

Council Approves Cost Increase for Scholl Canyon Biogas Project

By Julie BUTCHER

"Next week, things get real," said Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian reminding Glendaleans at Tuesday night's meeting of the Glendale City Council that the quiet of summer traffic will come to an end next week as school drop offs begin anew. He added that the council has worked with the local police department and public works department to ensure drop offs go smoothly and to set a good tone for the school year. The mayor urged patience and calm: "Be safe out there."

Mayor Kassakhian also reported on his recent trip to Sacramento. While there he spoke at the Assembly Select Committee on California and Armenia Mutual Trade, Art, and Cultural Exchange, along with representatives of featured Glendale business ServiceTitan, a "tremendously successful publicly traded company founded by two Glendale public school graduates." While in the state capital, Kassakhian reported lobbying for increased local resources, particularly in light of cuts to federal housing assistance.

Crediting Councilmember Elen Asatryan for the initial sponsorship, Mayor Kassakhian announced the return of the Southern California Chess Open, one of the state's largest chess tournaments, happening in Glendale over the Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4 - 7. For more information or to register to participate, visit <https://glendaleplayschess.com/>.

On Tuesday night, the council approved an increase of up to \$2 million for environmental monitoring of the Scholl Canyon biogas project, expected to be completed in September 2027.

Ejmin Hakobian questioned why the contract was amended rather than sent out for a competitive bid and why the contract cost overrun was placed on the consent calendar.

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

School Days Return – in Less Than a Week

By Mary O'KEEFE

Improvements completed and new staff members will greet students.

The 2026-27 school year begins on Aug. 19 at public schools within the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD). Last week CVW covered traffic and how it will increase on local streets, affecting not just those who have students in school but for general traffic as well.

There are a few things that the GUSD administration is anticipating, including laying the groundwork for launching the district's eighth Dual Language Immersion program, Western Armenian, at Glenoaks Elementary beginning in the 2027-28 school year. The program reflects the district's ongoing commitment to expanding educational opportunities while celebrating the rich cultural diversity of the local community. Additionally, there were new math adoptions for the year, Curriculum Associates for grades kindergarten through grade five and Amplify for grades six through eight, according to a GUSD spokesperson.

Some improvements at Crescenta



File photo
At a previous back to school morning students were welcomed with festive balloons and school dignitaries.

Valley High School were completed over the summer including the addition of a new pool deck and the installation of nearby bleachers.

It is important to note that there will be no food deliveries except at lunch at Crescenta Valley High School. All food deliveries that come outside of lunch will be held in the

main office until lunch or after school. The school does offer free lunch and breakfast at school every day.

All students must have their physical school identification at all times. All visitors must check in through the "raptor" system at the front door. Driver's licenses or other

forms of photo identification are required at the time.

Back to School night is scheduled on Sept. 10.

A virtual parent meeting for all ninth grade parents and parents of new students to CVHS will be tonight, Thursday, Aug. 13 from 6 p.m. see BTS on page 7

Looking – Again – at Developments in the Crescenta Valley Area

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

At 2817 Montrose Ave., the former Unity Church of the Valley site, the developer is proposing to demolish the church and to construct a four-story, 42-unit, multi-family residential building with 69 parking spaces.



By Mary O'KEEFE

There are more changes coming to the Crescenta Valley, including far north Glendale. Today, Aug. 13, there is a meeting with members of the Glendale Design Review Board concerning two new projects in the area. A notice of public hearing was distributed to nearby neighbors.

A development project is proposed for 2817 Montrose Ave. The former Unity Church of the Valley was originally constructed in 1957 with an addition added in 1960. The developer is proposing to demolish the church and to construct a four-story, 42-unit, multi-family residential building

with 69 parking spaces.

The project, according to the City of Glendale, would include five units of affordable to very low-income households. The project will be about 36,165 square feet and is in the medium to high residential density zone.

"The project is exempt from CEQA review as a Class 32 'In-Fill Development Project' exemption pursuant to Section 15332 of the State CEQA Guidelines because after review and consideration of all technical reports and/or studies, staff determined the project meets all the conditions for an infill development project," according to the City of Glendale.

see DEVELOPMENTS on page 5

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

It Sure Is Pretty

Have you seen the new crosswalk at Piedmont and La Crescenta avenues? It is very colorful, to say the least. Apparently the new crosswalk is part of the City of Glendale's La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project.

"This intersection features upgraded pedestrian crossings, signalized improvements and newly installed high-visibility decorative crosswalks," according to the City of Glendale website.

I don't know if you noticed, but there is also a new "pedestrian crossing" light that was installed at Piedmont and La Crescenta. Good thing, too, since when crossing that intersection people take their lives in their hands! (If you're unsure where the intersection is, it's near where the American Legion/Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall is on the west side of the street and the La Crescenta Woman's Club house on the east side of the street.)

I got some "nasty" email (as well as some "atta girl" email) when I last wrote about the project (the "Elusive Bicyclist" column, published on July 2, drew ire and praise). It does make me laugh, though, that what I wrote was true and accurate: an entire traffic lane was destroyed and parking spaces were sacrificed.

But I digress. Apparently the colorful crosswalk at Piedmont and La Crescenta is just one of several that the City of Glendale authorized. I wonder how they chose each location – the number of cars that pass



Image by Lynn McGINNIS

that way, the number of bicyclists that cross the crosswalk? – and I am also curious as to how each design will be maintained. Will they be repainted as needed?

According to the city's website, the Creative Crosswalks Program, overseen by the city's Library, Arts & Culture Dept., is accepting proposals until Sept. 18 for more crosswalk art, this time reflecting the city's Sister Cities Program.

To learn more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3vp9bdmz>.

In the meantime, keep an eye on the crosswalk at Piedmont and La Crescenta – I think it's real pretty - right now. I just hope the city has some way of keeping it looking good.

Oh, as far as seeing any more bicyclists along La Crescenta Avenue – I haven't seen any yet.

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

My brother called me on Aug. 5 and said, "We have a tornado." Those words took me back to my younger days in Iowa when August meant tornado season – but it's been a while since either my brother or I have had to get in tornado mode.

My brother lives in far south Arizona, near Tombstone. After his initial call he began sending me videos of a funnel cloud above his home. In fact, on the night of Wednesday, Aug. 5, there was a funnel cloud spotted near Nicksville, which is just south of where my brother lives. Luckily the clouds continued to move and did not touch down but the storm brought a lot of hail, rain and strong winds.

The news programs there were telling everyone to get "to your basement," which is difficult because there aren't many people who have basements in the area of Arizona where my brother lives. There were other safety suggestions but none would work where he lives. Again, luckily the storm passed without a tornado touch down but it made me realize how unprepared not only he was for this type of weather but how I had become complacent in my storm/fire preparedness.

Over the last few days, including yesterday, wildfires seemed to be everywhere in our area. Our amazing fire departments made quick work of most of them but still there were evacuation warnings given to many residents. If you are like me you think you are prepared. You know exactly what you would grab before going when the need to evacuate is ordered, but I just went through a quick drill and realized I am not as prepared as I used to be.

When I first moved here I was a bit obsessed with being prepared for earthquakes and wildfires. I had the family earthquake bags in my car, made sure all the important papers, including photos and jump drives, were in a box ready to grab and I had a meeting place arranged for all family members in case we got separated. I recently found my old earthquake bag, which still included children's clothes that would no longer fit my grown kids. My grab-and-go "important papers box" was buried deep in a closet.

I have covered fires and earthquakes for years. I know the importance of Ready. Set. Go., the fire program that helps people prepare, and I was prepared – but I have not updated anything in years.

I think I just took for granted that I would know what to do if an emergency arose, but the truth is when the time comes we shouldn't be thinking, "Where is that bag? Where is the flashlight and batteries? What do I do again in an earthquake?"

My prayers go out to those who are recovering from the recent earthquakes in Venezuela and Colombia. These events do serve as a warning to us to get ready. Have you an up-to-date earthquake bag in your car? Do you know what to do in case of an earthquake? I suggest downloading an application like MyShake or ShakeAlert.

Below are some suggestions for getting ready for wildfires and evacuations and earthquakes.

Ready Set Go is an educational system that was created by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and local agencies including LA County Fire Dept.

see WEATHER on page 5

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

ROSEMONT PRESERVE EVENT

On Sunday, Aug. 16 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., an open gate event takes place at the Rosemont Preserve. 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.

Note that volunteers are sought to host open gate events at Rosemont Preserve. Hosts unlock the gate, welcome in visitors and field questions about the Preserve. Those who would like to be trained to host an open gate event can reach out to Kyle Cavazos at kylecavazos@arroyosfoothills.org.

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.

APPS BEING ACCEPTED FOR LEADERSHIP GLENDALE

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

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

CONCERTS, LECTURES AND MORE AT MT. WILSON OBSERVATORY

On Friday, Aug. 14 and Saturday, Aug. 15 Mt. Wilson Observatory is hosting public ticket nights. The popular public ticket nights allow individuals, rather than just groups, to experience viewing celestial objects through its large, historic telescopes: the 60- and 100-inch telescopes – the two largest in the world dedicated to public viewing. The telescope sessions are guided by an experienced telescope operator and session director, both with a thorough knowledge of the best objects to observe and the history of the Observatory. All are invited to bring any food and non-alcoholic drinks. Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are provided. No children under 12 are permitted.

To learn more, including ticket costs and what telescopes are available, visit www.mtwilson.edu.

The Public Says Goodbye to Jackie

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Monday the sad news was released that Jackie, the bald eagle, had passed away. Since mid-July Jackie had been struggling for life at the Ojai Raptor Center after she was seen being attacked by other eagles in a territorial dispute. However, it was soon discovered that the attack was not her real health issue; she was suffering from severe anemia and kidney inflammation.

Jackie had captured the attention of California, and the nation, since she hatched in Big Bear Valley, the area's first documented chick hatch.

According to Friends of Big Bear Valley, "The first bald eagle chick ever hatched in Big Bear Valley was discovered. (Forest Service historical record searches confirmed that no active bald eagle nests had ever been recorded in Big Bear Valley.) The parents were called Ricky and Lucy by the Forest Service. Their chick was named Jack, after a long-time volunteer for the Forest Service bald eagle counts. Before it fledged, that chick grew to be bigger than both its parents. Since bald eagle females are larger than the males, this meant the chick had to be female. So, Jack's name was changed to Jackie."

The original nest was in the top of a dead tree but that soon blew away in a storm; however, Jackie's parents had already been working on another nest in a stronger tree. They soon moved their family to that nest.

Lucy and Ricky were observed sitting on their nest for a long time, much longer than it would take to hatch eggs. It was thought that these eggs may have frozen. In the fall of 2013 and summer of 2014, the couple had two new chicks but neither survived a major four-day rain, wind and snow storm. There were two small chicks seen in the nest prior to the storm, but then no chicks after the storm.

This was all prior to the camera being set up that people have become so used to. Observations were made at a distance until then. Finally in October 2015, after two years of planning and fundraising, Friends of Big Bear Valley obtained Forest Service permits and installed the eagle nest camera, according to Friends of Big Bear Valley.

"Unknown to us or the Forest Service until a few months later, Ricky and Lucy had found a more



Jackie, a bald eagle that became a media darling thanks to a camera placed in her nest by Friends of Big Bear Valley, died this week.

sheltered tree and built a new nest about 1/4 mile from this one. They successfully raised two chicks – named Moonlight and Sky (by the third graders and Forest Service) – while the nest with the camera on it sat empty," according to the Friends of Big Bear Valley.

In the fall of 2016 and summer of 2017 another eagle began making its home in the now emptied nest. Due to the age of the eagle it was determined that this was Jackie, that she had returned home. From that point forward,

the public watched as Jackie had successful hatches though she was unsuccessful in love. She had different mates, from Mr. B to Shadow. Eventually, Mr. B was out and Shadow was Jackie's new mate.

see JACKIE on page 5

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NOTES & NODS

LCIF TO HOST BOOK CLUB MEETUP AND BLOOD DRIVE

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) will hold its next book club gathering on Monday, Aug. 17 at 1 p.m. in the church's conference room to discuss the first part of "Personal History" by Katharine Graham. Graham's Pulitzer Prize-winning memoir chronicles her journey from a privileged upbringing and early family life to her unexpected emergence as one of the most powerful women in American journalism. All interested community members and avid readers are welcome to attend the discussion. LCIF's book club meets monthly. The selection for September is part two of Graham's memoir.

In addition to its monthly gathering, LCIF will partner with the American Red Cross to host a community blood drive on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The drive comes as the Red Cross faces a persistent national blood supply shortage, driven by lower seasonal donor turnout and surging hospital demand. Type O blood products, critical for emergency procedures and trauma care, remain in particularly short supply. Every

single donation helps replenish vital local supplies and can save up to three lives. Donors can schedule an appointment in advance at redcrossblood.org. Walk-in donors are also welcome throughout the day.

LCIF also invites all to attend Sunday worship at 10 a.m., led by Pastor Viv Vega. Children's Church is held concurrently and includes a Bible lesson, games, craft and a snack.

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.

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.

ANGELS, GHOSTS AND OTHER BELIEFS WITH DEBBIE DELMAR

Most have had moments in life that can't be fully explained – a coincidence, a powerful intuition or an experience that made us pause and wonder. This presentation by retired Disney executive and attorney Debbie DelMar explores whether consciousness might exist beyond the brain and whether people occasionally tap into something larger than themselves. Using stories ranging from personal strange mental awakenings to famous predictions and even insights from an astronaut looking back at Earth from space, the talk invites curiosity, reflection and the sharing of a few mysteries from our own lives.

In person is 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/.

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.

» PART I

GUSD Prepares for New School Year

By Eliza PARTIKA

The Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) Board of Education met on Aug. 11 for its first meeting of the 2026-27 school year. Board members approved new contracts for curriculum and facilities, including new equipment trucks for award-winning school bands throughout the District, and approved a new automotive training partnership with Glendale Community College and Hoover High School.

GUSD welcomed two new Board members at its July 14 meeting. Returning Board member Kathleen Cross (Trustee Area C) was named GUSD Board president, and new Board members Dr. Aileen Dinkjian (Trustee Area D) and Greg Krikorian (Trustee Area B)

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were sworn into office. Dinkjian and Krikorian emphasized collaboration and expressed excitement for their new roles. "I am excited to support students. I invite principals to make time and arrange a meeting to continue to learn about your priorities, your vision and how we can support and grow together," said Dinkjian.

"I am excited to collaborate and to find our rhythm," said Krikorian of his position.

Inquiries came from local organizations including the Glendale Association of Realtors, which wanted to know more about school-related bonds and property taxes and how it can help fund schools. Krikorian invited the community and other Board members to Coffee with Krikorian – hours he is organizing at local

coffee shops in his trustee area.

"Please come: parents, teachers, community members; anyone who wants to share or has questions about the District. Anything I do learn, I will share with the Board but I want this to be a collaboration," he said.

Comments from the public thanked the Board for tabling the discussion of a bond measure and property taxes and praised the Board's inclusion of community members in discussion about rates. One of those commenting, a Glendale homeowner and teacher, said she "appreciated the Board's sensitivity" as prices of everything from groceries to utilities to rent have increased.

"I appreciate the Board's sensitivity to this bond while basic expenses are high. see GUSD on page 7

Early Morning Fatal Hit and Run in La Cañada Flintridge

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Aug. 8 at about 5:07 a.m., Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station deputies responded to a call of a person down at the 4500 block of Indiana Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge. The call stated there was a woman lying in the middle of the street and a family member was performing CPR. Deputies arrived along with Los Angeles County Fire

Dept. personnel. Despite their lifesaving measures, the victim was pronounced deceased at approximately 5:35 a.m. The victim was a 66-year-old female resident of La Cañada Flintridge, according to a statement by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. (LASD). Preliminary information indicated a vehicle versus pedestrian hit-and-run had occurred. During the investigation

a suspect was located and interviewed. The suspect was identified as Daniel Auther, a 21-year-old male from La Cañada Flintridge. Auther, the alleged driver of the vehicle, was arrested for hit-and-run involving a death or injury, vehicle manslaughter while intoxicated and driving under the influence. The LASD, both the headquarters and Crescenta

Valley Sheriff's Station, released the name of the victim on social media as Glenda Razzano, who was an LASD custody assistant since 2006. "The men and women of the Crescenta Valley Station offer our deepest condolences to Glenda's family during this difficult time and the community of La Cañada Flintridge impacted by this tragedy," stated Captain Ryan A. Vienna.

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station Traffic Investigator Anderson at (818) 248-3464. Information can be reported anonymously by calling LA Crime Stoppers at (800) 222 TIPS or by visiting lacrimestoppers.org The person arrested for the crime is a suspect and is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

DEVELOPMENTS *from Cover*

A second proposed project at 2760 Hermosa Ave. will be heard during the same public hearing in Glendale today. At present on the site there is a one-story, 1,157 square foot single-family home that was built in 1940 that has a detached garage. The developer is proposing to build a four-story, 16,979 square foot multi-family residential building with 18 semi-subterranean parking spaces for 12 residential units. There will be two affordable units restricted to very low-income households. The new project will be on a 10,200 square foot corner lot that is in a medium to high density residential zone. There will be six two-bedrooms and six three-bedroom units.

"The project is exempt from CEQA review as a Class 32 'In-Fill Development Project' exemption pursuant to Section 15332 of the State CEQA Guidelines because after review and consideration of all technical reports and/or studies, staff determined the project meets all the conditions for an infill development project," according to the City of Glendale. There is another project that local residents are closely watching at Briggs Avenue and Foothill Boulevard – the former location of the Maylane, then the La Crescenta Motel. At present there is a green-covered fence surrounding the old motel property with equipment on-site that includes a bulldozer,

apparently at the ready. It appears the developer is preparing to demolish the motel. The developer, Abode Communities, has presented a development that includes a 66-unit project. This project had been downsized, by the developer, after concerns were shared by residents and community businesses. Even with the reduction of the number of units and some changes to the parking entrance and exit, the community still shared its concerns at meetings with Abode. Every unit in the project is to be affordable housing. In May Abode Communities was to appear before the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors to receive a decision on the funding for the

non-profit Abode project. In order to move forward funding for the project needs approval from three of the five supervisors. Abode, a non-profit organization, is asking for funding from LA County. On May 12, the board was supposed to vote on the approval of "funding for a multi-family affordable housing development" and a "resolution declaring intent to issue multi-family housing mortgage revenue bonds or notes for the development and construction of affordable multi-family housing." However, it was "referred back" and will return to the board of supervisors in the fall, according to an earlier article in CVW. There were many comments

from local residents and business owners sent to the LA Country Board of Supervisors, with the majority of them against the project. Fire danger and possible evacuation issues were among the many issues shared by those who opposed the project. CVW reached out to Abode Communities for comment on the possible demolition of the property; however, there was no response as of press time. CVW reached out to Public Works in LA County concerning the possible demolition. Representatives are working on getting a confirmation; however, CVW did not receive a response as of press time.

WEATHER *from page 2*

According to the LA County Fire Dept.: Ready – Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers Set – Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate Go – Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving. In earthquakes here are some suggestions from Earthquake Warning California: •MyShake App: Free smartphone app that provides iPhone and Android users with audio and

visual warnings [magnitude 4.5 or higher and Modified Mercalli Intensity III (weak) shaking]. Available in the Apple App and Google Play stores; •Android Earthquake Alerts: Android phones with updated operating systems are automatically subscribed to Android Earthquake Alerts, which uses the same technology as the MyShake App; and •Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs): No-cost text messages for emergency situations [earthquakes magnitude 5.0 or higher and Modified Mercalli

Intensity IV (light) shaking]. For more information about earthquake preparedness, visit <https://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov/>. Locally, Paul and Lisa Dutton with CV Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) have been reminding us for years to get ready. They are at so many events, including the recent National Night Out, providing information on how to prepare. They train residents to be part of CERT so they can help their neighbors. I think a lot of times we hear these warnings and think, "We will be okay," but we really

need to reassess our preparedness and really get ready, including hardening our homes against fires. The Duttons have been ringing these warning bells for years and we really do have to listen to them. Those who want to join CERT can contact the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station at (818) 248-2464. For our weather: We will be seeing a slight cooling trend over the next few days bringing our temperatures to mid to high 80s, which is below our normal temperature for this time of the year (90 degrees). But then we will

be going back up – a little. Today, Thursday, the high is expected to be in the high 70s; the same temperature will be seen on Friday then a little higher over the weekend – in the mid to high 80s – though still below the norm. For those who have gone to the beach lately and have found the water to be a little warmer than usual you can thank El Niño. NOAA still expects a "very large" El Niño this fall, which could bring more rain – but that is not a guarantee.

JACKIE *from page 3*

Throughout the years the public watched nature occur, from storms where chicks did not survive to strong chicks that did survive and leave the nest. People watched as Jackie and Shadow dealt with the loss of a chick. "During a multi-day snow storm this last season (fall 2024/ summer 2025), the first chick that hatched died around March 13. We were unable to view the nest bowl because of the big snow berm that had formed next to it. Several feet of snow had fallen in the area. We couldn't hear much because our mic had been damaged during the storm. The next day, Shadow pulled a deceased chick out of the nest bowl and placed it on the side of the nest; it was our first visual confirmation that it had passed. Jackie appeared to have had difficulty with what was happening, and she uncharacteristically stayed away from the nest for hours at a time. Shadow picked up her 'shifts' while she got some space. When Jackie returned she checked for

herself that the chick had died and then she flew it off the nest for a forest burial," according to the Friends of Big Bear Valley. But then in July 2026, Jackie was seen grounded and weak. On Aug. 10 the Ojai Raptor Center where Jackie was taken for medical care released a statement, "Bald Eagle 26-519 (Jackie): It is with profound sadness that we share that Patient 26-519 passed away in the early hours of this morning following more than three weeks of intensive medical care. Over the past several days, her condition continued to deteriorate despite intensive treatment and the combined efforts of our veterinary team and consulting specialists. She remained critically ill, receiving oxygen therapy, supportive treatment and around-the-clock monitoring in our Intensive Care Unit. Throughout her time at Ojai Raptor Center, every decision was guided by the available medical evidence, her welfare and our responsibility to do what was in

her best interest. Her remains have been transferred into the care of the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. We know this news will be deeply felt by the many thousands of people around the world who have followed her journey, hoped alongside us, prayed for her and supported the people caring for her. Our team is heartbroken. It has been an extraordinary privilege to care for her. We ask for patience and kindness as our staff process this loss. We are working closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and will provide a more comprehensive statement including additional information on her treatments and test results." Ojai Raptor Center survives on donations that help support the organization in their important work they do. To make a donation, to become a member of the Ojai Raptor Center and for general information, visit <https://www.ojairaptorcenter.org>.

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City of La Cañada Flintridge to Host its Annual Community Preparedness Day

The City of La Cañada Flintridge invites residents of all ages to attend its annual Community Preparedness Day on Thursday, Sept. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Olberz Park (One Civic Center Drive). This year's free, family-friendly event will focus on helping the community prepare for rain, flooding and other winter weather emergencies before the next major storm arrives.

Community Preparedness Day provides residents with practical information, hands-on activities and opportunities to connect with local public safety partners. Whether creating an emergency kit for the first time or updating an existing preparedness plan, attendees will leave with valuable resources and knowledge to help protect their families, homes and neighborhoods.

"Preparedness starts long before the emergency occurs," said Mayor Jeanne Kim Hobson. "Community Preparedness Day gives residents the opportunity to learn simple, practical steps they can take now to better protect their families and homes. We encourage everyone to join us for an engaging evening focused on building a safer, more resilient community."

Throughout the evening, attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about rain, flooding and winter storm preparedness
- Meet local first responders and emergency personnel
- Explore flood risks, evacuation planning and emergency alerts
- Visit interactive exhibits and participate in hands-on activities
- Enjoy live music, food from local vendors, lawn games and family-friendly activities
- Receive preparedness resources and giveaways

With little warning heavy rain and winter storms can bring flooding, mudflows, power outages and hazardous road conditions. Community Preparedness Day highlights the importance of preparing ahead of time by understanding local risks, building emergency supply kits, creating household emergency plans and staying informed through official emergency alerts.

Residents are encouraged to learn more about the event and explore additional preparedness resources by visiting the website <https://lcf.ca.gov/Annual-Community-Preparedness-Day/>.

Obituary

Arthur (Art) Cobery



July 12, 1929 - July 23, 2026

Arthur (Art) Cobery, 97, of La Crescenta passed away peacefully in his home on July 23 with his loving family by his side. He was born on July 12, 1929 in Fall River, Massachusetts.

After serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, Art went on to become a devoted husband, father and grandfather as well as an active member of the La Crescenta community and historical society. He dedicated much of his life to serving as an inspiring teacher where he shared his passion for history not only with the countless students he taught at Burbank High School, but with everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

He was the life of any party he attended and family and friends will always remember his infectious laugh, his perfectly-timed puns and his love for telling stories.

Art leaves behind a legacy of love, community stewardship and preservation of history.

A funeral Mass will be held for Art on Aug. 14 at Saint James the Less Church, 4651 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta, followed by burial at San Fernando Mission Cemetery.

Obituary

Stephen Francis Reger



April 30, 1958 - Aug. 2, 2026

Stephen Francis Reger, 68, passed away on Aug. 2 in Phoenix, Arizona. He was born on April 30, 1958 in Glendale to Bourke and Norma Reger.

Steve grew up in Tujunga and graduated from St. James the Less Catholic School. He was a 1976 graduate of St. Francis High School where he was very active in band and the pep squad. He went on to Loyola Marymount University and received a bachelor's degree in accounting and then to the University of Colorado – Denver where he earned his MBA in 1994. He retired from Wells Fargo as a technical project manager.

Steve had a lifelong love of music and guitars. He had a remarkable memory of local history and events and a witty sense of humor. He loved his school days at St. Francis and LMU and, as a Colorado alumnus, he became an avid Buffaloes football fan. He loved world travel with his wife, spending time with family and friends, his dogs and riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

He is survived by his former wife Sara; father Bourke; brother Paul (Kathy); sisters Kathleen (Bill) and Marianne (Pedro); aunt and uncle Rosie and Jack Arntzen; and cousins: Michael (Michele), Lori, Evan and Leila. He is preceded in death by his mother and cousin Olivia.

Stephen will be interred at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Cemetery in Reno, Nevada at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks friends to please donate in Stephen's memory to St. Francis High School in La Cañada, or Loyola Marymount University.

CRIME BLOTTER

AUG. 5

900 block of Town Center Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, deputies responded to the location concerning an attempted robbery. The victim reported he was sitting at a table inside the business talking on the phone; his back was to the entrance to the business. He was wearing a gold chain necklace with a "Virgin Mary" pendant around his neck and outside his shirt. While the victim was talking on the phone the suspect ran up to him from behind and grabbed the necklace. The suspect forcefully pulled at the necklace three times in an attempt to take the necklace from the victim. The suspect pulled on the necklace with such force it startled the victim and caused the necklace to wrap tightly around his neck, strangling him. The victim turned toward the suspect who ran out of the business.

The suspect was described as a male Hispanic about 5'5" tall, thin build, wearing a black hoodie, dark colored pants and a black face covering. The victim and his girlfriend searched for the suspect but was unable to locate him.

The incident occurred at 9:05 p.m.

occurred several times before she finally answered the call. The person on the other end of the phone call stated s/he was a representative [suspect] from "Citibank." The suspect told the woman s/he was calling her regarding fraudulent charges on her bank account. The suspect sent her a mobile link to verify her identity. She opened the mobile link, which took her to a webpage where she observed a transfer of funds that came from her Citibank account. She said she had not shared her personal information or bank information with anyone. She had not authorized any transfer of funds either. She reached out to Citibank and was working on closing her account.

The theft by false pretense occurred at 12 p.m.

2500 block of Whittier Drive in La Crescenta, deputies responded to a call concerning a possible burglary. The call stated that a passerby observed the security alarm going off and the front door of the location open. The homeowner [victim] observed through his security camera two male adults leaving his home with items in their hands.

The informant [passerby] stated he had heard a loud security alarm coming from the residence and noticed the front door open. He called into the home to see if anyone was home but no one responded. The informant

then called 9-1-1. The deputy contacted the resident of the home who told him he saw on his security camera two individuals, described as White males, exiting his home while holding several items. Suspect No. 1 was described as a White male adult, wearing a blue hat, gray shirt and jeans. He walked to the front of the residence carrying an orange bag and a backpack. The suspect was then seen leaving the home and the informant was then seen walking to the front of the residence. Although the resident first reported seeing two adults, when looking closer there was only one suspect and one informant seen.

The burglary occurred between 4:22 p.m. and 4:40 p.m.

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GUSD from page 4

I appreciated how you reached out to those not aware of the bond for further community outreach, as opposed to trying to convince us we need it,” the homeowner said.

Board members Dinkjian and Krikorian praised Hoover High School’s new automotive partnership with Glendale Community College and Rio Hondo College to expand the vocational training students receive from local businesses. Rio Hondo agreed to hire Hoover auto shop teacher Javier Luna as an adjunct so Hoover students could take college level automotive classes in high school.

“This is an exciting opportunity for our students,” said Dinkjian. “I had the pleasure to tour the automotive class and [saw] the vehicles and partnerships and [seeing] students learning hands-on on campus was such a special opportunity.”

The most pressing discussion at the meetings surrounded the adoption of a new facilities management contract with Facilitron. Facilitron is a platform that helps schools and other public institutions manage scheduling, maintenance orders, community rental requests, payments, insurance and facilities-use data.

The central discussions surrounded the Board’s concerns that the fees required for commission payments to Facilitron were cost prohibitive to the community organizations that use the facilities.

Board members Krikorian and Farid raised concerns about keeping GUSD facilities affordable for community organizations, including youth sports programs such as AYSO and Little League, which use services regularly with little to no cost. Of the 212 organizations that use district facilities, 46 would be charged commercial rates under the proposed system, according to the presentation on Facilitron compiled by Jennifer C. Gonzales, administrator, Maintenance, Operations, & Nutrition Services.

The Board questioned whether adding costs to cover the new platform could make facilities less accessible to the community, particularly for the many non-profit and youth organizations that would not generate enough rental revenue to offset a commission-based fee structure.

“If at some point we are making a profit, or we are making another company a profit, off the use of our facilities I am worried that will become prohibitive to [the local organizations that] use our facilities because now Facilitron will like us to go through these hoops just to play frisbee” said Board member Neda Farid. “I would rather have those resources go toward any of the programs or infrastructure that need updating and repair. I see no need to give that commission away.”

Board President Cross questioned the indemnity clause in Facilitron’s contract, concerned GUSD would be held financially accountable for issues with the service.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board tabled the approval of the Facilitron contract until it has more information.

Board members unanimously approved the curriculum for the 2026-27 school year, and approved Board liaison and trustee placements.

BTS from Cover

to 7 p.m. Video call link is <https://meet.google.com/wvg-rfvj-wco> or people can dial: (US) +1 646-588-0905 PIN: 826 193 752#.

More phone numbers are available at <https://tel.meet/wvg-rfvj-wco?pin=7682288488415>.

The parking lots at Rosemont Middle School and Dunsmore Elementary School were resurfaced and new roofs were completed for Lincoln, Jefferson and Glenoaks elementary schools.

According to Rosemont Middle School Principal Suzanne Risse, “One change is that we are adding a Health and Science Academy, which will have students learning in a modular environment about various topics in health and sciences. It is funded by district CTE (Career and Technical Education) and will feed into the Crescenta Valley High School Health and Medicine pathway.”

There are also some staffing changes throughout the district including the addition of David

Beard as athletic coordinator at Hoover High School. Prior to his promotion Beard served since 2019 as a physical education teacher at Roosevelt Middle School. For over seven years he also served as the head wrestling coach at Hoover.

Amy Besoli has been promoted to teacher specialist, math in Teaching, Learning & Family Engagement. Prior to her promotion to the district she served as a math teacher at Crescenta Valley High School for 25 years.

Darrin Browne will be the district’s coordinator I in special education. He comes from the Alhambra Unified School District where he served as a teacher on special assignment – instructional specialist in special education.

Krista Ghaman is now serving as coordinator of special education at the district; prior to this move she served as the assistant principal at College View School.

Miguel Gonzalez is now the athletic coordinator at CVHS. He

has served as an assistant principal at CVHS since 2021.

Dr. Nare Hakobyan has been promoted to assistant principal at CVHS. Hakobyan has been serving as the teacher specialist at Wilson Middle School prior to the CVHS move.

Dr. Sandra Halajian has been promoted to teacher specialist, English in Teaching, Learning & Family Engagement. She began her teaching career at GUSD in 1993. She most recently served as dean of instruction and educator culture at Geffen Academy at UCLA.

Dr. Romela Khachikyan is now assistant principal at Glendale High School. Prior to her move to Glendale, she served as assistant principal at Hoover High School.

Dr. Mary Mardirosian has been assigned the position of assistant principal at Hoover High School. Prior to the move to Hoover, she served as coordinator II, English Learner Services.

Tedeh Mardirosian has been promoted to athletic coordinator at Glendale High School. Prior to this move he served as a math teacher, coach and athletic director at Glendale High School.

Megan McGee has joined the district’s Child Development and Child Care Program as a supervisor.

Tamar Mirzayan is now the teacher specialist, Dual Language Immersion – Western Armenian. Prior to this move she served as a teacher at R.D. White Elementary School.

Dr. Laura Seese is now an assistant principal at Mark Keppel Elementary School. She recently served as assistant principal in the Burbank Unified School District.

Hasmik Simonyan is now assigned as coordinator of English Learner Services in the Dual Language Immersion and English Learner Services Dept. Prior to this move she served as assistant principal at Glendale High School.

see BTS on page 19

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Angeles Forest Protective Association

The name sounds a little ominous to me, like maybe its members track down and hang litterers or they're a group of eco-terrorists. But that couldn't be further from the truth. In fact, in the 1920s it was a band of Crescenta Valley amateur wildland firefighters who volunteered their services before the advent of organized wildfire suppression. I've written about this before but it's worth revisiting.

I'm on this thread because of the death of my fellow historian and friend Art Cobery. I'm going through Art's trove of written history and came across his article on "The Mysterious Mountain Cabin."

In his younger years, Art hiked all over the San Gabriel Mountains above us. He was always intrigued by an old stone cabin surrounded by mature pine trees, perched high on a terrace on the backside of Mount

Lukens – an area named Grizzly Flats. What was its origin and purpose? Art later discovered that it had been the home base for the Angeles Forest Protective Association.

At the turn of the 20th century (and earlier), forest fires were not as common as they are today. However, when they did burn they smoldered unsuppressed for months at a time because so few men turned out to fight them. Sometimes those wildfires burned down into the ranches and farms of the valleys below, including the Crescenta Valley.

In 1916, residents began to loosely organize to protect themselves against these fires. But in 1923, they formed the more organized Angeles Forest Protective Association. At its head were two men: Art Aiken, an experienced firefighter and a pioneer in the field of reforestation. The other was Harvey Bissell, the heir to the

Bissell Vacuum Cleaner fortune. With his wealth, and a huge dose of community spirit, Bissell was able to fund the new association.

They organized a group of young men, salted liberally with old hands, and drilled with military precision. The call to arms was a large bell mounted and rung at Bissell's ranch at the top of La Crescenta Avenue. Bissell bought the crew a new truck to carry equipment, the equipment being simple shovels and back-pumps (a water canister backpack with a hand pump).

Next they built a cabin high up in the mountains for their headquarters. (This was Art's "mysterious mountain cabin.") In 1925 they employed mules and backpacks to carry cement and building supplies up the ridge of Mount Lukens and down to Grizzly Flats. Here at the new cabin they held regular meetings attracting over 100

people, held training sessions, seasoning the new recruits with the long hike. They also set up a tree nursery to provide seedlings for reforestation after fires. The area around the cabin was liberally planted with pines that quickly grew to maturity.

The Association only lasted a short six years until the County took over wild land firefighting duties in 1929. And sadly the volunteer fire crew's final stand in 1928 was a failure. A blaze pushed by strong Santa Anas swept across the valley and right over the Association's crew, which was stationed at Foothill to block the fire. That fire burned all the way into Burbank.

But the Association had forged strong bonds among its members and they continued to meet fraternally at the Grizzly Flats cabin, all the way into the 1940s when the stone cabin was abandoned, visited by a few hikers like Art Cobery and

his friends. In the latter part of the century, the Forest Service was on a crusade to restore wildlands by tearing down old structures in the mountains. We lost Switzer Falls Chapel, all the Mt. Lowe structures, and the mysterious mountain cabin. The forest of trees around the cabin site were left behind but they too succumbed to the Station Fire. They burned to the ground and never grew back.

Thanks, Art, for leaving so much written history as your legacy. On a personal level, Art was a good and true friend to me. I'll leave you with the words Art instilled in me, words I think of every day, a philosophy of life. Art told me this simple phrase: "Be kind."

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

VIEWS FROM THE VALLEY » SUSAN BOLAN

This N That & Eeew!

In previous articles, I promised to keep readers updated on certain parts of my personal and community lives. For example, like most people in the country at the new year, I resolved to get myself in better shape and drop a few pounds. I did lose 10 pounds

right away by making better food choices, reducing portions and by increasing my activity level. It wasn't hard to do but soon I found my momentum waning and backslid to old habits. To date, I have managed to keep nine of the 10 pounds from coming back

but made little forward progress. I remain "well-rounded" for now.

In March, our first grandchild was born and we couldn't be more delighted. She is healthy, sweet and loves to show off her newly acquired motor skills. Her parents are both proud and exhausted.

In July, I wrote that our homeowner policies were being non-renewed by our insurance company. We have found replacement policies for the vacation home and are working on coverage for the La Crescenta house. Recent inspections may change our status, but we continue to make repairs and clear brush to get ahead of problems.

A couple of years ago, I had eye surgery to replace the near-sighted lenses I was born with with artificial ones. Following the procedure, I could see very well and had 3D vision like never before. It was a big adjustment especially when walking downstairs or catching something mid-air. I recently had a laser procedure to clear the cloudiness that developed on a lens since surgery. It left me with a gigantic floater that looks like a dark spider hanging in front of my face. I've been told this is a temporary situation, but I keep getting jump-scared every couple of minutes. But that is not the worst of it. The doctor explained that my long-term irritation in the other

eye is being caused by an overabundance of mites. Say, what now? Ew! Apparently it is a common condition that is easily treated. I never heard of it.

On the community front, there have been a number of projects that have surfaced this summer. A long-dormant project that was approved back in 2021 has moved forward to the demolition stage. This is the property at 3037-3043 Foothill Blvd., across from the Shell gas station in unincorporated La Crescenta. The brick building and cottages behind it will be replaced by six separate buildings with commercial units and 46 market-rate condos.

Another project that is in its third design is 2817 Montrose Ave. The City of Glendale has approved the current version which will be 42 apartments. The Design Review Board will review the project today, Thursday, Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. Also on the hearing agenda is a four-story project at 2760 Hermosa with 12 units. The public can weigh in on both projects on matters of design.

The Western Prelacy (Baghdassarian) preschool has been approved by the City of Los Angeles for 4459 Lowell Ave. No hearing is planned for the Glendale portion of the project, which will include two very large, out-of-scale improvements to the church, a 420-sq. ft. altar and a 729-sq. ft. monument with new bathrooms, and a

reconfigured parking lot with its entrance/exit just south of the Wells Fargo driveway. Somehow, the project has been designated as an "administrative exception." The history of traffic and safety issues on Lowell Avenue is well-documented and the addition of another school will surely exacerbate the situation. Stay tuned to see if Glendale Public Works will approve the lighted crosswalk that the owners have requested for families to move back and forth between the two schools.

The five-story project at 3411-3437 Foothill Blvd. has been challenged by the Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association and the second appeal will be heard by the Glendale City Council sometime in September. This is the lot where Dollar King/Hi-Star Auto are currently located. Eighty-seven apartments are planned. CHNA contends the project will narrow fire evacuation routes, uncover soil contamination and breach an underground reservoir, causing specific adverse threats to public health and safety of residents.

Interested in learning more about these and other projects in the works? Contact crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com.

Susan Bolan
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NEWS FROM THE CVWD » JAMES LEE

Fun Fire Hydrants and Wanted: New Director

We were able to contribute to our nation's 250th anniversary last month by painting fire hydrants in patriotic colors along Foothill Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue in partnership with Girl Scout Troops 06791, 7141, 2904 and 14111, Glendale Fire Dept. (stations 21 and 29), and the Montrose Shopping Park Association. The 250th is an apropos milestone to reflect on our democracy. This is more specifically a representative democracy, a system in which citizens elect leaders to make policies on their behalf based on the leaders' experience and the time to learn about and understand complex issues.

Kerry and Danette Erickson have invested their time and care in multiple capacities for decades in the community. One area of service for Kerry Erickson is Crescenta Valley Water District. Kerry, who I refer to as Director Erickson (he is one of five elected directors who shape the agency vision that I am hired to carry out), was first elected to the District's board in 2009 and has served as board president and on all committees. He brought 44 years of engineering and management experience related to space exploration at NASA/JPL and applied it to some of his priorities for the community, including fiscal responsibility

and efficiency in project implementation.

Kerry has decided to spend more time with his family and will not be running for re-election in November. He has been an exemplary steward of a life-giving resource for the community, insisting on prudent expenditures and lending critical thinking and analysis to impactful decisions, such as approaches to complex regulations or how rate structures are designed to be as balanced as possible. We thank him for his dedicated service and wish him and Danette many happy days with their grandchildren.

One of those decisions was not only to catch up on pipeline replacement but to develop an innovative in-house replacement system to stretch your dollars. The in-house replacement program saves 40%-60% compared to the contractors water agencies traditionally use. And with plans to replace 3.6% of our community's 96 miles of pipeline this year, we are indeed catching up. At our current replacement rate, we are on track to replace the entire system within 27 years – well within the pipe's 75-year useful life.

I regularly share how this program is going but the major water main breaks in West

Hollywood that many saw in the news in the last several weeks are a stark reminder of how infrastructure installed from the 1920s to the 1960s across the land is overdue for replacement. That's why pipeline replacement jobs this fiscal year (ending June 30, 2027) on streets such as Montrose Avenue, Foothill Boulevard, and Henrietta Avenue are so important. Pipeline jobs are expensive, messy, noisy and difficult. But your local agency is doing it significantly more economically than anybody else – and the work is necessary to make sure that homes are served, businesses thrive and we are ready for emergency situations.

Innovative approaches like in-house pipeline "make the pizza bigger" so to speak. We can do more with less and this is a hallmark of fiscal responsibility, which is so important in an era when affordability is a top concern.

Another way to grow the pizza is to lean on technology. Just as the wheel, the horse, the Industrial Revolution, the computer and the internet expanded the production possibilities frontier during their respective eras, today's emerging technologies can help us do more with less. For example, we are piloting various cutting-edge technologies to



detect underground leaks, assess infrastructure more accurately to determine its remaining useful life and optimize energy costs by matching demand with variable energy output. We can't wait to update you on the results and which ones will ultimately be implemented to increase service reliability while controlling rate

increases.

Our next office hours, which we hold about quarterly, is on Sept. 30 at the Montrose Library, 2465 Honolulu Ave.

Thank you as always for reading and continuing the dialogue.

*James Lee, General Manager
Crescenta Valley Water
District*

Crescenta Valley Town Council Update: August 2026

As August arrives, the end of summer signals the start of another school year across the valley. With local campuses reopening, traffic around drop-off and pickup zones will increase significantly over the coming weeks. We remind all residents and commuters to pack extra patience during peak morning and afternoon hours. Please drive carefully, stay vigilant for pedestrians and remain mindful of parking regulations and neighborly courtesy in surrounding residential areas.

Council **Candidate Applications Are Available!** We are actively seeking dedicated residents who are ready to step into a leadership role on the council. The future of Crescenta Valley relies on engaged individuals willing to work for the community and advocate for local priorities. If you are passionate about serving your neighbors, candidate applications are now available on the official CVTC website at www.thecvcouncil.com.

National Night Out Success!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for National Night Out! The event was a wonderful success and we extend our sincere gratitude to our partners at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station for hosting the community. It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces and connect with new neighbors. The dunk tank, featuring our local sheriff's deputies, was a highlight of the evening and a huge hit with all ages.

Upcoming Pinecrest Paving and Infrastructure Improvements Happening! Essential public works projects are on the horizon for our area. The Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works is scheduled to begin a major paving project in the Pinecrest neighborhood starting at the end of August and running through Fall 2026. Work will include street slurry application, tree root shaving and sidewalk repairs to improve overall street safety and accessibility.

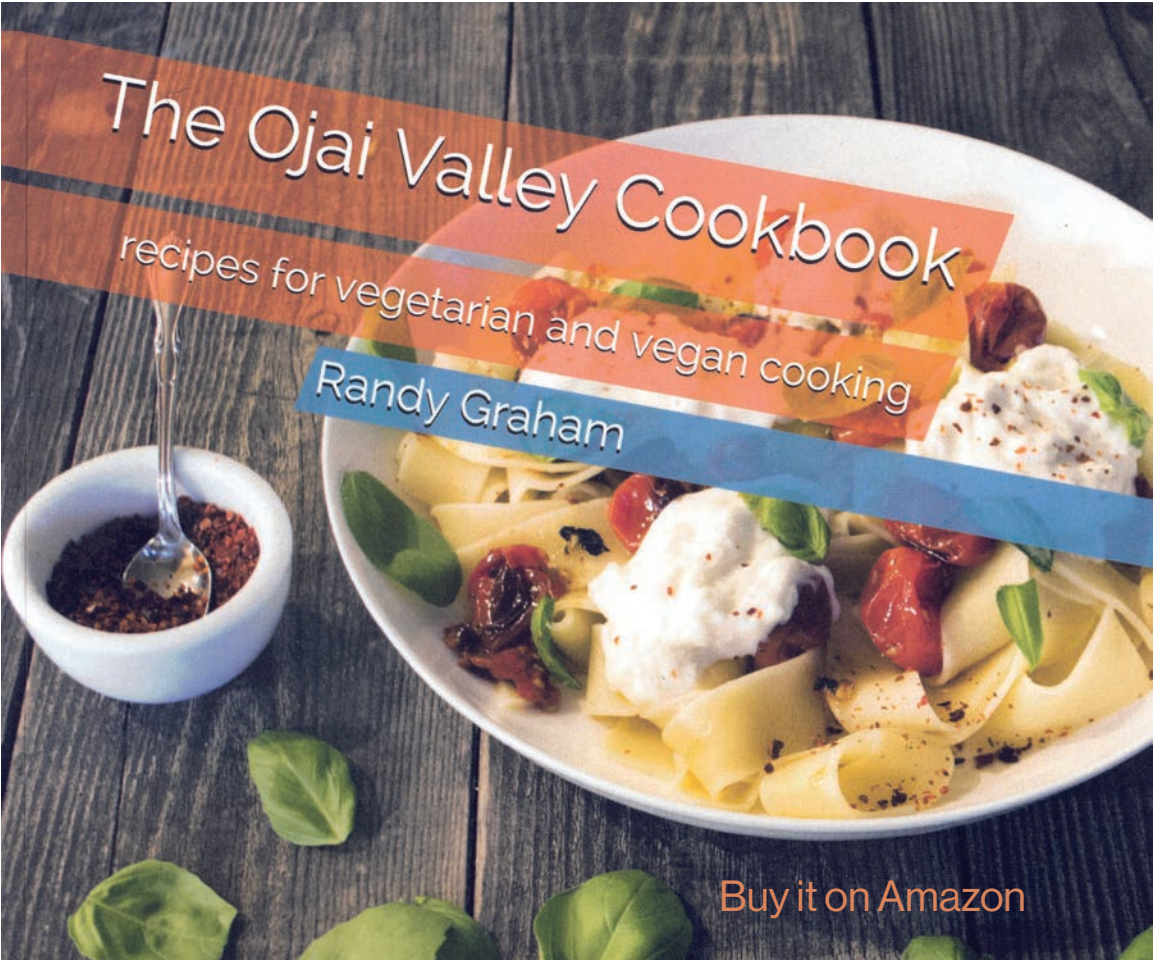
Mark your calendars for the next Crescenta Valley Town Council general meeting on

Thursday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. at the La Crescenta Library. We will feature a special presentation by LA County Regional Planning regarding the West San Gabriel Valley

Capital Improvement Project. Representatives will share vital assessments on local infrastructure needs, focusing on transportation, sewer, and stormwater systems.

Community input and attendance are vital to shaping these future planning decisions.

*Kerri Lewin Brautigam
Corresponding Secretary*



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As St. Bede the Venerable Catholic School begins a new academic year, it also celebrates 75 years of Catholic education in the La Cañada Flintridge community.

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continues its mission of forming young people of faith, character and academic excellence for generations to come.

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St. Bede the Venerable Catholic School, principal Brandon Birr, is located at 4524 Crown Ave. in La Cañada. Learn more at www.stbedeschool.net, call (818) 790-7884 or email contact@stbedeschool.net.



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GUEST OP-ED » PATRICK ATWATER

‘Mindsnap’ Courtesy of Colorado River

It was a little after 4 a.m. on the last day of our Grand Canyon rafting trip and Tommy, a first generation Irish immigrant and our intrepid trip guide, was already up. Boiling coffee. Prepping bag lunches. Organizing the rafts for the passengers who still had a full day of paddling ahead. My wife Katherine and I were hiking out that morning, so I was up early too, packing our bags while marveling at the sheer logistics of what he was pulling off.

Every day of that trip, Tommy was a whirling dervish of activity, threading a narrow line through some of the most serious water in North America while also managing the very human needs of a couple of dozen people who had never rafted before. Every so often he'd bring us all together for a little teaching about that magical canyon, the grandest one of all on our pale blue dot. He called it the “mindsnap,” a moment where the whole group stopped and were present to pay attention to something remarkable – a rock formation, an ancient granary, the sheer fact of standing at the bottom of billions of years of geologic time.

The Colorado River just handed all of us in the southwest a mindsnap [a sudden change of mind], whether we asked for it or not.

In July, Lake Mead and Lake Powell together dropped to their lowest combined levels since the reservoirs were filled. The two reservoirs that store roughly 80% of the water in the entire Colorado River system have not been this depleted in the memory of nearly

anyone alive today. Federal hydrologists expect the record to keep falling through the rest of this year and into the winter. The federal government recently created a framework for future operations with a 10% cutback in California's Colorado River allocation, a first in U.S. history.

That river is not some abstract policy talking point for us up here in the foothills. The Colorado River is one of two pillars of our imported water supply, alongside the State Water Project, and together they serve somewhere between 40% and 60% of La Crescenta's annual water demand, depending on the year. For all the severity of the droughts we have lived through recently, Southern California has still received its full Colorado River allocation each time. That streak is over. We are in uncharted waters (no pun intended).

I understand the instinct to look away from a headline like this. We have heard “unprecedented drought” so many times that the words start to lose their weight. But this one is different. This is not a bad year. It is the accumulated bill for about a century of building our entire way of life in the southwest on the assumption that the river would always provide what our forebears decided it should provide rather than what the actual snowmelt delivers.

My dad spent his career in western water, working as a presidential appointee in the Reagan Administration and a titan

of this industry. I grew up hearing about the compacts and allocations signed in the 1920s, built on river flow measurements taken during an unusually wet stretch of years. We inherited an entire civilization's worth of infrastructure and assumptions from people who did the hard work of building it. And for a long time, the water industry's job in places like La Crescenta was mostly just to maintain what our forefathers built.

That job is over. We are the first generation in this country's history to watch these two reservoirs, the backbone of water storage for 40 million people, fall to a level not seen since before one of them was even built. Before I go further, our community deserves a real pat on the back. La Crescenta's total water demand today is almost half of what it was at its peak about a decade and a half ago.

That did not happen by accident. It happened because our neighbors installed high efficiency indoor appliances, ripped out thirsty lawns and generally got smarter about how we use water day to day. That is proof our community can rise to a challenge like this one. It is also proof that conservation alone, even really successful conservation, is not going to be enough on its own. We are still dependent for 40% to 60% of our water from the Sierra via the State Water Project and the Colorado River.

So what does taking this moment seriously look like beyond conservation at the scale of a place

like La Crescenta?

We need to get serious about building new, cost effective local water supplies, the kind that do not depend on a river a thousand miles away. Here is one small example close to home: I had the privilege of being part of the team that helped bring the Rosemont Preserve stormwater recharge project to life. Instead of letting winter storm runoff race down the concrete channels and out to the ocean, the project captures it and lets it soak back into the ground, recharging the very aquifers our region depends on. It is not flashy. It is dirt simple. But every gallon captured there is a gallon we did not have to import from a shrinking river. That also saves money.

We need more such solutions. CV Park offers the opportunity to capture stormwater locally at a scale of approximately 100 times the Rosemont Preserve bioswale. As CV Weekly has covered in the past, that project has been stymied by bizarre and byzantine water rights perspectives held by bureaucrats of the LA Dept. of Water and Power. That's exactly the type of obsolete thinking we need to challenge. We can't just accept our status quo institutions and ways of doing things simply because “that's the way things have always been done.”

One of the best lessons I took from that week rafting on the Colorado River is that small corrections made early save you from catastrophe downstream. Read a rapid wrong by a few feet at the top and you

can fix it with a single stroke of the paddle. Wait until you are already in the whitewater and that same correction takes everything you have got – and sometimes it is too late. It works for running a river and it works for managing a civilization. We are still at the part of the river where the small corrections matter most. Investing now in local supplies like stormwater recharge, backing the water agencies doing this unglamorous work, keeping up the conservation habits we have already built – these are the corrections available to us right now.

The Grand Canyon does not care about our five-year plans or our election cycles. It has been patiently recording the passage of civilizations for two billion years, long before the first drop of water was ever allocated on paper. What it teaches you is if you spend enough time down in it nothing is inevitable and nothing is permanent.

Our forebears built us an inheritance. The question in front of us now is whether we are willing to do the same hard work for generations to come or whether we are content to just keep cruising until there is nothing left to coast on.

Patrick's a husband, father, son, brother, avid cyclist, fervent reader, enjoyer of adventures, lover of board games and the author of “A New California Dream.” He is a candidate for the Foothill Municipal Water District board of directors (see: bit.ly/future_of_our_foothills) and writes for CV Weekly in his personal capacity.



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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Village Poets Features Two Marys

The next Village Poets reading at Bolton Hall Museum will be on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 4:30 p.m. when two poet laureates of Ventura will be featured: Mary Kay Rummel and Mary Ann McFadden.

Hosted by Joe DeCenzo and Alice Pero, there will also be an open mic opportunity; poets are invited to participate in the open reading segment of the event. The Bolton Hall Museum is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. The reading starts at 4:30 p.m. and continues until 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Free parking is available on the street and also at the Elks Lodge, 10137 Commerce Ave. Please visit the Village Poets blog at: <https://villagepoets.blogspot.com/>

Mary Kay Rummel has been named a poetry hero of Ventura County where she is a former poet laureate. Her 10th poetry collection, *Little River of Amazements: New and Selected Poems*, was published by Blue Light Press of San Francisco. Her books and other works have won awards from New Rivers Press, Bright Hill Press and Blue Light Press as well as The Loft in Minneapolis and other literary organizations. She is a founding member of the non-profit Ventura County Poetry Project, dedicated



Mary Ann McFadden

to connecting community through poetry. Rummel's poems have appeared in numerous national and international journals and anthologies and, over many years, she has performed her poetry in venues in the United States, England and Ireland. She is a lifelong teacher, a professor emerita from the University of Minnesota and was on the faculty

of California State University,
Channel Islands.

Mary Ann McFadden is the current Ventura County poet laureate. Her first book, *Eye of the Blackbird*, won the Four Way Books Intro Prize in Poetry, 1995. Her second book, *Devil, Dear*, was published by Alice James Books in 2014. She has been published in a range of journals, including



Mary Kay Rummel

Southern Poetry Review, Kayak, The American Voice, Nimrod, Bloom, Green Mountains Review and Psychology Tomorrow. Her poems have been anthologized and twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize. In 2010 she was awarded a MacDowell Fellowship and spent six weeks among the musicians and painters and writers there. Her first great

teacher was Carolyn Kizer, who tutored her on Stanley Kunitz and Theodore Roethke, especially.

She received her MFA from New York University where her teachers were Galway Kinnell, Sharon Olds and Yehuda Amichai, among others. In 2005 she had several poems set to music by Gerald Busby, which were performed at Carnegie Hall.

Glendale P.E.O. Chapter DJ Honors Local Chapter Presidents with Summer Concert

Glendale P.E.O. Chapter DJ recently welcomed the presidents of the chapters comprising the Verdugo Hills Reciprocity Bureau to a special summer concert and recognition event held at Oakmont Country Club.

Members of Chapter DJ and their guests enjoyed an afternoon of refreshments followed by a musical program featuring two talented performers with ties to the chapter. Ellie Choate, a Chapter DJ member, delighted

the audience with selections on the harp while Meghan Dibble, daughter of a Chapter DJ member, captivated guests with her vocal performances.

The event recognized the leadership and service of the current chapter presidents and their representatives, including Kristie Colgate (IH), Virginia De Martinis (HG), Lilly Kraut (FF-KU), Marge McNaught, Verdugo Hills Reciprocity Bureau president (FF-KU), Donna

Michael (EO), Anne Peplow (KD-KO), Sue Siebles (VS), Kim Smith (U), Pat Steen (MZ), Mary Wickser and Patty Doherty (GD).

Chapter DJ also honored its past presidents, including Ginger Dennis, Jeannie Flint, Diane Potter, Debbie Hinckley, Lynne Dibble and Vicky Voll, recognizing their years of dedication and leadership.

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) is an international organization

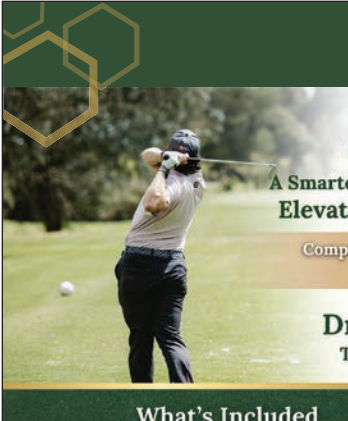
dedicated to helping women achieve their educational goals through scholarships, grants, awards and loans. Its philanthropic programs provide financial assistance to women at various stages of their educational journeys, from undergraduate studies to

advanced degrees and career development.

Women interested in learning more about P.E.O. membership or scholarship opportunities are encouraged to contact the Verdugo Hills Reciprocity Bureau at vhreciprocity@gmail.com.

Photo provided by Glendale P.E.O. Chapter
Pictured are Meghan Dibble; Ellie Choate;
Vicky Voll, president of Chapter DJ; Lynne
Dibble and Diane Potter.






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America 250! Continues

Many people believe that after Independence Day the celebration ends, but it's really the beginning of a full year of 250 years of American history.

While watching the American Revolution documentary on PBS (produced by Ken Burns) I learned for the first time about my Breed ancestors. Growing up I was told that, because my family in Lynn, Massachusetts were Quakers, no one served in the Revolutionary War. Through research I have learned this is not true. Here is the connection to my entire Breed ancestors (sometimes spelled Bread) and the connection to the famous Battle on Breeds Hill – aka the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Amos Breed's (1728–1776) proud descendent is Beverly de Lucia. Amos was a colonial

American resident and Revolutionary War patriot from Lynne Essex County Massachusetts. He served as a private in the Second Lynn Company of the Massachusetts Militia.

- Birth*: Born on Aug. 14, 1728 in Lynn, Massachusetts, the son of Jabez and Desire Breed.
- Family*: Husband of Ruth Breed and father to children including Aaron, James and Benjamin Newhall Breed.
- Service*: Enlisted and served as a private in the Second Lynn Company, Massachusetts Militia during the early phase of the American Revolutionary War.
- Death*: Died on May 5, 1776 at age 47 in Lynn, Massachusetts, shortly after the conflict began.

Breeds Hill, the actual site of the June 17, 1775 battle of Bunker Hill, was named after Amos Breed's own family. Virtually all Breeds in early America trace back to a single immigrant ancestor – Allen Breed – who arrived from England in 1630 and settled in Lynn, Massachusetts. As the family expanded over the generations, descendants moved into neighboring Charlestown and acquired the land that became famous.

How the family is connected to the Hill:

- The Land Owner*: Amos Breed's relative, Ebenezer Breed (1676–1754), and his descendants purchased several tracts of pastureland on the Charlestown peninsula between 1722 and 1729. Because the family grazed their cattle there, locals nicknamed the shorter peak "Breeds Hill."
- The Strategic Choice*: During the Revolutionary War, colonial officers were ordered by the Committee of Safety to fortify Bunker Hill (owned by the heirs of George Bunker). However, after assessing the landscape the adjacent, shorter Breeds Hill was chosen to be fortified instead because its position was closer to British ships and offered a better tactical advantage.
- The Living Descendants*: At the time of the battle, George Bunker had been dead for roughly a century. In contrast, the Breed family was still

actively living in the area and owned the slopes when the redoubt was built.

Because early letters, including one written by Abigail Adams, mistakenly referred to the action taking place on "Bunker Hill" the name stuck in public memory, launching a centuries-long "PR battle" for the Breed family to claim credit for their historic land.

The Breed family in the United States essentially traces back to one singular founding group; both Amos Breed of Lynn and Ebenezer Breed (the owner of Breed's Hill in Charlestown) can be traced directly back to the same immigrant ancestor Allen Breed Sr.; Amos Breed and the Charlestown Breeds were second cousins, once removed. Here is exactly how their lineages intersect out of Lynn, Massachusetts.

The Ancestral Split from Allen Bread, Sr.

- Generation 1 (The Immigrant Ancestor)*: Allen Breed Sr. (1601–1691). He arrived in Massachusetts from England in 1630, settling in a section of Lynn that became known as "Breed's End." He had multiple children, including sons Allen Jr. and John.

From these two brothers, the tree splits into the Lynn line (Amos) and the Charlestown line (Ebenezer's).

Amos Breed's Line (The Lynn Patriots)

Amos' side stayed anchored in Lynn where he eventually joined the local Revolutionary militia.

- Allen Breed Jr. (1631–1707)* – Remained in Lynn as a husbandman and town leader.
- Timothy Breed (1659–1735)* – Lived and died in Lynn.
- Jabez Breed (1696–1778)* – Married Desire Phillips. They lived in Lynn.
- Amos Breed (1728–1776)* – Lived and died in Lynn.

Ebenezer Breed's Line (The Charlestown Hill Owners)

This branch moved closer to Boston, acquiring the land that made military history.

- John Breed (1634–1678)* – Son of the original Allen Sr.
- Ebenezer Breed Sr. (1676–1754)* – Left Lynn and moved to Charlestown where he purchased the pasture tracts that became known as Breed's Hill.
- Ebenezer Breed Jr. (1714–1762)* – Inherited and maintained the Charlestown estate.
- Ebenezer Breed III (1741–1797)* – He and his siblings were the active owners of the slopes of Breed's Hill when the Battle of Bunker Hill shook their property in 1775.
- Direct Family Connection Overview*: Because Timothy Breed (Amos' grandfather) and Ebenezer Breed Sr. (the hill buyer) were first cousins, Amos Breed was a second cousin to Ebenezer Breed Jr., and a second cousin, once removed, to the generation actually watching the redoubt get built on their family hill.

Submitted by Beverly de LUCIA



Meet Mocha! Mocha is smart and affectionate, with that irresistible combination of puppy sweetness and a little bit of sass. She loves to explore, play and then settle down for some cozy time with her owner Gail Connell.

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

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Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!
What Is A Material Fact

Dear Phyllis,

I really enjoy your column and believe I have a new scenario which you have not touched on. My aunt has her home listed and is moving to New Mexico. A Realtor that showed it was going to write an offer but then emailed her Realtor that a registered sex offender lives on her same block. Apparently, they moved in several years ago. Although their address is registered on the database they don't live there. Her Realtor told her she must disclose this. I don't see why as they don't live there. What is your opinion?

— Marla

Dear Marla,

I appreciate your continued readership. In my opinion, this

is a material fact and should be disclosed. In real estate, a material fact is any information about a property that could influence a buyer's decision or affect the price they are willing to pay. In other words, if a reasonable buyer would care about it, it should be disclosed.

Specifically, a material fact is something that impacts value, desirability, or safety. In addition, it may not be easily observable. Furthermore, it is known by the seller or the agent.

Real estate decisions should rely on current and verifiable facts. However, disclosure often depends on perception as much as certainty. Even if the information may be incorrect, a buyer could still view it as important.

As a result, most real estate agents take a cautious approach. If a concern could influence a buyer's decision, they treat it as a material fact. At the same time, how your aunt presents the information matters.

For example, your aunt can clarify the situation. She can explain that a registered address appears in a public database. Then, she can note that, to her knowledge, the individual does not currently reside there. In addition, she should encourage buyers to conduct their own investigation. This approach simply states the facts that your aunt is aware of and encourages the buyer to independently verify the information.

Phyllis

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Mary Poppins Brings a Spoonful of Sugar and True Delight to Highlands Theater

By Eliza PARTIKA

Highlands Theater’s production of “Mary Poppins” brought spoonfuls of sugar and a slice of Broadway to the stage on Aug. 7, its opening night. Directed by Broadway veteran Carter Thomas, who also played Bert the chimney sweep, the production featured a cast of Broadway, Off-Broadway, debut and local actors returning to the Highlands Theater with polished vocals and thoughtful characterization that gave the familiar story new energy.

The audience’s excitement was palpable before the curtain rose. During the performance, laughter and applause accompanied familiar songs including “A Spoonful of Sugar” and “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.” The opening weekend production captured the charm of the original film while allowing its performers to put their own spin on beloved characters.

The staging is equally inventive. Minimalist sets shift seamlessly from the streets of London to the chimney tops and the Bankses’ home while clever props bring to life the magic of Mary Poppins. The supporting cast adds another layer of charm and stunning vocal and physical performances; from the hilarious maids running the Banks household to a moving statue and the signature villain Miss Andrew.

The musical follows the plot of the Disney film: As the Banks family struggles through difficult times, Mary Poppins arrives to teach the children about caring for others – and to show Mr. and Mrs. Banks the small but important things they have been missing in one another.

At the center of the production are Mary and Bert, whose friendship carries a hint of something more. Bert offers the children – and adults – a kind of luck with the shake of his hand, yet he cannot



seem to find much luck for himself, whether in his pursuit of Mary or in his place in society. Thomas’ whimsical, enigmatic portrayal captures both the physicality of the role and Bert’s longing for someone like Mary to lift him beyond his circumstances. Yet Bert ultimately seems content to share his own magic and luck with others.

Mary, meanwhile, has her own luck and wisdom to rely on. She knows when she is needed and when her work is done she moves on. Lisette Garrido’s portrayal captures both qualities, giving Mary a knowing presence tinged with mystery.

From the moment Garrido appears onstage, her joyful, practical Mary Poppins commands attention. Her soaring vocals recall Julie Andrews while giving the character a spark distinctly

her own.

The production’s magic, however, reaches beyond spectacle. P. L. Travers’ original “Mary Poppins” books drew on myth and folklore to explore the power of those often overlooked or dismissed. The children learn to find wonder in “boring” outings – to the park, to the bank – and to recognize the small but significant opportunities for imagination hidden within the everyday. Through Mary Poppins’ guidance, the adults learn to question who they have been told they should be, imagine themselves anew and, with a little luck and connection, find their way toward becoming the family they were meant to be.

“Feed the Birds” and “Let’s Go Fly a Kite” both get to the heart of the production’s message: The least among

us may be more than they seem; magic can exist in the mundane; and kindness from children and adults alike can make the impossible feel real.

“Although you can’t see it/you know they are smiling/each time someone shows that they care.”

In a world where pleasure and reward are often expected instantly, this timeless story offers a quieter reminder: Look around. Take pleasure in the magic already there. And notice the people around you, with a little more kindness.

Performances of “Mary Poppins” continue through Aug. 23 at Highlands Church, 4441 La Crescenta Ave. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.simplenetix.com/e/mary-poppins-tickets-268665>.

THEN & NOW



Then: On a hot summer day in 1925, Henrietta Voltz manned the counter at the drink stand right next to the Verdugo City Super Service Station on the south side of Honolulu Avenue, just west of La Crescenta Avenue. Just like the modern convenience store/gas station combos we see all over, this little add-on to the gas station provided cold drinks, beer and tobacco products to passing motorists. Verdugo City was brand new then and was making quite a splash in the Crescenta Valley. Founder/real estate promoter Harry Fowler was a firebrand for his new community, starting his own newspaper and proposing name changes for many of the main streets.

Verdugo City Convenience Store
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Now: On a hot summer day recently, a young lady mans the counter at a modern “drink stand” attached to the Chevron station at Honolulu and Verdugo, directly across the street from the site of the old Verdugo City Super Service Station. Just like Mrs. Voltz’s convenience store, they sell cold drinks, beer and tobacco products, with the addition of our modern vices: candy and lottery tickets. The separate community of Verdugo City never really took off as Mr. Fowler intended. Most people today couldn’t tell you exactly where Verdugo City is, despite it having its own post office and a freeway sign on the 210 that calls it out.

» TRAVELS WITH GREG

A Storybook Getaway to The Avalon Hotel on Catalina Island



By Greg ARAGON

Photos provided by Greg ARAGON

LEFT: The Avalon Hotel is steps away from beautiful Catalina beach.

MIDDLE: Our cozy storybook sanctuary at The Avalon Hotel.

RIGHT: Spotting micro-vehicles around town: A blue micro-van perfectly sized for Avalon's narrow roads.

After a 60-minute cruise across the San Pedro Channel, we spotted the rugged island's iconic round Catalina Casino and a harbor dotted with colorful boats. Our journey began aboard a Catalina Express high-speed catamaran, slicing smoothly

through the deep blue water. After disembarking, we walked 15 minutes through town to The Avalon Hotel, finding a property so idyllic and charming it instantly reminded me of a Hallmark movie set. The hotel blends the charm of a European seaside boutique with the warmth of a cozy bed-and-

breakfast, greeting visitors with rich, beautifully hand-carved African teak wood wrapped around the lobby. After a warm greeting from the front desk we checked into suite 206. Inside the room offered a masterclass in efficiency. Built-in storage drawers swallow luggage and a clever desk nook provides a dedicated workspace without crowding the room.

The sleeping arrangements are brilliantly flexible: a big, comfy queen bed anchors the space, supplemented by a fold-down Murphy bed. In the bathroom, old-fashioned black-and-white checkered tile floors add vintage luxury to the bathtub and shower combo.

The ocean view through the balcony door windows is striking. From this vantage point we could see the historic Casino and boats bobbing in the crescent harbor. Some people live right on those anchored vessels, waking up over the water and swimming straight to the beach each day. For a grander view, we climbed up a couple flights of stairs to a hidden rooftop paradise. This guest-only escape offered tables, chairs, complimentary drinks and panoramic views of the entire island.

Location is everything and the hotel sits just one block from the main drag. Like the rest of town, absolutely everything is within walking distance. A quick stroll leads straight to the sand where a roped-off beach area provides a safe haven

for kids. We rented inner tubes and the children zoomed in and out of the gentle waves before building sandcastles. For lunch, we walked two blocks to the local Vons market, picked up sandwiches from the deli and enjoyed a picnic right on the beach.

The walk through town revealed one of Avalon's most unique quirks: its vehicles. Because the city strictly limits the size and number of standard cars on the island – resulting in a decades-long waiting list – residents rely heavily on micro-vehicles. Amidst the sea of golf carts, Japanese Kei trucks stand out.

These tiny, 660cc-engine workhorses are imported directly from Japan. They are prized by Catalina locals because their narrow frames easily navigate Avalon's tight, steep streets while legally bypassing standard vehicle size limits. My son and I love small trucks and getting to look at them was one of the primary reasons we came to the island.

To make our walks sweeter, we made a daily stop at Lloyd's of Avalon for ice cream. Centrally located on Crescent Avenue, this legendary sweet shop has been a Catalina institution since 1934. The shop even holds a famous piece of Hollywood lore: a teenage, pre-fame Marilyn Monroe – then still known as Norma Jeane Dougherty – worked a part-time job right behind the counter during WWII. Standing in the exact spot where a future icon once scooped treats made every cone feel like a literal taste of history.

The next morning, we headed down to the hotel's patio for a complimentary breakfast. In a garden-like setting surrounded by a trickling fountain and a peaceful koi fish pond, we enjoyed fresh homemade pastries, hard-boiled eggs, bagels, juice and hot coffee.

Refueled and ready, we took a glass-bottom boat tour out to Lover's Cove Marine Preserve, which offered a window into Catalina's crystal-clear waters. Looking through the viewing panels, the ocean floor came alive with thick, towering amber kelp forests. Bright, neon-orange garibaldi – California's official state marine fish – darted through the water alongside schools of striped opaleye, silver kelp bass and camouflaged calico bass.

Back at the hotel, the rooftop deck provided the perfect spot to unwind and read up on the building's history. The Avalon Hotel stands on ground steeped in island lore, built on the site of the original 1920s Catalina Hospital. Reimagined as a boutique

hotel, it preserves the classic Craftsman architectural style that defined early 20th century California coastal living, blending historical preservation with modern comfort.

Reading about the island, I learned that chewing gum magnate William Wrigley Jr. bought the island in 1919 and shaped it into a premier destination. He even brought the Chicago Cubs there for spring training. Beyond Avalon's town limits lies a wild interior managed by the Catalina Island Conservancy, famous for its wild American bison. A movie crew originally brought 14 bison to the island in 1924 for a silent film shoot. When the production ran out of money, Wrigley allowed them to stay. Today, a managed herd of about 150 bison still roams the golden hills. Visitors can explore this rugged side of the island via classic inland motor tour buses or open-air 4x4 Humvee eco-tours that climb up to the 1,500-foot peaks.

Our next adventure was renting a golf cart. This is the island's primary mode of transportation for locals and tourists alike, making the roads feel like a whimsical, slow-moving parade. Driving up the steep, winding hills reveals beautiful homes precariously perched on the cliff sides, alongside even more hidden tiny vans and utility trucks tucked into narrow driveways. Along the ridges, we encountered mule deer grazing by the roadside. These deer were introduced to the island in the 1930s to encourage tourism and have since completely adapted to the rugged terrain.

The following morning, we said goodbye to The Avalon Hotel and boarded the Catalina Express. Upgrading to the Commodore Lounge granted us priority boarding to skip the lines and sink into spacious, leather-trimmed seats inside the exclusive upper-level cabin. With complimentary drinks and snacks in hand, we relaxed in quiet luxury on the smooth ride back, watching Catalina Island slowly dissolve into the ocean mist.

For more information on staying at The Avalon Hotel, visit The Avalon Hotel or call (310) 510-7070. For more info on getting to the island, visit Catalina Express at Catalina Express or call (800) 613-1212.

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JUST FOR FUN

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

ARIES *March 21 - April 19*
This is a great time for changes on all levels. However, the most significant change you can make is to your health and overall well-being. You have two weeks to start a new health strategy, one that's going to give you greater energy, a better physique, glowing skin, and a profound sense of well-being. You deserve to give yourself the best chance for a fabulous future.

TAURUS *April 20 - May 20*
You're going to experience profound changes. You now have the ability to transform any area of your life that you choose. The very best place to begin is with your health. Dare to look into your lifestyle and focus on any area that causes you to feel less than fabulous. This is where you should begin. Changes here will give you more energy and greater vitality than ever before.

GEMINI *May 21 - June 20*
Early in the week make a list of goals that will help you reach

the state of wellness you've long desired. This is no time for fuzzy thinking. Above all, you need clarity of intention and the determination to overcome any health problems. When you know what you want you'll have a greater desire to make it happen. Total wellness is within your reach.

CANCER *June 21 - July 22*
It looks as though your list of obligations is going to grow even longer. You're going to be busy in your career and equally busy socializing. In order to achieve as much as you want, you need to have access to an unlimited source of energy. The way to do this is to get into peak condition. Work out daily and eat the foods that make the perfect fuel for your body.

LEO *July 23 - August 22*
The stars are encouraging you to explore new horizons as far as your health is concerned. Don't stick with the tried and trusted, as this is the best time to venture into the unknown. Try not to consume too

many greasy or fatty foods, as doing so may take its toll on your liver. Above all, enjoy getting into sports and being out in the fresh air.

VIRGO *August 23 - Sept. 22*
A new energy this week brings you a wonderful opportunity to commit to greater health. It's essential that your emotional health take priority. Make sure that you aren't burying your head in the sand with regard to an important issue. Don't try to pretend it isn't happening. You need to face the problem head on. By doing so you'll notice an immediate improvement in your physical health.

LIBRA *Sept. 23 - Oct. 22*
Your emotions are heightened this week, and you will be more sensitive than usual. From this point on it would help you to pay attention to getting the right nutrition for your body. Check if you have any allergies or intolerance to foods. Once you have the whole picture, you'll know what you can eat and which food supplements would suit you best.

SCORPIO *Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*
Thursday is a fabulous time of this week for some new resolutions. The stars give you carte blanche to make changes to your exercise program, diet, and any treatments you may be receiving for health issues. It's a time of new beginnings. You have two weeks to get moving and create a lifestyle that brings you plenty of energy and happiness.

SAGITTARIUS *Nov. 22 - Dec. 21*
The dominant energy flowing through your chart this week is associated with change and transformation at the deepest level. This means that you'll be diving into all aspects of your being and working on those areas that have become toxic. It will also encourage you to eat fresh food on a daily basis and cut out junk food, caffeine, and too much sugar.

CAPRICORN *Dec. 22 - Jan. 19*
Sometimes you get too stuck in your head and forget that you even have a body. On Wednesday it's time to remember that you owe

a debt of gratitude to your body. You can show your appreciation by working out on a daily basis, eating the right food, and refraining from everything that's bad for your system. It's time to transform your eating habits big time.

AQUARIUS *Jan. 20 - Feb. 18*
This week ushers in a phase in which you can make positive progress on the road to wellness. You tend to be very sporadic in your attempts to maintain a certain level of fitness. It's important that you find ways to be more consistent if you want to get good results from your diet and exercise program.

PISCES *Feb. 19 - March 20*
It's time to think about how you can profitably invest in your health. The stars are encouraging you to think big in order to create big results. If you've been thinking about setting up a home gym, this is a good time to plan how you can do this. If you haven't yet bought a gym membership, look around, find one that suits you, and sign up.

CALENDARthis

KIWANIS CLUBS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On Aug. 14, author Rand Rubin will be making a presentation – What I See In Court and why I wrote “The Adventures of Herman” – 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. 19, the Club has a service project: preparing snack packs for the organization Friends In Deed.

DANCING AS EXERCISE

DancingAs 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:

- 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.

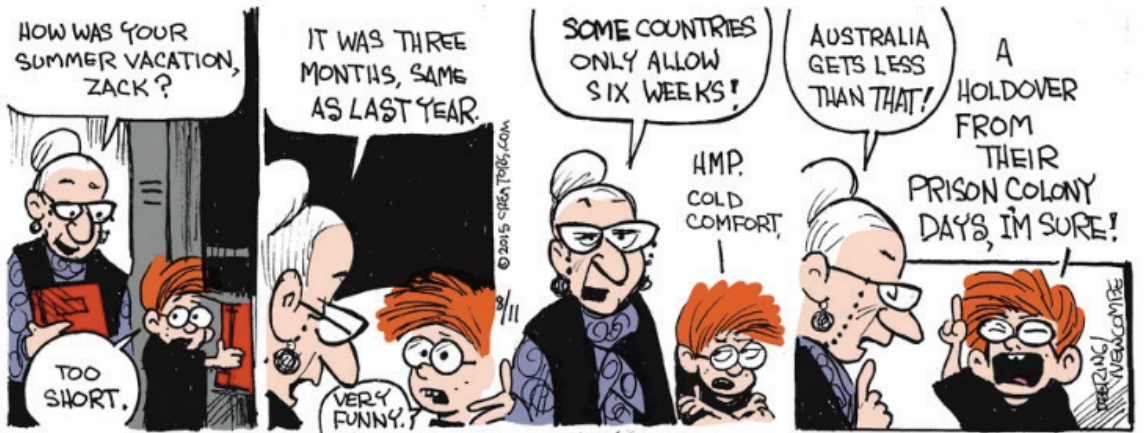
EAGLE ROCK TRAINING STUDIO OPENS FOR VISION NON-PROFIT

Aion Personal Training will host two community workout sessions benefiting the Power of Sight Foundation on Saturday, Aug. 15 at its Eagle Rock studio, 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.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

- 1) Eyeball-bending images
- 6) Bear's order, on Wall Street
- 10) Hardly well-thought-out
- 14) "___ and Juliet"
- 15) 14-Across, for one
- 16) Like sore muscles
- 17) Obey an octagonal sign
- 20) Articulated
- 21) Itching for action
- 22) Place of pilgrimage
- 25) Copenhagen residents
- 26) Heron cousin
- 30) Santa ___, Calif.
- 32) One with a will
- 35) Classroom spinners
- 41) Had one's bubble burst
- 43) John or Angelica of Hollywood
- 44) Small statue
- 45) Cheerfulness
- 47) Coral and Yellow
- 48) Heroic narratives
- 53) Annex
- 56) Creature comfort
- 58) New Guinea native
- 63) Did not quit
- 66) Genesis grandson
- 67) Dickerson of the Pro Football Hall of Fame
- 68) Reduces, as a budget
- 69) Make-or-break time
- 70) See at a distance
- 71) Eastwood's "Rawhide" role

VISITING HOURS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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48	49	50	51	52		53			54	55		
56					57			58		59	60	61
62												
63							64	65				
66						67			68			
69						70			71			

DOWN

- 1) Dungeons & Dragons creatures
- 2) Palindromic ship deck
- 3) BBs, e.g.
- 4) Stink to high heaven
- 5) Native American pole
- 6) Health resort
- 7) Fairy-tale night worker
- 8) Dern and Bush
- 9) Country singer Lovett
- 10) Certain dreadlocks wearer, informally
- 11) ___ good faith
- 12) Rudely push
- 13) Pumps up, as in advertising
- 18) The loneliest number
- 19) Psychedelic drug, for short
- 23) Meal for the shamed?
- 24) Like some cattle
- 26) Cast-wearer's problem
- 27) Boyfriend
- 28) "Real" and "alcohol" endings
- 29) "Don't change this!"
- 31) All aflutter
- 33) Word in a Shakespeare comedy title
- 34) Chinese secret society
- 36) Romanian currency
- 37) Boating pair
- 38) Camembert's kin
- 39) Erupter of 1992
- 40) Opposite of he's
- 42) With an even score
- 46) All-weather wear
- 48) Did a carpenter's chore
- 49) Improve upon
- 50) Columbus' home town
- 51) On pins and needles
- 52) Canine command
- 54) Photo ___ (camera sessions)
- 55) Well-groomed
- 57) "With this ring, I ___ wed"
- 59) "Trooper" attachment
- 60) ICU word
- 61) Point of perfection
- 62) Costner's role in "The Untouchables"
- 64) Appetizer selection
- 65) Like winter roads

see ANSWERS on following page

StubHub Says The Rick Springfield Concert Was Postponed, But It Wasn't. Can I Get A Refund?

StubHub insists a Rick Springfield concert has been postponed, but the show actually takes place. Can a customer get a refund even if the company's computer thinks the band hasn't taken the stage yet?

Question: I bought tickets to a Rick Springfield concert through StubHub. The event was originally scheduled 11 months ago but was postponed to three months ago. StubHub did not update this rescheduling correctly within its internal system.

On the new date of the concert, I contacted StubHub because I still hadn't received my tickets. A representative assured me that the system showed the event as still "postponed." I told them the concert was happening that day, but they couldn't override the system to transfer the tickets.

I missed the concert. StubHub initially said I was eligible for a refund but then changed its position, insisting the event is still pending rescheduling. I have confirmation from the venue that the concert took place. Can you help me get my \$348 back?

— Craig Field, Wellington, Florida

Answer: You shouldn't have missed this concert.

This is a bizarre case of man versus machine. You knew the concert was happening. The venue, the Kravis Center, knew the concert was happening. The promoter knew the concert was happening. Even Rick Springfield knew he was supposed to be on stage.

But StubHub's computer insisted the show was postponed. When you called on the day of the show you ran into a brick wall of binary logic. You said the representatives told you that "unless confirmation was received from the event organizers or venue, someone higher up within StubHub could not modify the system."

Because the computer said the show wasn't happening, it wouldn't release your tickets and you missed the performance. How frustrating.

What happened next is even stranger. You asked for a refund. At first, StubHub agreed to

return your \$348. Then it went back to checking its system, which apparently still thinks the show is pending rescheduling. You received communications that continued to claim the event remained postponed.

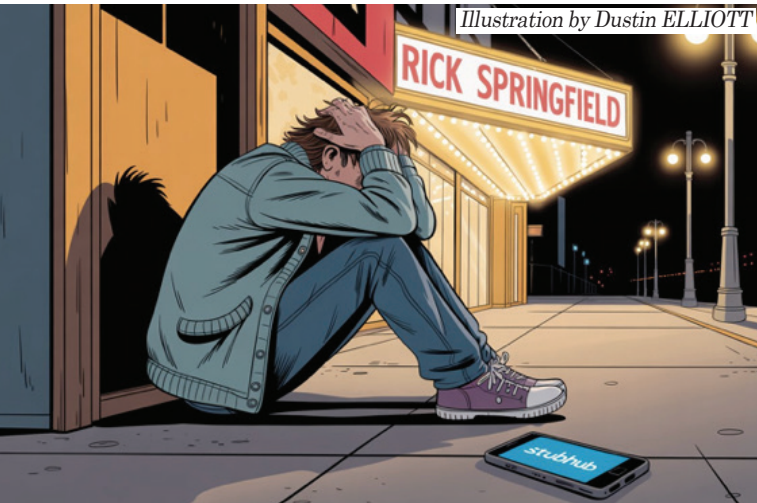
Come on.

You kept a great paper trail of correspondence between you and StubHub. You contacted the venue to get independent confirmation that the show actually took place. And you were patient.

StubHub's FanProtect Guarantee promises that if an event is canceled and not rescheduled, you will receive a credit worth 120% of the amount you paid or a cash refund. If there is an issue with your tickets, StubHub says it will find you comparable or better tickets, or offer you a refund.

Clearly, a system glitch that prevents ticket delivery falls under that guarantee.

If you ever run into a problem with StubHub again, you can always find the names, numbers



and email addresses of StubHub's executives on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org.

I contacted StubHub on your behalf. This time, a human reviewed your request.

"We're truly sorry this fan didn't receive the experience they deserved," a spokesperson told me. "We know how important live events are and we understand how disappointing it is to miss out."

StubHub confirmed that the show did, in fact, go on. It issued

a full refund of \$348 and offered you a voucher as a gesture of goodwill. Next time, hopefully, the computer will agree with reality.

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

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 snack bar will feature food for purchase.

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

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



Andersen's Pet Shop

SUNDAY

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ICE CREAM SOCIAL

10 AM - 1 PM



FREE DOGGIE ICE CREAM*

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FREE GIFT BAGS*

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ANSWERS for page 17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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22	M	E	C	C	A	23	D	A	N	E	S	
26	I	B	I	S	27	28	29	30	R	O	S	A
32	T	E	S	T	A	T	O	R	33	34	35	G
41	C	A	M	E	D	O	W	N	42	T	O	E
43	H	U	S	T	O	N	44	F	I	G	U	R
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48	S	A	G	A	S	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
56	A	M	E	N	I	T	Y	57	58	59	60	61
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69	D	D	A	Y	70	E	S	P	Y	71	Y	A

LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY IS READY FOR YOUR LEGAL NOTICES!

DBA'S
PROBATE NOTICES
NOTICE OF INTENT
CIVIL COURT NOTICES
NAME CHANGES
PUBLIC SALES/AUCTIONS
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
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ESTATE ADMINISTRATORS
ESTATE SALES

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BTS from page 7

Dr. Valerie Sun returned to GUSD from Garvey School District to serve as teacher specialist ETIS. Prior to her move to Garvey she was coordinator and teacher specialist in ETIS at GUSD.

Margarita Tubbs is the new assistant principal at Jefferson Elementary School. She has recently served as an induction mentor support teacher on special assignment in the Burbank Unified School District.

Narine Yapundjian was promoted to teacher specialist of Gifted and Talented Education. Prior to this promotion she served as a teacher at Balboa Elementary School.

As stated in last week's back to school article, traffic is an issue at all schools.

"As students return to school, we encourage families to allow extra travel time and exercise patience during morning drop-off and afternoon pickup. A few extra minutes and careful driving go a long way in helping keep our students, families and staff safe," stated GUSD spokesperson. "We also encourage families to review the recent safety information shared by the Glendale Police Dept. [https://tinyurl.com/yjpukdnk] and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. [https://tinyurl.com/3hz76kdn] regarding the differences between e-bikes and electric off-road motorcycles (e-motors). The [information] reminds families that electric off-road motorcycles are not legal to operate on public streets, sidewalks or City of Glendale/LA County parks and facilities, and encourages all riders to make safe choices and always wear a helmet."

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