

# CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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## The Countdown is On – Twenty Days Until the November Election

By Mary O'KEEFE

There will be 13 state measures – propositions – on the ballot in the November election including state measures 2, 3, 4, 5, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45.

In Los Angeles County there are county measures A and E.

This is also the year when California will decide on a new governor as Gov. Gavin Newsom is termed out. Overall it is a bit daunting; however, as President Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) is quoted as saying: "Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."

FDR said this on Oct. 5, 1944 during a radio address from the White House just before that year's presidential election.

Here is some information on State Measure 2 from California's Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO):

State Measure 2 – Increases State's Rainy Day Fund. Legislative Constitution Amendment: A Yes or No vote.

If approved this would change the way the state saves for the Rainy Day Fund and would require an amount to be set aside for extra debt payments.

The California State Constitution requires the state to save money in a Rainy Day Fund. Among the requirements at present is that the state must deposit 0.75% of the general fund tax revenues in this fund annually. Then funds in the Rainy Day Fund – its actual name is the Budget Stabilization Account – can be used for state programs. The state must put more money in the Rainy Day Fund in years when revenue from taxes on investment gains is higher than normal. The only time these deposits can be stopped and/or money can be taken out of the fund is during a budget emergency.

"The state has more than \$250 billion in debts. These include debt for infrastructure and pension and retiree health benefits earned by state employees. The state also sometimes borrows money from other state funds to help pay general fund costs.

see ELECTION on page 6

## Grand Marshal of Glendale Montrose Christmas Parade Announced

By Mary O'KEEFE

*The Glendale Montrose Christmas Parade has announced this year's grand marshal – longtime community supporter Mary Pinola.*

"I really didn't know what to say," said Mary Pinola when she was told she was chosen as the grand marshal of the 2026 Glendale Montrose Christmas Parade. "We had just finished a meeting in the boardroom at J's Maintenance regarding plans for the [Mary Pinola] Education Fund's future when Chris Waldheim brought in Montrose Christmas Parade memorabilia and shared the news. I was genuinely shocked and almost speechless. Robin Goldsworthy, editor of the Crescenta Valley Weekly and a member of our Education Fund board of advisors, was taking pictures. There were hugs all around and a few tears."

Pinola is not one who craves the limelight. She has supported so



Photo by Robin GOLDSWORTHY  
Chris Waldheim announces to Mary Pinola that she was named grand marshal of the 2026 Glendale Montrose Christmas Parade.

many non-profit organizations over the years through the Mary Pinola Education Fund, including school clubs throughout the community, but many don't know a lot about the dynamic woman behind the donations.

"Our work to start a very special Education Fund began back in the 1990s. During lunch with some close friends, we developed the idea of starting a fund and giving out grants

from the proceeds of fundraisers. We enjoyed our camaraderie and friendship as much as the fact that we were able to benefit so many worthy projects," she said.

At first the grants were small but were appreciated and supported the organizations that received the funds.

"One of our board members – Teri Rice – often comments she is impressed with how much difference

even a grant of \$500 or \$1,000 can make to an organization. For example, one year we were able to give a grant of \$990 to the math department at CVHS to purchase calculators. The calculators were purchased as soon as the grant was awarded and used to help hundreds of students prepare for their college entrance exams," Pinola said. "In the 1990s, see MARY PINOLA on page 18

## CVFSC Meeting Happening on Oct. 22

By Mary O'KEEFE

The public is invited, and encouraged, to come to a meeting of the Crescenta Valley Fire Safe Council (CVFSC) on Oct. 22 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Luke's of the Mountains – Sadler Hall, 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. A parking lot is located off Cross Street, just north of the building, and there is some street parking as well.

Since 2009, CVFSC has worked to educate the public and be a proactive organization regarding wildfires. There is also another arm of CVFSC, CV Ready, that helps residents prepare for all types of natural disasters like floods and earthquakes.

"CVFSC provides a voice for our local community to engage directly with local and federal emergency service providers (at the city, county and national levels) to help identify community fire safety needs and get resources assigned to reduce fire risk in our community," said Daniel Limonadi, CVFSC president.

By hearing from local residents CVFSC can tailor its proactive actions toward specific problems in the area. It is also important for community members to join in the work CVFSC is doing as its members move forward in emergency preparedness.

"[We] can apply for grants from state and national fire safe council funding sources that other civic organizations and private citizens typically can't access – federal and state pro-



File photo  
One of the outreach efforts of the Crescenta Valley Fire Safe Council is abatement of local overgrown areas.

gram grantors view FSCs as trusted, vetted multipliers capable of executing projects across multiple private properties. This would bring resources to bear to increase community safety that otherwise wouldn't be available," Limonadi said.

In the past, CVFSC has sponsored emergency drills, outreach events on fire preparedness and neighborhood abatement support. With the recent wildfires and the possible effects of a strong El Niño, the CVFSC has an important role in protecting the community.

"CVFSC provides a way to educate the community on the importance of preparedness – for fire risk, you are often only as safe as the most vulnerable property near you, so by reaching out and helping educate the community you can help make your block and neighborhood safer," Limonadi added.

All are invited to find out how to help, how to prepare and what the community is facing in the future regarding wildfires and flooding. LA County Fire Dept. will be making a presentation at the Oct. 22 meeting.



» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

# I Just Have to Share

This past weekend I headed to my “happy places:” Paso Robles and Cambria!

As many of you know, I am a subscription member of four wineries: Hearst Ranch, Harmony, Opolo and Niner. (As an aside, I agree – four wineries seems a bit excessive but every time I head north I stop at Hearst Ranch and it seemed prudent to become a member.)

I went up with my husband Steve – who really doesn’t drink so I couldn’t share with him the great wines I tasted. However, that didn’t slow me down; I tasted the wares of many of the wineries where I stopped.

I want to tell you that I typically stay at either the Bluebird Inn on Main Street in Cambria or just down the street at the Rigdon House on Burton Drive. In the past, the Bluebird Inn has been rather comfortable – but this past trip was, in a word, terrible. I had ordered a room with two queen beds and instead got a room with one double bed. When Steve and I were first married we had a double bed – and ended up with four children! I definitely wanted to avoid that. But, to be honest, I didn’t complain so I guess

I deserved what we got.

On Saturday morning, we headed to Hearst Castle to take one of the tours. We took the tour of the upstairs suites and wow! It was really something. I learned a lot, especially that despite being a fellow newswoman I will never achieve that kind of wealth!

And as a reminder, after 17 years CV Weekly (and the office of the CV Chamber) is moving. We’ve been at 3800 La Crescenta Ave. (first in unit 101 then in 2018 we moved upstairs to unit 206) since I started the paper in September 2009 but remote working is much more popular now than it was then; even my layout guys work from home!

Our office manager Rachelle will be working from one of the offices at St. Luke’s of the Mountains – Sadler Hall at 2563 Foothill Blvd. Despite having to go through 17 years of accumulated stuff, we’re about ready to make the move. Current plans are:

see ROBIN on page 19

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

This week I wrote an article about an upcoming meeting for CV Fire Safe Council taking place on Oct. 22. I want to mention it here as well because this is such an important community organization that I really want everyone to know about it.

A bit of history:

In 2008-09, Kim Mattersteig lived on Olive Lane in La Crescenta. She kept looking at the mountains in the Angeles National Forest seeing the vegetation dry out. She knew that her neighbors in Briggs Terrace had only one way in and out, and knew the danger fire would bring to her neighborhood. Kim began talking to LA County Fire Dept. and law officials and decided the best thing to do was to hold an evacuation drill.

For those who know Kim, when she decides to do something nothing stops her and she knew the importance of having this drill. So on Aug. 1, 2009 a fire drill was held.

At the same time Roger Young, who lived not too far from Kim near the Angeles National Forest, was also worried about a possible wildfire catastrophe in the future. In that vein he founded the CV Fire Safe Council (CVFSC).

At the time I was working for the LA Times Community News/Valley Sun newspaper. Not long before the drill was announced I had gone on a walk with the U.S. Forest Wildfire Service and with firefighters during an exercise. The vegetation we were walking on was very dry and the area we were hiking was very remote. You could just feel that this was a perfect storm for a wildfire.

So when Kim contacted me to let me know what she was planning I jumped on the story immediately. Prior to the drill she planned I was at a meeting held by the CV Town Council and LA Sheriff’s Dept. - CV Station. That’s where I

met Roger, who announced that he had started the CVFSC.

It amazed me how the community worked together. The CVTC worked with CVFSC and Kim as they planned the drill with members of LA County fire and sheriffs.

The area of Briggs Terrace was focused on because locals had been given a warning – an unfortunate one – just a few years earlier of what would happen if a fire broke out in this area.

At the time I wrote:

The Briggs Terrace area comprises neighborhoods of narrow, winding roads beset with heavy vegetation. In 2007, a fire destroyed a home that was surrounded by trees and vegetation. While 15 fire units responded to the Shields Street home, there was confusion among residents about whether they would be evacuated.

“That was 15 units for one home; imagine if more homes were affected? Our Fire Safety Council has identified 500 homes in that area that are vulnerable,” said Roger Young, president of the fire council.

Neighbors in the Briggs Terrace area took the evacuation drill very seriously with many participating. And then, just a few weeks later, the Station Fire began.

CV Weekly had not actually started publishing when the Station Fire began on Aug. 26, 2009 (our first printed paper was on Sept. 4) but we were ready and hit the ground running. Charly Shelton and I were at every press conference, from the first sign of smoke to the end. Robin Goldsworthy emailed hundreds of residents several times a day with updates. Roger Young, through CVFSC, was able to create a reverse 9-1-1 system. He kept residents up-to-date on everything that was happening including evacuations and where the fire was heading.

see WEATHER on page 19

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» PART II

# A Discussion About AI with Senator Adam Schiff

Screenshot found on YouTube  
Sometimes you can't believe what you see. AI generated political ads are increasing. Here governor candidate Steve Hilton uses an AI generated Kamala Harris in an ad, but clearly states it is an AI generated ad.



## AI takes center stage in California governor candidates' campaign ads

By Mary O'KEEFE

Both sides of the political aisle are aware that AI technology is rapidly developing. Many have commented on their concerns about how to monitor AI technology as well as the value and the dangers of data centers. The issue, which may not seem too surprising, is not looked at through the same lens by everyone so regulation continues to be debated.

In September President Donald Trump asked tech titans to come to Washington to a meeting called the White House Accord on Super Intelligence. They arrived at an agreement on the safety protocols for artificial intelligence labs to follow. It included internal teams – within the AI companies – that will monitor their own progress.

According to the White House executive order titled “Inaugurating the Era of Super Intelligence” the term “artificial intelligence” is being replaced with “super intelligence.”

The President announced that

the heads of the largest U.S. tech/AI companies had signed a “morally binding” agreement on controlling AI, now referred to as SI. This agreement has four layers of controls and audits, which include implementing internal controls, having an internal team from the company to ensure that internal controls are being followed, partnering with an independent external auditor and designating an independent committee of the board of directors to oversee and receive reports, according to the release.

However, this is self-policing meaning that AI companies will be trusted to monitor themselves and report any problematic issues.

“I think what you saw at the White House with the gathering of all these tech CEOs was window dressing. None of it is enforceable,” said Senator Adam Schiff. “It’s a complete permission slip for industry to do whatever it wants and whatever it thinks is best. We’ve seen in social media what happens when an industry

is completely unregulated and all the harms that have occurred as a result of social media. So it’s ... a call to action for the Congress.”

Internet tentacles seemed to reach out slowly and Congress was slow to react to possible warning signs.

“This can’t be like social media. We need to step in and regulate. It’s also a cautionary tale that Congress has been very incapable of regulating an industry that has the kind of resources that these technology companies have,” he added.

He said that lawmakers must act now before “we have some kind of catastrophic harm.”

Tech companies do not exactly agree on their responsibilities. Recently Sam Altman, OpenAI CEO, told Decoded co-author and Politico senior tech reporter Brendan Bordelon, “I think there’s a lot of daylight” when asked about the differences between Anthropic and its CEO Dario Amodei.

He added, “We believe that the world should accept some bad

things happening for the benefits of this technology and people having the agency.”

Schiff said he has heard that type of statement in the past from leaders in the tech industry.

“There is an ethic in Silicon Valley among some that the technology is an inherent good and the quicker advances [are made] the better and they’re willing to accept the negative consequences,” he said.

He added that the thoughts are that positive consequences outweigh negative impacts. However, tech companies are representing their economic interests.

“Someone needs to look after the interests of the whole society and the country with something other than a profit motive,” Schiff said.

Senator Schiff has introduced and is working on legislation that deals with AI and its impacts, including a legislative package to reassess the tax code to plan for the consequences AI will have on unemployment and job displacement.



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## LION'S CLUB BOUTIQUE from page 3



“We love doing things that support our community, that get people out and about and meeting people and supporting small businesses in the community. That’s what happens through this boutique. It also gives us

the opportunity to raise money through the Lions Club to help support students and also [an opportunity to support] the Firehouse,” Tyson said. “This event does so many things to support our community.”

For more information, find the event details on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1713876119295831/> or contact Diana Tyson at (818) 625-5221 or email lions91214@gmail.com.

# National Walk to School Day Celebrated Locally



By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Students throughout the nation, and specifically in the foothills, took to the streets on the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 7 to celebrate National Walk to School Day.

According to the internet, Walk to School Day was founded in the USA in 1997 by the Partnership for a Walkable America. It began as a one-day event to build awareness and advocate for the need for walkable communities. The event was inspired by the UK's Walk to School campaign, which began in the mid-1990s, making it part of a larger international movement.

Outside Fremont Elementary School, members of the Crescenta Valley High School marching band were tuning up, ready to greet the walkers who had started their trek from nearby Montrose Park on Clifton Place. In addition to the marching band, members of the CV High School cheer squad were on hand to greet the walkers as they entered the school.

In addition, Glendale Police Dept. officers were on hand to oversee that everyone arrived at the school safely.

Photos by Robin GOLDSWORTHY

# City Celebrates Completion of Rehab Project



By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

To celebrate the completion of the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project the City of Glendale, which oversaw the project, on Wednesday morning, Oct. 7, held a ribbon-cutting at Sparr Heights Community Center on Glencoe Way.

"This was a very important project," said Mayor Ardy Kassakhian, one of the dignitaries on-site. "Projects like this take a lot of coordination."

The mayor went on to thank the various city departments that participated in the project.

"This project is a point of pride," said council member Elen Asatryan, who also spoke adding that there will be no more fears by parents walking their children to local school Fremont Elementary.

Fellow council member Alek Bartosouf, who earned a master of urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles, said the project was "amazing" especially in the number of safety improvements it achieved including slowing down traffic.

A resident who lives on La Crescenta Avenue, "Elizabeth" added that the completion of the project "has made such a difference in our lives," saying that the reduction in noise was enough in itself.

The project was started in 2012 and the \$16 million price tag was funded through various entities and partnerships.

TOP LEFT: A ribbon-cutting was recently held by the City of Glendale for the completion of the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project. Among the attending dignitaries were city council members Elen Asatryan, Dan Brotman, Alek Bartosouf and police chief Robert William.

TOP RIGHT: Mayor Ardy Kassakhian spoke at the podium for a few minutes before heading off to another engagement.

BELOW: Among the many highlights of the project were the before and after images of the condition of the street prior to the completion of the project.



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# Heightened West Nile Virus Activity Across Greater Los Angeles

The Greater Los Angeles Vector Control District (GLACVCD) is alerting residents to heightened West Nile virus (WNV) activity across Los Angeles County and reminding the public to take precautions against mosquito bites. WNV-positive mosquito samples and dead birds have surpassed last year's levels and are trending above the five-year average, while the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health has reported over 100 human cases and five deaths. The elevated activity comes amid increased WNV activity across California and other parts of the country.

"West Nile virus is cyclical and the level of activity we

see can look different each year," said Steve Vetrone, the district's assistant general manager of Vector Management Services. "This year, we have seen increased disease activity across the region, with activity beginning earlier than usual. An extremely mild winter where rainfall was interspersed with unusually warm weather earlier in the year are among the environmental factors that have contributed to these conditions."

Native *Culex* mosquitoes can transmit WNV and are most active from dusk to dawn. Although *Culex* mosquito abundance within the district remains below the five-year average, WNV activity is

significantly elevated. So far this year, the district has detected 384 WNV-positive mosquito samples and 78 WNV-positive dead birds, compared with 104 positive mosquito samples and two positive dead birds at this time last year. In response to the elevated activity, GLACVCD mobilized staff across its Operations, Scientific-Technical, and Communications departments.

"After seeing increased activity early in the season, we stepped up inspection and control efforts along with mosquito monitoring, and public outreach," added Vetrone. "The control efforts have helped keep WNV transmitting *Culex*

mosquito populations low. With WNV activity high, our work continues, and residents can do their part by preventing mosquito bites and eliminating standing water."

With no human vaccine currently available for WNV, preventing mosquito bites is the most important step residents can take to reduce their risk. Residents should use an effective insect repellent when outdoors, particularly from dusk to dawn when *Culex* mosquitoes are the most active. Simple actions can help protect individuals, families, and communities from WNV:

*Use insect repellent* containing at least 15% DEET,

Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

*Remove standing water* around the home to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

*Report neglected or green swimming pools* in your neighborhood to your local vector control agency.

*Report dead birds* to the California Dept. of Public Health at [westnile.ca.gov](http://westnile.ca.gov) or by calling 1-877-WNV-BIRD.

For more mosquito control information, residents can contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 visit [GLAmosquito.org](http://GLAmosquito.org), or follow the district on social media.

*Submitted by GLACVCD*

## ELECTION from Cover

State debts are repaid over time, usually according to a schedule or plan. Each year, the state makes payments toward

its debts," according to the LAO.

If Measure 2 is passed, the state would be required to make deposits into the Rainy Day Fund until it reaches 20% of the general fund; at present it is a requirement of 10%. It also requires the state to make "extra debt payments through 2040 instead of through 2030."

In addition, "The state has an account to set aside funds when revenues are surging.

By setting these funds aside, the state can avoid overspending when revenue estimates are particularly uncertain. Under Proposition 2, deposits into this account also would not count toward the state appropriations limit. Instead, the money would count toward the limit when it is taken out. This exclusion could not be larger than 10% of general fund taxes in each year," according to LAO.

The fiscal effects, according to LAO, would mean the budget

reserves would be higher.

A yes vote approves state measure 2; a no vote will leave the Rainy Day Fund as it is now.

According to CalMatters: Opponents to state measure 2 say it could be used by politicians as a "slush fund" and it would allow lawmakers to withhold more tax revenue without triggering the spending limit to avoid refunds to taxpayers.

Supporters of state measure 2

say the tax revenue in the state is volatile and relies heavily on the stock market and raising the ceiling from 10% to 20% would allow the state to save more when the economy is booming, building stronger reserves during economic downturns.

In the weeks to come prior to the election CVW will be looking at other state measures on the ballot.

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# Make a Plan – Get Ready to Vote

By Mary O'KEEFE

Most Los Angeles County registered voters have received their vote-by-mail ballots, which can be returned via USPS. It has been advised for those who are voting by mail to mail their

ballot early and to go into the U.S. post office to get a hand stamp postmark.

For those who would like to drop off their ballots at a drop box, visit [lavote.gov](http://lavote.gov) to locate a nearby drop box. The website also provides information

on many things, from voting registration to tracking a ballot.

Voting in person begins on Oct. 24 and continues through Nov. 2; it is from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Election Day, Nov. 3, the hours at polling places are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

By visiting [lavote.gov](http://lavote.gov)

information will be provided regarding locations of polling places in the nearby area.

For those who would like to contact the LA County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk office with questions on voting, call (800) 815-2666.

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## CRIME BLOTTER

### OCT. 7

900block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, deputies responded to a call concerning a theft at a store. Surveillance footage revealed a male heavysset Black adult enter the store. He [Suspect No. 1] was wearing a black shirt and camouflage pants. He had tattoos on his right arm and was wearing sunglasses. He had a shopping cart that held several books and a Trader Joe's bag. He was accompanied by a female [Suspect No. 2] described as a Black heavysset adult.

The suspects walked through the store and placed several items into the cart. Suspect No. 1 approached the registers with two pillows on top of the shopping cart and attempted to return the items that were inside the cart prior to entering the store along with the added items, excluding

the pillows. The store employee told Suspect No. 1 that a manager would contact them regarding the returns due to the amount of money regarding the items. The suspect declined returning the items and purchased one pillow and discarded the other. The employee did see another item in the cart that the suspects did not enter the store with.

The suspects exited the store with the items at 7:52 p.m.

### OCT. 10

600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, a person reported that while he was working at the store at the location someone stole the catalytic converter from his vehicle while it was in the parking between noon and 8 p.m.

### OCT. 5

900block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, an employee reported a theft at a store. Surveillance footage revealed a person [Suspect No. 1] enter the store. Suspect No. 1, described as a male who appeared to be Hispanic, wearing a black hat, black shirt and jean shorts, had tattoos on his right arm and the back of his neck. He entered the store and walked toward the bath department. He grabbed a shopping cart and put a shower head in the cart and then approached the bedding department. He grabbed an air purifier and put it into the shopping car. When he approached the main entrance of the store he took the items out of the cart and walked out of the store without attempting to pay at 4:57 p.m.

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# Donated Funds Help Sheriff’s Department Equip Deputies with New Wildland Fire Safety Bags

The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept. (LASD) is expanding its wild land fire preparedness efforts by equipping deputies with specialized fire safety bags that contain protective equipment and emergency supplies for use when they are called upon to work in or near active wildfire areas.

Wild land fires can create hazardous conditions, including extreme heat, heavy smoke, falling debris and poor visibility. During fires law enforcement personnel often assist with evacuations, traffic control, perimeter security and other public safety operations. Ensuring deputies have appropriate protective equipment is an important part of the Department’s preparedness efforts.

These fire bags are one example of that commitment. They provide a practical way for the Department to prepare our personnel for the dangers they may encounter and ensure they have the appropriate protective equipment when deployed

to work in wild land fire conditions.

This is where community partnerships have made a tremendous difference. The Los Angeles Sheriff’s Foundation provided the funding for the initial purchase of wild land fire bags in 2023. Those 30 bags went to LASD personnel at the Malibu/Lost Hills patrol station who may be called to work in wild land fire conditions. During the recent fires, Malibu/Lost Hills Station personnel used these bags while working in the affected areas and saw firsthand how valuable that equipment could be. As a result, the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Foundation decided to step forward again and provide an additional donation to purchase 139 more bags, which were distributed this year to patrol personnel throughout the Department.

Recognizing the need to expand the program to additional fire-prone areas, Gordon Philanthropies offered to donate and help buy an additional 110 wild land fire bags, which the Department expects to receive in early October. In total, the

Department will have a total of 279 wild land fire bags.

Los Angeles County Fire Department Assistant Chief Drew Smith worked with Malibu/Lost Hills patrol station to identify the necessary protective equipment and emergency supplies needed for deputies working near wild land fires. Each fully equipped fire bag includes critical personal protective equipment and emergency supplies, including a 5.11 Responder Med Backpack, CAL FIRE wild land jacket, leather safety gloves, Hot Shield Wild Land Mask, Anchor Fire Shelter, safety glasses, Bleed Stop Kit with tourniquet, gauze and N95 masks, and an Eye and Sun Relief Kit containing eye drops, saline and a cold pack.

The bags are stored at designated stations throughout the County and are available for deployment as needed. During periods of elevated wildfire danger, including Red Flag Warnings, deputies may carry the bags in their patrol vehicles so protective equipment is immediately available should conditions change

or a wild land fire develop.

“This really is a great example of partnership, our fire-service partners sharing their expertise, our community partners providing resources, and our Department putting those resources directly into the hands of the personnel who may need them,” said Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna. “At the end of the day, this is about preparedness and taking care of our people, so they can take care of our residents.”

“The Los Angeles Sheriff’s Foundation is proud to support the Department in obtaining new fire safety bags for deputies,” said Los Angeles Sheriff’s Foundation founder and president David Hochman. “Seeing this important safety equipment put to good use during the recent fires demonstrated the importance of being prepared and having additional resources available when they are needed most. We are pleased to continue supporting the Department’s efforts to expand this resource to more personnel throughout the County,

and we appreciate the partnership with Gordon Philanthropies in helping protect deputies in the field while keeping our communities safe.”

“In Southern California, wildfire risk is no longer hypothetical; it is a predictable reality that requires strategic preparation,” said Daniel L. Gordon, founder of Gordon Philanthropies. “If deputies are asked to operate in hazardous conditions to protect our communities, we, as citizens, have a responsibility to ensure they are properly equipped and trained. The hope is that this equipment is never needed, but preparedness is not optional, and protecting our first responders is a shared community responsibility.”

The Department is grateful for the partnerships of the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Foundation and Gordon Philanthropies for helping expand this important preparedness resource to additional patrol stations throughout Los Angeles County.

*Submitted by LASD*

## Preparing for The Great ShakeOut

The Great ShakeOut is today, Thursday, Oct. 15. At 10:15 a.m. people across California, and around the world, will

participate in the Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill.

At 10:15 a.m. today everyone is encouraged to practice drop,

cover and hold on in preparation of when California has another earthquake.

Many offices, schools and

other locations will participate but individuals in their homes should take this opportunity to practice as well.

Visit <https://www.shakeout.org/california/> to find information on the ShakeOut and how to be prepared.

## Free Movie Nights in Time for Halloween

By Mary O’KEEFE

Just in time for Halloween, the community is invited to two free spooky screenings!“Casper” (1995) will be shown at St. Luke’s of the Mountains – Sadler Hall, 2563 Foothill Blvd. on Friday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. The screening is free; treats will be

available to purchase.

For those who can’t make Friday’s screening another opportunity awaits! “The Addams Family”(1991) will be shown on Friday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.

Seating is limited so those interested are encouraged to reserve a spot via Eventbrite

(links below).

These event are in partnership with The Great Film Club and The Balcony of St. Luke’s.

To reserve a spot for “Casper” visit <https://tinyurl.com/2s49v5ur>; to reserve a spot “The Addams Family,” visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc53dfy3>.

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VIEWPOINTS

VIEW OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

Cemetery Times, Yesterday and Today – Part 1

In April I will reach my fifth year as volunteer caretaker at the Verdugo Hills Cemetery. I take great pride in caring for the resting places of so many, high on a hill in Tujunga, including a good number of town pioneers. At the highest point is Pioneer Hill, which many Little Landers colonists chose as their eternal home. None as important perhaps as Parson James Wornom, for without him there would be no cemetery in Tujunga. I wasn't around in April 1922 when the cemetery came into being, so the story continues with the words of Mabel Hatch, an early settler of the Crescenta Valley.

One of the most unforgettable characters of the valley's early days was Parson James Wornom, "the old Parson" as the settlers affectionately called him. He was a big, raw-boned, blustering sort of man, sure of himself and his religion. He was not only sure of his religion but also filled with it. Living it, breathing it, singing it, preaching it – at all times and in all

places – there was no time out from his religion, not for the old Parson. He was a great horse trader; he always had handsome, well-kept horses that were slick and strong. He and his wife "Aunt Jennie" often rode.

The Parson preached on Sundays but during the week the old man would lend a hand building a house or digging a cesspool. Never was a family in this valley in trouble – be it sickness, death, or taxes – that the old man was on hand with a prayer, a strong arm, a willing back or even a persuasive tongue if somebody had to be talked out of something.

The old Parson spoke with Marshall Hartranft, or Uncle Marsh as many called him, about donating some of his land for a cemetery.

"I love these hills, Marsh," the old man would say, "and I want to be buried in them."

Mr. Hartranft was always sympathetic but he was also very busy. He would agree to do it but he wouldn't get about it.



This is the first half of the story of how the Verdugo Hills Cemetery came to be. In two weeks, I'll conclude with what the old Parson did next to get his desires met. Now I'd like to share a bit of my philosophy about caring for the cemetery and its residents. I really enjoy bringing life to these hallowed grounds, and I can't help but feel the residents might enjoy that too. I can tell you, I haven't had a single complaint yet as caretaker, or as I like to call myself, Project Undertaker.

I've also spent a lot of time investigating the lives of many cemetery residents and I feel I've come to know them. So many interesting stories have emerged and I can't help but want to share them. To bring some life into the Verdugo Hills Cemetery and to honor many of its residents I would like to invite you all to the upcoming event at VHC, Dine with the Dead, Walk for Life on Nov. 1 from noon until 5 p.m.

Both chefs from Tujunga Joselito's and the Back Door Bakery have told me they've put together a tasty selection for this Day of the Dead/ Día de los Muertos remembrance celebration. In addition to great food, there will be photo opportunities, games and prizes and every half hour we'll gather at a gravesite with an ofrenda, or altar, including a photograph and I'll share that person's story.

Bring some cash for food and games. Park on Terecita Road and make the short walk to VHC. Navigate to 10950 Terecita for parking. We suspect that our special Día de los Muertos dance show by Dani and her amazing performers will be the highlight, taking place at 2 p.m. 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Please join us!

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

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NEWS FROM SACRAMENTO » ASSEMBLYMEMBER NICK SCHULTZ

Reflecting on Bills Passed

After approximately nine months of work, the California State Legislature has concluded the 2026 legislative session. I am so grateful for the many residents of the 44th Assembly District who have taken the time to interact with our office with questions, comments and concerns.

Since December, I've been working on a package of bills to improve public safety, protect public health, address the high cost of living and boost housing production. I'm happy to report that nine bills have been signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Here's a summary of a few of the bills:

**AB 690 – Criminal Procedure:** Indigent Defense Compensation. Creates statewide standards for contracts providing indigent defense services to ensure that all Californians receive equal access to quality legal services.

**AB 939 – Housing Development:** Density Bonuses – Affordability of For-Sale Units. Modernizes the law to expand affordable homeownership opportunities by eliminating unnecessary resale delays and clarifying compliance procedures for market-rate developers, non-profit affordable housing organizations and local governments. This ensures that homes reach qualified low-income buyers faster, reduces holding costs for developers and accelerates pathways to homeownership for low-income Californians.

**AB 1546 – Vehicles:** Driving Under the Influence. Modernizes DUI penalties and strengthens accountability for repeat offenders by requiring that a third DUI within 10 years be charged as either a misdemeanor or felony, and that a fifth DUI be charged as a felony.

**AB 1603 – Protecting California Agriculture from Toxic Chemicals.** Increases transparency around PFAS-containing pesticides by requiring the Dept. of Pesticide Regulation to disclose if a pesticide contains PFAS, publish a list of all pesticides containing PFAS ingredients and make other public disclosures, including usage trends.

**AB 1905 – Juveniles:** Custodial Interrogation. Strengthens the protections in law for young people in custody by prohibiting law enforcement from using undercover officers or agents to obtain statements from individuals who were 17 years of age or younger at the time of the alleged offense and 26 years of age or younger while in custody. With clear guardrails, this bill promotes fairness, reduces the risk of unreliable statements and supports the integrity of the judicial system.

**AB 1917 – The Respect Judicial Decisions Act.** Strengthens transparency and efficiency in criminal court proceedings by ensuring that charges brought against defendants are always evidence-based. This bill requires prosecutors to file a motion to add back any charges that a judge previously dismissed in a preliminary hearing. If such motions are granted, then these charges can be reinstated.

**AB 2266 – CPUC Power Procurement Process Streamlining.** Directs the CPUC to streamline how it evaluates electricity-planning decisions across separately enacted clean energy programs and instead create one coordinated process. It would require the CPUC to use consistent methods when determining how much electricity California needs and improve accountability through yearly evaluations of the real-world impact of its calculations on actual energy purchases.

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YOUTH

# Students Honored



Crescenta Valley High School students Seonho (Isaac) Kim, Lori Aboulion and Julissa Garcia were recently honored as part of a select group of 19 Glendale Unified students accepted into the Dignity Health – Glendale Memorial Hospital Healthcare Professions Internship Program. Following a competitive process featuring 150 applicants, the students were recognized during an Oct. 2 celebration at the CVHS administration offices. Pictured from left are Pamela Flores (GMHHC), Samuel Scriven (GMHHC), Christine Benitez (CVHS), Seonho (Isaac) Kim (CVHS), Lori Aboulion (CVHS), Neda Farid (Glendale Unified School District - GUSD), Dr. Darneika Watson (GUSD), Dr. Christin Molano (GUSD) and Chris Coulter (GUSD). Not pictured: Julissa Garcia.

# Galfayan Named Teacher of the Year

Gagik Galfayan, a middle school history teacher at Woodrow Wilson Middle School in the Glendale Unified School District, was selected as a 2027 California Teacher Of the Year. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond named five exceptional educators as the 2027 California Teachers of the Year, recognizing their outstanding commitment to students, schools and communities across the state. The five educators will serve as ambassadors for the teaching profession and represent California educators throughout 2027. “California’s Teachers of the Year represent the very best of our profession. They see the potential in every student and work each day to ensure all students have the opportunity to succeed,” Superintendent Thurmond said. “These exceptional educators are an inspiration and example of the exceptional work going on in California schools. I am proud to recognize them and grateful for the difference they are making for our students.” Presented by the California Dept. of Education and supported by the California Teachers of the Year Foundation, the California Teachers of the Year Program has honored outstanding educators since 1972 and helps elevate the teaching profession and inspire the next generation of California teachers.

# Resilience and Sweet Success Found at Altadena Cookie Company



On Friday, Oct. 9 second grade students from Lincoln Elementary School participated in a special family field trip to the Altadena Cookie Company where they gained a firsthand look at local entrepreneurship, community support and baking operations. Students from the classes of Nicolas James, Erin Marino and Houry Meguerditchian gathered at the bakery alongside parents and siblings for a guided, behind-the-scenes tour. During the informative visit, the young learners explored the step-by-step process of commercial cookie production. Adding to the excitement of the afternoon beloved first-grade teacher, retired, Melinda Burkhart, who lives in the neighborhood, made a surprise appearance at the bakery to reunite with former students. The Altadena Cookie Company is the brainchild of Jessica Christopher and Michelle Taylor who first joined forces in 2020 after meeting in a local parent group. What began as a home-based cottage business selling decorate-your-own cookie kits soon expanded into sales at local farmers markets. However, the business faced a major setback when the Eaton Fire swept through the area mid-move into their new shop, destroying much of their equipment. Thanks to a successful GoFundMe campaign and strong community backing, Christopher and Taylor rebuilt over the course of 10 months, reopening in late 2025 as one of the first businesses to return to Altadena following the fire. The field trip offered students a valuable educational experience, demonstrating the mechanics of a small business while celebrating a local success story of recovery and community spirit.

Submitted by Nicolas JAMES

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

# Maja Trochimczyk and The California Quarterly Featured at Village Poets



On Oct. 25 Village Poets will feature Maja Trochimczyk on Zoom. She is president of the California State Poetry Society and editor of the California Quarterly Autumn 2026 issue (Vol 52, Issue 3) featuring poets from around California and the U.S. This will be a “hybrid” reading, meaning both readers in attendance and readers on Zoom will be heard. This reading will take place (as usual) at Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. Hosted by Joe DeCenzo and Alice Pero, there will also be an open mic and poets are invited to participate in the open reading segment of the event. If poets would like to participate in the Zoom portion of the event, please email [CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety@gmail.com](mailto:CaliforniaStatePoetrySociety@gmail.com) and request the link. The reading starts at 4:30 p.m. and lasts until about 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Dr. Maja Trochimczyk is a Polish American poet, music historian and photographer. She has published 10 books on music and culture and six volumes of poetry. Her research and poems have appeared in numerous volumes of collected works, scholarly journals and poetry periodicals in 11 countries. She is the founder of Moonrise Press. The sixth poet-laureate of Sunland-Tujunga (2010-2012) and program director of Village Poets (2010-2022), she has served as president of the California State Poetry Society and managing editor of California Quarterly since 2019. Established in 1971 and formally incorporated as a non-profit in 1985, California State Poetry Society is dedicated to its mission of promoting poetry and art in California and around the world through publishing a poetry journal and newsletter and organizing monthly and annual poetry contests. The CSPS

began publication of the California Quarterly in the fall of 1972. Trochimczyk said about the Autumn 2026 issue of CQ, “Since I enjoy classical music’s counterpoint, I wove this CQ issue into a tapestry of words, echoing and resonating in each other. Longer poems are interspersed with haiku by Gregory Cecil and Susan Rogers. In the polyphony of human experience, we overcome grief and become aware of cosmic unity: ‘Streams become rivers /And the river becomes the sea’ (Heard). And so, our journey continues, words flourish anew.” The reading will include live readings by Andrew You, Maja Trochimczyk, Bruce Heard and Susan Rogers and Zoom readings by Charlie McCurdy, David Rosenheim, Sandra Irwin, Roman Montemorano, Patty Pieczka, Pamela Singer, Mike Breuleux and Ken Holland. Submitted by Village Poets

## Vector Control Notice



Routine vector treatment is part of the District’s wastewater collection system maintenance program.

This process helps protect public health by reducing insect populations that may carry vector-borne illnesses.

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# ‘Flying with Words & Music’ with Windsong Players



Windsong Players Chamber Ensemble will perform a new program, “Flying with Words & Music,” which will include the world premiere of “Beyond Birds & Answers,” an ensemble piece created by pianist/composer Dan West based on poetry by Alice Pero and artwork by Vera Campion. This concert will take place on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 3:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 12227 Balboa Blvd. in Granada Hills. The performance will

also feature music by Quantz, Bartok, Donizetti, Komitas and others as well as poetry by Alice Pero, performed by actress Sisu Raiken. Windsong Players Chamber Ensemble is a group of Los Angeles-based musicians that made its debut performance in March 2015. The group performs for the purpose of elevating the spirit and aesthetic of listeners. The group is composed of Veronica Bell, soprano, Alice Pero, flutist, Svetlana

Oganesian, violinist and Dan West, composer/pianist with other guest artists and poets. Windsong brings both old and new music alive in performance and connects audiences to chamber music, an intimate and vital aesthetic. Windsong is pleased to commission new pieces and also encourage the art of poetry with a short live reading at every performance. Look for Windsong Players Chamber Ensemble on You Tube and Facebook.

# CAP Invites Community to Presentation of Saving Innocence Organization

The Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals (CAP), an auxiliary of Action League of the Foothills (ALF), invites community members on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. for a special evening focused on bringing hope and support to survivors of human trafficking in Los Angeles. ALF is located at 4607 Oakwood in La Cañada Flintridge. CAP will welcome a special guest speaker from Saving Innocence, an organization dedicated to supporting survivors of human trafficking and helping them move toward safety, healing and independence. Guests will have the opportunity to learn more

about the organization’s work and the impact it is making in the Los Angeles community. Following the presentation, community members are invited to participate in building survivor backpacks, which provide practical essentials and encouragement to survivors as they begin their journey toward a safer future. The evening offers an opportunity to learn, serve and make a tangible difference alongside CAP members. To RSVP for this special event, email [info@alfoothills.org](mailto:info@alfoothills.org) (subject line should be CAP program) or call (818) 790-1328. RSVP deadline is 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 19. Due to the

subject matter, no one under 18 years of age will be admitted and childcare is not available. For those interested in learning more about Saving Innocence and its work bringing hope to survivors of human trafficking in Los Angeles, please visit [savinginnocence.org](http://savinginnocence.org). CAP welcomes new members throughout the year and encourages professionals interested in community service to learn more about joining the organization. For more information visit <https://alfoothills.org/> or call (818) 790-1328. Submitted Action League of the Foothills

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Luxury and Lagoons: A Family Escape to a Desert Oasis



The phrase “desert oasis” is thrown around a lot but when it comes to the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa, the words have never rung so true. Located just outside Palm Springs in the city of Palm Desert, this sprawling 450-acre sanctuary boasts 884 guest rooms, 101 suites, five spectacular outdoor pools, two 18-hole championship golf courses, 20 tennis courts, a 38,000-square-foot luxury spa and a high-tech JW Entertainment Zone arcade.

These amenities are great, but what brought my family here were the boats. That’s right – the resort also has real boats that cruise a giant lake, taking guests around the property and to dinner at the hotel’s signature restaurants. My family began a recent stay at the Marriott by checking into a gorgeous 7th-floor suite overlooking the pool area and the lake. The beautifully spacious room came with two plush pillowtop queen beds, a comfortable separate

sitting area, a sleek workspace and a mini-fridge. In the bathroom we found a big soaking tub and a separate shower with a glass door. The highlight of the room was the private balcony where we got a bird’s-eye view of the property, including the sparkling pools and calm lake below us. Beyond the room is a colossal atrium lobby. The space is stunning with soaring ceilings and a grand, open-air design. The resort’s vast, multi-acre internal lake system

extends inside the building and the hotel’s electric gondola boats park directly inside the giant lobby, entering and exiting through massive, integrated sliding glass doors. Our favorite spot at the resort was the pool area, which features a lively main family pool, a chilled oasis pool and relaxing whirlpools. Although it was 100 degrees during our stay, the refreshing water put us in vacation mode as we splashed and lounged.

Courtesy of JW Marriott  
TOP LEFT: Our sprawling, boat-filled sanctuary at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa.  
Courtesy of JW Marriott  
TOP RIGHT: Checking into paradise: where luxury guest suites open up to a breathtaking desert mirage.  
Courtesy of Greg ARAGON  
BOTTOM LEFT: Escaping the 100-degree desert heat in the resort’s refreshing crystal-blue waters.  
Courtesy of JW Marriott  
BOTTOM RIGHT: Our favorite way to travel – taking a scenic boat ride across the sprawling resort lake.

see TRAVELS on page 14

THEN & NOW

Car in Verdugo City  
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



**Then:** Verdugo City was only two years old when this car was photographed traveling west on Honolulu Avenue in 1927. Verdugo City was an up-and-coming community in the valley in the 1920s with a great future planned. Although empty lots make up the bulk of the scenery, the large two-story Verdugo City Drug Store can be seen far in the background.

**Now:** Verdugo City is over 100 years old in this photo showing cars traveling west on Honolulu, a half-block west of La Crescenta Avenue. The Verdugo City Drug Store building is gone – a victim of the 1971 earthquake. The empty lots shown in the “Then” photo are now occupied by a mini-mall. Verdugo City never panned out as its promoters hoped and today it exists only as a post office and a sign on the freeway.

# Oboist Noah Breneman to Perform for GNC

On Oct. 21, the free admission Glendale Noon Concerts will feature oboist Noah Breneman performing solo works for oboe by Gary Powell Nash, Ruth Gipps, Ernst Krenek and Edson Beltrami. The program will be from 12:10 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. and include selections from New York City Miniatures (2020) by Gary Powell Nash, “The Piper of Dreams” (1940) by Ruth Gipps, “Sonatina” (1956) by Ernest Krenek and “Tres Lendas” (2014) by Edson Beltrami.

To learn of upcoming concerts, visit <http://glendalenoonconcerts.blogspot.com>.

Noah Breneman is a freelance oboist based in Los Angeles. He currently holds the positions of second oboe with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and principal oboe with the Reno Chamber Orchestra. Originally from Reading, Pennsylvania, Breneman attended The Pennsylvania State University, graduating magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in oboe performance. In 2018 he relocated to Los Angeles to pursue a master’s degree at the University of Southern California, which he completed in spring 2020 amid the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In February 2025 Breneman



played two weeks on trial with the Swedish Chamber Orchestra in Örebro, Sweden – a rare opportunity for an American-born oboist. Locally, he performs as a substitute with groups such as the Reno Philharmonic, San Diego Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. His teachers include Jill Haley, Tim Hurtz, Joel Timm and Marion

Kuszyk.

In addition to his career as an oboist, Breneman works in the marketing department of the Los Angeles Philharmonic as music buyer for the LA Phil Store. In this role, he curates the physical media selections for the retail stores at both Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl.

# Estranged Landscape Coming to Adams Square Mini Park



Photo provided by Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Dept.  
Installation of Estranged Landscape by Yuntao Xu at the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station in Glendale on view through Jan. 8, 2027.

The Glendale Arts & Culture Commission presents Estranged Landscape, an immersive installation designed specifically for the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station in Glendale, a city where urban life meets natural landscape. Inspired by the surrounding mountains and canyons, the installation reimagines natural topography using lightweight, reflective fabric suspended by ceiling-mounted strings to form fluid, voluminous shapes. Fuzzy textiles and color-shifting lights enrich the surreal experience, inviting

viewers to encounter beauty in an unexpected urban setting.

Yuntao Xu is a designer and licensed architect based in Los Angeles. He is the co-founder of Studio KOMA, a creative and architectural practice in LA. Since beginning his professional career in 2019, Yuntao has developed a strong command of diverse design platforms and cultivated a refined sensitivity to aesthetics. In addition to architectural practice, he actively engages in art-making, with a focus on digital fabrication, evocative forms, and material experimentation.

The exhibit opened on Oct. 6 and will be on view through Jan. 8. An artist reception will be hosted by the Adams Square Neighborhood Association on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2:30 p.m. Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station is located at 1020 E. Palmer Ave. in Glendale.

This temporary art installation is sponsored by the Glendale Arts & Culture Commission through funding from the Urban Art Program, and support from Glendale Library, Arts & Culture, Glendale Community Services & Parks, and the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association.

MOVIES IN THE PARK!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 5:30PM  
LA CAÑADA MEMORIAL PARK  
OUR MOVIES START AT SUNDOWN!

ARRIVE AT 5:30PM FOR:

- FREE POPCORN!
- FIRE-BREATHING PERFORMANCE!
- DIY FLYING PAPER DRAGONS!

FEATURED FOOD TRUCK:  
VIKINGS BURGER & WINGS

BRING BLANKETS, CHAIRS, AND FRIENDS!

HOSTED BY  
LIGHTED WINDOW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
[WWW.LIGHTEDWINDOWCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.LIGHTEDWINDOWCHURCH.ORG)

WWW.CVWEEKLY.COM

### Glendale Water & Power's Community Meetings on PROPOSED WATER RATE CHANGES

Glendale Water & Power (GWP) is proposing changes to its water rates to address rising costs and significant infrastructure needs while supporting the long-term reliability and sustainability of Glendale’s water system.

**Attend a Community Meeting to Learn More**

GWP is hosting four community meetings in October where you can learn more about the proposed rates, programs and services GWP provides to assist customers, and how the proposed changes may affect your water bill.

Armenian and Spanish translation will be available at the in-person community meetings. If you need language assistance in a language other than those provided, please notify us by calling Customer Service at (855) 550-4497 at least 72 hours in advance so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Check the website for updates.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
Sparr Heights Community Center  
1613 Glencoe Way, Glendale, CA 91208

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026 | ~~9:00 - 10:30 AM~~  
NEW TIME 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Brand Park Library & Arts Center (Brand Studios)  
1601 W. Mountain St., Glendale, CA 91201

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM  
Virtual Zoom Meeting  
To register, scan the QR code or visit the website.

Public Hearing on the Proposed Water Rates:

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026 | 6:00 PM**  
**Glendale City Council Chambers**  
613 E. Broadway, 2nd Floor  
Glendale, CA 91206

For details scan the QR code or visit:  
**GlendaleCA.gov/ProposedWaterRates**

# Six Flags Magic Mountain Energizes Landmark Solar Carport Project at Start of National Energy Awareness Month

As National Energy Awareness Month begins across the United States, Six Flags Magic Mountain this week announced that its landmark solar carport project has been fully energized.

Developed in partnership with Solar Optimum as well as local community and government officials, the 12.37-megawatt installation represents a major milestone in Six Flags’ commitment to sustainability and renewable energy.

The project is the largest solar carport installation in California and one of the largest single-site commercial solar carport projects in the United States. Designed to offset 100% of the annual electricity consumption of Six Flags Magic Mountain and Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Los Angeles, the installation demonstrates how large-scale entertainment destinations can leverage renewable energy to significantly reduce their environmental footprint while maintaining reliable operations.

“This is a transformative moment for Six Flags Magic Mountain and our sustainability journey,” said Brian Oerding, park president of Six Flags Magic Mountain. “By investing in renewable energy, we’re taking meaningful action to reduce our environmental impact while helping build a more sustainable future for our guests, team members and community. This project demonstrates what’s possible when organizations commit to innovation and responsible environmental stewardship.”

The newly energized solar energy system includes:

- 12.37-megawatt solar energy system, the largest solar carport installation in California and one of the largest single-site commercial solar carport projects in the United States
- Approximately 637,000 square feet of solar canopy coverage
- 22,908 RECOM 540-watt bifacial solar modules
- 36 long-span solar carport structures
- 2-megawatt/8-megawatt-hour battery energy storage system to improve energy reliability and efficiency
- 109 electric vehicle charging connectors, across guest and team member parking
- Coverage for approximately 4,315 parking spaces, providing shaded parking that helps reduce vehicle heat buildup and creates a more comfortable arrival and departure experience for guests and team members, including:
  - A.3,544 guest parking spaces
  - B.771 team member parking spaces
- Generation of approximately 20.8 million kilowatt-hours of clean electricity annually
- Annual renewable energy production equivalent to the electricity consumption of approximately 2,874 homes
- Generation of approximately 1.5 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy per ride across the park’s attractions

The project remains interconnected

with the Southern California Edison grid and is designed to offset the parks’ annual electricity consumption rather than operate as an isolated or off-grid facility. When solar production exceeds on-site demand and available battery storage capacity, excess energy may be exported through the utility interconnection. During periods when on-site generation is insufficient, the parks can draw electricity from the grid, ensuring operational reliability while maximizing the use of renewable energy.

“We are proud to celebrate the energization of this extraordinary project with Six Flags,” said Arno Aghamalian, CEO of Solar Optimum. “This system demonstrates how innovative renewable energy solutions can help organizations meet ambitious sustainability goals while delivering long-term environmental and economic benefits. Together, we’re creating a cleaner energy future for generations to come.”

The project is expected to deliver environmental benefits equivalent to:

- Eliminating more than 8,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually
- Conserving more than 10 million gallons of water each year
- Removing 3,182 gasoline-powered vehicles from the road
- Eliminating 37.8 million miles driven by gasoline-powered vehicles
- Avoiding the consumption of 34,194 barrels of oil

- Avoiding the consumption of 1.6 million gallons of gasoline
- Recycling 5,110 tons of waste instead of sending it to landfills
- Preserving the carbon-capturing benefits of 17,612 acres of U.S. forests

The energization of the system coincides with the start of National Energy Awareness Month, observed each October to promote energy efficiency, conservation and the adoption of cleaner energy technologies. Through this investment, Six Flags is advancing its sustainability objectives while setting a new benchmark for renewable energy deployment within the attractions industry.

To commemorate the energization of the project, Magic Mountain hosted a special celebration attended by community leaders, project partners and stakeholders. Remarks highlighted the decade-long vision behind the installation, the collaboration among Six Flags, Solar Optimum, Los Angeles County, Southern California Edison and other partners, and the project’s long-term environmental and economic benefits for the region. During the event, representatives from the Los Angeles County Office of Supervisor Kathryn Barger and the Office of Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo presented a proclamation and certificate recognizing Magic Mountain’s leadership in renewable energy and sustainability.

*Submitted by Six Flags Magic Mountain*

TRAVELS from page 12

While at the pool, we snacked at the Oasis Poolside Bar & Grille. We split a fresh shrimp cocktail and a California Turkey Club Wrap, packed with greens, turkey, bacon, cheddar, tomato and avocado herb aioli, paired with crunchy house-made chips and refreshing lemonade.

From the pool, we headed back to the lobby and boarded a fun electric boat. With a friendly and informative captain at the helm we cruised around the lake, passing fountains, going under bridges and encountering numerous feathered residents. The resort is a certified wildlife sanctuary and home to an iconic flock of brilliant pink Chilean flamingos, several species of exotic ducks (like ringed-neck teals and whistlers) and a bevy of elegant, long-necked black swans.

As the boat glided along the edge of the lake, we were lucky enough to spot one of the black swans nesting right along the shore! To finish out the cruise, the captain took us along the outer edges of the lake showing us some of the stunning, massive desert luxury mansions that beautifully line the resort’s championship golf courses.

After the boat ride, we drove 10 minutes from the Marriott to dinner at Porta Via, a contemporary California bistro located on El Paseo, a glamorous, palm-lined street also known as the “Rodeo Drive of the Desert.” A hotspot for stylish locals and visitors looking for a premium dining experience, the restaurant serves quality steaks, pastas and sushi in a sleek, mid-century modern space that feels upscale but is still very family-friendly.

Our dinner at Porta Via began with fresh, golden-crisp crab cakes and a vibrant jalapeño tuna roll loaded with nori, rice, spicy mayo, avocado, jalapeño, scallion, toasted sesame, lime juice, cilantro and savory ponzu. For the main courses, we enjoyed a perfectly grilled skirt steak seasoned with a dry rub marinade and topped with an incredible, vibrant chimichurri sauce alongside a spectacular parmigiano-crusted Alaskan halibut served with sautéed green beans and cherry tomatoes. The kids were happy with a classic burger and crispy chicken nuggets.

Back at the Marriott, we took a moonlight dip in the pool and watched stars appear in the dark sky above the Santa Rosa Mountains. We then wrapped up the evening on our 7th-floor balcony, sipping wine and absorbing the warm desert breeze.

The next morning, we drove a few miles northwest to the world-famous Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. Our getaway began at the base of Mt. San Jacinto where we boarded a large, rotating circular tramcar. The car begins its journey at Valley Station at an elevation of 2,643 feet and ends at Mountain Station at 8,516 feet above sea level.

As the 80-passenger tram scales the mountain, visitors are transported through five unique ecosystems – a change in landscape and life equivalent to a drive from Sonora, Mexico to the Arctic Circle in Alaska. It makes this trip in about 11 minutes. During the journey, the car is pulled up nearly 13,000 feet of cable and passes through five huge support towers.

At each tower the tram shimmies and shakes, giving riders a roller coaster thrill.

At the top, there is a lodge-like visitor center, two restaurants and Mount San Jacinto State Park, which offers 54 miles of hiking trails and a few primitive campsites within a 13,000-acre pristine wilderness. When we got to the top, we set out on a hike of Long Valley, following a three-quarter-mile-long loop trail through a large, beautiful meadow and had a memorable lunch at Peaks Restaurant high above the clouds.

The next morning I hit the fitness center, located inside the hotel’s state-of-the-art Spa Desert Springs. The massive, 38,000-square-foot facility boasts 47 private treatment rooms, volcanic rock saunas, steam rooms and an exclusive 75-foot saltwater lap pool. Its treatments are uniquely inspired by Blue Zone lifestyle principles designed to foster longevity and deep relaxation – making it the ultimate haven for anyone looking to recharge.

After working out, I met the family for breakfast at Rockwood Grill, the hotel’s premier dining spot. Sitting near the outdoor patio overlooking the water we indulged in a hearty big breakfast loaded with perfectly cooked eggs, savory potatoes, toast, coffee and juice while the kids were in absolute heaven tackling a mountain of decadent chocolate pancakes.

Our last adventure at the Marriott was a visit to the JW Entertainment Zone, a 12,000-square-foot mega-arcade located near the pool. Here the kids went wild playing a mix of



Courtesy of Greg ARAGON  
TOP: Dinner at Porta Via featuring a grilled skirt steak with chimichurri sauce that was incredible.  
Courtesy of Greg ARAGON  
ABOVE: A 360-degree view on the way up – taking the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway straight past the desert cliffs.

retro classics and cutting-edge titles, jumping between air hockey, Mario Kart, Skee-Ball and the World’s Largest Pac-Man. It was a perfect burst of family fun to cap off a wonderful desert trip before heading home into the bright sun.

JUST FOR FUN

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES Provided by horoscope.comOctober 5, 2026 - October 11, 2026

**ARIES** *March 21 - April 19*  
Although your social life continues to rock, you may find that you have a few very intense days when you're partying and drinking nonstop. You can't keep on in this way forever. Sooner or later you need to come back down to reality, and you may not feel that great once you do. This week is about learning to find the right balance between having fun and making your well-being a major priority.

**TAURUS** *April 20 - May 20*  
If you've been working hard recently, think about working smarter. Working all hours can make you very stressed and this is very bad for your health on many levels. You need to consider what you're doing to yourself, especially if you tend to sit at a desk for many hours a day, day in and day out. There has to be another way. You can find it and feel great.

**GEMINI** *May 21 - June 20*  
It's time to change your beliefs about what it's possible for you to achieve with your health. Think big and know that if you set your mind to it, you can achieve anything you like. If you're currently moving through a health challenge, you can heal it. Start this week to visualize yourself as completely healed. Keep this up and make it a reality.

**CANCER** *June 21 - July 22*  
Your partner's health may be in question. Symptoms that had cleared may come back. However, under this influence there's a very good chance of finding a treatment that will eradicate the problem for good. But it may mean that you'll be caring for this person to some extent, whether emotionally, physically, or both. Don't forget to be good to yourself as well.

**LEO** *July 23 - August 22*  
It's time to get together with your lover and determine to fulfill those goals you've put off too long. One thing you can do is exercise as a team. Help each other reach the health goals you've set for yourselves. You have two weeks to get started and harness this phase to enhance your well-being - and improve your sex life, too.

**VIRGO** *August 23 - Sept. 22*  
It's no good hoping that one day your health will be great. You have to make a start now. You may be going through a phase in which you're reading a lot of books and trying to assess your next steps. But don't stay at this stage for too long. Eventually you have to get going. Even if you only work out a couple times a week, it's a positive beginning.

**LIBRA** *Sept. 23 - Oct. 22*  
The cosmos is going to stir things up and encourage you to get well. Sometimes you have a tendency to sabotage your best efforts in this area. It's time to analyze why you keep doing this to yourself. Just as you're getting somewhere and can see results, you either get injured or give up. Keep going this time and release those negative feelings before they get to you.

**SCORPIO** *Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*  
You may suddenly develop a desire to try your hand at something like golf, archery, fencing, or some other sport that gets you out and has a social element, too. You may prefer an activity that contains a risk, such as white-water rafting or bungee jumping. You seem to need a few thrills to inspire you. Whatever you do, you'll have fun.

**SAGITTARIUS** *Nov. 22 - Dec. 21*  
Review your daily routines this week and begin to change anything that isn't making you feel good. It could start with the three coffees you have for breakfast. Perhaps you could reduce this to one decaf. Perhaps your breakfast is fried; again, not good every day. Try fruit and cereal instead. If you prefer eggs and ham, make them low fat. See how this could improve your health?

**CAPRICORN** *Dec. 22 - Jan. 19*  
It's time to get cerebral about your health. Usually you spend too much time worrying about your body and each little ache and pain. Or perhaps you couldn't care less and you end up neglecting yourself. This week you need to get educated and find out how you can feel mentally and physically great. It can be done, and it will bring true well-being.

**AQUARIUS** *Jan. 20 - Feb. 18*  
At the start of the week you get the chance to make lasting changes in all areas of your life. Think first about your health and well-being, as without these you won't be able to achieve anything else. If you take steps to create a healthy routine that you can easily manage every day, you'll soon be fit as a fiddle. Don't waste this opportunity.

**PISCES** *Feb. 19 - March 20*  
The dominant planetary energy this week will act as a reminder to keep on with your fitness routines and make them a lifelong habit. If you decide to start working out or go on a diet this week, don't be too hard on yourself. It's essential that you start slowly; otherwise you'll hurt yourself and give up too soon.

CALENDARthis

**KIWANIS CLUBS**  
The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On Oct. 16, Marlene Montalvo from GPD will address drug usage in schools.  
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 La Cañada La Crescenta AM Club has a free weekly meeting held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Lutheran Church of the Foothills, 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.

**CV PARK ACTIVITIES**  
CV Park has the following activities planned for the remainder of the year:  
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.

**HAUNTED HOUSE MAZE**  
On Halloween night, Oct. 31, the community is invited to a free, kid-friendly, fun and slightly spooky Haunted House Maze in Montrose from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills. Visit a witch, glimpse a seance, see ghoulies and creatures, complete with light and sound effects – and, of course, candy! Free professional photo booth photo opportunity is offered to every family. Everything is presented at no charge – it is the Church's annual gift to the community. The Haunted House entrance is at the back of the building of 2254 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose.

The Mission of the Foothills has been part of the Montrose/Glendale community for over 40 years, offering communication and study courses for children, 20 life improvement courses and other Dianetics and Scientology related services and counseling for adults. Aarious community outreach programs, such as Drug Free World (drug education and prevention), are also supported.  
For more information, call (818) 957-1500 or visit [www.scientology-montrose.org](http://www.scientology-montrose.org).

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

• Fall II Registration: Fall II registration is open! Fall II classes will start the week of Oct. 19 and run through Dec. 19. Browse new classes and returning favorites at [cclcf.org/register](http://cclcf.org/register).

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

1) South Pacific island group

6) Chases away, as a pest

11) Ambulance letters

14) Not fitting for a purpose

15) Loose fiber for caulking

16) "That feels good!"

17) Some ceramic pottery

19) Biochemistry abbr.

20) Lean

21) Communist leader, once

23) Abolitionists wanted to end it

27) Cal Ripken's record was about one

28) Musk-secreting cats

29) Charitable organizations, often

31) Make reparations, e.g.

32) Three-toed animal with a snout

33) Shortening used in recipes?

36) Type of tape

37) Short choral composition

38) Catch \_\_\_\_ (begin to get)

39) Posh health resort

40) Murmured affectionately

41) Floorboard sound

42) Lives

44) Ship area, to a bo's'n

45) On a train

47) Some patterned fabrics

48) Small woods

49) Your aunt's little girl

51) Trash bag accessory

52) Use

58) Shuttle letters

59) Dreadlocked one, often

60) Like cheap red meat

61) One \_\_\_\_ person

62) "See you later, amigo"

63) Bowling scoring unit

LISTEN IN By Timothy E. Parker

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- DOWN10.15.26
- 1) Bring legal action

2) "Santa" trailer, geographically

3) Vandalize

4) Decide

5) Olympics VIP

6) Vito Corleone's eldest

7) Atlanta hoopster

8) "All right"

9) Sharers' word

10) Metal factory

11) Serious-mindedness

12) Craze

13) Meat cut

18) This puzzle's theme

22) Long introduction of yore?

23) Quite a few

24) Showed sudden joy

25) Guacamole source, often

26) Blow off steam

27) Agitated state

29) Some are blind

30) Newspaper opinion piece

32) It helps to get the job done

34) Celery unit

35) Jabs

37) Indication of spoiled food

38) Dangerous whale

40) Where great ideas come from

41) Give an impression

43) Is no longer

44) Almanac tidbit

45) Behave badly

46) Capital of Idaho

47) "After the Bath" painter Edgar

49) Not yet final, at law

50) "What's gotten \_\_\_\_ you?"

53) Cool, old-school

54) Place to drink up

55) In-flight info

56) Cash dispenser

57) Type of whiskey

see ANSWERS on following page

# HP Sold Me The Wrong Warranty – And Then Sent My Refund To The Wrong Bank

*Hugh Fuller buys the wrong warranty for his HP Pavilion laptop. The company promises a refund but then sends the money to the wrong bank account. Now HP says the case is closed. Is it?*

**Q**uestion: I have a problem with a warranty I purchased from HP. It started when my HP Pavilion wouldn't connect to the internet though my other devices worked fine. I called HP Smart Friend, a service I was paying for, but its technicians were out of their depth. They kept trying to reinstall my operating system, which didn't fix the connection and actually messed up my files.

Eventually I figured out the problem was my internet provider, not the laptop. But before I realized that, a Smart Friend representative convinced me my laptop was failing and sold me a Care Pack hardware warranty for \$40. I bought it on the last day of my eligibility because I was worried.

When I later contacted the actual HP warranty department, they told me that Smart Friend had sold me the wrong type of warranty for my machine. They even said my laptop

didn't need replacing. Since then, I've been caught in a loop of useless phone calls. I've contacted the HP support community but no one seems able to make a decision.

HP finally agreed to a refund but then the situation grew even more absurd. An executive in the escalations department, claimed they sent the \$40 to a Bank of America account. I don't bank there.

HP now claims the matter is resolved but I don't have my money. They need to cancel whatever they think they sent to the wrong bank and just mail me a check. Can you help me get my \$40 back?

–Hugh Fuller, Portland, Oregon

**A**nswer: HP should have diagnosed your problem correctly, which would have avoided this entire absurd mess. Sending money into the void of a nonexistent account and then declaring the case “resolved” is not the kind of customer service you

should expect.

Your experience highlights a common problem in corporate America. Companies often silo their support services, meaning the people selling you a “Smart Friend” subscription might not have a clue as to what the warranty department is doing.

You did the right thing by trying to resolve this through the HP support community and case managers. But you should have stopped the useless phone calls much sooner. When you're dealing with a giant like HP, phone conversations are like mist – they vanish as soon as you hang up. You need a paper trail. Always move your dispute to email so you have a written record of who promised what and when.

When a company gives you the runaround, you can also escalate your complaint to an executive. I publish the names, emails and phone numbers of the HP executives on my advocacy site Elliott.org.



Illustration by Dustin ELLIOTT

I contacted HP on your behalf. I pointed out that while its records might show a payment was initiated, you never received it.

HP finally took a second look at its accounting. After our intervention, the company confirmed it had finally resolved the matter and has refunded the \$40 – this time to the correct account.

Next time, skip the Smart

Friends and stick to your own tech instincts.

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](mailto:chris@elliott.org) or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>. © 2026 Christopher Elliott

## CALENDAR THIS from previous page

•Call for Talented Teens: CCLCF is seeking talented teens (grades four-12) to show off their talents in the upcoming CCLCF showcase “La Cañada’s Got Talent” on Nov. 14. Apply at [bit.ly/LCGTapp](http://bit.ly/LCGTapp). Those with questions can email [jack@cclcf.org](mailto:jack@cclcf.org).

•Dances de los Muertos: Belly Dance Fantasy Theater. Celebrate Halloween and Día de los Muertos with an evening of spooky, seasonal dance delights on Saturday, Oct. 24. Learn more at [cclcf.org/events](http://cclcf.org/events)

•Mahjong Open Play: Calling all mahjong lovers! Bring skills to a friendly, community-style, open play session at CCLCF on Oct. 28. Prior mahjong experience required. Learn more at [cclcf.org/events](http://cclcf.org/events)

•Thanksgiving Run: The 33rd Annual Thanksgiving Day 5K & Kids Mile is coming up on Nov. 26. Summer sale runs through Sept. 30. Learn more at [cclcf.org/run](http://cclcf.org/run).

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

## ELKS SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Elks Most Valuable Scholarship (MVS) program for 2026 is accepting applications from high school seniors throughout the United States. This MVS program offers four year \$30,000 and \$4,000 scholarships. The deadline for applying is Nov. 12 at 11:59.

ANSWERS for page 15

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| 28 | C | I | V | E | T | S  |   | D  | O | N | E  | E  | S |   |   |
| 31 | A | T | O | N | E | 32 | T | A  | P | I | R  | 33 | T | S | P |
| 36 | D | U | C | T |   | M  | O | T  | E | T |    | O  | N | T | O |
| 39 | S | P | A |   | C | O  | O | E  | D |   | C  | R  | E | A | K |
| 45 | D | W | E | L | L | S  |   | F  | O | C | S  | L  | E |   |   |
| 46 | A | B | O | A | R | D  |   | D  | A | M | A  | S  | K | S |   |
| 48 | C | O | P | S | E |    | N | I  | E | C | E  |    |   |   |   |
| 51 | T | I | E |   | B | R  | I | N  | G | T | O  | B  | E | A | R |
| 58 | U | S | A |   | R | A  | S | T  | A |   | F  | A  | T | T | Y |
| 61 | P | E | R |   | A | D  | I | O  | S |   | F  | R  | A | M | E |

The MVS program is one of the largest scholarship donors in the U.S. and allocated over \$2.52 million in 2025. Applications are available from local public high schools and online at the MVS for qualifying students. Visit <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm>.

## SPARR HEIGHTS DISASTER POD BINGO 2

C.E.R.T. – Community Emergency Response Team – co-hosted by the Knights of Columbus, 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.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Special Olympics - Southern California is hosting the 2026 Glendale soccer and tennis competition at CV High School, 2900 Community Ave. in La Crescenta on Oct. 25. Volunteer check in is at 7:30 a.m., opening ceremony is at 9 a.m., and the event ends around 3 p.m.

To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2hsbpud2>, email Travis Bannerman at [tbannerman@sosc.org](mailto:tbannerman@sosc.org) or call (661) 489-0539.

## NEW LIFE AT VERDUGO HILLS CEMETERY

The community is invited to learn about the lives of many cemetery residents at Verdugo Hills Cemetery on Nov. 1. An upcoming event at Verdugo Hill Cemetery (VHC) – Dine with the Dead, Walk for Life – is on Nov. 1 from noon until 5 p.m.

Chefs from Tujunga Joselito's and the Back Door Bakery are presenting a tasty

selection for this Day of the Dead/ Día de los Muertos remembrance celebration. In addition to great food, there will be photo opportunities, games and prizes, and every half hour there will be the chance to gather at a gravesite with an ofrenda, or altar, including a photograph, to share that person's story.

Participants should bring some cash for food and games. Park on Terecita Road and make the short walk to VHC. Navigate to 10950 Terecita for parking. The special Día de los Muertos dance show by Dani and her amazing performers will be the highlight, taking place at 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

## VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Those who can, do: Those who can do more, volunteer. Author Unknown Little Landers Historical Society is seeking volunteers to help support its mission, “To preserve and maintain Bolton Hall Museum and the historical record of Rancho Tujunga.”

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

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

## MONTROSE LIBRARY EVENTS

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

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

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

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

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

## CELEBRATE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTING

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

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

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

## ACTIVITIES AT SUNLAND SENIOR CENTER

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

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

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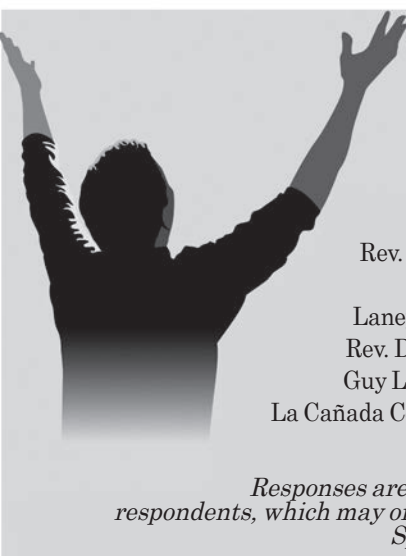
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Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church; Rabbi Menachem “Mendy” Grossbaum, Chabad of the Crescenta Valley; Rev. Mary Morgan and Laney Clevenger-White, RScP, Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta; Rev. Dabney Beck; Rev. Karin Ellis; La Cañada United Methodist Church; Guy Leemhuis, St. Luke’s of the Mountains Episcopal Church; Kyle Sears, La Cañada Congregational Church; Holy Redeemer/St. James the Less churches; Pastors Andrew & Maria Segovia, Higher Vision Church.

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

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NOTES & NODS

LCIF OFFERING TRUNK OR TREAT

A Halloween tradition returns to Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) this Sunday, Oc. 18. Trunk or Treat will be held in the church’s parking lot from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The annual community event is a safe, daytime opportunity for kids to wear their Halloween costumes and trick or treat among decorated car trunks. There will be games, plenty of treats and a bounce house. Everyone is also welcome to attend LCIF’s 10 a.m.

worship service before the event, led by Pastor Viv Vega.

In addition, LCIF invites the community to participate in its Grace-Giving drive through Nov. 22. The church is collecting pantry staples such as canned goods, dry legumes, nut butters, dry pasta, boxed stuffing mix, canned gravy or cranberry sauce, vegetable or olive oil and sugar. Hygiene products are also needed including feminine products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and diapers of any size. Donations can

Question: How can I cultivate a personal relationship with God or the Divine? Seeking

Dear Seeking,  
A great question and one I believe we are all seeking the answer to as we live our lives with the intention that we find peace, love and understanding of “what’s it all about.” It’s a journey of awakening and awareness, possibility, courage and choice.  
Ernest Holmes, founder of Science of Mind, teaches that it is not about seeking a deity outside of yourself but awakening to the presence of the Divine that already exists within you and as you. God is the “Universal Spirit” – an infinite, intelligent, creative, loving presence that is the very essence of every individual. Therefore, your relationship with God is actually a relationship with your own true, spiritual self.  
Practice this constant recognition. Instead of trying to “get” God to come into your life, practice becoming aware

that you are already “in” God and that God is “in” you ... and in everything and most importantly in everyone. There is not a place, person or thing where God is not. Consider God not as an entity but as energy, and energy is in all things.  
You can do this by living in the now ... in the here and now in the Goodness of God and by seeing the Divine in everything – in your daily surroundings, in the beauty of nature, in other people and in your own experiences. By knowing, accepting and affirming the presence, power and wisdom of God as your own life, you deepen your conscious connection and move your mind away from limitation and toward the infinite potential of the Divine.  
When you become aware of the divinity within you, you develop a direct personal connection with the Divine and find that your path in life is uniquely your own and that you have the power of choice – one great gift we have been given. This gives you power to create your life as you wish, to find peace, to be creative, to be

abundant, healthy, to be love in relationship with others, with life itself.  
Meditation, affirmative prayer, intentional living, making conscious choices, changing your perspective from “I am a person seeking God” to “I am a spiritual being, an expression of God, waking up to my own nature” will cultivate and grow your understanding of God and your own personal relationship with the Divine.  
If you wish to know more about Ernest Holmes and the philosophy of Science of Mind, visit a Center for Spiritual Living, a place where you learn to “change your thinking, change your life” and you develop a deeper understanding of God and your relationship to this power for good in your life.  
Many blessings as you continue on this journey of life; enjoy the adventure of possibilities.  
Laney Clevenger, RScP  
Emeritus  
CSL-La Crescenta

be placed on the altar for a blessing during Sunday worship at 10 a.m. Alternatively, items can be dropped off at the church office and LCIF will make sure they get to the altar for the Sunday blessing. Donated items will help those in need this Thanksgiving holiday.  
For more information on all church events, or to receive pastoral care, visit lcifoohills.org, email office@lcifoohills.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.

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.  
**ST. LUKE’S PREPARES FOR BISHOP’S ARRIVAL**  
The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles the Rt. Rev. Dr. Antonio Jose Gallardo Lucena is visiting St. Luke’s of the Mountains on Sunday for its 11 a.m. service and the potluck afterward.  
St. Luke’s of the Mountains is located at 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta at the corner of Rosemont Avenue.

**‘GENIUS SOLUTIONS’ WITH VALERIE WESTON**  
Habitat reclamation projects have been successful in many parts of the world. The methods are different but the results are the same: regeneration! On Sunday, Oct. 18, the congregation at Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills will view a short After Skool video and look at some other examples of environmental restoration.  
In-person meets at 10:30 a.m. at 4451 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta or visit the UUCVH website for the Zoom link: https://www.uuverdugo.org/.

**TRUNK OR TREAT AND PUMPKIN DECORATING AT LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN**  
La Crescenta Presbyterian Church is hosting an afternoon of trunk-or-treating, pumpkin decorating and activities for the entire family on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Kids can come in costume and collect treats from festively decorated cars, then carve or paint a pumpkin at this free event. (Costumes must be family friendly. Absolutely no play weapons). Don’t forget a bag to collect treats!  
Trunk or treat will take place on

**SELF-REGULATION AND MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP FOR KIDS**  
The Kindred Clubhouse is an after-school program for kids (ages 5-7) that works to develop and support children’s emotional well-being through storytelling, art, music and movement. The group will start meeting weekly on Thursday, Oct. 15 from 3 p.m.-4:15 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Living, La Crescenta, 4845 Dunsmore Ave. (at the corner of Santa Carlotta).  
Pay what you can. thekindredclubhouse@gmail.com

**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.

MARY PINOLA *from Cover*

I had known of the work that Tom Miller was doing as executive director of what was then the Glendale Community Foundation and is now the Community Foundation of the Verdugos directed by Edna Karinski. Tom had worked with Chip Stone to start several donor advised funds. So when we had raised \$60,000 we turned to Tom and Chip to help us establish a formal process for building the Fund, which is now the Mary Pinola Education Fund.”

The Mary Pinola Education Fund (the Fund) can be found at [pinolafund.org](http://pinolafund.org). It provides grants annually for education projects in Montrose and the Crescenta-Cañada Valley.

The grant application process is now open; to be considered for a grant, applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, 2026.

These grants have added much to the community in many ways.

“It really takes my breath away to tell you that we have given

out almost a half million dollars to really wonderful programs throughout Montrose [and the] Crescenta-Cañada Valley. Each of these programs has directors with dreams. So often, all they need is a little financial support and they can get their ideas off the ground. They can have real opportunities for their students, schools or non-profit organizations,” Pinola said. “It is so rewarding to think that our Education Fund itself has grown to a principal of \$750,000 and, in the words of the Community Foundation of the Verdugos, is set up to support programs ‘For Good – Forever.’”

The funds are raised throughout the year with donations to the Fund via its website. The main fundraiser – the Mary Pinola Education Fund Smart-A-Thon – is an annual event that has teams from across the community competing in a friendly trivia competition.

“I am sure that literally hundreds of your CV Weekly readers have helped us by supporting our bake sales,

purchasing hand-made scarves, sponsoring Chris Waldheim and me in walking the LA Marathon – Chris walked seven and I walked 21 before it was just too, too, too hard – and making generous personal donations. One year, we collaborated with four other community organizations to make and sell a cookbook.

“Family and friends who moved out of the area nonetheless have continued their generous support with end-of-the-year donations. So many organizations, including the Montrose Shopping Park, have organized teams for the annual Smart-A-Thon fundraiser. I want to take this opportunity to let all of our Smart-A-Thon participants know that our 36th Smart-A-Thon is set for Friday, March 20, 2027 in the Council Room at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital,” she said.

When asked if she had one, or two, memories of those organizations that were awarded grants that stayed with her she replied, “Yes.”

“Actually, there are two

organizations whose leadership and accomplishments are particularly impressive to me. The Falkon Robotics Program at Crescenta Valley High School, under the leadership of Heather Abrams [and Jacob Poole], has grown to serve 139 students in 2026. They design, build and operate competitive robots. [A lot] about the program is impressive, but I am really touched by all that Heather has been able to do for the students who love being a part of it. One visit to the ‘garage’ where the magic of Falkon 589 takes place and you can’t help but be impressed with her dedication [in] building a program that works for students with such a variety of abilities and backgrounds. We are very proud that our grants have helped her begin developing a summer program for elementary students and now she is working to expand it to serve middle school students. Her goal is to provide instruction and practice so more students will be prepared with entry level skills for her high school

program,” she said. “The folks at the Crescenta Cañada Y have provided impressive support for Heather’s pioneering programs. Vince Iuculano and Joanne Pingry have helped by providing space and other essential resources for the new summer school robotics program and Annie Azizian, who is director of the [Y’s] Tujunga facility, has worked with Heather to implement an elementary school level summer program. They describe this as a ‘feeder program’ for the upper grades. It is so fun and rewarding to see children in even first and second grade creating their own ‘spaceships.’”

Pinola also is proud that the fund has been able to partner with Crescenta Cañada Y to complete funding for its new preschool playground at the Tujunga facility.

“It was the largest project we had undertaken and it truly opened the door to more possibilities for collaborations throughout our community,” Pinola said.

Raising funds, organizing the Smart-A-Thon and reviewing the grant applications is just part of what has to be done to keep the fund moving forward and Pinola cannot think of a more rewarding way to spend her time.

“Who wouldn’t give 100% to a program that keeps you in touch with wonderful friends and family as well as community leaders and educators? It means you learn about exciting ideas and new approaches to education. It means working with a board of advisors that strives to give every funding request respectful consideration. Together, we often know of other community resources that might be helpful to a grant request or ways we can bring people together to accomplish a goal,” she said.

At first being named grand marshal was so overwhelming that it took her a while to realize what had happened.

“Once the news began to sink in, I felt so honored and very grateful. The Montrose and Crescenta Cañada communities have been such an important part of my life for almost four decades. In 1988, I served as honorary mayor and rode in the Montrose Christmas Parade with our three young daughters. Now they are grown with husbands and children of their own. They will all be here on Saturday, Dec. 5 to participate in the parade again,” she said. “I am so excited to be a part of the Montrose Christmas Parade and represent our commitment to supporting the very best in educational programs throughout our community. I thank the thousands of people who have stood with us to accomplish the goal benefiting our foothill communities for generations to come.

“I am very grateful to those who serve on our board of advisors: Leila Bell, Rick Dinger, Robin Goldsworthy, Jo Loomis, Bobbi Parker, Teri Rice, Patty Steur and Chris Waldheim. We also thank Edna Karinski, executive director of the Community Foundation of the Verdugos. A special thank you to my family – my husband and our three daughters – for their ongoing support and encouragement: Emily, Paige and Noelle. Thank you all.”

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WEATHER from page 2

Even after the Station Fire was contained, CVFSC was still active. It had outreach events on a variety of fire preparedness details including the important of having a generator, clean gutters and vegetation abatement. In fact, it organized volunteers to help clean up dried vegetation in Briggs Terrace.

CVFSC works closely with local fire departments including the U.S. Forest Service and CalFire. Its members share information on the importance of being proactive regarding wildfires.

Now CVFSC has a new board and is starting to have outreach again to help residents get prepared for wildfires. An arm of CVFSC is CV Ready, which helps provide proactive measures for all sorts of emergencies

including wind events, floods and earthquakes.

I have been a board member of CVFSC and continue to be on the board. To be honest, at this point in my life I really have been looking to move away from organizations in order to spend more time with my grown kids and my grandkids.

Also you know the line from "Raiders of the Lost Ark" where Indy says, "It's not the years, honey. It's the milage." Well, I am here to tell you it's the years and the milage. But CVFSC is so important I can't see myself not being involved.

During the January 2025 Eaton Fire, a friend sent me a photo of flames coming over the mountains above TJ Maxx in La Cañada Flintridge. Then the wind changed

direction. Depending on the direction of the wind, that wildfire could have easily come toward our homes. We have seen what our neighbors in Pasadena and Altadena have endured and are going through during and after the Eaton Fire. We need to learn and be proactive because we know eventually we will be facing another wildfire, a flood and earthquake.

The CVFSC is the grassroots effort that has strength through working with other fire safe councils. It is the organization that is hyperlocal and needs local community members to join.

I am inviting everyone to the CVFSC meeting on Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at St. Luke's of the Mountains, in Sadler Hall, 2563 Foothill Blvd.

Please come and see what CVFSC is all about and how you can get involved.

The National Weather Service has issued a wind advisory that begins today, Thursday, at 6 a.m. and ends on Friday at 8 p.m. In addition there is a Red Flag Warning in effect from today at 6 a.m. to Friday at 10 p.m.

According to NOAA, the Santa Ana winds are expected to have sporadic gusts from 30 to 35 mph.

These are the first Santa Ana winds of the season, which means warmer temperatures. Local temps will be in the mid to high 80s through Saturday, with cooling to low 80s beginning on Sunday.

Rain is expected next week from Tuesday to Thursday.

ROBIN from page 2

Oct. 22: Rachele will be at Sadler Hall, setting up our phone service.

Oct. 24: My son Danny, husband Steve and I will be moving most of our stuff from the offices of CV Weekly and CV Chamber to our new office.

Oct. 26: The big moving truck from Andy's Transfer will pick up the remainder of our stuff at our current location.

Our office will be closed on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.

I'm grateful for this next chapter in the life of CV Weekly.

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