises great lunches with great speakers! Folks will get a chance to sign up for membership for the year (membership fees are as little as \$100) as well as providing donations to sponsor the coaches’ lunches, advertising, room and lunches ... and more. It’s all for the student/athletes that the Club supports, including scholarships for the deserving student athletes from seven local high schools – Glendale, Hoover, Crescenta Valley, St. Francis, Village Christian, La Cañada – and Glendale College.

Visit ymcafoothills.org and click on Community Events to lock in membership and donations, or contact Debbie Pile for assistance at the YMCA of the Foothills, (818) 273-8818.

Submitted by the YMCA QB Club

Silva Promoted by ALC

The Allen Lund Company announced that Isabella Silva has been promoted to director of the Marketing and Communications Department.

Silva graduated from St. Edward’s University in 2022 with a BA in communication, complemented by minors in psychology and health communication. In July of the same year, she began her career at the Allen Lund Company in the Marketing and Communications Dept. In May 2026, she completed her MS in public relations innovation, strategy, and management at the University of Southern California.

David Lund, executive vice president, stated, “I am very excited that Isabella is taking on the role of director of Marketing. She has excelled since starting with ALC four years ago and has demonstrated repeatedly that she has the skills and leadership ability to guide the department going forward. I look forward to seeing the new ideas and innovations that Isabella and her team will bring to ALC in the future.”

Silva said, “I am deeply appreciative of the executive team for this opportunity, and to my team for their unwavering support. The Allen Lund Company is a special place that truly mirrors my own core values and I consider it a privilege to step into this role. I look forward to this next chapter, working alongside the most exceptional people in the industry.”

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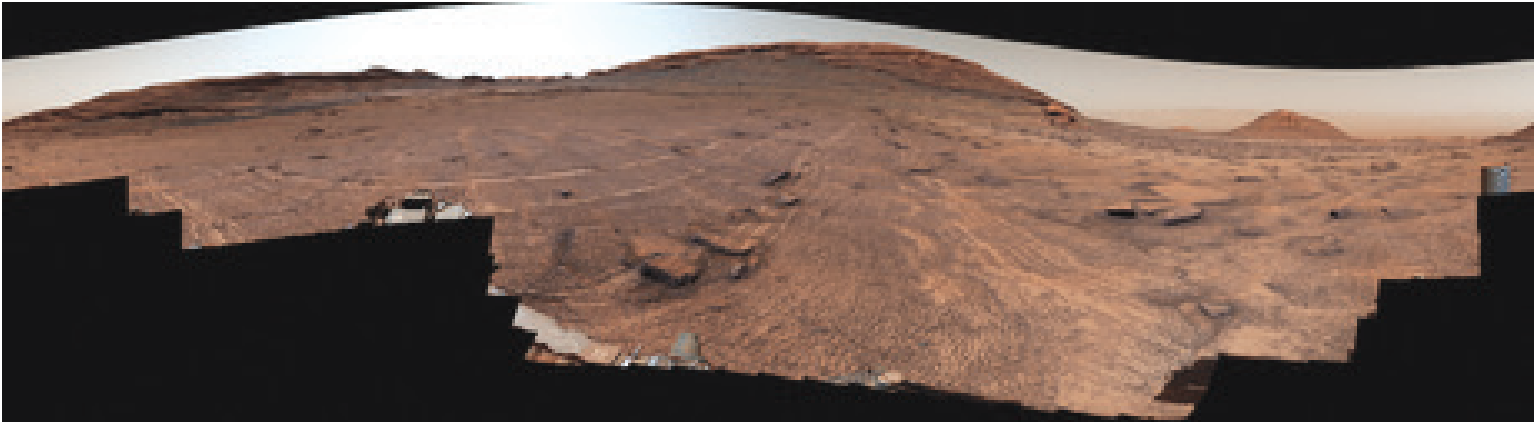
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NASA’s Curiosity Mars Rover Discovers Field of Honeycomb Textures

As NASA’s Curiosity rover recently began climbing up a Martian valley, nicknamed Valle Grande, it sent back images that were a familiar sight to mission scientists: honeycomb-like textures called polygonal fractures, each one about 1.5 to 3 inches (4 to 8 centimeters) across. The mission has spotted small patches of these geometric shapes several times before but nothing at the scale discovered in Valle Grande.

In a 360-degree panorama that the rover captured on June 19 and 20, the 4,930th and 4,931st Martian days, or sols, of the mission the polygonal shapes spread in all directions for as far as the rover could see. They even wrapped around the sides of a nearby butte nicknamed Miraflores, which stands 20 feet (six meters) tall and is topped with a thick cap of sand.

“We’ve seen a lot of fascinating landscapes through Curiosity’s eyes, but this sea of polygons took our breath away,” said the mission’s project scientist



NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS
NASA’s Curiosity rover discovered an expanse of terrain covered in surface features called polygons. Scientists have never seen so many of these features in one place and are unsure how they formed.

Ashwin Vasavada of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California. “We measured their shapes and chemistry carefully and are hopeful there are clues in the data as to how these features formed.”

Some of the polygons that the mission has spotted in the past clearly formed as mud cracks, though a variety of processes can contribute to their honeycomb textures, including cycles of warm and cold temperatures

or compression that squeezed water out of the sediment when the surface was buried.

These newly discovered polygons are among the many surprises Curiosity has trundled across since landing on Mars 14 years ago, on Aug. 5, 2012. Besides sulfur crystals, shiny meteorites and other interesting geologic features, the rover has made major discoveries about the ancient Martian environment – most importantly, that it had the water, chemistry and nutrients

to support microbial life.

Billions of years ago, lakes and streams dappled the lower foothills of Mount Sharp, a three-mile-tall (five-kilometer-tall) mountain that Curiosity has been ascending since 2014. The rover has previously uncovered chemistry left over from Mars’ watery history, including carbon-based molecules believed to be precursors to RNA and DNA, two nucleic acids that carry genetic information. Scientists have no way of knowing whether these

organic molecules were created by biologic or geologic processes – either path is possible – but their discovery reconfirmed that ancient Mars had the right chemistry to support life.

Managed by Caltech in Pasadena, JPL built Curiosity and leads the mission on behalf of NASA’s Science Mission Directorate in Washington as part of the agency’s Mars Exploration Program portfolio.

Submitted by NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS

Pursued Vehicle Stops for Gas in La Crescenta

By Mary O’KEEFE

A vehicle pursuit involving a reportedly suspected DUI driver occurred on Sunday evening

about 8:59 p.m. Although pursuits on the local freeways are not unusual, this one took a twist when the driver got off the freeway and stopped for gas at

a service station on the corner of Honolulu and La Crescenta avenues.

The maroon colored Dodge Charger had reportedly blacked-

out windows and at times speeds were reported at 120 mph.

The pursuit reportedly began in the West Valley and ended in Pasadena near Del Monte

Street and Forest Avenue. The three suspects abandoned their vehicle and allegedly attempted to run from the area but were soon taken into custody.

GPD from Cover

He thanked all of the guests who attended his swearing in extending a special “thank you” to his wife, sons, parents and the rest of his family.

“[Glendale] is a city that shaped m life, a city that gave me lifelong friendships, it gave me mentors who challenged me and it gave me opportunities. Eventually it gave me a calling to protect the very neighborhood [I grew up in],” William said.

During the ceremony City Mayor Ardy Kassakhian praised William and the city he protects. He said that a city is measured in a “thousand ways.”

“I’ve come to believe there is only one measurement that truly matters – who do people hope will show up when they need help. The answer to that question says more about a city than any statistic or number ever could because when life takes an unexpected turn, when a child goes missing, when a family suffers a tragedy, when a neighbor is in crisis and confusion replaces certainty

we don’t think about budgets or buildings – we thing about people. The people who will answer the call,” he said. “We live in a time when people are asking difficult questions about institutions, about leadership and about the responsibilities that come with authority. The headlines change almost daily, the debates are often loud yet beneath all that noise, most people are asking a much simpler question: Can we trust the people who serve? Trust is not built through press releases or policies alone. It’s built one interaction at a time,” Kassakhian said.

Before City Manager Roubik Golanian swore in William he said that days like this were one of his most favorite – and most memorable.

“Today signifies a landmark occasion for Glendale. As city manager, one of the most important responsibilities I have is selecting the individual who leads our law enforcement agency and safeguards our

community. When evaluating what makes a truly exceptional police chief, I look for unwavering integrity, executive strength, a commitment to innovation and a profound, lived understanding of the community being served. This morning [July 23] I’m thrilled to say that we found all those qualities in one of our own. Robert William’s journey with the Glendale Police Dept. is the quintessential public service story,” Golanian said.

With his family nearby, William was sworn-in. His said his son Christian had been asking him for the last two weeks who would “pin” him. Christian ended up pinning him while his other son Daniel and his wife stood by his side.

“I don’t view this appointment as the finish line of my career,” William said. “I view this as the beginning of an even greater responsibility.”

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Madman Muntz Got His Start in Glendale

The “madman” salesmen trope has been around for decades. Crazy Gideon was LA- based, always being shown being hauled away by doctors. Crazy Eddie sold electronics (until he ended up in prison for fraud). Of course there was Cal Worthington and “his dog” Spot. Recently we had Sit n’ Sleep saying it was selling so low it was killing their accountant (“You’re killing me, Larry!”). Even Burger King dipped its toes in this trope by implying its creepy “The King” had gone insane – thus the low prices.

We had a local version in the form of Rebal’s Mad House, a local grocery store, “the store that made Verdugo City famous,” and you could shop during “visiting hours.” Rebal’s made it “fun to shop – Have you had your fun today?”

But the one to originate this madman persona was Madman Muntz – and he got his start right

here in Glendale.

In the 1930s, Earl Muntz dropped out of high school and opened a used car lot in his hometown of Elgin, Illinois. Hearing that used cars sold for more money in Los Angeles, he moved here and in 1940 opened a used car lot on the corner of Brand and Los Feliz boulevards, at the very end of what is today Glendale’s auto row. It was here that he developed the “I’m crazy to sell cars this cheap” sales technique. In red long-johns and a Napoleon hat (a bicorne), he screamed that if he didn’t sell this car today, he would destroy it with a sledge-hammer (and he occasionally did).

“I buy ’em retail and sell ’em wholesale – It’s more fun that way.”

“I wanna give ’em away, but Mrs. Muntz won’t let me! She’s crazy!”

Muntz’s business exploded thanks to his madman persona

and he flooded early TV with his “crazy” ads. The big comedians of the time – Bob Hope, Jack Benny and Red Skelton – told Madman Muntz jokes, expanding his fame nationwide. His used car lot had become one of the major tourist attractions in Los Angeles with tour buses stopping in to see his antics. By the end of WWII he branched into selling new cars.

There was no slowing down for this young entrepreneur. In 1948, he established Muntz TV, selling his own brand of low-budget TV sets.

“Stop staring at your radio!” he screamed.

He continued his crazy persona by mailing TV knobs to potential customers.

“Call and we’ll show up with the rest of the set!” He even named his newborn daughter Tee Vee.

His own brand of automobiles

was his next venture. Car designer Frank Kurtis had developed a largely unsuccessful sports car in his shop in Glendale. Muntz bought the license and modified the car, dropping an even larger engine in it, adding luxury features and rebadging it as the Muntz Jet. The car featured a cartoon of Muntz in his Napoleon hat on the hubcaps. It is widely recognized as the first personal luxury car. It was very fast and very expensive. Because of low production, he actually lost money on each car he sold, but that didn’t bother him. He lost a fortune, but he said, “It was so damn much fun making another one!”

And make another one he did, pioneering his own car audio systems, the Muntz Stereo-Pak, which played a four-track cartridge that predated 8-tracks. In the 1960s, the rich and famous had the Muntz Stereo-Pak in their cars.

But the rise of 8-tracks lost Muntz another fortune. However, he made it back when he jumped into the home video market, producing the first big-screen TVs. Muntz was still selling, selling, selling – satellite dishes, cellphones and prefab aluminum homes and even renting out motorhomes when he died of lung cancer in 1987.

He was throughout his life the consummate entrepreneur. He churned through several fortunes won and lost, and seven marriages. Next time you pass the intersection of Brand and Los Feliz, think of Earl “Madman” Muntz in his red long-johns and Napoleon hat. He gave birth to what is truly an American form of salesmanship.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crossing Paths with a Graceful Enigma

Having lived in the Crescenta Valley for 17 years since moving here from England, I’ve come to appreciate the familiar rhythm of our town. Working at Bob Smith Toyota on Foothill Boulevard, I see the usual ebb and flow of daily life along our streets. But recently, a singular moment stopped me in my tracks.

Looking out from the dealership, I saw a woman unlike anyone I’d ever seen strolling through our neighborhood. She wore a

striking, floor-length floral dress, held a bright rainbow umbrella against the sun and walked with total poise – all while balancing a large, teal metal water bottle upright on her head as she checked her phone.

Years of street photography have taught me to recognize what Henri Cartier-Bresson called “the decisive moment.” I raised my camera and snapped a frame. Inspired by the scene, I later painted it on canvas to capture its warmth and vibrant color.

After posting the photo on a local Facebook

group, I received a message from a woman named Vonisoa: “That’s my beautiful mother!”

I learned the passerby was Dr. Nina Gilberte, a local math professor. When asked about her unique habit, Dr. Nina explained, “The balance is geometry, mathematics and my connection with nature ... It frees a hand, requires you not to slouch and allows the veins in your body to straighten up like a hose to release the kinks. No one can teach balance; you have to find it yourself.”

I offered to print two canvas copies of the painting at cost – one for Dr. Nina and one for her daughter.

Our valley is filled with wonderful, quiet moments but sometimes someone walks by who brings a burst of color, elegance and charm straight into our everyday lives.

It was an honor to capture Dr. Nina’s stroll through [the area] and a joy to connect with her family.

*Mark Young
La Crescenta*

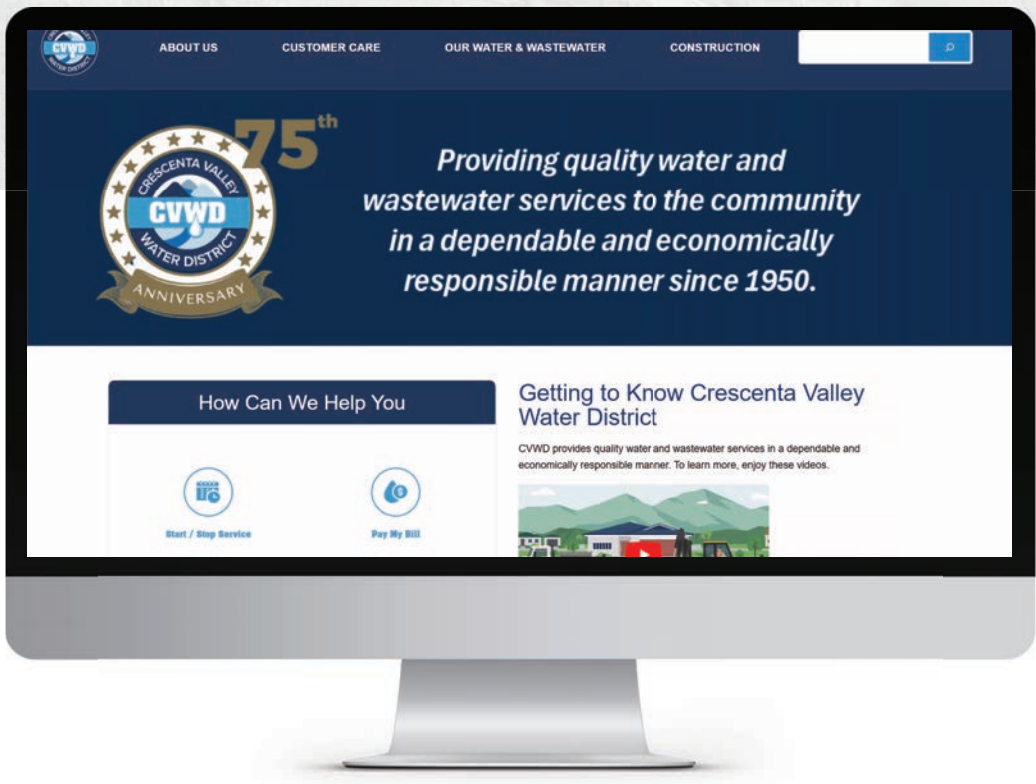


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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Registration Open for ALFie Players Workshop of Disney's '101 Dalmatians KIDS'

Registration is now open for Action League of the Foothills ALFie Players fall production of Disney's "101 Dalmatians KIDS." A classic tale of good vs. evil, the story follows Pongo and Perdita on their search for their puppies kidnapped by Cruella de Vil with hopes of creating a Dalmatian fur coat. Student actors in grades three through six will learn singing, choreography and stage presence while telling the adventures of these determined Dalmatian parents. All skill levels are welcome!

Katelyn Fike Evenson will direct this adventure, assisted by Tristar Waldron. This is the ninth year this talented team has worked with ALF's drama program. Fike's many credits include previous ALF productions "Willy Wonka KIDS," "The Lion King KIDS" and, more recently, "Finding Nemo KIDS."

This new production of Disney's "101 Dalmatians KIDS" promises to entertain both cast and audience.

Rehearsals for the nine-week workshop begin on Aug. 18 and continue Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-5 p.m. until the final week, Oct. 12-16, when there are daily rehearsals. The program culminates with an exciting performance, free for everyone to enjoy, at Lanterman Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16.

Registration is now open and will close on Aug. 17 at 5 p.m. The program fee of \$350 includes class materials, T-shirt and cast photo.

For more information and to register, visit the ALF website at ALFoothills.org, contact ALF at Drama@ALFoothills.org or call (818) 790-2211.

Submitted by ALFie



Nearly One Million Steps Toward a Healthier Community

Some 150 runners and walkers gathered at Griffith Park on Sunday morning, July 12, for a community 5K Fun Run & Walk, taking nearly one million steps in support of healthier living, stronger communities and positive personal choices.

Organized by Stacy Kitchens of The Way to Happiness Foothills Chapter in partnership with The Way to Happiness Foundation International, the “Happy Miles” 5K event brought together runners, walkers, families, children and community members of all ages to enjoy the outdoors, encourage one another and celebrate the importance of taking care of oneself.

Collectively, participants took approximately 975,000 steps over the five-kilometer course – nearly one million steps toward building a healthier community. Based on an average of about 6,500 steps per participant over a 5K distance, the event demonstrated how many individual choices can combine to create a meaningful community achievement.

“This event wasn’t about competition,” said organizer Kitchens. “It was about community. It was about encouraging one another. It all begins with one decision – the decision to take that first step.”

The event opened with remarks from Ludwig Alpers, president of The Way to Happiness Foundation International, who spoke about the importance of personal responsibility for one's health and well-being.

“Every healthy community



Photo provided by The Way to Happiness Foothills Chapter
LEFT: These runners show their enthusiasm as they cross the finish line.
RIGHT: Owen Robb, Mason Stryker, Calvin Mills, Will Stryker, Weston Beattie. Flynn Re were among those who won medals in the run

begins with people deciding to take care of themselves,” said Alpers. “One good decision, repeated over time, becomes a better life.”

The event reflected the first precept in *The Way to Happiness* – “Take Care of Yourself.” Participants were encouraged to view health not as perfection or competition, but as a series of positive decisions that anyone can make, one step at a time.

Glendale resident Peace Grimaldi said, "The Happy Miles 5K was really fun! It was a beautiful morning to get out and get some exercise, and for a

good cause. It was a nice social activity too. It was nice being around so many excited and happy people!"

Throughout the morning, participants enjoyed the scenic setting of Griffith Park while encouraging one another and demonstrating that community health begins with individual action. Organizers expressed their appreciation to the volunteers, supporters and every participant whose enthusiasm helped make the event a success.

Submitted by The Way
to Happiness Foundation
International

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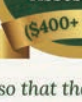


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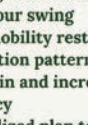


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A Sailor’s Path to a Navy Helicopter Squadron

By Ashley Craig, Navy Office of Community Outreach

Petty Officer 2nd Class Domenic Velona, a native of La Crescenta, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to the Sea Knights of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 22, onboard Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia.

Velona graduated from Crescenta Valley High School in 2020.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in La Crescenta.

“Growing up, I prioritized my work, which built my strong work ethic,” Velona said. “I bring that forward every day in the Navy. It’s developed me into a better leader, strengthening my peers and juniors in their efforts as they strive to reach their goals, helping them reach their goals every day.”

Velona joined the Navy five years ago. Today, he serves as an aviation electronics technician.

“With my graduating year being during the COVID pandemic and not being able to afford school financially, I decided to follow my family’s footsteps in the military and serve,” Velona said. “My dad served in the Marines, my brother was in the Army, and my uncle and grandpa were in the Navy. I wanted to do something with aviation but I didn’t want to join the Air Force, so the Navy seemed like the way to go.”

The Sea Knights of HSC-22 fly and maintain the MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter, the Navy’s versatile and most advanced rotary wing maritime platform. Their

missions include airborne mine countermeasures, combat search and rescue, anti-surface warfare, combat logistics and medevac.

Velona has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

“I am proud of guiding and teaching my junior sailors both in a military aspect as well as in their personal development,” Velona said. “It brings me joy to see others succeed in every aspect and just do better the next day.”

This year, the Navy is commemorating its contribution to the nation’s defense as the United States celebrates 250 years of independence. According to Navy officials, for more than 250 years the Navy has sailed the globe defending freedom and protecting prosperity.

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber-optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to recruiting and retaining talented people from across the rich fabric of America.

“Serving in the Navy allows me to be part of a family and team, working together to accomplish a mission or goal and be part of the bigger picture,” Velona said.

He is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

“I would like to thank my friends and family for their never-ending support,” Velona said.



Photo by Specialist Seaman Melissa ArmsKelly
Petty Officer 2nd Class Domenic Velona, a native of La Crescenta, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to the Sea Knights of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 22.

People Making News

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the Dean’s List for the spring semester of the 2025-2026 academic year. Among these were Maya Bamford from Glendale who attends the School of Education, and from La Cañada Flintridge Tyler Breckheimer who attends the College of Letters and

Science, Austin Han who attends the College of Letters and Science, and Crowley Sullivan who attends the College of Letters and Science.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean of their school or college at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean’s List, students must

complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

More than 9,100 students, including Ethan Grabel from La Cañada Flintridge who attended

the School of Business and received a Bachelor of Business Administration – business: finance, investment and banking and Jimmy Li from La Cañada Flintridge who attended the College of Letters and Science and received a Bachelor of Science, data science, economics, mathematics, economics.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 2026. The university held its spring 2026 commencement ceremony for doctoral, MFA and medical professional candidates at the Kohl Center. Its ceremony for undergraduate, law, and other master’s degree candidates was held at Camp Randall Stadium on Saturday, May 9.

For more information, visit <http://www.wisc.edu>.

Angela SerManukyan of Tujunga, Esther Wang of La Crescenta and Philip Ye of Glendale earned spots on the Provost’s List at Ohio University.

The Provost’s List recognition is shared with high-achieving, part-time undergraduate students who exemplify academic success. Qualifying students must possess a 3.5 or greater GPA and between 6 and 11.99 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA.

In spring semester 2026, approximately 2,300 of Ohio University’s part-time undergraduate students qualified for the Provost’s List.

Visit www.ohio.edu for more information.

Questions About Today’s Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis! HOA Fees For Condos

Dear Phyllis,
My son is looking at different condos and townhomes, and the HOA fees vary a lot. Why is there such a big difference, and what should be important to him as a first-time buyer?
— MJ

Dear MJ,
When I first began selling real estate, many associations were self-managed. Over the years, most communities have moved to professional management companies, and the quality of that management can vary significantly. That’s one of the reasons HOA fees for condos can differ so much from one property to another.
When comparing HOA fees, it’s important to remember that you are often comparing apples to oranges. The key is understanding what you’re actually paying for. In many cases, you truly get what you

pay for.
Typically, HOA fees for condos cover the maintenance of the building and shared spaces. This may include roofs, exterior paint, landscaping, hallways, elevators, lighting, parking areas, gates, and sometimes even utilities for common areas. A community pool will add significant maintenance costs. If something is shared by the community, the HOA is usually responsible for its maintenance. Well-maintained common areas not only make a property more enjoyable to live in, but they also help protect long-term property values.
Another important factor affecting fees is the association’s reserve fund. A portion of the monthly dues should be set aside for large, long-term expenses such as roof replacements, plumbing systems, structural repairs, or major exterior renovations. Strong reserves

allow these repairs to be planned and paid for gradually, instead of homeowners being surprised by large special assessments.
Lower fees may look appealing at first glance, but they can sometimes be a red flag if maintenance has been deferred or reserves are underfunded. On the other hand, higher dues may reflect a well-managed association with consistent upkeep and healthy reserves—things that matter not only while you own the property, but also when it comes time to sell.
As a buyer, try not to focus only on the monthly amount. Take time to understand what they cover, review the association’s reserve levels, and look at the overall financial health of the HOA. A well-run association can help protect your investment, your lifestyle, and your peace of mind.
Phyllis



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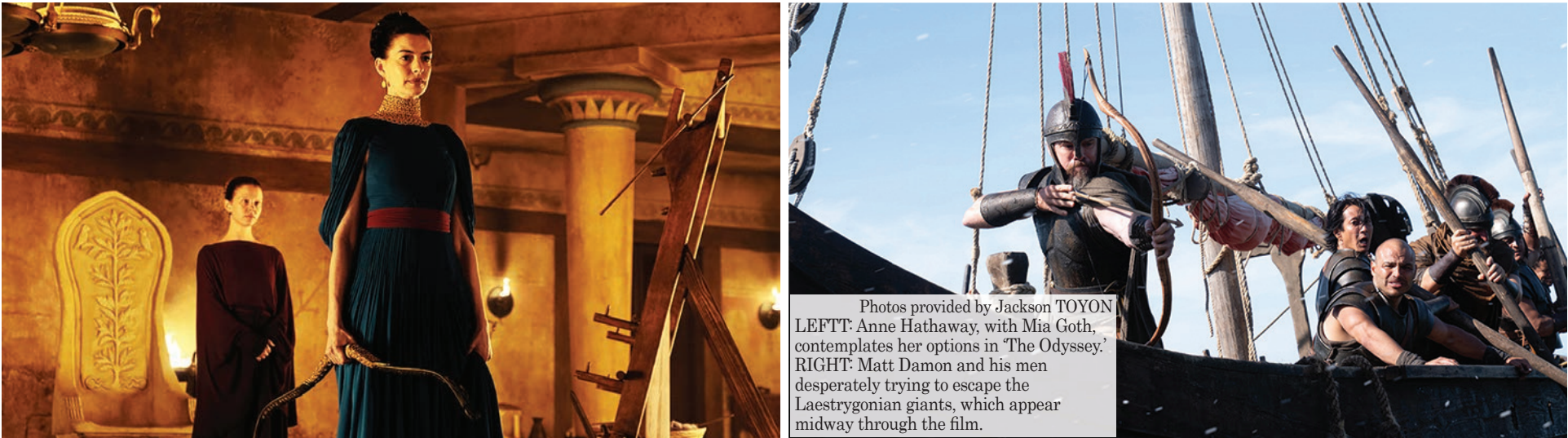
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TRAVEL & LEISURE

MOVIE REVIEW » JACKSON TOYON

Homer’s Epic, Brought to Life – With Mastery: ‘Odyssey’ is a Colossal, Thunderous Triumph of Cinema



Photos provided by Jackson TOYON
LEFTT: Anne Hathaway, with Mia Goth, contemplates her options in ‘The Odyssey.’
RIGHT: Matt Damon and his men desperately trying to escape the Laestrygonian giants, which appear midway through the film.

By Jackson TOYON

Three years after we were blessed with Christopher Nolan’s pivotal biographical thriller “Oppenheimer,” the visionary director has returned to deliver a monumental film – and it’s an iconic story of old. Nolan has chosen to adapt the film “The Odyssey” by Greek poet Homer, which is sometimes referred to as “the greatest tale ever told.” Such a story deserves a film of incredible scale and ambition like not many films have managed before – and Nolan did not come to mess around and has

already set the bar high for the rest of the year.

The city of Ithaca has been without its king Odysseus (Matt Damon) for 20 years. Having left to serve under his commander Agamemnon (Benny Safdie), he ventured forth to lead an army on a campaign to defeat the supposedly impregnable city of Troy. Left behind are his family, his beloved wife Penelope (Anne Hathaway) and his growing son Telemachus (Tom Holland). When Odysseus fails to come home after over a decade, suitors have assumed the worst and have begun to gather at his home every night to eat and drink,

hoping to seize on the family’s weakness and court Penelope – thereby assuming the throne for themselves. Sinister suitor Antinous (Robert Pattinson) is particularly aggressive in his efforts – among them antagonizing Telemachus, who tenaciously believes that his father is still alive. Unbeknownst to his family, Odysseus’ campaign and attempts to return home have been catastrophically more difficult than he ever imagined. The besieging of Troy on its own took up an unproductive 10 years until Odysseus came up with the now famous Trojan horse plot to sneak into the city and

destroy it from within – a plan that goes off without much issue. But in performing such a nasty trick that took advantage of the Trojans’ humanity, he broke Zeus’ law that binds society together and set in motion a years-long journey of magic and monsters that his crew must endure if they ever hope to see home again.

The challenge of a large ensemble cast is to keep a consistent level of quality among the actors and the performances of this cast are uniformly great – but it’s not lacking in standouts or pleasant surprises. Anne Hathaway is a tour de force in this film, and Robert Pattinson

is delightfully hate-able as can be. Tom Holland puts out some of the best work of his career and Elliot Page, for as little screen time as he gets, impressed me more than ever before. Odysseus’ second-in-command, played by Himesh Patel, is excellent alongside Damon. The most memorable supporting standout performance to many was the unexpected role of Samantha Morton as the witch Circe, who claims one unforgettable sequence to leave her mark. There are more performances to praise but doing so would take up too much space!

see ODYSSEY on page 18

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ReCoding the Codex: Cultural Heritage through Language

ReflectSpace presents ReCoding the Codex: Cultural Heritage through Language, an exhibition that considers the complicated relationship between language, social justice and cultural heritage. The codex is the historical name for a book; this becomes the starting point for the artists to re-create or re-code the way language is seen and read. Located inside Central Library, Glendale's ultimate repository of language and books, ReflectSpace is the ideal setting for this exhibition, which intersects art, social justice and language.

Through drawing, painting, sculpture, installation and video, the artists employ language in the form of script, handwriting, calligraphy, historical records

and archival and commercial texts to highlight social justice issues that are relevant to their unique cultural communities. Based in the U.S. and Korea, ReCoding the Codex addresses colonization, Japanese American incarceration and exploitation of agricultural workers, creating an international dialogue about harnessing the power of text and word in innovative ways.

In the PassageWay, works from Self Help Graphics & Art, an East LA art institution, extend these themes through pieces from their vast print and monograph collection.

Exhibit artists include Hyun Ho Hwang, Bryan Ida, Jin Woo Kim, Narsiso Martinez, Jung Min Park and artists from Self-Help Graphics & Art.

ReCoding the Codex, curated by Ara and Anahid Oshagan, Monica Hye Yeon Jun is part of a series of ReflectSpace exhibitions addressing cultural heritage launched in 2025 with Reimagining Algorithms: Cultural Heritage in the Age of AI.

This exhibition opens on July 25 and continues through Oct. 10. An opening reception is being held on Saturday, July 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The exhibition is sponsored by the Glendale Arts & Culture Commission through funding from the Urban Art Fund. It is held at ReflectSpace/ Glendale Central Library, 222 E. Harvard St. in Glendale.

Image provided by the artist
Bryan Ida, Kimiko Kitagaki, 36 x 28 inches, Ink on panel, 2022



Pianist James Lent to Perform for GNC



On Aug. 5, the free admission Glendale Noon Concerts will feature pianist James Lent performing a program celebrating the 250th anniversary of America with works by Joplin, Copland, Barber, Mancini and Gershwin.

Among the pieces he will perform are "Maple Leaf Rag" by Scott Joplin, "No. 3 from Four Piano Blues" by Aaron Copland, "Bumbleboogie" by Jack Fina, "Prelude No. 1" by George Gershwin, "Fugue from Piano Sonata, Op. 26" by Samuel Barber, "Variations on the Pink Panther" by Lent and Mancini and "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin.

Pianist James Lent is a lecturer and coordinator of collaborative piano at UCLA. Lent completed his DMA at the Yale School of Music under teachers Boris Berman, Claude Frank and Peter

Frankl. He made his Alabama Symphony debut to critical acclaim performing Rachmaninoff's "Concerto No. 2" on 24 hours notice to replace Andre Watts. He has also performed with the Torrance Symphony, Vancouver Symphony and the Houston Symphony, among others, and as solo recitalist at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, the Schleswig-Holstein Festival in Germany, for the National Chopin Foundation in Miami, at Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and at the Cleveland Museum of Art, where he premiered a new work written for him by American composer Frederic Rzewski.

His numerous awards include prizes in the New York Concert Artists Guild International Competition, the National Chopin Competition, the Washington International Piano Competition at

the Kennedy Center, among others. He was a fellowship recipient at the Aspen Music Festival, the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, the Sarasota Music Festival and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal. Lent also teaches at AMDA (American Musical and Dramatic Academy) as collaborative pianist, vocal coach and musical director.

Glendale Noon Concerts is celebrating its 18th year of presenting free admission concerts every first and third Wednesday for Glendale and the Southland community. Concerts are performed at 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

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

Final Weeks to Enjoy Hyper SoCal Exhibits

Hyper SoCal is a region-wide program that challenges the status-quo about where art belongs by spotlighting unexpected, under-the-radar spaces across Southern California. The program includes more than 40 spaces.

Included is "Convergence: Contemporary Artists of Armenian Descent," which will end its exhibition at the Forest Lawn Museum on Aug. 9.

From bold experiments in abstraction to thought-provoking conceptual installations, "Convergence" features the work of more than 20 artists who push the boundaries of traditional mediums and challenge conventions with their daring visions. The exhibition does not attempt to cover the entire spectrum of Armenian narratives. Rather, its cohesive element is the heritage of the featured artists.

With diverse backgrounds – ranging from those born in the United States to immigrants from various regions – these artists contribute individual perspectives to their work.

Defining Armenian identity is inherently complex. It encompasses a sense of belonging that surpasses simplistic definitions, rooted in historical connections that often evoke profound and abstract emotions.

"Convergence" is curated by artists Alina Mnatsakanian and Kaloust Guedel, in collaboration with James Fishburne, director of Forest Lawn Museum. Guedel will lead an Armenian-language tour of "Convergence" immediately after the artist talk on Sunday, Aug. 9. The tour will begin at approximately 3 p.m.

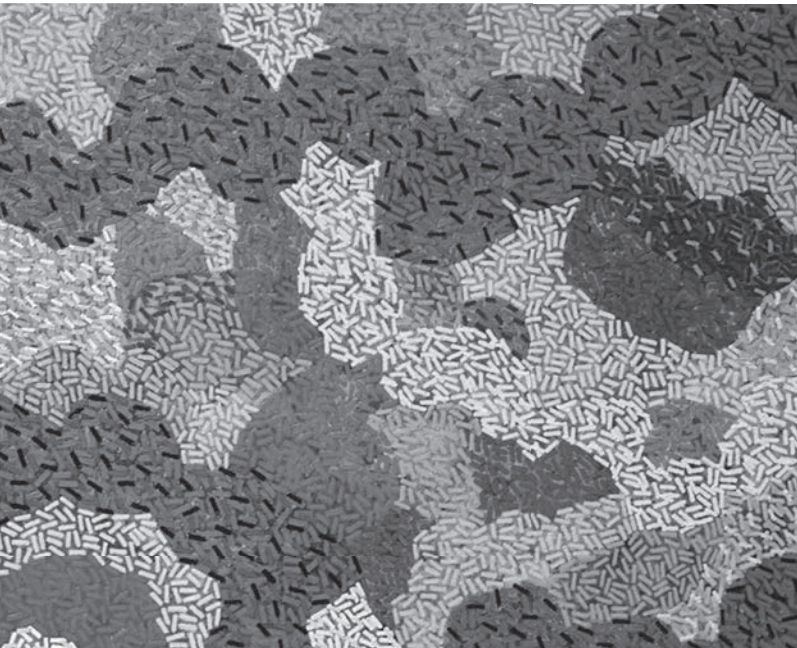
Free admission.

Forest Lawn Museum is located at 1712 S. Glendale Ave. in Glendale. For more information,

call (323) 340- 4782 or visit Museum.ForestLawn.com.

Another exhibition is at the Martial Arts History Museum at the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road in Glendale on Aug. 1. The "Dragonfest Expo" is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ticket costs range from free to \$50. Visit <https://martialartsmuseum.com/dragonfest-expo/> for more information. The expo features vendors, performances and Q&A seminars.

According to its website, Dragonfest is the Martial Arts History Museum's premier cultural odyssey – a tapestry of Asian heritage designed to illuminate the profound artistry and philosophies that have shaped generations. At its heart, the event acts as a bridge of understanding, inviting the community to move beyond the surface of martial arts and immerse itself in the living soul of



An example of the work found at Forest Lawn Museum these ancient traditions.

Attendees will enjoy the energy of Chinese Lion Dancing, a ritual of luck and lineage that for centuries has warded off negativity. The atmosphere vibrates with the thunderous, disciplined pulse of taiko drumming, representing the communal heartbeat of Japan, while the storytelling grace of Okinawan dancing offers a window into the peaceful, elegant heritage of the islands.

Every contribution to this fundraising event goes directly toward the museum's mission in Glendale. By celebrating the uniqueness of these diverse customs, the spirit of cultural discovery and the preservation of these ancient legacies continue to thrive for the next 20 years.

For more information, email martialartsmuseum@hotmail.com or visit <https://martialartsmuseum.com/dragonfest-expo/>.

A Cinematic Look Back: The Top 10 Films of 2025

By Jackson TOYON

It’s July, moviegoers – roughly the halfway point of the year! I usually write to bring this community reviews for the most recent films in theaters – and we’ve had some excellent ones this year – but today, I’d like to take a moment to reflect on the filmography of last year and share my personal list of the top 10 films of 2025. Most of these are well-known, but a few are ones you may have missed and are definitely worth a watch now that they’ve all made their way to streaming platforms. As this is a subjective list, some entries may be slightly colored by my preferences or the cinematic experience I had seeing them in a theater – but I will endeavor to write my justification for why I have chosen them as I talk about each.

10. *No Other Choice*. Man-su, a happy father and proud veteran worker at a paper making company, is living his best life when it suddenly comes crashing down. Laid off after his company is bought out and unable to find another paper making job, the prospect of selling the house he grew up in drives him to drastic measures. If he can’t be the most qualified applicant to his desired employer on his own, he’ll just have to prune a few “branches” until he is. A Korean film by director Park Chan-wook, “No Other Choice” is a biting, darkly comedic satire about late-stage

capitalism, the absurdity of the corporate rat race and the crisis of modern identity. The humor, symbolism and stylish editing make this well-constructed film one of my favorites from last year.

9. *Bugonia*. Conspiracy theorist Teddy Gatz and his cousin Don are convinced that an alien race is secretly hiding on our planet and subjugating humanity, and they have a plan to stop it – it merely involves kidnapping Michelle Fuller, the high-powered CEO of pharmaceutical corporation Auxolith. Believing her to be a member of their species, their gambit is to hold her for ransom and coerce the aliens to abandon Earth. Another black comedy satire, this thriller is the latest film by Yorgos Lanthimos and a subject of one of my reviews last year. For its strangeness, off-kilter score and impressive acting performances, “Bugonia” claims a well-earned spot on this list.

8. *Frankenstein*. This adaptation of Mary Shelley’s classic monster story is an absolute love letter to both director Guillermo del Toro’s love of the source material and the art of technical handmade craft in filmmaking. Incredible creature makeup, delightful practical effects, amazing costumes and stunning sets prove that even in the rapidly accelerating age of AI, the best stories and the best art always come from the passionate minds

and hands of dedicated humans.

7. *Avatar: Fire and Ash*. This is the third entry in James Cameron’s epic “Avatar” franchise but despite having a similar plot to the last one, this film is an absolute spectacle to behold. At 3 hours and 17 minutes long, you might expect it to drag, but walking out of the theater had me and many others feeling as though we had just exited a 2-hour movie – it doesn’t waste a minute of its time. While its story is nothing particularly special, it is a cinematic experience that deserves to be witnessed on a big screen with a good sound system – the kind of film that reminds us why we go to the movies.

6. *Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery*. The latest installment in Rian Johnson’s whodunnit trilogy serves as a return to form after the highly entertaining (if slightly underwhelming) sequel “Glass Onion.” Returning to a more gothic setting, “Wake Up Dead Man” boasts a stellar use of an ensemble cast, wickedly funny humor, a marked improvement in cinematography and perhaps the most narratively interesting mystery out of the three films. Rian Johnson could make 10 of these movies, and I think I’d still find myself asking for more.

5. *Marty Supreme*. This stressful film centers around table tennis player Marty Mauser, telling a loose, dramatized account of the life

real table tennis star Marty Reisman. If you loved the unrelenting pressure of director Josh Safdie’s other recent work, “Uncut Gems,” then you’ll find a familiar story to enjoy here as we watch Marty continuously make the worst choices for himself. Every actor is firing on all cylinders in this film and for its intensity, I rank this one in the top five.

4. *Rental Family*. Struggling American actor Phillip Vanderploeg desperately searches for better work as he lives his life in Japan until he finds a peculiar job that brings more meaning to his life than he ever imagined. If you’ve been following Brendan Fraser’s resurgence onto the acting scene in recent years (like I have) you’ll be happy to know that he’s been doing some great work – and this tender tearjerker of a film is one that I was disappointed to see getting no acknowledgement at the Academy Awards.

3. *Hamnet*. “Hamnet” explores the story of how Shakespeare’s legendary tragedy came to be, primarily from the perspective of William’s wife Agnes. When heart-wrenching catastrophe strikes the young family, husband and wife deal with the fallout in different ways. It contains not only superb performances from both of its leads but also just about the most impressive acting performance I’ve witnessed from a child actor – period. As

one of the most emotional films I’ve seen in years, you’ll want to bring the tissues for this one.

2. *Sinners*. Sitting in very close contention for the number one spot, we have Ryan Coogler’s “Sinners.” In 1930s Mississippi, twin brothers Smoke and Stack are hosting a get-together at a blues juke joint when a pack of bloodthirsty vampires arrive to crash the party. What appears to be a vampire-slaying action movie on the surface actually runs far deeper thematically than one would expect and boasts an absolutely killer soundtrack with brilliant choreography, earning its place sitting proudly near the top of my list.

1. *One Battle After Another*. Washed-up ex-revolutionary Bob Ferguson and his daughter Willa are living in relative peace off the grid until an old enemy, a corrupt military official, resurfaces after 16 years. It’s difficult to ask for a film that has it all, but Paul Thomas Anderson’s latest film manages it – with stakes, action, humor, a great soundtrack, excellent cinematography and positively unforgettable performances. It is of little surprise to most that this won Best Picture earlier this year, and it remains my favorite film of 2025.

2025 was a great year for film and so far, 2026 is shaping up to be another one to get excited about!

THEN & NOW



Then: Earl “Madman” Muntz pioneered the “insane salesman” persona from his first used car lot in Glendale in the early 1940s. It was wildly successful and Muntz moved on to his next venture, building his own cars. Car designer Fred Kurtis was building a sports car in this shop in Glendale. Muntz bought the design, made some changes and began manufacturing the Muntz Jet in 1949.



Now: The Muntz Jet was a financial failure for Madman Muntz. He built the cars so luxurious and high-powered that he lost money on every one he sold. But it was an incredible car. Only about 200 were were built and quite a few high-value examples are still around in the hands of collectors. And look: the building where the car was first built still exists at 4619 Alger St. in Atwater Village in lower Glendale.

Muntz Car Company

Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV

JUST FOR FUN

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES Provided by horoscope.com July 27, 2026 - August 2, 2026

ARIES *March 21 - April 19*
Join a group or club for ongoing support with your healthy endeavors. The more the merrier, especially this week when your social life is highlighted. Find new ways to bring friends and family together and keep fit at the same time. The more you share your journey to total wellness and involve others, the more successful you'll be.

TAURUS *April 20 - May 20*
Your overall health is often affected by your mood. You may find that you feel like trying a different form of exercise or a different way of eating every few days. It also follows that you may enjoy a variety of healing treatments. Variety is the spice of life, and it helps you feel better about yourself, so don't forget that and get stuck in the easy, familiar routine - mix it up for the best results.

GEMINI *May 21 - June 20*
When you feel and look great, you literally glow like the Sun. Your health is your greatest asset and one in which you place a lot of

pride. When you aren't up to the mark, it shows as you lose your luster. This week is the time to do a detox, which will certainly help revive your bright and shining aura and make you more attractive all round.

CANCER *June 21 - July 22*
You can draw on deep reserves of strength this week to help you feel better inside and out. You may feel you're fighting an ongoing battle as far as your health is concerned, but the good news is that once you take responsibility and start doing the right things, you'll notice a very positive difference immediately. In fact, you may not believe how good you feel.

LEO *July 23 - August 22*
A health issue may come to a head and cause you to seek professional help. This may be for a physical condition or it could be because you've had enough of feeling out of shape and now desire with all your heart to get fit. This is the last time for a while that you will have the time and motivation for this, so

allow the power of the days ahead to transform your state of well-being inside and out.

VIRGO *August 23 - Sept. 22*
You seem to be examining your state of health in great detail and looking at various options that will give you what you want. If you aren't sure which direction to take, then think about getting expert advice from someone who can show you the way. If you want a training program or help with any aspect of your wellness strategy, this is the time to ask.

LIBRA *Sept. 23 - Oct. 22*
You may become aware of just how important it is to keep your body free of toxins and eat the kinds of foods that promote good health this week, and begin a new initiative. You may have been battling with health problems due to issues that aren't always so obvious, such as intolerance to certain foods. The coming days may bring something of an epiphany.

SCORPIO *Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*
There's no doubt that our homes

can have an effect on our health. Over the coming days you may get an offer to make changes that will not only make you far more comfortable but also contribute to your overall wellness. If you have any plans to create a home gym or perhaps a sauna, you'll have great success in finding exactly what you need.

SAGITTARIUS *Nov. 22 - Dec. 21*
Don't just think about making changes to your daily routine to insure greater health; instead, get on with it. You may have a tendency to dream and hope that things will automatically turn out as you wish and that your health problems will magically go away even if you aren't making that much effort. Over the coming days something or someone will act as a catalyst, paving the way for dynamic change.

CAPRICORN *Dec. 22 - Jan. 19*
Being healthy is very much about listening to the intuitive messages that you pick up from day to day. Often when you're in the midst of doing something that's bad for you,

you may sense a still, quiet voice whispering in your ear. It's letting you know there's another way to live, one that supports your well-being rather than working against it. Tune in to your inner guidance and take action.

AQUARIUS *Jan. 20 - Feb. 18*
Don't think that you have to stay in a rut as far as your exercise routine and diet are concerned. It's important that you create a day-to-day strategy that's fun and works for you. If you find it's becoming less so, look around for a way to make your lifestyle more dynamic. Instead of jogging or working out at the gym, try something different. It works!

PISCES *Feb. 19 - March 20*
You can make the changes to your health and well-being that you deserve. You'll find that it's easier to do so by writing out a list of goals that you can refer to every day. Have them in front of you in a format you can review regularly. You need to have a way to impress your mind with the changes you want to make. Then it will be so much easier.

CALENDARthis

KIWANIS CLUBS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On July 31, Candice McFadyen of Home Again LA 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.

The Kiwanis Club of La Cañada La Crescenta - AM welcomes guests and prospective members to its weekly free meetings on Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8:30 a.m. at Lutheran Church of the Foothills, (in its Fellowship Hall), 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada. Chat time starts at 7:15 a.m. Coffee and pastries available as is fellowship with friendly Kiwanians! Enjoy guest speakers on a variety of topics, and help with community service projects. LCFKiwanisAM.org

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:

•*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 opened on July 29. 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.

•*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.

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

A WINE AND CHEESE PAIRING + SENSORY ADVENTURE

The community is invited for an in person fun and tasty journey where wine meets cheese! Discover perfect pairings and explore senses with every bite and sip. It's going to be a delicious adventure not to be missed!

It's on Saturday, Aug. 1 from 1 p.m to 3 p.m. at the Women's Club of Eagle Rock, 5105 Hermosa Ave. in Los Angeles.

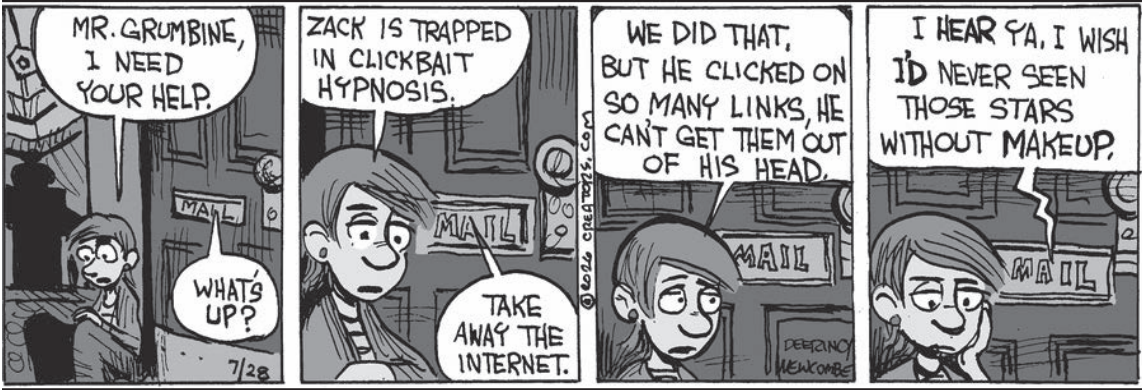
Ticket holders will spend two (delicious) hours with Anne-Marie from Trust Your Taste, a bicoastal American Cheese Society certified cheese pro.

No rules. No snobbery. Just you, your curiosity and a sharper palate by the time you leave.

Space is limited – grab a spot before it's gone. To purchase tickets, visit <https://tinyurl.com/j9fcwj7d>.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE

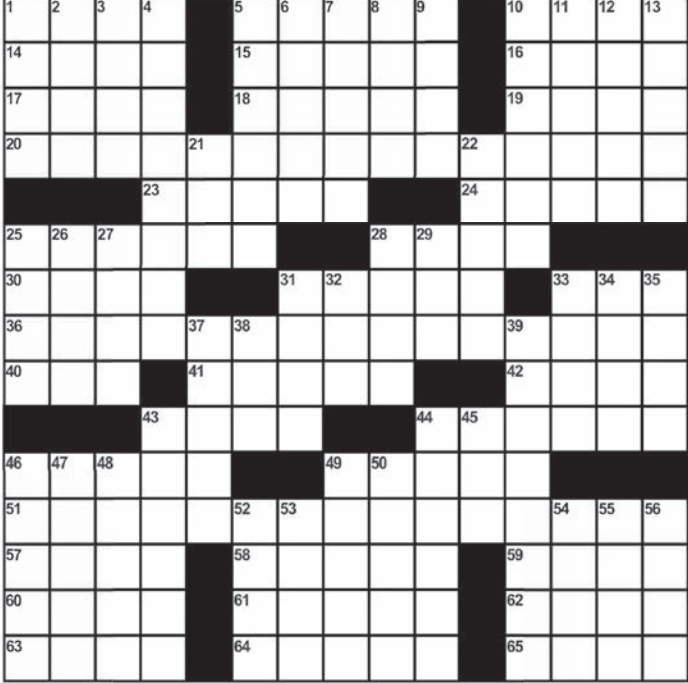


ACROSS

- 1) One of the common people
5) Horse habitat
10) Goalie's wear
14) Freight car hopper of old
15) "Sesame Street" resident
16) Cain's victim
17) Clickable item
18) Church tenet
19) Emulate a drunkard
20) Times 3?
23) Short choral composition
24) The nine of some batteries
25) Back out on a promise
28) King of the jungle
30) Brilliant thought
31) Emotionless, as a stare
33) Mr. Potato Head part
36) Times 3?
- 40) Ambulance letters
41) Tadpoles, in time
42) Lofgren who rocks with Springsteen
43) Friendly ground-up bait?
44) Shape learned in preschool
46) Video game giant, once
49) Where babies grow
51) Times 3?
57) Remove, as a knot
58) Rugged box
59) One named in a will
60) Angler's equipment
61) Extreme hardship
62) Cogito-sum link
63) "___ quam videri" (North Carolina motto)
64) Board for a manicurist
65) "General Hospital" e.g.

ALL TIME BEST

By Timothy E. Parker



DOWN

- 1) Punxsutawney ___
2) Mathematical sets of points
3) Black, in poesy
4) Source of some fertilizer
5) Put under
6) Figurative expression
7) Gut-wrenching feeling
8) Certain citrus fruit
9) "Able to ___ tall buildings ..."
10) Paying customer
11) Bubbling on the stove
12) Bus station
13) Cold-weather coasters
21) "Put another ___ on the fire"
22) Conjure up, as a memory
25) Customary observance or practice
26) Dutch cheese
27) Beaks
28) Scottish miss
29) Pen filler
31) "___ me up, Scotty"
32) "Acid" used in some trips
33) Film with many extras
34) What cheerleaders do
35) Emerald Isle language
37) Body of values
38) Costello of old comedy
39) Betters or improves
43) Louisiana cuisine
44) Crunchy vegetable
45) Anger
46) Cloudless sky color
47) Firms up, as muscles
48) Chilean range
49) Electric bill listing
50) One-on-one teacher
52) 4,840 square yards
53) Straitlaced
54) "Bics" or "dynamics" prefix
55) Baltic port
56) Let slip from one's hands

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

My Furnished Finder Subscription Auto-Renewed. Why Can’t I Get A Refund?

When Debbie McNulty discovers a surprise \$179 charge on her credit card from Furnished Finder, she immediately asks for a refund. Why is the company trying to keep her money?

Question: I’ve listed my vacation home on Furnished Finder, an online platform for monthly furnished rentals, for the past three years. I never received a booking from Furnished Finder during that time but I was fine paying the annual fee. Now that I’m renting short-term again, I no longer need to list on Furnished Finder.

My membership was set to auto-renew. Furnished Finder sent one reminder email last month but I totally missed it. We all get so much email these days and I was just back from a two-week trip, so I overlooked it. My bad.

When I woke up to a \$179 charge from Furnished Finder last week, I immediately contacted Furnished Finder to cancel and requested a refund.

A representative sent me a standard response that their policy is not to give refunds.

It’s in the contract – I get it. I should have notified them before the renewal date. Still, the fact that I contacted them on the very same day that they processed the renewal makes it seem petty to keep my money. I asked to escalate the request on the basis that granting me a refund was the right thing to do. Do you think it is worth asking again?

–Debbie McNulty, Los Gatos, California

Answer: Yes, it’s definitely worth asking. Furnished Finder should have refunded you \$179.

While the company is technically correct – you agreed to the terms and conditions,

which state that all fees are nonrefundable – hiding behind the fine print in this situation is bad customer service.

You canceled on the same day the charge went through. You had a valid reason for leaving the platform as your property is no longer suited for the long-term tenants Furnished Finder serves. Keeping your money for a full year of service you clearly stated you wouldn’t use seems unreasonable.

Companies love automatic renewals because they’re convenient. A business doesn’t have to pursue every customer, asking them to renew every year. Instead they simply send a courtesy reminder, and you can cancel before the auto-renewal date.

But in your case, that single email got buried in your inbox. By the time you saw the charge, the company claimed it was too late.

I have a little personal experience with running a business that handles automatic subscription renewals. What you might not know is that about 80% of credit card disputes for an unwanted auto-renewal goes the customer’s way. So if you’d filed a credit card dispute, you’d probably have your money by now.

The takeaway here is to treat every subscription like a ticking clock. Don’t rely on the company to remind you that your bill is due. Set your own calendar alerts for a few days before a cancellation deadline. And if you aren’t 100% sure you’ll want to renew, it’s often safer to turn off the auto-renew option the moment you sign up.

You did exactly what I

always recommend: You kept a thorough paper trail. You saved your chat transcripts with the virtual assistant and the live agents, as well as your email correspondence. This evidence showed that you acted in good faith and tried to resolve the issue immediately.

I contacted the company’s CEO Jeff Hurst on your behalf. He reviewed your case and replied, “We’ll get this refunded.”

You’ve received the full \$179 back.

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 from previous page

MUSICAL KIDS, HAPPY PARENTS (AND TEACHERS)!

The Suzuki Music Parent Information Night will be hosted over Zoom by the Suzuki Music Program of Los Angeles (SMPLA) on Monday, Aug. 24 from 8 – 9:15 p.m. Pacific. All adults are invited to attend. To register, go to bit.ly/Suzuki-Parent-Info

This event is free to all adults, registration is needed in order to receive the Zoom link information.

The new “Suzuki Ensembles” program and the Suzuki Music Education philosophy and method, child development issues and the SMPLA organization will be discussed in detail. Those who have trouble registering can contact www.suzukimusicofla.org/contact.html.

For more information, visit www.suzukimusicofla.org.

CV PARK ACTIVITIES

CV Park has the following activities planned for the remainder of the year:

Friday, Sept. 18 from 5 - 7 p.m. the park presents Hispanic Heritage; on Friday, Oct. 30 from 4 - 7 p.m., it’s Trick or Treat Village; on Friday, Nov. 20 from 4 - 7 p.m. it’s the Harvest Festival; on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Holiday in the Park is being held.

CV Park is located at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta.

SPARR HEIGHTS DISASTER POD BINGO 2

C.E.R.T. – Community Emergency Response Team – is having a bingo on Saturday, Oct. 17 at Healy Hall at Holy Redeemer, 2411 Montrose Ave. in Montrose. The cost is \$30 per person, which includes 10 games with featured payouts of up to \$250! Doors open at 5 p.m., the first game is at 6 p.m.

A full snack bar will feature food for purchase.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

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

Little Landers Historical Society is seeking volunteers

to help support its mission, “To preserve and maintain Bolton Hall Museum and the historical record of Rancho Tujunga.”

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

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

MONTROSE LIBRARY EVENTS

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

Participants are asked to

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

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

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

CELEBRATE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTING

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

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

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

ACTIVITIES AT SUNLAND SENIOR CENTER

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

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

ANSWERS for page 15

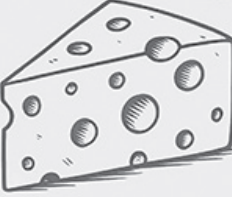
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WOMEN'S TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB OF EAGLE ROCK

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HALA from Cover

Two Kiwanis members wore with pride their trademark Kiwanis Hawaiian shirts while another member wore a shirt that said “#KidsNeedKiwanis.”

Susie Dell with the Glendale Kiwanis Club has volunteered every year the Glendale Kiwanis has hosted the shopping spree. Before working with Kiwanis, she volunteered with the Salvation Army to ensure young people in her community were able to buy the proper school supplies. Dell noted the significance of the back-to-school season in providing a successful foundation for students.

“Going back to school for me when I was a kid was always such a big event, especially at their age,” she said. Dell explained how the shopping spree event is meant to encourage “the thrill of going back to school” as well as making sure that come August, young folks in the Home Again LA program are “starting off on an even foot with everybody else.”

Home Again LA Leadership Team. Left to right: Maye Stacy, Lisa Partida, Chaquitta Boyce, Rocio Martinez. Photo Credit: Clare Buchanan

Families lining outside Target, ready for the shopping spree

ODYSSEY from page 13

As one might expect, the visuals and cinematography in this film are just about second to none. Nolan has created a breathtaking marriage of visual effects and practical effects in this film – the moviemaking magic is almost overwhelming – in the best way – and can be seen and felt in every major scene. Ludwig Göransson’s epic and historically informed composition keeps the audience on its toes the entire time helping to make a film that is nearly three hours long feel more like two. The film is heart-pounding and nearly unrelenting, but somehow always knows when to slow down to explore themes of memory and the deep civilizational costs of war that keeps the audience thinking about the film long after leaving the theater.

The ambition of “The Odyssey” is staggering – sometimes one must think about how lucky we are to live in the same era as a director who is a master of his craft. If one has the wherewithal, “The Odyssey” is the kind of work that deserves to be seen in an enhanced format – on the largest screen and with the best sound system one can find. To view it as Christopher Nolan intended is a large part of experiencing a film like this; streaming it on a smartphone or tablet just fails to fully do it justice.

While it is not a film to take the kids to, one would do a disservice to oneself to miss this while it’s in theaters.

Rated R.

WEATHER from page 2

California, Arizona and Nevada have offered to cut their use by about 1.6 million acre-feet, or roughly 500 billion gallons, a year for the next two years. However, federal officials who control the water flow are considering cuts nearly twice that amount. The major cuts would likely mean higher costs for cities trying to secure water, tighter restrictions on outdoor water and significant changes for farmers who use the majority of the river’s supply,” according to a report from CBS News.

What all of this means is something, again, that sci-fi has been telling us for generations: Earth’s resources are limited. Our planet is warming, our climate ... our weather ... is changing. We do get some Band-aids every once in a while, like the predicted large El Niño on its way this fall. It may bring more rain, or even snow, but then again – it may not.

“NOAA’s National Weather Service announced [on June 11] that El Niño has developed in the tropical Pacific and issued an El Niño Advisory. El

Niño, the warm phase of the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), is predicted to intensify to a moderate or strong level this fall. Forecasters predict a 63% chance of sea surface temperatures exceeding 2.0 degrees Celsius (35.6 degrees Fahrenheit) in the Niño-monitored region of the Pacific. If this threshold is surpassed, NOAA considers the event a ‘very strong’ El Niño,” according to NOAA.

Typically, El Niño conditions bring rains to the southern tier of the U.S., like California, and drier conditions over the Northern Rockies and the Ohio and Tennessee valleys, according to NOAA.

While climate change, including the warming of the oceans, does not make El Niño occur more often it “acts like fuel on a fire, amplifying El Niño’s extreme weather impacts like severe droughts, heatwaves and heavy rainfalls,” according to the World Meteorological Organization.

So the bottomline is that as we continue to warm our planet at a rapid rate we will continue to have extreme weather – and we all need to be prepared because we have ignored the signs Mother Nature have given us – and she seems to be ignoring our pleas as well.

The National Weather Service has issued an extreme heat warning from July 31 at 10 a.m. to Aug. 2 at 8 p.m.

It is going to be hot with temperatures approaching 100 degrees, though more likely locally in the high 90s on Friday through Sunday. The temps will dip just a little to 94-97 degrees on Sunday and Monday. The nights will cool to the low 70s to upper 60s.

A lot of us like to take refuge at the beach; however, it is important to check beach reports because the beaches, especially the south-facing beaches, are still seeing higher swells due to Hurricane Genevieve.

Zuma Beach has seen a high number of rescues – just under 2,000 ocean rescues between July 27 and July 28.

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NOTES N NODS from page 4

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.

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LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2026147471 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FRESH AIRE DUCT CLEANING**, 3436 N. VERDUGO RD, SUITE 230, GLENDALE, CA 91208 LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 2621002 Registered Owner(s): **FRESH AIRE SYSTEMS**, 3436 N. VERDUGO RD, SUITE 230, GLENDALE, CA 91208-1545 This business is being conducted by: an CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: **03/2015**. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed **FRESH AIRE SYSTEMS, DIANE LERICHE** Title: **SECRETARY** NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published Crescenta Valley Weekly, July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 2026.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

Unit Lien sale unit with miscellaneous car parts stored by Luis Ledesma, lien sale of Viking camper license# R713919, vin: 1TV1C2457H5450817 stored by Joe Delgado, unit with miscellaneous boxes unknown contents stored by Pete Chege Date of Sale 08/17/2026 at 7:30AM SpaceSpots 427 West Avenue G, Lancaster ca 93534. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly July 23, 30, 2026.

EMPLOYMENT

WANTED

WordPress Web Designer
Restored by His Grace is a non-profit ministry in need of a web designer that is trained in the WordPress Platform to help maintain our website. If you're looking for an extra stream of part-time income, please call (951) 751-3167.

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CV WEEKLY IS ONLINE!

www.cvweekly.com

Email info@cvweekly.com to receive an e-mail with the latest community news.

FOR SALE

SELLING MCDONALD'S COLLECTIBLES

All vintage items: signage, toys, glassware, plates, plushies, etc. Call (818) 381-2000.

RARE FOREST LAWN PLOTS AVAILABLE

Selling 2 cemetery plots at Forest Lawn Glendale in the beautiful Triumphant Faith Terraces. These gardens are secluded, pristine and close to Walt Disney himself! These are being sold privately and will only come around once in a lifetime. Call or text for more detailed information and photos of the area. (818) 381-2000.

FOR SALE

2007 Chrysler PT Cruiser. 4 door, low mileage, great condition. Champagne color inside and out. \$4000 obo. Cal (818) 395-1379.

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A Pelanconi neighborhood community outreach pop-up is scheduled for 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. today, Thursday, July 30 at the intersection of Pelanconi and Kellogg avenues to hear from residents about final plans headed to the council on Aug. 25, which include proposed neighborhood safety improvements. City staff will be on-site throughout the day to answer questions. Changes to the plans have been made based on input from the community.

View more information at <https://www.glendaleca.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/56114/9100?npage=7&sortn=EDate>.

Glendale will be participating in this year's National Night Out – details and block party sites can found at <https://www.glendaleca.gov/government/departments/police-department/community-outreach/annual-events> – on Tuesday, Aug. 4 from 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. National Night Out is part of a nationwide celebration that brings neighbors, first responders and city leaders together in an effort to strengthen community partnerships and promote safer neighborhoods.

Councilmember Elen Asatryan announced that the grand opening of the Mayors Bicentennial Park Playground happened yesterday at 1987 Loma Vista Dr., celebrating the arrival in Glendale of a one-of-a-kind owl play structure, along with a variety of play features designed for kids of all abilities.

At the beginning of Tuesday night's meeting, the council issued a proclamation honoring Korean Comfort Women Day.

“Today, as we have done many times in the past, the City of Glendale recognizes Korean Comfort Women Day and honors the women and girls who endured profound suffering during one of history's darkest chapters. We remember their courage in sharing their stories, acknowledging the importance of preserving historical truth and reaffirm our commitment to the dignity and human rights of all people in all nations across this globe.

“May remembrance inspire understanding, compassion and reconciliation among all people and strengthen our shared resolve that such abuse never occur again,” Mayor Kassakhian read from the proclamation presented to survivors and supporters.

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