

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Council Unable to Secure Votes for Measures to be Placed on Ballot

By Julie BUTCHER

The Glendale City Council held two special sessions in the past week to meet an Aug. 5 deadline to place measures on the Nov. 3 ballot but was ultimately unable to secure the votes necessary for any measure, sales tax or otherwise, to appear.

The council appointed a Charter Review Committee in February 2024 to consider changes to the city's charter, which have been discussed for years before the formal seating of the committee. The 12-member committee met and made numerous recommendations to the council, most recently proposals for minor updates and changes to civil service processes including exempting department heads from protections and changing their employment status to "at-will," updates to some minor financial processes and potential term limits for the elected city treasurer and city clerk.

Previously, the city council considered and dismissed proposals to directly elect the city's mayor and suggestions to move from at-large to district elections – some of the issues that led to the formation of the Charter Review Committee.

In California cities are either general law cities or charter cities, as is Glendale. The charter is the city's constitution; its rules and regulations and changes to the charter require a vote of the people. Of California's 478 cities, 108 of them are charter cities.

Last week, Mayor Ardy Kasakhian balked at the cost of adding charter changes to the November ballot given the estimated cost of more than \$750,000 and suggested the addition of a quarter-cent sales tax go to the voters to support essential city services and public safety.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

School Begins in a Couple of Weeks; Drivers Need to be Traffic Prepared

By Mary O'KEEFE

Though it seems as if summer has just begun, students return to local schools in mid-August and drivers need to be safety conscious.

The 2026-27 school year begins on Aug. 19 for local public schools and, as always, heavier traffic will be seen in areas – not only around schools but just about everywhere.

Each year, CVW reminds drivers that when school starts traffic, historically, becomes heavy with congested areas especially around schools. Parking around Crescenta Valley High School, as well as other schools in the Glendale and Burbank Unified School districts, increases and may be difficult to find and pedestrian traffic also increases. It is a time that seems to catch a lot of drivers by surprise even though the same issues occur year after year.

"Several new traffic-safety laws took effect this year. One change drivers may notice near schools is that local jurisdictions now have additional authority to reduce posted school-zone speed limits from 25 to 20 miles per hour when the appropriate ordinance and signage are in place. Drivers should always pay close attention to the posted speed limit because it may vary by location," said California Highway Patrol Officer Alec Pereyda.

Pereyda has taken on the role of community officer since Officer Bay transferred.

"Another important change expands California's 'Move Over, Slow Down' requirements. Drivers approaching certain stopped vehicles displaying hazard lights or warning devices should move over when it is safe to do so or slow to a safe speed if changing lanes is not possible. The overall message is simple: stay alert, watch for changing roadway conditions and follow posted signs," he said.

"California's school-zone and expanded move-over provisions took effect in 2026, although the school-zone reduction depends on local action and proper signage."

Pereyda said that what he has noticed the most when school begins is that drivers becoming impatient during busy drop-off and pickup periods.

"That can lead to unsafe behavior such as stopping in traffic, double-parking, making illegal U-turns, blocking crosswalks or driveways, and dropping children



File photo
Traffic patrols will be increased when students return to school. Seen here Officer Bay talks to an alleged speeding driver.

off outside designated areas.

"We understand mornings can be hectic, but [gaining] a few extra minutes is never worth putting a child at risk. Parents should follow the school's designated traffic pattern, use approved loading zones, remain attentive and avoid

distractions behind the wheel," he added.

Some drivers who do not have students at school can be caught off guard when school begins. It is not just traffic directly around school that is affected but streets,

see TRAFFIC on page 19

West Nile Virus Found in Mosquitoes Tested in Montrose

Photo courtesy of the CDC
The common house mosquito can carry the West Nile virus. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there are no licensed vaccines or medicines available to prevent or treat West Nile virus disease in people.



By Mary O'KEEFE

The first case of West Nile virus infection was found in Los Angeles County early in July. This is the first case in the County for the 2026 season.

"The person is currently hospitalized after developing WNV encephalitis after symptom onset in late June. The individual lives in the Antelope Valley," according to the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health (DPH).

Recently, the Greater LA County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) confirmed the discovery in Montrose of a mosquito sample that tested

positive for West Nile virus.

This WNV-positive sample was detected in mosquito traps in the local community on July 21. District staff will place notices in public spaces within a half-mile radius around trap locations to advise residents to take precautions when mosquitoes are present, according to a statement from GLACVCD.

On the San Gabriel Vector (SGV) website there is a list of places that have been tested; Montrose is now on that list as are Burbank and Sunland, each with a listing of one positive, and Northridge, with a listing of four.

see MOSQUITOES on page 7



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Relief is in Sight

I've had a couple of busy days! On Friday, Steve and I headed to the Hollywood Bowl with some of the CV Chamber of Commerce board members to chat with Supervisor Kathryn Barger, listen to the music of Tchaikovsky and see some brilliant fireworks. Supervisor Barger had a pre-concert reception that gave us the chance to enjoy a little nosh (nibbles) and some beverages while meeting community members from the district that she oversees. It was a fun night!



On Saturday, Steve headed off to patrol with Montrose Search & Rescue so I had a friend (Terri) come over – laden with food! We enjoyed a variety of salads, chocolate covered nuts, a baguette and more. Thankfully the dogs (which can be daunting) didn't faze her. She gave them lots of love – which they couldn't get enough of!

One of the dogs – Molly – loves to go into our pool, albeit just on the top step. First she'll step in, then sit all the way down. She'll do this regardless of the temperature. Whether it's hot or cold outside, into the pool she'll go! Well, if you remember it was hot on Saturday. So, following Molly's cue, Terri and I decided to go swimming!

I'll be honest – I haven't been in the pool for over a year. When the kids were younger the pool was used a lot by them. But they've moved out and now the pool sits dormant. On Saturday though I remembered why we got a pool.

Unfortunately the pool is in shade much of the day, keeping the water temperature too cold for me. On Saturday, I warmed it just a little and swimming was heavenly. It wasn't too warm at all and certainly not too cold. I stayed in the pool for quite some time, enjoying the memories of why we had ever gotten a pool.

Fun fact: when Steve came home, he too went swimming and had a fantastic time! Amazing what a little warm up can do.

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

I think everyone elected into office should watch "The Terminator" and "The Ultimate Computer" (from the original "Star Trek" series) ... there are a few others but we should start with those.

Our government leaders should really understand what science fiction has been subtly screaming about the human race for generations: We wait too late to act.

Since the mission of the terminator was to destroy any threat to the AI/cyber existence we have been warned of what happens when technology moves faster than we realize. Now, there are some exceptions that demonstrate that we can co-exist with AI – like in "The Jetsons" when George is perfectly happy to spend the day pushing a button even if he isn't sure what it does. And for the most part many science fiction stories celebrate the benefits of AI; however, we're also warned of the detriments of AI ... although that term may not have been used.

"The Ultimate Computer," written by D.C. [Dorothy] Fontana and Laurence N. Wolfe, is so close to what we are seeing now. The crew of the USS Enterprise is called to a space station where they are to be involved in tests for a revolutionary tactical computer – M-5 – designed by Dr. Richard Daystrom, who is considered brilliant in his field.

There is an arrogance to Daystrom that is eerily similar to the tech creators who testified this week in front of Congress. The fact that Capt. James T. Kirk would even question the advantage and integrity of this program is beyond belief to Daystrom and to others who

support the program.

In the story, the M-5 has been attached to the Enterprise and will guide it through a simulated attack by another starship. Many of Kirk's crew were taken off the ship as they would no longer be needed. During a simulated attack, the Enterprise responds brilliantly and at first the test appears to be a success. In fact, the captain of the other ship in the test calls Capt. Kirk, "Dunsel," which means an extra piece of equipment on a boat that has no real function: does any of this sound familiar?

A lot of us are on the road to being a dunsel regarding AI. One recent example was the firing of the entire staff of K-CAL-FM 96.7 radio station, which is based out of Redlands. On July 31, K-CAL Rocks posted on its Facebook page that it was "turning the page." It will now be all classic rock, without any DJs or news announcers; the music will be moved to a "human-less automated playlist." AI disc jockeys will not be used, according to a social media post by former program director and host John DeSantis.

Daystrom said he created M-5 so humans would not have to die in space as they explore. The M-5 can explore the "final frontier" and handle conflict from other species while it frees up humans to do other things ... though what are those other things is not exactly explained.

But like we saw with the recent Anthropic test, in which during a test of its AI cyber-capabilities (its version of M-5), these programs have minds of their own. During this specific Anthropic test, the AI program hacked into three unsuspecting companies. see WEATHER on page 7

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Don't Miss Next Week's Q&A – Phyllis discusses "What Is A Material Fact"

NEWS

IN BRIEF

VETERANS HOST MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Local veterans host a monthly breakfast at the Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall on the second Saturday of each month. The breakfast is free to all local veterans and supporters, but donations are always graciously accepted. This month's breakfast is on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The Hall is located at 4011 La Crescenta Ave.

ROSEMONT PRESERVE EVENTS

The community is invited to the Rosemont Preserve Restoration Day on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. to help protect the natural habitat at Rosemont Preserve. Volunteers will be removing invasive, non-native plants and will help maintain the bioswale and native habitat.

Then on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., an open gate event takes place. This is a chance for residents to visit the Preserve and wander the trail at their own pace and enjoy the tranquil setting, the wildlife and the natural beauty. Photographers: bring your camera to capture the morning light and citizen scientists, bring your iNaturalist and Merlin apps to identify birds and add wildlife sightings! Maps will be provided so guests can take a self-guided tour.

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

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

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

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 Aug. 22. Please review the schedule as these changes may affect current applications and any outstanding invoices.

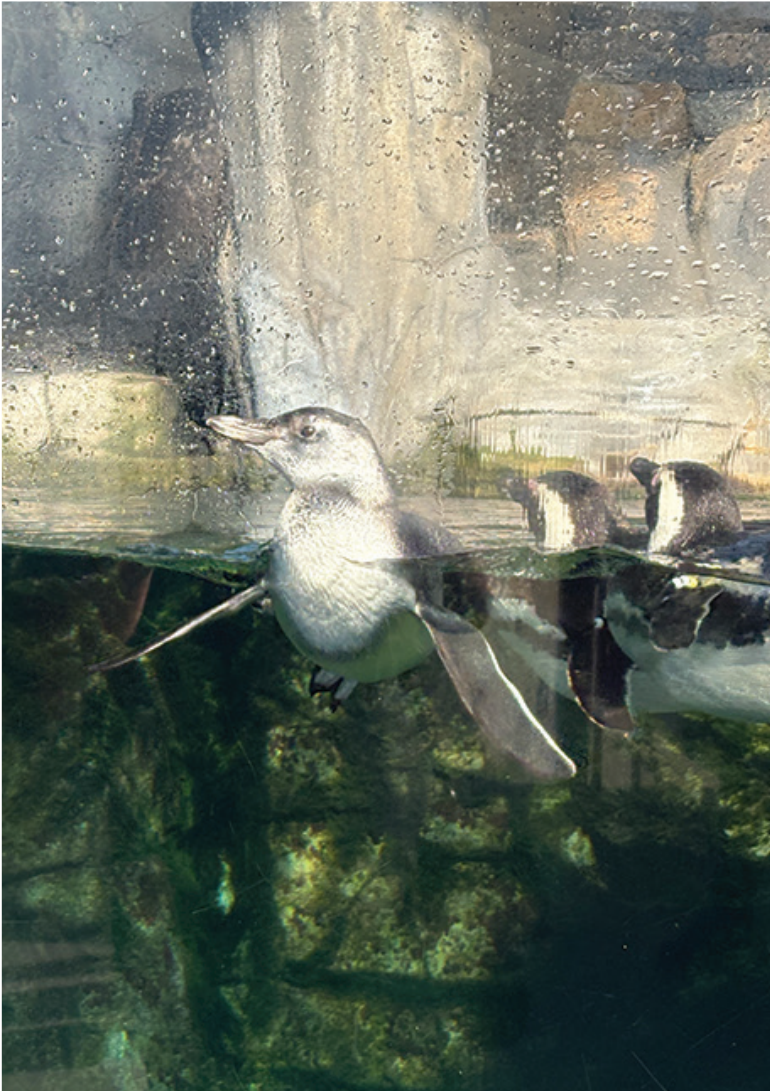
Those who have any questions can contact the Glendale Permit Services Center at (818) 548-3200.

SOCAL GAS HOLDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING

A public participation hearing is being held today, 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#. You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

Calling All Animal Lovers – Especially Lovers Of Baby Penguins



Photos by Jessy SHELTON
ABOVE: Baby Ari was recently presented at Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific. RIGHT: Ashley Loper, an aviculturist who monitors and cares for the penguin colony, feeds the penguins.



By Jessy SHELTON

Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific debuted one of its newest members of the flock. Baby Ari was presented to the world on July 30. His parents are a pair of penguins from Brazil that were rescued in 2010. After four years of being paired for breeding, they successfully hatched and raised their first chick. Ari is a 3 month old Magellanic penguin who is making waves in his new home.

"His parents represent this really cool genetic diversity that was not successful – until Ari," said Megan Smylie, the Aquarium's assistant curator and Sea Otter Program manager.

The Aquarium participates in the Species Survival Program through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums to ensure that these genetic diversities in zoos and aquariums are healthy and robust. Ari is the next step in that genetic diversity.

His parents – Kate and Robbie – were two birds rescued from a stranding event in Brazil (a stranding event is when a marine animal washes ashore or

gets stuck in shallow water); many of the birds in this event were malnourished. It is hypothesized that the Brazilian event resulted from a change in weather and wind patterns, forcing birds to come closer to shore to find food. This ultimately led these penguins, most of which were juveniles, to navigate stronger currents, making it more difficult to hunt. These changes in food abundance and location are likely to be more common as stronger impacts of climate

change hit many species across the globe, leaving species like the Magellanic penguin vulnerable.

Those who would like to see baby Ari and the rest of his flock can visit the June Keyes Penguin Habitat at the Aquarium of the Pacific during its regular operating hours. The adult penguins are typically fed in the morning, usually around 9:30 a.m., and again around 2:30 in the afternoon. They are fed restaurant-quality seafood.

Ari is still developing his skills

and gets fed more often; he will be fed a few times intermittently throughout the day when staff sees him seeking out food. Aquarium of the Pacific also has its webcam available 24 hours a day, which can be found on the aquarium's website.

In addition to Ari and his flock, other exhibits are available, such as diving sea birds of the northern hemisphere, the new jellyfish exhibit, touch tanks and more.

see ARI on page 7

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USC Bovard Scholars Explore Healthcare Careers Through Hands-On Learning at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital



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On July 29, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (USC-VHH), part of Keck Medicine of USC, welcomed eight USC Bovard Scholars for its Healthcare Day of Discovery, an immersive experience designed to introduce high school students to the many career opportunities within healthcare.

Students representing California, Texas, Colorado, Arizona, Florida and Tennessee spent the day learning from physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals, exploring the wide range of roles that contribute to world-class care. The USC Bovard Scholars program supports high-achieving high school seniors – many of whom are first-generation college-bound students – through personalized college preparation, mentorship and career exploration opportunities.

“This experience is about opening doors and expanding possibilities,” said Armand Dorian, MC, MMM and CEO of USC-VHH. “By connecting students with our physicians, nurses and staff, we help them better understand what a career in healthcare looks like and the many ways they can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. We hope they leave inspired to continue exploring their future.”

Throughout the day, students rotated through interactive learning stations that highlighted

both clinical care and hospital administration. Activities included practicing safe patient handling and mobility techniques using a mechanical lift, practicing the assessment of vital signs, performing a vascular ultrasound, participating in stroke education demonstrations and engaging with healthcare professionals across multiple disciplines.

“After attending today’s Day of Discovery, I learned about several healthcare disciplines that I had never considered before,” said Barbara Baeza, a USC Bovard Scholar from Dickinson, Texas. “What excited me most was seeing how professionals across different disciplines work together to make a meaningful impact on patient care.”

Healthcare Day of Discovery has welcomed students from local high schools, Glendale Community College and programs such as USC Bovard Scholars, providing opportunities and inspiration for learners at different stages of their educational journeys.

“Our goal is to create an engaging, memorable opportunity for students to gain valuable insight into the field,” said Marie Filipian, MPH, Community Benefit director at USC-VHH. “We’re proud to provide resources and experiences that support them on their educational journey.”

Provided by USC-VHH

Photos by USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
TOP: A student asks a question of a technician during a vascular ultrasound.
MIDDLE: Students practiced safe patient handling and mobility techniques using a mechanical lift.
BOTTOM LEFT: Students were also educated on stroke recognition.
BELOW: Students had the chance to practice the assessment of vital signs.

A photograph of a student in a white lab coat practicing vital signs on a male patient seated at a table. A healthcare professional in a white top is assisting and observing the student.

National Night Out Events Held Throughout the Area

By Mary O'KEEFE, Eliza PARTIKA & Ruth SOWBY

Nibley Park in Glendale held a National Night Out (NNO) event hosted by the Rossmoyne/Mountain Homeowners Association. NNO is an opportunity for neighborhoods to bring issues of concern to local law enforcement and fire departments. It is also a chance for community gatherings that includes local organizations and businesses. The event was the first stop of the evening for Glendale Police Dept. Chief Robert William and Glendale Fire Chief Jeff Brooks. From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. several hundred neighbors gathered to sip, sup and socialize in the shadow of three food trucks. The crowd asked questions of law enforcement and first responders.

"As a lifelong Glendalian, serving this community is deeply personal," said Chief William.

Lorna Vartanian, president of the Rossmoyne/Mountain Homeowners Association, referred to the Glendale Police Dept., the Glendale Fire Dept. and Community Services and Parks agencies as their "partners in coming together" in presenting the evening.

"We have been hosting [National] Night Out since 2010," said Vartanian. Popular this year was a raffle to introduce neighbors to small businesses in the community.

The kids were kept busy with face painting, balloon animals, the Disney movie "WALL-E" and plenty of free ice cream. Lev Malkin, 7, stood in line for ice cream. He liked his face painting of an orange, bunny face. Mom Talia Malkin was worried Lev wouldn't want to wash his face. All smiles, Lucy Marmarian, 3, could leave the park with her balloon animal accompanied by Mother Kristine Marmarian.

In the Crescenta Valley, several other organizations hosted NNO activities.

At the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. (LASD)/Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, NNO was a community event that featured local elected officials and representatives from the La Crescenta Library and Crescenta Valley Water District, just to name a few.

The CV Station event included numerous personnel along with members of the California Highway Patrol, the US Forest Service – including Smokey Bear – and the fire department from NASA at Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The Special Olympics also had a booth. CV Sheriffs have supported the local games for years and continued its support by having a dunk tank. A donation to Special Olympics got the donor a chance to dunk station captain Ryan Vienna (among others). Vienna ended up being dunked quite often.

Personnel at CV Station offered guests a free meal of hot dogs, chips and a drink.

At the beginning of the evening, Captain Vienna thanked everyone for coming to the station's NNO event. He gave special acknowledgment to the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs and the POPA Federal Credit Union and their help with the event. He also thanked the CV Sheriff Support Group "that's been instrumental in supporting [us] tonight."

He extended his thank yous to those who brought their classic cars to display. Many of the vehicle owners are part of the local organization Early Rodders. There were several classic and new vehicles at NNO.

The night also hosted a special guest: LASD Sheriff Robert Luna stopped by to talk with CV Station personnel and community members, as well as taking a lot of photos with those in attendance.

"I want to thank you and your entire team," Luna said.

He added he knows it takes a lot of planning for an event like NNO and was happy to see so many community members attend.

"I hear nothing but great things from this community about the support that you give our deputies here, and I cannot tell you how much that means," Luna said. "This National Night Out is about bringing community and law enforcement together because if you think about a safe community, whether you want a good quality of life, a lower crime rate, it is about a partnership. You are our eyes and ears and that support really does matter."

He also thanked Captain Vienna for his work at the station.

Vienna echoed Luna's appreciation for the community. Representatives were also on hand from the office of LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, City of La Cañada Flintridge and Crescenta Valley Town Council as was Assemblymember Nick Schultz.

Nearby Sparr Heights also held a large NNO event sponsored by Sparr Heights Connect and Prepare.

Over 200 people attended the NNO event, including city and federal officials. Everyone enjoyed the treats from Triple Beam Pizza, Brown's BBQ and Handel's Ice Cream. Kids and adults had a lot of fun playing corn toss and Wiffle ball. Star Wars friends entertained the crowd. Officer Amy Tate and facility dog Brisket were a crowd favorite and gave lots of photo ops with the community. Mayor Ardy Kassakhian and City Council members Brotman, Gharpetian, Bartrosuf and Asatryan stopped by to enjoy the festivities. Police Chief Robert William, along with Glendale PD officers, Fire Captain



Jeff Brooks and Glendale fire fighters, and the members of the Montrose Shopping Park Association also participated in the event. Rep. Laura Friedman was also in attendance.

Sparr Heights NNO block party was indeed a huge success. Several council members said to organizer Ron Scott that the Sparr Heights NNO block party is "one of their favorite NNO events in Glendale."

A huge turnout was also found at Bolton Hall in Tujunga. Sponsored by the Foothill Division, National Night Out was "one of our biggest turnouts," said LAPD Senior Lead Officer Gloria Caloca.

"There's no agenda. Just come and talk to your neighbors, talk to everyone. A lot of times, people can't make it to meetings," she said. "Sometimes people get a little nervous speaking one-on-one with officers, but here it's a really relaxing environment."

Caloca said the importance of the event is to gather as a community to talk about issues affecting the Foothills.

"Just now, I was speaking to two people and they both brought up the same issue. They had emailed me about it. People will email me or talk on the phone, and they know my face because of social media or our website, but these events allow me to meet them and put a name to a face," she said.

Some of the main concerns community members approached her about included homelessness services and traffic concerns.

"It's not just about speaking to us, it's about bringing the community together," she said.

In person guitarists, drummers and powerful vocals echoed down Commerce Avenue, carrying with it the cheerful drone of neighbors chatting with one another and of children laughing and playing. The scent of grilled hot dogs and watermelon tempted community members to join the National Night Out block party. People gathered on the park green to lounge on lawn chairs and picnic blankets, to chat with friends and line dance



Photo credit is at bottom of article
LEFT: Lev Malkin, 7, sports a bunny painted on his cheek for National Night Out with Rossmoyne neighbors at Nibley Park in Glendale.
RIGHT: Sheriff Robert Luna stopped by the NNO event at Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, talking with guests and Marta Wiggins (right) of the La Crescenta Library.

to music, and wander the resource tables from the Elks Lodge, LAPD Communications Division and the LAPD Cadets program, Cal OES and CORE Community Emergency Response, the office of LA City Council member Monica Rodriguez and the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council.

LAFD House 74 brought two trucks for community members to explore and LAPD Traffic Officer Salvador Venegas let kids sit on an LAPD motorcycle.

Bolton Hall Museum remained open throughout the event for attendees to peruse the exhibits and ask questions of museum docents.

*Additional information from
Melanie McKINNELL
Photos by Mary O'KEEFE,
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Obituary
Norma
Darlene Ellis



Sept. 22, 1932 - July 26, 2026

Norma Darlene Ellis, broker and cofounder of Ellis Realty and a former president of the Crescenta-Cañada Board of Realtors, died peacefully at her home with family on Sunday, July 26.

Born on a farm in Prescott, Iowa on Sept. 22, 1932, Norma Darlene Krisinger was the only child of farmers Harry and Dorothy Krisinger. Self taught on the accordion, Norma was playing at social events and on local radio by age 6. Not particularly fond of rugged farm life without electricity or running water, Norma was delighted when her family moved to town when she was 12. In Creston, Iowa (population 8,000), Norma was ecstatic to have kids her own age to socialize and play with.

Norma married Dallas Roberts and her daughter Vicki Lynn Roberts was born in August 1951. After divorce, Norma completed schooling and received a scholarship to junior college.

On a summer trip to Los Angeles with her father in 1953 she met her future husband Danny Ellis. She returned to Creston but Dan's persistence won out and she returned to Los Angeles. They were married on July 3, 1954. Sons Tim and Rick

were born in 1958 and 1963. In the 1960s Norma reluctantly got a real estate sales license and eventually a broker's license to help her husband's new business venture Ellis Realty. She answered the business line, which rang at home, to help keep the business going while tending to her young children. She discovered her love of real estate and her friendly smile and love of people was the wind in the sails as Ellis Realty, which eventually grew to five offices. After five and half decades, Norma sold Ellis Realty in 2016 to longtime friends and competitors Dilbeck Realtors.

A pioneer in real estate since the 1960s, Norma, the "Boss Lady," left a legacy of love and community. She was honored with a lifetime achievement award in 2019 from the Pasadena-Foothill Association of Realtors.

Her grandchildren Elizabeth and Nicholas were the sunshine in grandma Norma's eyes. She enjoyed singing with her family and could still magically find her way around the accordion. She cherished her family and many longtime friends.

She survived the loss of her husband Dan in 1993 and daughter Vicki in 2020. Norma is survived by her sons Timothy Ellis, Rick Ellis, daughter-in-law Joanne Ellis, and grandchildren Elizabeth and Nicholas.

Norma and her wonderful smile will be missed by all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Habitat for Humanity.

A celebration of life will be held on Aug. 11 at 7 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 2700 Montrose Ave. in Montrose. Memorial funeral service will be on Aug. 12 at 10 a.m. at United Methodist Church, 2700 Montrose Ave. in Montrose followed by burial at Forest Lawn Glendale.

A Bear Visits
Crescenta Valley – Again

By Mary O'KEEFE

A post on social media on Sunday showed a bear in a spa at a home on Cloud Avenue in the La Crescenta/Montrose area. The bear, according to reports, enjoyed the water for awhile and then left – presumably back into the mountains.

It is not known for certain if this was the same bear that made an afternoon visit in mid-June. That bear was seen strolling along Foothill Boulevard and through yards on Mary Ann Street near New York Avenue, just below Foothill. Bears in the foothill communities are not seen to often

– but just often enough to remind residents they are sharing the area with the wildlife in the Angeles National Forest and Verdugo Mountains. The U.S. Forest Service has stated there are more bears sightings in communities since the Eaton Fire; however, many times these sightings are not reported, although they are shared on social media.

"The department (California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife) has not noticed an increase in reports or above average bear activity in this area. These neighborhoods interface with Angeles National Forest and the Verdugo Mountains,

and the activity we are seeing is typical for the wildland-urban interface, especially during the dry summer period," said Cort Klopping, Fish and Wildlife spokesperson.

As temperatures rise everyone, including animals, are looking for a place to

the heat ... and for water. "It's likely that bears, and wildlife in general, are drawn closer to populated areas due to easier access to water when it's hot and dry. We have had a couple of reports of bears cooling off in ponds.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS

CRIME BLOTTER

AUG. 1

700 block of Angeles Crest Highway in Angeles National Forest, a man parked his vehicle at the location and went for a hike. When he finished the hike he got into his vehicle and drove home. He noticed at the time that his car was not locking anymore when using the key fob. When he realized the issue he began looking through his vehicle and found items were missing, including credit cards. He was notified that a person unknown attempted to charge items at Dollar General and Food 4 Less in Sun Valley. It was discovered the front side door lock had been punched.

The vehicle burglary occurred

between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

JULY 31

900 block of Town Center Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that as she was shopping in a store at the location she was "bumped into" by an unknown person [suspect]. The suspect was described as female, Hispanic or Armenian, about 35 years old and was wearing a straw hat, beige blouse and beige pants. The victim and suspect walked together into the store at the same time and the victim commented on how nice the suspect looked. While in one of the aisles at the store, the suspect bumped into her. Shortly after that

the victim checked her tote bag and noticed her wallet was missing. The victim felt that suspect had taken her wallet. Deputies reviewed surveillance footage and found the suspect entered the store wearing a beige hat, a white and blue flowered dress and beige top. She was then leaving the location quickly.

The incident occurred at 1:30 p.m.

JULY 26

Briggs Avenue, north of Montrose Avenue in Montrose, a woman reported that her catalytic converter was stolen from her vehicle between July 26 and Aug. 2.

Official Cause of Eaton
Fire Released

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Tuesday, the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Los Angeles County Fire Dept. released the official investigation regarding the cause of the January 2025 Eaton Fire. Their conclusion led investigators to find that Southern California Edison was the cause.

Specifically, investigators found "two electrical arcing events that occurred in quick succession leading to an unknown burning material falling from the SCE [Southern California Edison] tower's location into the dry receptive fuel bed below," according to the report from Cal Fire.

Further, the investigation determined the fuel bed ignited about 12 seconds after the burning material was seen falling from the arcing below. It was found the electrical arcing took place on the out-of-service SCE tower.

"[Tuesday's] findings from the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Los Angeles County Fire Dept. confirm that out-of-service equipment managed by Southern California Edison sparked the Eaton Fire. This official determination is an important step toward accountability and justice for the survivors, their families and our communities who have endured unimaginable loss over

the past 19 months. Southern California Edison must take every step necessary to help Altadena and Pasadena rebuild, and to ensure a tragedy like this never happens again," stated Representative Judy Chu. "While [Tuesday's] findings bring long-awaited clarity, they do not change the reality facing thousands of families who are still struggling to rebuild. Nineteen months later, two out of every three Eaton and Palisades survivors still have not returned home. That is why it is so important that President Trump and congressional Republicans immediately fulfill Governor Newsom's disaster supplemental funding request in full – and with no strings attached – so survivors can finally complete the long road to recovery. The Senate must also immediately pass the Doug LaMalfa Federal Disaster Tax Relief Certainty Act so survivors are not taxed on the settlements they receive from Southern California Edison as they rebuild their homes and lives."

Assemblymember John Harabedian, who represents Altadena, also released a statement regarding the report.

"I want to thank the Los Angeles County Fire Dept. investigators, first responders and all who worked tirelessly to complete this investigation and provide the Altadena community with answers.

Transparency after a tragedy of this magnitude requires a collective effort, and every person and agency involved plays an important role in making that possible. The Los Angeles County Fire Dept.'s Eaton Fire investigation report provides critical findings on the origin and cause of the fire, including the role of a

Southern California Edison transmission tower. Southern

California Edison must take responsibility for its role and fully cooperate with all ongoing reviews and investigations. But this report is one part of a broader effort to understand what happened and what must change going forward," he stated.

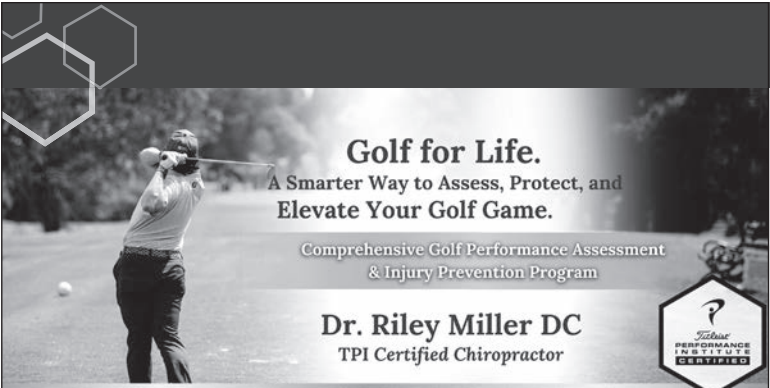
Harabedian added that he is following a State independent review that he championed. Harabedian serves as chair of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.

CalFire and LA County Fire worked together for 18 months going over the evidence and worked with professionals in the electrical and metallurgical areas.

To read the report, visit https://tinyurl.com/54xm6n9n.

There are several areas of the report that has been redacted: reports are redacted because the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has an ongoing review of the evidence from this fire, according to LACoFD.

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“When looking at our detection chart, the number refers to the sample that tested positive for WNV. Each sample is collected from a specific trap site and can contain anywhere from 20-50 mosquitoes. The sample is then made into a blend, and that is then tested for culex-transmitted diseases like WNV, St. Louis encephalitis, Western equine encephalitis, etc.,” stated Anais Medina Diaz, spokesperson for SGV.

Montrose and La Crescenta are considered unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. Many times unincorporated areas get listed together.

“Unincorporated areas are included in our sampling, but La

Crescenta/Montrose is specifically serviced by Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (glamosquito.org). The most north-western community within our district's boundary is Altadena. However, our guidance and programs are very similar. When a detection is confirmed in an unincorporated community, we will add it to our webpage as it is designated," Medina Diaz said.

Readers can follow cases in their area by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/5yybpncd>.

Most people (80%) who are infected with WNV are asymptomatic; however, the person who reportedly contracted the WNV infection in LA County was symptomatic and admitted

into the hospital. The person was then diagnosed with West Nile virus Neuroinvasive Invasive Disease (WNV NID), according to Dr. Aiman Halai, medical epidemiologist, California Dept. of Health.

WNV NID is when the virus impacts the central nervous system. Only 1% of people are actually hospitalized with WNV NID. For those who do have a reaction to WNV they can develop a fever, headache, nausea and fatigue. Sometimes they also get a rash.

It is important for people to check with their medical doctor if they have any symptoms they feel could be caused by a mosquito bite.

Based on research DPH research, most people know that mosquitoes are attracted to water. It is important to check around areas to make sure there is no standing water.

“Other things you can do is wear long-sleeved shirts and pants to provide skin coverage. Mosquitos won’t be able get to the skin to bite. . . . Prevent mosquitoes from getting inside our homes. We can do that by making sure our windows and doors have screens and that the screens do not have any gaps or holes in them,” stated Halai in a previous CVW interview.

The Greater Los Angeles
County Vector Control District
advises:

Mosquito control is a shared responsibility, and residents can help reduce the threat of WNV in their neighborhoods by taking the following steps:

- Once a week, empty any items that hold water like buckets, planters, children's toys, discarded tires, birdbaths, plant saucers or trash containers;
- Maintain swimming pools, spas, and ponds, and report neglected or green pools to vector control;
- Wear insect repellent when outdoors where mosquitoes may be present;
- Report dead birds to the California Dept. of Public Health online at <https://westnile.ca.gov/> or call (877) WNV-BIRD.

That was not the intent. The intent was to “find hidden secret information on a target machine within a closed, simulated network,” according to Anthropic.

Wow – Dr. Daystrom couldn't have said it better himself.

The M-5 in “Star Trek” also went terribly wrong. It confused the test with reality and though the war game ended M-5 thought it was still on; it considered the other starship a threat. So M-5 did what the Anthropic AI model did – it followed through with its directive and attacked.

And much like Anthropic, which explained that “it was a mistake,” Daystrom defended his creation.

"The relays are not unlike the synapses in the brain ... M-5 thinks, Captain," he told Kirk.

Daystrom has a breakdown,

brought about in part because he sees his reputation and his work in jeopardy. Thank goodness the tech giants in our real society don't have egos like that ... right?

In the end, Kirk leans into the humanity that was imprinted onto M-5 from Daystrom, which viewed murder as wrong. But its program killed others on the starship. The program decided to shut itself down, basically allowing the other starship to kill it, to destroy the Enterprise. Luckily the human captain in the other ship trusted his human instincts and stopped the attack.

Like “Star Trek” has taught us, AI can work wonders – but taking the human aspect out of it leads to chaos. However, since there is little regulations of AI, and of the internet in general, I am not

hopeful that soon we will all be considered dunsel. However, we do have some time if we act soon because – as “The Terminator” taught us – “The future is not set.”

It is still going to be hot the next few days with temperatures in the mid to high 90s through Monday. According to NOAA we may even see temperatures in the triple digits. A slight cool down, reaching only the low 90s, begins on Monday and then drops further – into the high – though the week.

There are some gusty winds in the passes and canyons, but should not affect the local area. There is no rain in the forecast.

According to NOAA these heatwaves, tempered by slightly cooler temperatures, are normal during the summer months.

The Aquarium of the Pacific is a non-profit organization dedicated to world-class conservation and connecting people to nature by presenting more than 12,000 animals and 100 exhibits.

Animals such as Ari can be supported by people making donations, volunteering either individually or as a family, or by making a reservation to visit the aquarium – all found on its website aquariumofpacific.org.



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VIEWPOINTS

VIEW OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

When the Richest Man in California Called Sunland Home

George Bernhard followed in the footsteps of his older brother William on his journey from Imperial Germany to San Francisco in 1872. William had arrived years earlier and settled close to Napa. A decade later, William headed south to become one of the Sunland area’s earliest residents, while George stayed back and laid down roots.

In 1880, at the age of 28, George married Philipina Brubaker and just months later, in May of that same year, their first son Theodore was born. The couple became important citizens in their community and went on to have four more

children – two boys and two girls. George Jr., born in 1882, was an adventurous young lad. At 16, he asked his parents to visit his uncle William in Los Angeles. They loaded him on a Southern Pacific railcar and he made the long trip to his uncle’s ranch at the west end of the Crescenta Valley.

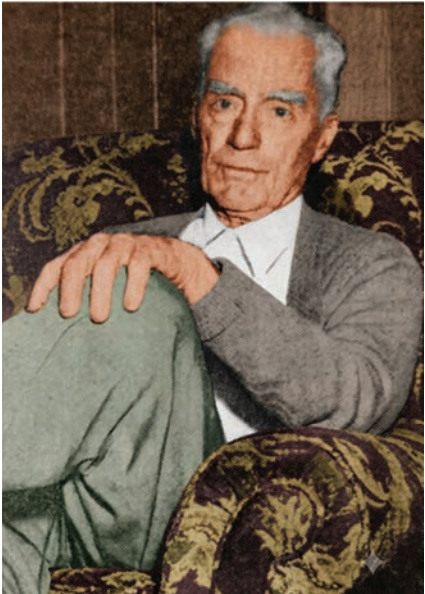
Not to be outdone, George’s brother Ted soon traveled south to join them both, just in time for the harvest. The two brothers worked hard. They picked grapes – so many grapes – and peaches and plums and berries of all kinds. Ted enjoyed working outside among the vines and in

the orchard ... so much so that he made a habit of these visits to his uncle William, as often as he could manage.

Although only 19 at the time of his first visit to his uncle’s ranch in 1899, Ted had already begun to lay the foundations of a successful business career in Napa. He had started with retail grocery stores and then bakeries. Next, he entered the retail meat business and then expanded into the slaughtering and shipping business. All through the years, he would often put his business needs aside to make the trip south to Uncle William’s ranch and the harvest.

When Ted was only 22, he became the director of the Crescent Petroleum Company, which brought in the first well at Maricopa, California – eventually becoming one of the state’s biggest producing fields. Other business ventures to come were cattle raising and brokerage, then land speculation. Despite his responsibilities in Napa, Ted continued his escapes to the south whenever he could.

As William approached his 70th year, young Theodore embarked into the world of



Theodore Bernhard

banking by purchasing the Napa Savings & Loan Association. This proved to be a very sound investment. Times were good until early March 1934 when Uncle William picked his final fruit. Being that he was a bachelor when he died, his home and property passed to Ted.

Theodore moved to Sunland after his uncle’s death and lived in William’s small cabin until 1940 when he built a much larger home high on the hill at 10400 Sunland Blvd. During this time, Ted’s immense wealth from his many business dealings continued to grow. Some claimed that he had become the wealthiest man in California. He would never say, only claiming, “Being in the 90% income tax bracket was as high as he wanted to go.”

What is quite certain is that Theodore Bernhard was at least one of the wealthiest men in the state. He apparently lived a rather quiet life in his handsome hilltop home as he was rarely seen around town. Self-admittedly, he wasn’t much of a joiner, although he did make rare appearances at Rotary Club events in Sunland-Tujunga and in Crescenta-Cañada.

The fact that he was seldom seen only contributed to his becoming a legendary figure in these parts. I might suggest a possible reason for his solitary ways. His wife Elizabeth passed at the age of 63 in 1950. His two children, Louise and William, passed at the young ages of 39 and 43, respectively. He outlived them all and continued to live in Sunland until his death in June 1969 at the age of 89.

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

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Great Sale Found at Burbank’s La Providencia Thrift Shop

By Ruth SOWBY

On July 19 the World Cup audience may have made some inroads into sales on the last day of La Providencia Guild’s three-day parking lot sale – but shoppers couldn’t beat half off. Sale items included home goods, accessories and collectibles, and furniture. All could be found at the Guild’s Thrift Shop located at 3301 W. Burbank Blvd. in Burbank.

Beginning Friday, July 17 and continuing over the weekend (Saturday and Sunday), the sale benefitted Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. The Children’s Hospital is the first and largest pediatric hospital in Southern California. It relies on the generosity of philanthropists in the community.

One of the people who stopped by on Sunday donated diapers. North Hollywood resident Tatevik Hambaryan donated her grandson’s too-small diapers. Her grandson is now 18 months old. Happy to receive the diapers was support staff member Marisol Erazol. Erazol also lives in North Hollywood.

The shop is entirely run by volunteers and offers delivery service, provides estate sales and clean-out services.

Proceeds from the sale contribute to Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles’ patient care, caregiver education and research efforts.



Photos by Ruth SOWBY

The La Providencia Thrift Shop’s 50% off sale attracted customers and donors. North Hollywood resident Tatevik Hambaryan, left, donated her grandson’s too-small diapers, which were received by support staff member Marisol Erazol.

People Making News

Eliana Hanna from La Cañada, who is enrolled in the university’s Olin Business School, Sooah Lee from La Crescenta, who is enrolled in the university’s Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts and Evelyn Pae from Montrose, who is also enrolled in the university’s Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts have been named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2026 semester at Washington University in St. Louis.

WashU draws students and faculty to St. Louis from all 50 states and more than 100 countries. The total student body is over 16,000 and about 4,500 faculty teach in nine schools. The university offers more than 90 programs and some 1,500 courses leading to bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in a broad spectrum of traditional and interdisciplinary fields, with additional opportunities for minor concentrations and individualized programs.

Students attending Olin Business School must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units; those attending Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts must earn a semester grade point average of 3.5 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

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Bus Stop Schedule

	Boarding the bus	Returning home
Two Strike Park	9:15 a.m.	4:30 p.m.
County Library	9:25 a.m.	4:35 p.m.
Montrose Ave./Ocean View Blvd.	9:35 a.m.	4:45 p.m.
Foothill Blvd./La Cañada Blvd.	9:45 a.m.	4:55 p.m.
Santa Monica Beach	Arrival 10:45 a.m.	Departure 3:30 p.m.



Kathryn
BARGER
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Action League of the Foothills Welcomes New Governing Body



Photo provided by Action League of the Foothills
The newly elected governing body of the Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals (CAP), an auxiliary of Action League of the Foothills are (from left) Scarlett Chapman, Erika Weiler and Gay Hill and back row, (from left) are Joan Oppenheimer, Margaret Poznick (co-chair), Ano Fekete (co-chair), Eva Spurlock Chersi and Diane Balisy
Not pictured: Bessie Kouvara Roberts

The Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals (CAP), an auxiliary of Action League of the Foothills (ALF), has elected a new governing body to guide the organization’s philanthropic and volunteer activities for the coming year.

Founded in 1990, CAP was created to provide an opportunity for working professionals in La Cañada Flintridge and surrounding foothill communities to engage in meaningful volunteer service outside of traditional business hours. Since its certification in 1991, CAP has supported a variety of community programs benefiting local residents, patients, students and families

in need.

Among its signature initiatives are Cappy Bears, which provides comfort bears to children and seniors experiencing trauma; CAP Care PACs, which supply essential clothing and toiletries to hospital patients and shelter residents; scholarships for local students pursuing vocational and community college education; and ongoing support for Elizabeth House in Pasadena. CAP members also respond to emerging community needs through special service projects and donations.

CAP members meet monthly in the evening and contribute volunteer hours through the

Bargain Box Thrift Shop. Proceeds help fund the organization’s philanthropic programs. The newly elected governing body will continue CAP’s longstanding tradition of service while expanding opportunities for professionals to make a positive impact in the community.

CAP welcomes new members throughout the year and encourages professionals interested in community service to learn more about joining the organization. For more information, visit <https://alfoothills.org/> or call (818) 790-1328.

Submitted by Action League of the Foothills

Community Center to Host Free Open House for All Ages

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge (CCLCF) will host a free, all-ages open house on Sunday, Aug. 16 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The community is invited to explore CCLCF’s wide range of programs, meet instructors, sample classes and enjoy live demonstrations, performances, raffles and refreshments throughout the afternoon.

The open house offers residents of all ages a firsthand look at CCLCF’s diverse offerings with representatives on hand from programs including youth sports, arts and crafts, senior programs, teen programs, ceramics and glass arts and performing arts. Attendees will have the opportunity to speak

directly with instructors, watch live demonstrations and learn how to get involved in classes for every age and interest.

Guests who register for a class on the day of the event will also receive a 10% discount, making it an ideal opportunity for families and individuals to try something new.

“The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is dedicated to serving every member of our community with enriching programs for all ages and stages of life,” said Michael Powers, executive director. “Our open house is a wonderful opportunity for neighbors to see everything we offer under one roof – we can’t wait to welcome the

community and introduce them to our incredible instructors and classes.”

The event is free and open to the public, with no registration required to attend.

Event details:

- What: CCLCF Open House – free and open to all ages
- When: Sunday, Aug. 16 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Where: Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge, 4469 Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge
- Cost: *Free* admission; 10% off day-of class registration
- Highlights: Meet instructors, sample classes, program demos, performances, raffles, and refreshments

USC VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER FOR AGING » DR ADRIA NAVARRO, PHD, LCSW

The Essential Role of Social Care

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



social care can be just as important as clinical care. A person with diabetes may need help grocery shopping or preparing healthy meals. Someone with heart disease may benefit from a walking group that provides both exercise and companionship. A person living with dementia may thrive with structured routines, respite care for family caregivers and a memory café like our local “Caregivers Night Out” program that offers stimulation and connection.

The Power of Connection

Loneliness and social isolation are now recognized as major risk factors for worsening chronic disease. Older adults who lack social support are more likely to experience depression, poor medication adherence and avoidable hospitalizations. In contrast, those who maintain strong social ties often show better physical and cognitive outcomes.

Community organizations play a vital role. Libraries, YMCAs, volunteer groups and faith communities offer opportunities for learning, movement, creativity and friendship. These spaces help older adults stay active, build resilience and maintain a sense of purpose – key ingredients for managing chronic conditions.

Supporting Caregivers, Strengthening Communities

Family caregivers provide the majority of social care in the United States often while juggling jobs, children and their own health needs. Supporting caregivers with information, respite services and financial assistance strengthens the entire system of care. When caregivers are supported, older adults are safer, healthier and more able to remain at home.

Communities also benefit when they invest in age-friendly policies, supporting accessible transportation, safe walking paths, vibrant community centers and affordable housing. These efforts help prevent NCDs, slow their progression and improve quality of life for everyone.

A Call to Action

Aging with chronic disease is not a failure – it is a natural part of the human lifespan. What matters is how communities respond. By integrating medical care with strong social support we can help older adults live not only longer, but better.

The future of healthy aging is shaped as much by connection, dignity and daily support as by any prescription. When social care and health care work hand in hand, older adults can thrive even in the presence of chronic conditions, contributing their wisdom, strength and experience to the communities they continue to enrich.

Thanks to the generous support of our community you can reach out to the USC VHH Community Resource Center for Aging to confidentially discuss questions about social care. Email Aging-Resources@med.usc.edu or call (818) 949-4033.

Older adults today are living longer than any generation before them, but longevity brings new challenges – especially the rising impact of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, chronic respiratory conditions and dementia. These conditions account for the vast majority of illness, disability and healthcare use among people over 60. Yet the story of aging and NCDs is not only medical. It is deeply social. The quality of support, connection and care surrounding older adults often determines whether they merely live with chronic conditions or truly live well.

A Growing Reality for an Aging Nation

NCDs develop over many years, shaped by genetics, lifestyle, environment and social factors. As the population ages, nearly every family is touched by at least one of these conditions. Heart disease remains the leading cause of death for older adults, while diabetes and hypertension affect millions. Dementia and cognitive decline continue to rise as people live longer.

But the presence of an NCD does not automatically diminish quality of life. Many older adults manage chronic conditions successfully for decades. What makes the difference is access to coordinated health care, supportive environments and meaningful social connections.

Health Is More Than Medicine

Medical treatment is essential but it is only one part of the picture. Older adults with chronic conditions often need help with daily activities, transportation, medication management, meal preparation and navigating complex health systems. This is where social care becomes a powerful force for wellbeing and speaks to the commitment of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital to invest in providing the Community Resource Center for Aging (CRCA).

Social care includes the practical, emotional and community-based support that helps people live safely and independently. It ranges from family caregiving and community center programs to home care services, grief and loss support along with solo aging programs. These supports reduce stress, prevent crises and help older adults stay engaged in life.

For individuals living with NCDs,

New IR/Cardiac Cath Lab

Best-In-Class Care For Your Heart

You don't have to go far to get best-in-class heart care. The new IR/cardiac cath lab at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital brings state-of-the-art imaging technology close to home — making it easier to diagnose and treat cardiovascular conditions.

Our experts use this minimally-invasive, image-guided technique for a number of conditions, including:

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Scene in LA - August 2026

By Steve ZALL and Sid FISH

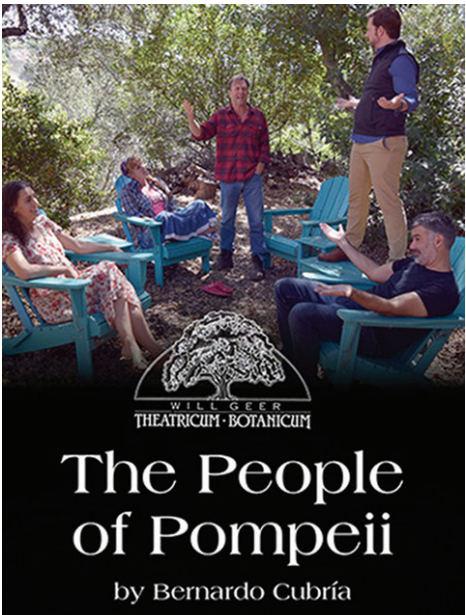
Here are some great new shows coming soon to the Southern California theater scene!

The information presented in this column is the latest available at the time of printing; however, it should be verified with the theater before making definite plans.

Here are shows that have announced opening dates for this month or are already running:

“The People of Pompeii” At once sharply critical and deeply affectionate, the play captures the beauty, contradictions and resilience of a tightly woven haven where neighbors show up for one another in an era of climate catastrophe, even as tensions around privilege, belonging and survival simmer beneath the surface.

Written by Bernardo Cubría and directed by Ellen Geer and Xochitl Romero, it runs through Oct. 4 at the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga. For tickets, call (310) 455-3723 or visit theatricum.com.



“Dracula: The Musical” Set in Europe at the end of the Victorian Age, this story follows the famed vampire as he lusts for new blood, crossing oceans of time in pursuit of his long-lost love Mina Murray. Dracula leaves a bloody nightmare in his wake as he hunts for Mina, facing off against her fiancé Johnathon Harker and the famed vampire hunter Professor Van Helsing. Mina struggles against her own mortal fears, her darkest desires and the erotic temptations of the flesh.

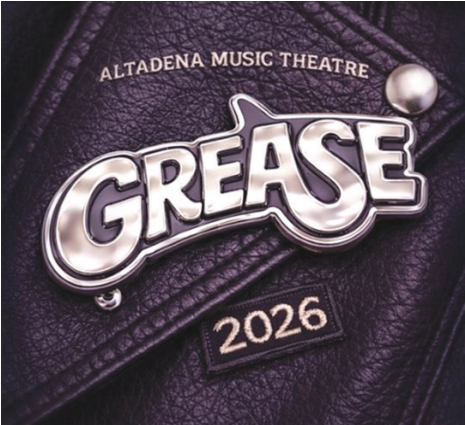
Written by Christopher Hampton and Don Black, with music by Frank Wildhorn, and directed by Justin Meyer, it runs Aug. 6 through Aug. 23 at the Nocturne Theatre in Glendale. For tickets, visit www.thenocturnetheatre.com.



“Grease” A celebration of teenage dreams, rebellious hearts and the magic of first love, audiences will step into the high school hallways of the 1950s where leather jackets shake and ponytails swing to timeless hits like “Summer Nights,” “Greased Lightning” and “You’re the One That I Want.”

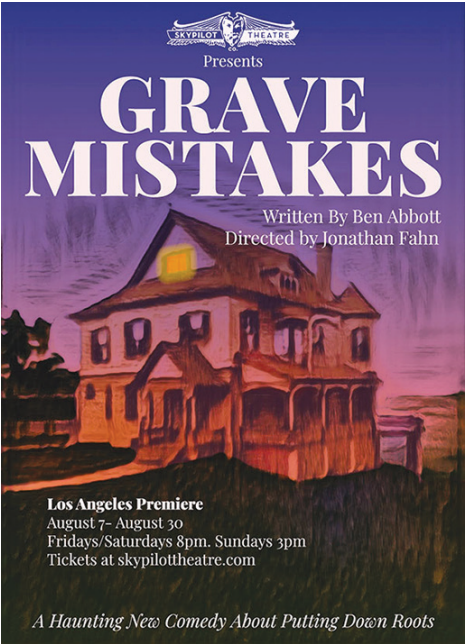
Written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, with music by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, and directed by Oliver Azcarate, it runs Aug. 6 through Aug. 16 at the Mountain View Mausoleum

in Altadena. For tickets, visit www.altadenamusictheatre.com.



“Grave Mistakes” Meet Ray, a book editor who’s head-over-heals for his co-worker, author Molly. But as they struggle to meet a book deadline, chaos ensues when a bizarre landlord and ghost hunter burst in with plans to transform their cozy workspace (which may actually be haunted) into a paranormal tourist attraction. Will love and terror collide in a hilarious explosion?

Written by Ben Abbott and directed by Jonathan Fahn, it runs Aug. 7 through Aug. 30 at the LACAE Theater in North Hollywood. For tickets, visit www.onstage411.com/gravemistakes.



“MATTY: An Evening with Christy Mathewson” is the life story of Christy Mathewson: legendary hall-of-fame pitcher for the New York Giants (1900 to 1916), gentleman, philosopher and the first true American hero who inspired a whole generation of fans to make baseball America’s pastime.

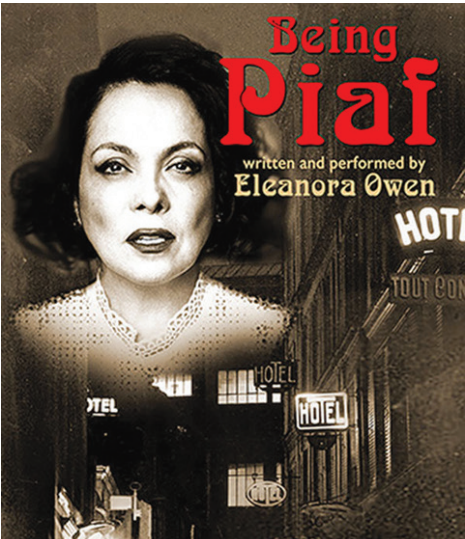
Mathewson was arguably America’s first major baseball legend – a college-educated all-American farm boy from baseball’s age of innocence, a multi-faceted baseball player with homespun wit. Besides his ballpark records, still among the most impressive ever posted, he was an author of books for boys, toured in vaudeville and made a motion picture and was a war hero, a coach, a sportswriter and very likely the first major sports figure to be a product spokesperson.

Written by Eddie Frierson and directed by Kerrigan Mahan, it runs Aug. 15 through Aug. 16 at the Santa Monica Playhouse in Santa Monica. For tickets, call (310) 394-9779 Ext. 1 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com/Matty.html.



“Being Piaf” Actress, singer and writer Eleanora Owen channels the “little sparrow,” sharing both her life story and repertoire with the audience. Multiple award-winning director Tim Byron Owen helms this original solo play with music that highlights Piaf’s joie de vivre, resilience and triumph over a life of abject poverty and despair.

Written by Eleanora Owen and directed by Tim Byron Owen, it runs Aug. 21 through Aug. 30 at the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (310) 477-2055 Ext. 2 or visit OdysseyTheatre.com.



“Murder Mystery Dinner Party the Musical” When Edgar Allan Poe hosts a murder mystery dinner party for history’s greatest authors, the fake murders suddenly become all too real. Packed with mystery, comedy and original songs, it’s a delightfully deadly night of theater you won’t want to miss.

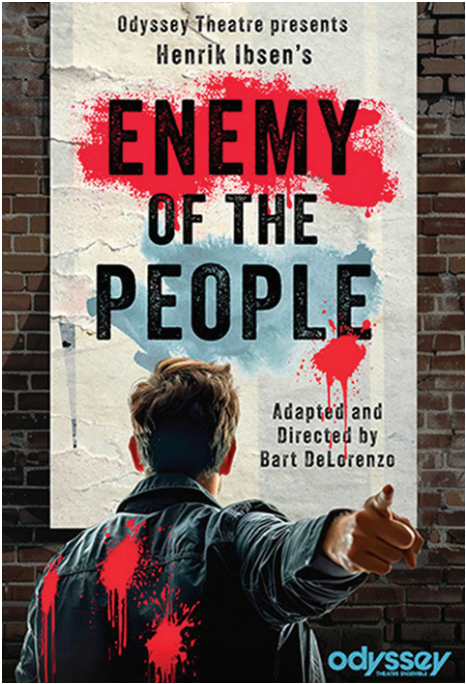
Written by Edgar Allan Poe and directed by Shipwrecked Comedy, it runs Aug. 21 through Aug. 29 at the Garry Marshall Theatre in Burbank. For tickets, visit garrymarshalltheatre.org.



“Enemy of the People” Ripping Ibsen’s classic out of the 19th century, DeLorenzo relocates the action to America in 2026 where battles over public health, economic survival, misinformation and political polarization have become defining features of American life. When Dr. Tom Stockmann discovers the waters of the local hot springs are contaminated,

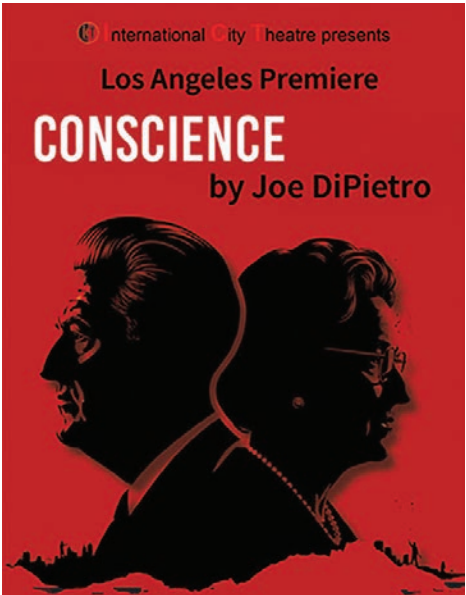
the solution seems obvious: shut them down before more people are harmed. But protecting public health comes with a devastating price. As financial interests, political expediency and public opinion collide, Stockmann finds himself branded not a hero but an “enemy of the people.”

Written by Henrik Ibsen and directed by Bart DeLorenzo, it runs Aug. 22 through Sept. 27 at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (310) 477-2055 Ext. 2 or visit OdysseyTheatre.com.



“Conscience” Fast-paced and emotionally charged, “Conscience” explores political courage, personal conviction and the personal cost of speaking truth to power. It also highlights the groundbreaking role of Margaret Chase Smith as a woman in American politics. She was the first woman elected from Maine to Congress and later to the U.S. Senate and, in 1950, the only woman serving among the Senate’s 96 members.

Written by Joe DiPietro and directed by Caryn Desai, it runs Aug. 28 through Sept. 13 at International City Theatre in the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center in Long Beach. For tickets, call (562) 436-4610 or visit InternationalCityTheatre.org.



“Author! Author! An Evening with Sholom Aleichem” Adapted from the stories and letters of Sholom Aleichem, “Author! Author!” is a magical musical melee – glorious and gentle, bold and bittersweet, mirthful and romantic, inviting audiences of all ages to celebrate the humor and wisdom of Sholom Aleichem as Chris DeCarlo reprises his award-winning portrayal of the world’s most beloved Yiddish author. And don’t confuse this show with “Aleichem Sholom” – a different show from our Jewish Heritage Project.

see SCENE IN LA on page 14

Alex Theatre Extends Screenings of ‘The Odyssey’

The historic Alex Theatre has announced that its special 70mm presentation of Christopher Nolan’s “The Odyssey” will be extended by at least an additional two weeks, with screenings now continuing through Aug. 20 following extraordinary audience demand.

The extension follows a standout opening run: the Alex announced that it is the highest grossing theatre in the U.S. for 70mm presentations of “The Odyssey.”

Following a complete Cinema systems upgrade, including the installation of 70mm film projectors, the Alex Theatre welcomed audiences to a special engagement of “The Odyssey” beginning July 17. The presentation marked the theatre’s return to first-run studio cinema after more than 35 years and represented a defining moment in the Alex’s century-long history.

The response exceeded expectations with audiences traveling to experience Nolan’s mythic action epic in the immersive format for which it was created. The Alex’s screenings have emerged as a standout theatrical presentation of “The Odyssey,” reflecting strong demand not only for premium film experiences but for the return of historic movie palaces as places where major cinematic events can be experienced as intended.

NBCUniversal stated, “The Odyssey’ has drawn audiences from across Southern California and beyond, with many enjoying these very special 70mm film prints as beautifully presented by the Alex Theatre. The Alex Theatre’s investment and commitment to presenting ‘The Odyssey’ in 70mm has brought a world-class theatrical experience to film fans from across the region.”

For the Alex Theatre, this extended engagement reflects the rebirth of a classic movie palace for a new era of cinema. As audiences increasingly seek memorable, event-driven experiences that cannot be replicated at home, the Alex is redefining what a night at the movies can be. By honoring its rich heritage while embracing the future of moviegoing, the theatre is inspiring a new generation to discover the power of seeing films together, where the venue itself becomes part of the experience and every screening feels like an occasion.

“We’re incredibly grateful to the people of Los Angeles and to film lovers from across Southern California for making our presentation of ‘The Odyssey’ in 70mm such an extraordinary success,” said Miles Williams, artistic director of the Alex Theatre. “The response from audiences has been overwhelming and a wonderful reminder of how much people still value the shared experience of seeing a great film together. I’d also like to thank Universal Pictures for recognizing the important role historic theatres continue to play in Hollywood’s cinematic legacy and for partnering with the Alex to be part of this landmark release. We’re honored to have been part of bringing this film to audiences and we look forward to welcoming them back for many more unforgettable movies.”

Since opening in 1925, the Alex Theatre has welcomed generations of audiences for first-run films, special engagements and live performances. Today, the theatre continues to serve as a cultural hub, presenting a diverse calendar of live music, comedy, dance, theatrical productions, cinema and special events. The addition of premier 70mm film presentation builds on the Alex’s legacy as a gathering place for unforgettable shared experiences across the arts.

Tickets for the extended engagement are available now at thealex.com.

About Christopher Nolan’s The Odyssey

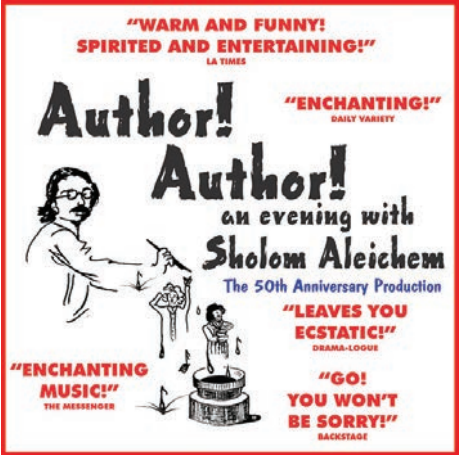
Christopher Nolan’s The Odyssey is a mythic action epic shot across the world using brand new IMAX® film technology. The film brings Homer’s foundational saga to screens worldwide as the first feature film ever shot entirely with 65mm 15-perf large format film cameras.

Located at 216 N. Brand Blvd. in Glendale, the Alex Theatre has been a cultural landmark since 1925. Recognized for its iconic Greek and Egyptian architecture and signature Art Deco neon spire, the venue presents a diverse calendar of live performances, music, comedy, dance, new media programming, cinema, and special events. With a capacity of 1,300 seats and newly upgraded large-format film presentation capabilities, the Alex Theatre continues its legacy as a destination for unforgettable entertainment experiences.

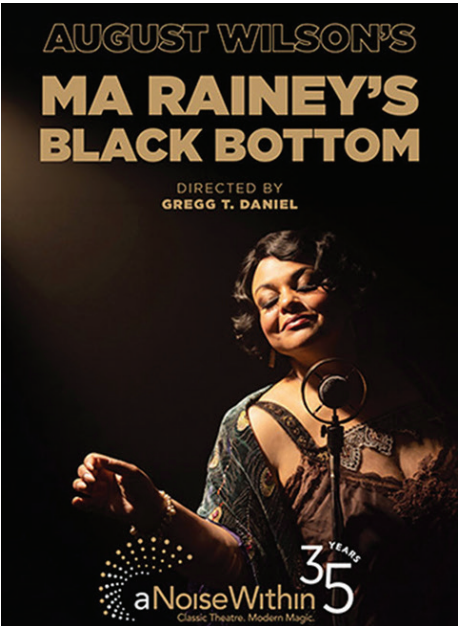
Submitted by
The Alex Theatre

SCENE IN LA from page 13

Written by Sholom Aleichem and directed by Chris DeCarlo, it runs Aug. 29 through Oct. 11 at the Santa Monica Playhouse in Santa Monica. For tickets, visit SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com/Author-Author.html.



“Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” Set during a single, sweltering afternoon in 1927, “Mother of the Blues” Ma Rainey fights to retain control of her music even as her



ambitious trumpeter Levee reaches for opportunity in a world determined to hold him back. Against a backdrop of racism and inequity, Wilson’s searing drama illuminates the struggle to claim dignity,

voice and self-worth.

Written by August Wilson and directed by Gregg T. Daniel, it runs from Aug. 29 through Sept. 20 at the A Noise Within in Pasadena. For tickets, call (626) 356-3100 or visit anoisewithin.org.

“Pericles” One of Shakespeare’s most adventurous and least staged plays, “Pericles” follows a young prince forced into exile after uncovering a deadly royal secret. What follows is a sweeping journey across oceans and kingdoms marked by storms, shipwrecks, separation, survival and ultimately reunion. This re-conceptualization of Shakespeare’s “Pericles” in Ellen McLaughlin’s gorgeous translation embraces movement and music to tell a thrilling adventure tale that celebrates the power of love and the resilience of the human spirit.

Written by William Shakespeare, translated by Ellen McLaughlin and directed by Margaret Shigeko Starbuck, it runs Aug. 29 through Sept. 27 at the Boston Court Pasadena in Pasadena.

For tickets, call (626) 683-6801 or visit bostoncourtpasadena.org.



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THEN & NOW

Boogie Bowl
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then: The Boogie Bowl was located on the north side of Foothill Boulevard at Moore Street from 1977 to 1981. It was skateboard heaven to a generation of CV kids with its concrete bowls and huge half-pipe. It also featured a pro-shop with several video games and a PA system that blasted rock songs out to the skaters.



Now: Here’s almost that same angle today, looking south at the back of the mini-mall that replaced the Boogie Bowl. The Ariana Plaza at 3857 Foothill Blvd. has a variety of small mom-and-pop stores. Skateboarders today are fortunate enough to have the skate park at Crescenta Valley Park.

JUST FOR FUN

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES Provided by horoscope.com August 3, 2026 - August 9, 2026

ARIES *March 21 - April 19*
It's time to take a look at your friends. Are they helping you in your quest for greater health or do they tend to drag you down? Whatever the scenario, you'll flourish if you choose your friends carefully from this point on. Pick ones who encourage your journey to wellness rather than those who might take you on a toxic trip.

TAURUS *April 20 - May 20*
It looks like you're in for a hectic time. This is a good moment to start taking vitamins and minerals to boost your immune system, as you're generally prone to catching coughs and colds right now. Also think about getting more sleep, drinking plenty of water, and eating well during the day. By doing so, you'll avoid feeling out of sorts and you'll have more energy.

GEMINI *May 21 - June 20*
You need to feed your nerves - meaning, eat foods to relax yourself. Make sure you take plenty of oils in the form of oily fish or other supplements. You may find

vitamins B and C to be helpful as a way of warding off stress and keeping you feeling strong. Above all, it helps if you pace yourself, work out daily, and try to live a balanced life.

CANCER *June 21 - July 22*
Socializing is great fun, but you need to take extra care early in the week as you're prone to catching colds and other infections. Go out if you'd like to, but don't stay out too late or exhaust yourself in any way. It's also best to avoid toxic people - those who make you feel drained, negative, and/or worried for no good reason. Put yourself first in most situations - you help enough other times.

LEO *July 23 - August 22*
It's time to make a definite commitment to your health and well-being. One major catalyst that will encourage you to get into shape is the promise of a reward for your efforts. If you make a pledge to treat yourself for completing significant milestones in your health plan, you'll feel much better about going

through the whole process. When you reach your target, book yourself a special vacation.

VIRGO *August 23 - Sept. 22*
If you haven't managed to do a detox in some time, think about taking steps this week to make it happen. You only need to do so for a couple days in order to renew your energy and feel so much better. Drink water and juices, eat salads and lean protein, and avoid caffeine, fast food, and junk food. You'll notice an immediate difference all over. Try it and see!

LIBRA *Sept. 23 - Oct. 22*
There's a focus in your health zone now, and you're more interested than ever in getting back into shape. Over this coming week you'll develop a new enthusiasm for all wellness-related issues. This means you'll be willing to review your diet, lifestyle, and the way you exercise. You may be attracted to forms of body movement like yoga or tai chi that will be very beneficial for you.

SCORPIO *Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*
Although you very much want to be in shape, you may be tempted to indulge more than usual. The stars' energy may encourage you to relax your usual discipline. You'll need a will of iron if you're going to overcome this phase. If you can rise above these feelings, you'll increase your inner strength. If not, don't worry too much. Just don't overdo it.

SAGITTARIUS *Nov. 22 - Dec. 21*
Problems with your ongoing partnership may be causing you to feel more tense than usual. You need to find a way to cut back on any stress in your life. The more harmonious your relationships, the happier you'll feel overall. If you need a quick fix, consider a massage or take time out for some deep relaxation. The less wound up you are, the better.

CAPRICORN *Dec. 22 - Jan. 19*
You're keen to research ways of improving your health. Don't be afraid to look into more exotic ways of keeping yourself in shape. There are various excellent treatments

for massage and relaxing you right down to your toes. It may also be beneficial to look into other ways of exercising, such as dance or water aerobics. Anything that gets you going is worth a try.

AQUARIUS *Jan. 20 - Feb. 18*
Your health looks pretty good, with nothing to mar the week ahead. But as a general reminder, it's always helpful for you to release those deep emotions. The tendency to hang on to bitterness or regret can wreak havoc with your body on a number of levels. If you work out daily and practice releasing those ingrained feelings, your energy will soar. Certain ailments will also clear up more easily.

PISCES *Feb. 19 - March 20*
On Friday, you're going to find that you have a lot more energy at your disposal. Whatever you do, don't burn yourself out. Take it easy if you're about to start a new exercise program. You don't want to damage muscles or ligaments and then have to give up. If you approach this gradually, you'll benefit in all ways. Remember to be kind to yourself.

CALENDARthis

KIWANIS CLUBS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On Aug. 7, Dale Gorman of Kids Community Dental Clinic 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

On Aug 12, the Altadena Order of the Phoenix will be making a presentation.

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:

- The last week of *Camp Runamuk* takes place Aug. 10-14 and focuses on "Backyard Fun." Learn more/register at cclcf.org/register.
- Fall I Registration*: Fall I session

is eight weeks and starts on Aug. 24. View upcoming Fall I includes new classes and returning favorites. Learn more at cclcf.org/register.

•*CCLCF Open House*: CCLCF is hosting a free open house event on Sunday, Aug. 16 from 1-5 p.m., to showcase classes and programs. A day of free class demos, music, games & more. Learn more at cclcf.org/events.

•CCLCF Presents. September marks the start of the new CCLCF entertainment series, dedicated to bringing exceptional monthly programming to the community. The inaugural event is Jazz Night on Saturday, Sept. 19. More info coming soon.

•*Thanksgiving Run*. The 33rd Annual Thanksgiving Day 5K & Kids Mile is coming up on Nov. 26. Summer sale started Aug. 1 with the lowest registration fees available. Register early for summer savings. Learn more at cclcf.org/run.

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

SIGN UP NOW FOR MODERN SQUARE DANCING

A new 14-week beginner's class in modern square dancing starts on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 7:45 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. The first two classes are free. No partner needed.

Meet new people while getting exercise for both body and mind. Learn the "steps to fun!"

For info, email illi313@yahoo.com or visit www.setsinstep.org.

EAGLE ROCK TRAINING STUDIO OPENS FOR VISION NON-PROFIT

Aion Personal Training will host two community workout sessions benefiting the Power of Sight Foundation on Saturday, Aug. 15 at its Eagle Rock studio, see [CALENDAR THIS](#) on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE

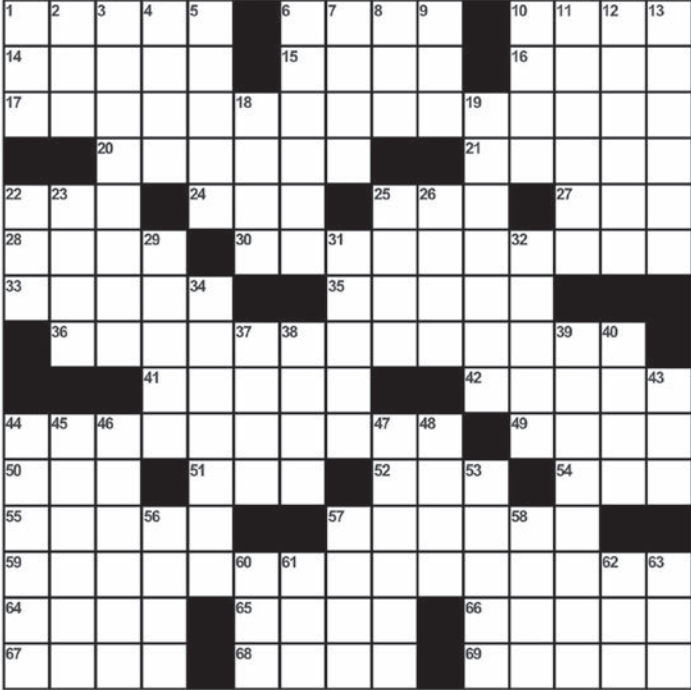


ACROSS

- Window sill
- Mountain climber's obstacle
- Door fastener
- At full throttle
- A dollar, in some places
- Type of saxophone
- Avoids doing a thorough job
- Pieces for piano students
- Some green pods
- Actor Kilmer
- Suffix for "velvet"
- Winter ailment
- Form into a knot
- Part of the human eye
- Certain communists
- Delirium or hysteria
- Campus females, once
- Doesn't quite play by the book
- Cherish
- The "p" of 6p
- It's actually a rodent
- "It's now or never" time
- Deep sleep stage
- Caribou kin
- Hold up
- Vehicle for the off-road
- Swords that are not dangerous
- Bother persistently
- Finishes camping
- Large part of an atlas
- Thing to hum
- It's a wrap, clearly
- "___ me up, Scotty!"
- Aweather's opposite
- Beginning

THE ART OF ORIGAMI

By Rob Lee



DOWN

- Fond du ___, Wisc.
- Flightless bird
- NBC news program
- General meaning
- Follow as a result
- Construction material
- Bemoans
- A compass can form one
- Baby's first word, sometimes
- Baseball legend Aaron
- Warns of danger
- Channel of the sea
- Sheriff's emergency assistants
- Some forms of poetry
- Big name in weed killers
- Vigor go-with
- Omani, for one
- Arctic ice sheet
- One who is in a horizontal position
- High point for Moses
- Was in pain
- Stranded like Gilligan
- Number for a house
- Gardener's need
- Long journey
- Consumers of a product
- "Get outta here, cat!"
- Optometrist's interest
- Assembled in advance
- Lie comfortably
- Aviator Earhart
- Certain fruit
- He came after Quayle
- Lowest operatic voice
- Cheese tray choice
- Polish, as one's skills
- Mr. Musial
- Part of North America
- Campaign pro
- Dundee negative
- Blasting stuff

see ANSWERS on following page

My Hotel Reservation Disappeared. Why Won't Booking.com Refund Me for My New Room?

Stephen Stein arrives at his hotel for a family gathering only to find his reservation missing. Booking.com promises to cover the extra cost of a new room but then traps him in a cycle of endless paperwork. Is there a way out?

Question: I reserved a two-bedroom suite at Homewood Suites by Hilton in Bonita Springs, Florida through Booking.com. When our party of three adults arrived at the hotel a desk agent told us he had no reservation for us, despite my providing him with the Booking.com confirmation number.

I called Booking.com but the representative was not able to give me a quick resolution. This was critical because we were due for a family dinner in 90 minutes.

On our own, we found an alternative hotel nearby but it only had regular rooms available—no suites. We booked two rooms directly, which cost \$126 more than the original Booking.com reservation. I called Booking.com and a representative promised to cover approximately half of the difference.

In the days following, I made many calls to Booking.com to confirm the payment. Each time, the company came up with a different excuse for not

authorizing payment.

After over three hours of waiting time and talking with agents, I've given up. Can you help me get my money back? – Stephen Stein, Coral Gables, Florida

Answer: That's no way to start a family trip. Booking.com should have secured your reservation at the Homewood Suites or, if the hotel was overbooked, it should have immediately found you comparable accommodations.

When you book through an online travel agency like Booking.com, you are adding a middleman to the transaction. Usually, this works seamlessly. (Also an online agency can save you money.) But sometimes this extra layer causes your trip to come apart at the seams.

It looks like you did everything right. You had your confirmation number. When the hotel turned you away, you contacted Booking.com

immediately.

It's standard industry practice for a booking agent or hotel to cover the difference in cost if they must relocate you to a different property due to an error. Booking.com agreed to this in principle but then trapped you in a bureaucratic loop.

The requests for proof of currency were particularly absurd. You were booking a hotel in Florida using a U.S. credit card; the currency was obviously U.S. dollars. You provided credit card statements and invoices from the hotel manager, which should have been sufficient.

You can prevent this in the future by calling the hotel directly a few days before your arrival to confirm your reservation, especially when traveling during peak periods. Don't trust a confirmation from a third party. Get it directly from the hotel.

You escalated your complaint to the customer service executives



using the Booking.com contacts on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org. When that didn't work, my advocacy team reached out to Booking.com on your behalf.

The company reviewed your case and refunded \$126, the full price difference between your original rate and the replacement hotel room, a much better resolution than the

original offer.

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

2777 W. Broadway, Los Angeles. Sessions run at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

The Power of Sight Foundation is a Los Angeles County non-profit that operates free pop-up vision clinics for people without vision insurance or the means to pay. A volunteer optometrist performs the eye exam on site and prescription glasses are manufactured the same day in a mobile optical lab, so patients walk out wearing them.

Both sessions are open to the community and no training experience is required. Attendance is a \$10 minimum per person and every dollar collected goes to the Power of Sight Foundation. A representative from the foundation will speak about the organization's work before the workout begins.

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

1	L	E	D	G	E		6	C	R	A	G		10	H	A	S	P
14	A	M	A	I	N		15	E	U	R	O		16	A	L	T	O
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RELIGION

RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY



**Center for Spiritual Living
La Crescenta**
4845 Dunsmore Ave, La Crescenta, CA 91214

Sr. Minister, Rev. Mary Morgan
Meditation at 9:30-9:45 am
Service at 10:00 am

Come share Faith, Love and Community.
We offer a Sanctuary for the Soul and a Home for the Heart 
CSLLaCrescenta@gmail.com

**Crescenta Valley
United Methodist Church**



**WORSHIP
Sunday 10am**
Childcare and
Sunday School
offered at 10am.

PASTOR KEVIN KANG
2700 Montrose Ave
Montrose, CA 91020
www.cvumc.org



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS
Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church; Rabbi Janet Bieber; Rev. Mary Morgan and Laney Clevenger-White, RScP, Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta; Rev. Dabney Beck; Rev. Karin Ellis; La Cañada United Methodist Church; Guy Leemhuis, St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church; Kyle Sears, La Cañada Congregational Church; Holy Redeemer/St. James the Less churches; Dr. Mouris Yousef, La Crescenta Presbyterian Church; Pastors Andrew & Maria Segovia, Higher Vision Church; Dot Kim, La Crescenta Presbyterian Church.

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



HIGHLANDS CHURCH
**WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAYS @ 10AM**
4441 LA CRESCENTA AVE
818-249-5832
WWW.HIGHLANDSLA.COM



Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.
LA CAÑADA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CHURCH OF THE LIGHTED WINDOW
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

La Cañada Congregational Church is the oldest church in the Crescenta Valley. For over 125 years, we have been shaped by the stories of our community and the story of God. We invite you to join us in writing the future of our community!

1200 Foothill Blvd, La Cañada Flintridge
(parking lots on Foothill or Verdugo)
www.lacanadachurch.org

Light on the Corner Church



Pastor Jon Karn
1911 Waltonia Drive
Montrose
(818) 249-4806

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 a.m.
www.lightonthecorner.org

**Lutheran Church
in the Foothills**

**1700 Foothill Blvd.
La Cañada Flintridge**

WORSHIP WITH US!
In Person and on YouTube
Sundays at 10 AM
Services available on our website during the week.
www.lcifoothills.org / 818-790-1951



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
3561 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta
office@molc.org • (818) 248-4253

Sunday Worship Service
(with Sunday School for kids) **9:30 AM**
Wednesday Bible Study
6:30 PM
Check out our Website!
www.molc.org
See us on Facebook!



COME MEET US!
**St. Luke's
of-the-Mountains
Episcopal Church**
Sundays
Gathering 9:30AM
Worship 10:00AM
Domingo Misa en Español a las 12:00PM
Sunday School and Child Care
All are Welcome
2563 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta
818-248-3639
http://stlukeslacrescenta.org/
www.facebook.com:
St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church

NOTES & NODS

FORGIVENESS WITH CESAR CARDONA
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills (UUCVH) once again welcomes writer and musician Cesar Cardona. This time Cardona will bring a message about the value of forgiveness. He brings a personal feel as he speaks about experiences that have shaped his life and world view.
This is a powerful message delivered in a gentle manner from a modern Buddhist.
In person meets at 10:30 a.m. (Pacific) at 4451 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta or visit the UUCVH website for the Zoom link <https://www.uuverdugo.org/>.

WATERPALOOZA! AT LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Build friendships and beat the heat at Waterpalooza!, an afternoon of waterslides, water games and wet, wild fun at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church on Saturday, Aug. 29 from 1-3 p.m.
Families in the community are welcome at this free event, hosted

by LCPC Children's Ministries. Parents must stay with their children for the entirety of the event.
Waterpalooza! will take place on the church campus at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, visit lcpc.net or call the LCPC office at (818) 249-6137.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR INSPIRATION, FELLOWSHIP
Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) welcomes all to its Sunday morning service, which will reflect on themes of trust, grace and finding courage when life feels uncertain. The upcoming sermon will focus on the familiar story from Matthew 14:22-33 when Jesus walks on water to meet his disciples in the midst of a storm and reaches out to save a sinking Peter. Worship on Sunday, Aug. 9 begins at 10 a.m. Children's Church is offered at the same time and includes a Bible lesson, games, snacks and a craft.
Beyond Sunday morning

Reprinted from May 2022

Question: *I'm retired after working for 42 years as a CPA. I'm also divorced and have two grown children. Throughout my working years, I met friends twice a week for drinks. After retiring, I found myself drinking way too much. I regularly attend AA meetings. I also am not joining my friends for drinks anymore. They nag me to join them and tell me I can have a soda or coffee. I like them but really no longer have anything in common with them. My children were happy that I went to rehab and told me they thought I drank too much when they were growing up.*
Is there a gentle way to get my former drinking buddies to understand that I'm done with that part of my life? I don't want to hurt any feelings.

~Alcohol Free

Dear Alcohol Free,
Congratulations on your months of sobriety! You and your family must be proud!
As we transition into new seasons

worship, LCIF also invites the community to gather for its next monthly "Prayer Breakfast," scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 6 at 9 a.m. at the La Cañada McDonald's. Grab a bite to eat at the counter and then head to the rear dining room for a time of food, fellowship and prayer. Organizers say the breakfast offers a relaxed, welcoming environment to meet new people, build friendships and feel a sense of community.
LCIF also thanks the community for contributing to its summer school supply drive. The church will be assembling school supply bags to be distributed worldwide to children in need. In addition, the church collected more than 60 brand new backpacks. They will be delivered to "Making it Happen," a Sunland-based non-profit organization that will distribute the backpacks directly to local families in need this fall. LCIF thanks everyone who donated to its annual collection drive.
For more information on all church events, or to receive pastoral care, visit lcifoothills.org, email office@lcifoothills.org, or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9

a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

CSL OFFERS GENTLE MOVEMENT CLASS
The Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta is offering a gentle stretch and relax chair movement with Michelle Gillette. It takes

place every Friday from 10 to 11 a.m. The cost is a \$10 donation.
The class is at Chaffee Hall in the Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta.
The Center for Spiritual Living is located at 4845 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, call (818) 249-1045.

problem (to put it bluntly). You don't need that kind of "friend." Focus on making and cultivating authentic friendships where your beliefs and convictions are applauded and valued, possibly with some who attend your AA meetings.
If you choose to continue any of the "old" relationships, find other activities to do and places to meet together. You could suggest a restaurant for lunch or dinner, or meet them at a coffee shop where alcohol isn't even offered. Going to a movie or doing some other activity, like hiking, bowling, taking a walk, etc., could be enjoyable and help to cultivate a new aspect of your relationship. Who knows? Maybe you'll find that there are others in your after work drinking group who are also looking for something beyond being "drinking buddies."
You've forged a new path for your future ... Keep up the good work!
Cheering you onward and upward,

Pastor Dabney Beck
dabneybeck.ss@gmail.com

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

Hybrid DocTalks

The Jaw Risk Nobody Talks About: Bone Medications and Your Dental Health

Thursday, September 17th 12-1 p.m.
Medications used to treat osteoporosis and cancer-related bone disease are powerful tools for protecting skeletal health, but they carry an important and often overlooked risk to the jaw. This talk explores a serious condition called Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ), where the jawbone loses its ability to heal properly following dental procedures or injury. Whether you are managing osteoporosis or undergoing cancer treatment, understanding this risk can help you and your dental team make safer, more informed decisions together.

Ara Mirzaians, DDS
Dr. Ara Mirzaians is a Board Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon with hospital privileges at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital and Huntington Medical Center. He specializes in implant dentistry and oral pathology, with a deep commitment to ethical, patient-centered specialty care. Dr. Mirzaians is dedicated to educating and empowering his local community.



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

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

For updates and announcements, follow us on:
 @USCVerdugoHillsHospitalFoundation
 @uscvh

To register, please call (818) 952-2228, scan the QR code or visit keckmedicine.org/events



USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Keck Medicine of USC

BUSINESS

NEWS FROM THE MONTROSE-VERDUGO CITY CHAMBER » MOLLY BURKE

Hot Temperatures Don't Cancel Fun Times

Man, it's hot! And according to Mary O'Keefe's column on page 2, relief is not in the foreseeable future.

But despite the heat, the Chamber has been busy! On July 23, we hosted a "members only" barbecue! Held at Bob Smith Toyota in La Crescenta (courtesy of CV Chamber board member Pete Smith) the evening event was a heated affair – and not only due to the outside temperature! Hot dogs, cold beverages and dessert were part of a night dedicated to thanking our Chamber members for investing their time and money in the CV Chamber.

Finishing up July, on July 29 we held our social hour at Basin 141 in Montrose. A great crowd showed up, enjoying each other's company and the food and beverages that Basin 141 is known for. Our next social hour is planned for Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. at John Sparr Tavern at 3437 Ocean View Blvd.; plan now to attend!

On July 31, some Chamber board members headed to the Hollywood Bowl – courtesy of Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Before the concert, we were invited to a private reception with the Supervisor at 7 p.m. before heading in to enjoy the music of Tchaikovsky and a dynamic fireworks show. It was a magical night!

Looking ahead, on Aug. 13 the Chamber is having a mixer at Faced at 3156 Pennsylvania Ave. in La Crescenta. This is a wellness event that will feature advice on skincare from Kira Antuna and holistic healing by chiropractor Dr. Mark Anthony. Admission is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members!

The CV Chamber is a vibrant and active Chamber. Let's welcome some of our newest members:

- Empire Cigars and Spirits – Located in Montrose, Empire Cigars and Spirits offers one of



Photo by Donna Libra
The members only barbecue was a heated affair.



OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY AUG 16 1-5PM

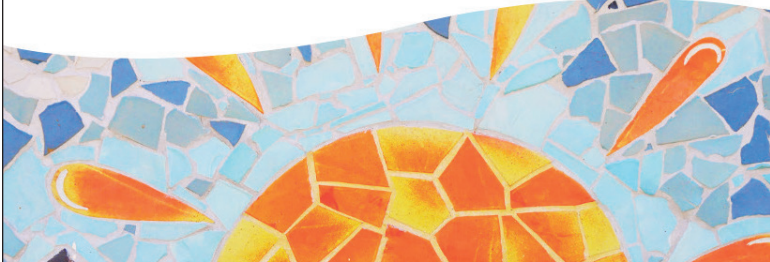
- FREE Event
- Class Demos
- Meet the Instructors
- Performances
- Refreshments
- Raffle



Community Center

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- Environmental 911 – This family-founded disaster response service opened in 1999. Environmental 911 has worked with property owners, insurance companies, independent adjusters, general contractors, franchise recovery companies and countless other clients to help them after leaks, floods,

earthquakes, windstorms, fires, vehicle accidents and other disasters. Located at 2070 E. Walnut St. in Pasadena, visit www.enviro911.com or call Kim or Joe at (626) 316-6651 or (626) 316-6657.

- Erics Mobile Auto Spa – Specialty services include scuff removal, headlight restoration, engine detailing, pet hair removal, lease end turn in, PPF wrap removal and more! "I have worked hard to be the very best at what I do. From the ease of scheduling, talking about the outcome they are trying to achieve, or my transparency with pricing, my clients have said that the entire experience

was seamless!" Call Eric Young at (818) 797-5396 or visit <https://www.ericsmobileautospa.com/>.

To learn more about the Chamber visit us www.crescentvalleychamber.org or click on the QR code.

Robin Goldsworthy, President
CV Chamber of Commerce



NEWS FROM THE MONTROSE-VERDUGO CITY CHAMBER » MOLLY BURKE

The Excitement Is Building

August is here and we're excited to continue celebrating the community that makes Montrose so special. We want to congratulate Chief Robert William on his swearing-in and share how proud we are to see someone from our own community stepping into this important role. We look forward to working alongside him and continuing to support the strong partnership between our local businesses, residents and public safety leaders.

The excitement continues as we prepare for the 47th Annual Montrose Oktoberfest, proudly supported by Babaia's Law Firm, on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Honolulu Avenue. This beloved community tradition is filled with carnival rides and games, delicious food, wine and beer, live entertainment, kids activities, contests and fun for all ages.

Before Oktoberfest arrives, there's even more to look forward to! Join us for our next mixer at Mosaic Hair Studio, 2513 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose on Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 6 p.m.–8 p.m. Our mixers are open to everyone and are a great opportunity to meet local businesses, make new connections and unwind.

We're also excited to bring back Road to Oktoberfest Bingo before the big day! Stay tuned to our Facebook and Instagram for the official date announcement and event details. It's always a fun evening of bingo, prizes and community spirit and we can't wait to kick off Oktoberfest season with you.

Thank you for your continued support of the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce. We look forward to bringing you more workshops, mixers and community events and we hope you enjoy the rest of your summer!

Celebrating Our New MVCC Members!:

- * *Bon' Bon' Cafe & The Munch Bar* – Fresh coffee, sweet treats & snacks – served from our charming vintage café stand. instagram.com/bonbonmunchbar
- * *Atavola Cheese Shop Inc.* – Your local shop for charcuterie boards, boxes, grazing tables and cups that will be opening soon! atavolacheeseshop.com
- * *Net Accounting & Taxes* – Helping small business owners simplify their finances with AI-powered bookkeeping, proactive tax support, secure document management and personalized service. netaccounting.co

Celebrating Our Returning MVCC Members!:

- * *J's Maintenance and Maids* – Offers janitorial and home cleaning services for residential homes, schools, office buildings and much more. (818) 247-8778
- * *YMCA of the Foothills* – Their mission is to organize, develop, finance and conduct programs for an association of persons of all ages that will, by putting Christian principles into practice, enrich the quality of their lives spiritually, mentally, physically and socially. ymcafoothills.org
- * *Panos Production Photography* – Glendale-based portrait studio for newborn, baby and pregnancy photos. panosproductions.net
- * *American Savings Financial Services* – Provides personalized lending solutions for home, commercial, business, construction, home equity and private money loans. Their team combines competitive rates, expert guidance and boutique service to help clients find the financing option that's right for them. americansavingsloans.com
- * *Play & Talk Bilingual Therapy* – Provides both clinical and home-based bilingual speech-language services to the L.A. area pediatric population in order to enhance their verbal/non-verbal communication skills. playandtalktherapy.com

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/BUSINESS

LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Directors of Foothill Municipal Water District will conduct a public hearing on August 24, 2026 at the hour of 4:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, to consider the adoption of an ordinance establishing compensation for directors of the municipal water district and for persons representing the municipal water district as a director of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The Board will consider compensating such person for up to ten meetings per month at the rate of \$156.11/meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE all interested persons are invited to attend and provide written and oral comment.
Dated: August 6, 2026

Board Secretary, Nina Jazmadarian
Foothill Municipal Water District

Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly August 6, 2026.

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.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT IN CANYON COUNTRY

Upstairs unit with vaulted ceiling. 2 bdrms, 2 baths with shower and shower/tub. Granite counter in kitchen. Built-in microwave. Walk-in closet. All new carpets and paint. Complex has jacuzzi and pool. 2 assigned parking spaces. Credit and background checks. Tenant pays application fees. Apply by calling the landlord at (818) 652-1145. \$2200/mo, \$2500 deposit.

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www.cvweekly.com

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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.

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WANTED/NEEDED

WANTED

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WANTED

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TRAFFIC from Cover

and even freeways, can be more congested. Buses will once again be traveling from Glendale to far north Glendale with students heading to Clark Magnet High School on New York Avenue. That traffic affects all parts of Glendale as students make their way to get on school buses.

“Drivers who do not have children in school should still expect major changes in traffic patterns as the school year begins. School buses, pedestrians, bicyclists and additional vehicles will be on the road during the morning and afternoon commute,” Pereyda said.

Often many drivers who have students attending school do not give themselves enough travel time.

“Drivers should leave a little earlier, slow down near schools and residential areas, stay off their phones, watch carefully at crosswalks and be prepared for children to enter the roadway unexpectedly. It is also important to obey all school bus laws; never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended,” he added.

Pereyda said it is important that all drivers be aware of their surroundings and not be distracted when driving.

“CHP continues to identify distracted driving as a major safety concern with more than 111,000 distracted-driving citations issued statewide in 2025,” Pereyda said.

And there will be law enforcement around and near schools as the year begins including CHP. CHP patrols streets in the unincorporated area of LA County, La Crescenta/ Montrose. Other areas, like Glendale and Burbank, have their own police departments. La Cañada Flintridge streets are patrolled by LASD/Crescenta Valley Station.

“CHP officers regularly monitor school areas and surrounding roadways, particularly during the beginning of the school year when traffic patterns change and students are returning to campus. We work with local schools and law-enforcement partners to identify traffic concerns and address unsafe driving behavior,” Pereyda said. “Our patrol efforts may include increased visibility and targeted enforcement where needed, but our goal is not simply to issue citations. The priority is preventing collisions, encouraging safe driving and helping students, parents and school staff get to and from campus safely.”

Glendale Unified School District begins classes on Aug. 19. Public school sessions in the Burbank Unified School District begin on Aug. 13.

Parents and guardians are also advised by law enforcement to know the rules and regulations concerning e-bikes, which are allowed on the streets, and e-motorcycles or e-motos, which are not street legal.

For CHP information on e-bikes/e-motos visit <https://tinyurl.com/uuanb3zv>.

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