

CRESCENTA VALLEY

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Road Diet Test on Honolulu

By Ted AYALA

The Crescenta Valley area is about to get a little more accommodating to local bicyclists. Glendale City Council approved a road diet test to be conducted along Honolulu Avenue at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

The road diet, which would be set from Las Palmas down to Ramsdell avenues would remove a car lane from each side of the affected street. The removed lanes would be allotted to bicyclists and a buffer zone would be in place to protect them from automobile traffic.

Support for the road diet was broad among area residents and cyclists.

"Our café has become somewhat of a stopover for a lot of the cyclists, especially in the mornings during rush hour, and we want to help out," said Daniel Richardson, speaking on behalf of Leon Café and Bakery. "We do want to support our patrons and the community by providing safe access to the roads for all local transportation in Glendale."

"I would like to argue that we already have a test case – a very successful test case," said Montrose resident Ry Berg. "It's the Montrose Shopping Park. This street probably had four lanes originally, now it has two. It's a very popular place to go shop and have dinner. My wife and I like it that we can walk there and walk back home. It's safe. It'd see GCC on page 6

City to Conduct | Location, Location, Location: Filming in the Crescenta Valley

By Charly SHELTON

ampires. Exploding fire hydrants. Movie stars.

Just another week in the Crescenta Valley.

Montrose and the surrounding community seems to be experiencing a resurgence in popularity as a location for shooting scenes for movies, television shows and commercials. Last week, HBO's "True Blood" filmed in Montrose where spectators could see a vampire crash through the front window of a salon. This week, the crew of NBC's "Awake" took over part of Honolulu Avenue to film a car crash and fire hydrant exploding. In the coming weeks, expect more filming in other locations across Crescenta Valley and Glendale as this is a very popular place for film crews.

A representative from the filming coordination office of Glendale (who oversees Crescenta Valley) commented on the appeal of the city and all the other areas in its jurisdiction.

"I think that [film crews] like Glendale. It has a great draw. Glendale has a little bit of everything. It offers different looks, it offers different types of buildings, locations. It isn't just palm trees - you can get pine trees, you can get different



Film crews seem to have been flocking to the Crescenta Valley, finding it fulfills Anytown, USA requirements.

looks. You can be in Anytown, Anywhere, U.S.A."

This year, though just the beginning of February, has seen several shoots in the Glendale and Crescenta Valley areas, including for "True Blood," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Criminal Minds," as well as some commercials and student films.

As of Feb. 1, the overall number of productions is matching the rate of 2011, meaning there are as many shoots in the area this January as there were last January. In total, 2011 saw 234 productions film in the Glendale jurisdiction. The previous year saw even more, at 291 total productions. With location filming down across Los Angeles as a whole, Glendale has sustained its numbers fairly well.

"We are small, but mighty," said the representative.

Some of last year's titles included "The Muppets," "Seriously Funny Kids," "CSI," "Glee," "Carnal Innocence," "Grace," "Celebrity Rehab," "Chuck," "The Mentalist," "God Bless America," "The Ballerino," "Sons of Anarchy" (which shoots in the area fairly often), "Desperate Housewives," "Mobbed with Howie Mandel" and "Parks and Recreation." "Moneyball," "The Artist,"

"The Ugly Truth," "Horrible Bosses," "Bad Teacher," "The Details" and "The Lovelace" were all features shot in the

Photo by Charly SHELTON

area in 2010 and 2011, showing just how long it takes to get a feature picture from set to screen, as many of these movies were released in the last few months.

In Montrose specifically, Steve Pierce is the driving force behind the filming initiative, not only working with film crews that are sent here, but also trying to bring more attention to the area.

"My role is to work with the

see FILMING on page 8

Benefit from Blood Drives Hospitals, ARC



By Timithie NORMAN

drive.

Crescenta Valley Community Three area organizations Church held its first community hosted blood drives this week, blood drive Sunday, attracting more than 70 donors to a Cedars-Sinai mobile unit set up in the church's parking lot. Their event originated when church worship leader Petri Nauha randomly met Cedars-Sinai blood donation representative Dave Keys at a coffee shop in Montrose. "We [the church] had been looking for an opportunity to do something significant, and I thought, what better than giving the gift of life?" Nauha said. "It fit in with our effort to build a bridge to the community." First-time donor Bruce Horowitz overcame his needle phobia, citing a desire to do something for the community and motivation from God. Like most donors, he is a member of CVCC. Donors entered the bus-like bloodmobile

several at a time to have their blood drawn, a process that takes about 15 minutes per person. "Physically, it really wasn't

Photo provided by St. Francis Doryan Torres with St. Francis senior Travis Talianko, captain of the football team and First Team All-CIF selection.

collecting more than 150 pints of blood for patients in need at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the American Red Cross. The events coincided with January's designation as National Blood Donor Awareness Month.

St. Francis High School hosted a drive benefitting Children's Hospital L.A. as part of a yearslong partnership between the two organizations. The 65 donors included teachers, students and community members. The event included a visit by 4-year-old Doryan Torres, a cancer patient at CHLA, who recently served as the honorary captain of the Golden Knight football team to raise awareness of his disease and promote the school's blood that bad," Horowitz said. "It was more of a mental block."

Apprehension is a normal response for any donor, said Keys. But, he said, giving blood is one of the best humanitarian causes.

"Blood donation goes beyond race, gender, religion and financial status," he said. "It's a great cause."

Wednesday's blood drive, hosted by the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department at the Crescenta Valley Station, benefitted the American Red Cross as part of its sixth annual Southern California "Battle of the Badges" competition between all badgecarrying personnel to donate the most blood. Each station or office

see BLOOD DRIVE on page 7

WHAT IS THE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK OFFERING CV WEEKLY SUBSCRIBERS? SEE PAGE 14

FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER



Last Thursday, I had the pleasure of attending the annual installation ceremony and awards banquet for the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce. While there, I had the honor of presenting CV Weekly reporter Mary O'Keefe with the prestigious Frank Roberts Award.

For those who might not know, Frank Roberts dubbed Mr. Montrose – was a man of vision who had a love for Montrose and the Crescenta Valley. He tirelessly worked to raise the public's awareness of the little town and all it had to offer. Over the years, Montrose has evolved into a destination location that holds a variety of activities over the years, most notably the annual Wags 'n' Whiskers/Kids 'n' Kritters/ Taste of Montrose in May; Oktoberfest in October; and the Montrose Christmas Parade. Montrose also embodies "Mayberry"-like qualities and is an attractive location for movies and television shows to shoot.

The award given in his honor mirrors the dedication that Frank had for the community and, in my opinion, Mary O'Keefe truly reflects that dedication.

Mary was, true to character, humble in her acceptance while at the same time using her few minutes at the podium to push the audience to donate their time for the many organizations in the Crescenta Valley that need volunteers -organizations like Prom Plus and the Fire House, our local youth center.

Receiving her award was a



highlight and a very public affair. But she has been given another honor that may not be so well known.

In the early days of the Fire House, though some of the kids were eager to establish a place of their own in the Crescenta Valley, there were some kids who were rather reluctant to stop by and timid in checking out these new digs. They might not immediately engage with the other kids or were quiet when spoken to.

But Mary treated them all the same, welcoming them with open arms when they arrived at 6 p.m. on Tuesday night and booting them out at 9. This week her efforts were rewarded when one of these quieter boys asked her to introduce him at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

The Court of Honor is an incredibly big deal and to have been asked to provide an introduction is a testament to what the person means to the Eagle Scout.

Mary is well aware of this honor and has accepted it with the same humility as last week's Frank Roberts Award.

And both are richly deserved.

Kudos to the City of Glendale for their promotion of new City Manager Scott Ochoa.

I attended a citysponsored reception in his honor last week and like the groom at a wedding, he patiently shook hands and greeted

everyone who took time to say hello. In taking the podium, he was eloquent and enthusiastic in laying out some ideas for the city.

Yesterday morning I got myself up and out at an ungodly (for me) hour of 6:30 a.m. to take part in the Glendale Chamber of Commerce Outlook breakfast. The ballroom at the Glendale Hilton was packed with hundreds of business professionals who came to mix and mingle and hear Scott, who was the keynote speaker.

Scott spoke knowledgably on the state of the city, specifically in regard to the dismantling of the redevelopment agencies by Sacramento and how that will impact local business. He noted that as these funds dry up, Sacramento will expect the cities to look to their own to raise funds to maintain their lifestyle - which may again be tapped by Sacramento.

He finished by reminding us that it's a brand new world - a world that necessitates collaboration and partnership.

The leadership role that he is undertaking is reassuring and, though scary in many regards, this brand new world may make us stronger in the end.

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



"The day of the sun is like the day of a king. It is a promenade in the morning, a sitting on the throne at noon, a pageant in the evening." - Wallace Stevens, American poet, 1915

This past week the weather has been both spectacular and breathtaking. Perhaps a slight exaggeration for our weather, but 93,020,000 miles away - on the sun – a wave of strong solar flares erupted creating geomagnetic storms in the earth's atmosphere. Our very warm weather here was only a coincidence - I promise. Although, in the northern regions of the U.S., night skies presented an awesome show for its spectators. On stage for several nights were the Northern Lights, scientifically known as the Aurora Borealis. This phenomenon is not uncommon in Alaska and Canada, but this year the magnitude of the solar activity made for more intense and varied coloring and a shift of these into lower latitudes. As if this wasn't enough, there was also a new moon making the perfect backdrop of a dark sky.

This time found us in the northern most reaches of California, visiting Humboldt State University. According to the rain drenched locals, we were very fortunate to have dry weather. This year's rain seems to be staying in the northwest. Hopes for a glimpse of the southern fringes of the "light show" went unfulfilled, but being in a grove of redwood trees while looking out over the Pacific Ocean was just fine.

Thanks to NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, Colo., I was able to track the solar storm and watch

rom

9:00 a.m.

Noon.

the solar flares as they erupted. There are many reasons for the peaked interest in these occurrences. The most obvious are the visual ones, but flare-ups can also have serious negative impacts here on earth.

Let me explain the space science involved. On Jan. 24, NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory detected an extreme ultraviolet flash from a solar flare, which was followed by a mass ejection of superheated gas and charged particles. Within 35 hours, at the speed of 3 million mph, it reached Earth. Amidst the "pretty lights" are lots of problems including damage to orbiting satellites, electrical disruptions to power grids and interference with GPS signals, radio communications and airline flights. These possibilities persist when the solar radiation is at its peak and the strongest. Typically the storm will last for a day or two until entirely passing the earth. According to space weather scientists at NASA's Goddard Space Fight Center in Maryland, "The storm could have been much worse ... causing damage. We pretty much dodged the bullet. It was not a direct hit, only a glancing blow." This storm is now over.

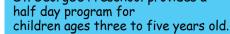
Meanwhile, once again gusty Santa Ana winds will blow across the foothills. Daytime highs will feel summer-like -80s - and the nights will bemore seasonal 40s. Predictions into week include significant

cooling, increased cloudiness and a slight chance of precipitation (yes, rain!).

Next week: Ground hogs and weather prediction.

> Sue Kilpatrick is a Crescenta Valley resident and Official Skywarn Spotter for the National Weather Service.

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NEWS

Working Together to Move Forward

IN BRIEF

BRAND LIBRARY FINAL TOURS THIS MONTH

The last opportunities to take a tour of the historic Brand Library & Art Center before it closes for renovation in March takes place Tuesdays and Thursdays through February at 10 a.m. Tours are by appointment only.

For reservations, contact Barbara Thorn-Otto at (818) 954-8530.

COUNTY GRANT FUNDS TREE REPLANTING

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich announced a \$2,500,000 County grant program to replant trees in parts of the San Gabriel Valley devastated by the December 2011 windstorm.

Grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded competitively to cities, other public agencies and nonprofit organizations that partner with public agencies. Grant guidelines allow for trees to be planted in parks and public open spaces as well as in parkways along residential and commercial streets.

The application deadline has been set for May 31 for applicants to develop comprehensive replanting programs. Grants should be awarded this summer allowing for tree planting as early as this fall or winter. Priority will be given to the grant proposals demonstrating the greatest need.

Applications can be downloaded from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District website at http://openspacedistrict.lacounty.info or for more information, call (213) 738-2981.

CVHS DRAMA PRESENTS ORIGINAL PLAY

Crescenta Valley High School students are presenting an original play beginning tonight based on student responses to a faculty survey last year. "22% Fear" reflects the results of a survey taken by CV high school students last year when 22% admitted they felt harassed or bullied at school. The drama students, under the direction of teacher Brent Beerman, set up an email account and invited students in their classes to anonymously submit their own stories of bullying and harassment. The stories were then crafted into dramatic monologues, with a chorus that comments on the actions described. The draft script was reviewed by students so that it sounded "true" for high school audiences, and later vetted by school district administration and the board of education. All Crescenta Valley students will see one of several performances of the play today during their science or social science class periods. The play will then be presented to the general public tonight through Saturday evening at 7 p.m. in the CVHS MacDonald Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults.

Leadership camp – designed by high school students – helps kids make positive changes now and for the future.

By Jason KUROSU

t the Fire House, the youth center located on the property of St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church, high school students gathered in the parking lot Tuesday night. The students were engaged in various teambuilding exercises, supervised by Staff Sgt. Robert Randall of the National Guard, in preparation for a leadership camp taking place in this spring.

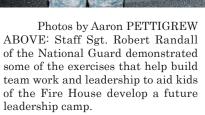
The leadership camp will be designed by Fire House kids for a site in San Luis Obispo. The camp will be a three-day event, although it is hoped that a weeklong event can be put together in the future. Much of the uncertainty has to do with scheduling, but a focus on the kind of team building exercises the students participated in Tuesday night will certainly be part of the leadership camp.

"These exercises show them the difference between working as an individual and working as a team," Randall said. "The activities will be based on communication and teamwork. At the same time, it helps them develop towards seeing a problem, forcing the issue and trying to solve the problem. It teaches them to become a leader, so that they can start coordinating people throughout their school, throughout their community, so that they can make positive changes within their lives and within their community."

The exact leadership and team building activities are still being discussed by the Fire House kids, however Randall did mention a rock-climbing wall, a rappelling tower, a land navigation course and obstacle courses already available at Camp San Luis Obispo, among other things.

"It takes two things in order to pass any of these obstacles," Randall said, speaking before the students at the Fire House. "You must communicate with each other and you must work with each other."

On Tuesday, the students participated in four activities set up by Randall. These included the "Tomahawk Walk," a series of long thin wooden boards which the students had to traverse, often by holding onto another student for balance. There were also the "trolleys," made up of two



RIGHT: Students worked the "trolley," slowly inching their way forward.

long boards, much like elongated skis, one for each foot. The students encircled the parking lot with up

to six students on the trolleys, a lurching human caterpillar with the lead student directing traffic, calling out for the left foot forward, then the right, and so on.

"Paving the way" forced the students to use their memory skills as they walked along a path of up to 20 identical squares. Students needed to memorize the correct path from one to the other and none could leave until all of them had completed the course correctly.

Lastly, there was the "handcuffs" puzzle, in which two students were bound by ropes and then their arms are intertwined. Pairs of students struggled mightily, many declaring it impossible. Randall calmly revealed the solution, which as with many such solutions, is much simpler than originally thought.

"I gave you guys this puzzle to show you there is always a way," said Randall. "You just have to find that way. Anything you do, there's a possibility of getting it done."

For more information on the leadership camp, email Mary O'Keefe at mary@ cvweekly.com.



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Starbucks to Expand from Coffee to Wine and Beer



Starbucks, which is proposing to open a store in Montrose [concept above], has expanded its offering to include wine and beer at some locations. No decision will be made regarding which stores will offer these beverages until community outreach is conducted.

By Mary O'KEEFE

Starbucks announced last week that they plan to bring wine, beer and premium food offerings to a "handful of locations in Atlanta and Southern California by the end of this year. These stores, along with several others recently announced for the Chicago area, will be the first extensions of the evening day-part concept outside of the Pacific Northwest," according to a statement from Starbucks release.

"We announced ... this concept in Southern California but there was no details on the specific [locations]," said a Starbucks company spokesperson.

Starbucks has proposed opening a store in Montrose at the southeast corner of Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard across from Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf. The company's proposal is in the planning department in the city of Glendale.

"Since first introducing the evening day-part concept at its Olive Way location in Seattle in October 2010, Starbucks has seen success creating a new occasion for customers later in the day through an expanded food and beverage menu. Five stores in the Seattle area and one in Portland, Ore. currently serve wine, beer and premium food. Late last year, Starbucks announced plans to bring the concept to five to seven locations in the Chicago area by the end of 2012. Atlanta and Southern California will each see four to six stores, also by the end of the year," stated a prepared statement by Starbuck.

The statement continued, "As part of an enhanced menu, these stores will serve new premium food (including savory snacks, small plates, and hot flatbreads) as well as wine and beer. The wine and beer list will be hand-selected to reflect local customer tastes and preferences, and will be refined over time. In addition to providing a product assortment not traditionally found at Starbucks, these stores will incorporate flexible seating to accommodate individuals and small groups as well as larger parties that want to host community meetings or other events such as book clubs."

The company will conduct community outreach meetings before a decision of wine and beer location is made, the spokesman said.





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East L. A. Residents Confront Najarian Over Slur

By Ted AYALA

Representatives and residents from East Los Angeles crowded into the Glendale City Council chamber on Tuesday, with several news cameras from local Spanish television news agencies in tow. The reason was over a remark that Councilman Ara Najarian had made at last week's City Council meeting during a discussion on a signage ordinance affecting the southern stretch of Brand Boulevard.

During comments he made referring to oversized signage in violation of civic ordinances, Najarian used East Los Angeles as an example for Glendale to avoid.

"It's a matter of aesthetics," he was quoted as saying. "These signs are something you see in East L. A."

Residents in East Los Angeles were furious with the comment, decrying what they perceived as an attack on their community and a perpetuation of a negative stereotype.

"We're very upset," said Martin Gamez, treasurer for the East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. "Mr. Najarian's remarks are every unfortunate. Our community has been working very hard to change the perception that others have of East L.A. His words really take away from that." Many members of the East Los Angeles community – with over 25 in attendance – took to the council dais to voice their outrage. Among them were business owners, school teachers, volunteers and residents.

"As business owners, we work diligently to make East Los Angeles a better place," said Omar Loya, owner of Cities Restaurant. "To utilize blight as the only characterization of East Los Angeles is short-sighted and false. Before you make irresponsible comments about the blight in East Los Angeles, I invite you to educate yourself and see the new Civic Center, Whittier Boulevard streetscape, and the beautiful parks and libraries."

"I'm upset," added resident and businessowner Yolanda Duarte. "I thought the comments were made very lightly."

She later commented that Najarian's "disparaging comments" are "the kind of seed that's planted to eventually create a dysfunctional city."

A defense of Najarian came from an unlikely source via resident Mike Mohill.

"We have sparred on many subjects many times," he said. "But he is not a racist. He's not mean-spirited when it comes to ethnic backgrounds. I know he didn't mean [his signage

When Social Media Can Be

Your Enemy

comments] in a bad way." For his part, Najarian made fulsome praise of East Los Angeles before making an apology.

"My only intention in referencing [East Los Angeles] – a fine community with much diversity, much the same as we have in Glendale – was to highlight the large number of signs; the sizes and disparity of those signs," said Najarian. "I do apologize if my comments in any were in any way a slur upon the fine people and rich cultural diversity of the East L.A. region."

The councilman also promised to come visit East Los Angeles in the near future along with Councilman Frank Quintero.

For some, though, Najarian's apology and offer to visit wasn't enough.

"It's not a sincere apology," said Gamez. "It seems like he's just trying to hush up what he mentioned."

Still some residents were pleased with the Councilman's apology and were willing to put the comments behind him.

"In reality, a lot of us don't think before we speak," said East Los Angeles resident Clara Garcia. "But that's something I feel we can forgive him for. I know I accept his apology and if he decides to visit us, he'll find himself very welcome in our community."



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FOR MORE PROGRAM & REGISTRATION INFORMATION

By Dep. Steve Toly, CV Sheriff's Station

What could possibly be wrong with social media? It's fantastic! It's modern, it's engaging, it's entertaining, and fun. We have progressed to the point where it almost seems odd to not be involved with social media in some form. Everyone from professional athletes to little kids are using social media for fun and profit. In this day and age no one wants to be perceived as antisocial – it's the kiss of death. So a giant billboard with all your personal information out there for over 500 million people to access. Social media programs can create a feeling of security that doesn't really exist ... remember that at all times. Never give out details of your life that you wouldn't want a stranger to know.

People post things like vacation dates and itineraries with updates from locations all over the globe. Your friends will love it, and so do people who want to break into your house. They know you're not home; you've already posted it and confirmed your absence with a timed update from New York or on a cruise ... what could be more helpful to a burglar? If they get into your pictures, they may already have a shopping list of things that they are going to take. People often post pictures that can reveal the interior of their home complete with potential weak access points, alarm systems, motion detectors, and door lock types or even if they own a dog. Some photos are embedded with GPS locations that bad guys can track. The list goes on, but you get the idea.

life and home. You don't want people knowing too much about your family either. You don't want people to know when your kids have sports practice, are home alone, or even birthdays, for example. Kids will post details that they don't understand can be dangerous, so it's up to parents to monitor what their children are posting.

Most people have security precautions in place and that's great, but in no way is it foolproof. You would be shocked to find out how many crimes are committed

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what's the deal?

I'm going to take this opportunity to fill you in on law enforcement's perspective on all this and specifically how it relates to residential burglaries, identity thefts and other crimes.

Like anything else in life, do some homework and know what you're getting into. The strengths and weaknesses of social media can be small and seem inconsequential, but can have a profound effect on your life and safety.

If you don't know yet, social media is web or media based technologies used to turn communication into interactive dialog ... more or less. The main mistake most people make is giving up too much personal information. Social media can be a great tool or nothing more than

Keep in mind there are even bad guy sites that will alert them when you update to a status other than your home. Not good.

Giving up too much information doesn't just stop at your social

by "friends of friends," the kid down the street, the classmate or the casual acquaintance, etc.

The point of this article is to "be aware." Think about these things now and think about how a bad guy can exploit them. Change things to protect yourself and never give up too many details that a stranger doesn't need to know. Take charge of your own person security and always error on the side of caution. Have fun but make sure it's safe fun.

Note by CV Captain Dave Silverspare: Dep. Steven Toly is a 21-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and graciously volunteered to write this article after we suspected that at least one local residential burglary was directly related to an on-going vacation posted on a media site.

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GCC from Cover

be great if what is in Montrose Shopping Park can be continued. I know it's not the exact same configuration that's there, but I would really support it."

"We've seen a lot of these [road diets] conducted in the surrounding cities, and have seen most of them to be very successful," said Colin Bogart of the Los Angeles Bicycle Coalition. "Because of the proximity to the [Montrose] Shopping Park, the [road diet] will encourage locals to bike to it, instead of driving there."

Bogart also added that he felt that road diets weren't "just for bicyclists" as, according to data his organization provided to the City Council, road diets help motorists avoid collisions with bicyclists. "They're also good for pedestrians," he said. "This will benefit people walking in the area."

Opposition was voiced by some including by Margaret Hammond, who cited concerns for motorists.

"I am totally against this [road

diet]," she said. "I myself think it's ridiculous. You're not taking into account the inconvenience this is going to cause people. This isn't right at all, to consider such a thing. I do believe it needs to be thought over very carefully."

Resident Bill Wiseman, however, dismissed concerns of traffic congestion.

"If the site is chosen properly and the implementation is done properly, you really don't run into these problems," he said and then cited a stretch of Las Tunas Canyon Road as a successful road diet.

"Typically what you will find is that the traffic is moving right at the speed limit, at 40 mph. I've yet to see it congested," Wiseman added.

"This [road diet] makes sense," agreed Councilman Frank Quintero. "It's the right thing to do. Change is always difficult for some people, but [this] has to be done. Like everything else, you'll get used to it. It's a much safer situation."

Welcoming Immigrants

By Mary O'KEEFE

Students at Crescenta Valley High School walked their track in the rain on a recent Saturday to show support and raise funds to help new immigrants as they get settled in their new country.

The students were participating in the International Rescue Committee (IRC) Jog-a-Thon fundraiser.

CVHS teacher Amber McLeod is a history teacher who was looking for a way to connect the curriculum with her contemporary world affairs class.

"We were studying refugees," McLeod said.

PartofMcLeod'sresponsibilities include overseeing the students' community service hours. CVHS requires students to complete at least 10 hours of community service in the four years that they attend the school.

"I [wanted] to marry the curriculum with community service," she explained.

She contacted the state department and was given a list of a variety organizations that work with the department. It was through this process she discovered IRC and executive director Thomas Hill.

She was invited to the IRC office and was given a tutorial of what the organization does.

"The whole process was eye opening," she said.

The IRC can trace its roots back to 1933 when the American branch of the European-based International Relief Association (IRA) was founded at the suggestion of Albert Einstein. The IRA joined the Emergency Rescue Committee, and IRC was the final result. Throughout the years the organization has assisted those who are immigrating from and to a variety of countries.

When someone is immigrating to the U.S. they are given some assistance by the government, but not much.

"And if you don't have a sponsor, it is [difficult]," McLeod said. Evanjeli Terohanian knows first hand how important the IRC can be. "We came



Students from Crescenta Valley High School participated in a rainy, but worthy jog-a-thon in support of new immigrants to the U.S.

U.S. in 2007.

"I couldn't go out with friends alone," she said. "Now looking back it was dangerous ... we never spoke out."

Terohanian said her family attempted to leave Iran a few times before they were able to get help through the IRC. Her parents would trust someone they thought would help them, but they would take their money or steal their passports, she said. "[Then] we heard about IRC,"

she said.

The organization helped the family immigrate in a safe and successful way.

"It was amazing," she said of arriving in the U.S. "I saw all my cousins. When we stepped outside the airport, I felt free."

She did not know any English when she arrived and worked with her cousins to learn the language of her new country.

McLeod and her students help with fundraising and are working on developing welcome baskets that will be given to new immigrants. The baskets will include toiletries, maps of the area and bus tokens. Terohanian was at the Saturday fundraiser to help raise money and to give a personal touch to the organization.

The students have started an on campus IRC Club that will continue the fundraising and outreach efforts. Students Aimee Estrada and Talin Manoukian were joined by third grader Chloe Siebels as they worked the jog-athon sign in table.

Freshmen Taylor Middleton, Logan Green and Tara Peroomian wrote welcome letters to recent immigrants, many of whom had migrated from Iran.

"I [wrote] about making the right kind of friends and that education is very important," Green said.

"I told them it might be hard when they first get here but it will get easier," Peroomian added.

"I wrote about things they could do and places they could go that are free, like the park," Middleton said. M c L e o d hopes the students will not only help raise funds but will teach students about what immigrants go through to get to the United States.

For more information on the IRC, visit www.rescue.org. To donate, support or for more information on the CVHS club, email McLeod at AMcLeod@ gusd.net.



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Now a typical CVHS sophomore, Terohanian remembered what life was like in Iran before she and her family immigrated to the



Fraud, Scams and Stories Too Good to Be True

By Mary O'KEEFE

Local banks have recently seen an increase in fraudulent activity including scenarios of lottery ticket winners and family members traveling in foreign countries that need financial help.

"We have noticed, lately, a group of people that seem to be targeted by these [types of fraud]," said a local banker. "It seems to be targeted toward the elderly."

The banker - who didn't want to be identified - added that during the holiday season, at least one customer per week came into the bank with a story about an attorney or someone representing their grandchild. The story continued with the family member needing funds after they were in an accident or had been arrested. All the grandparent had to do was send several thousand dollars to the representative and the grandchild would be allowed to leave whatever country they were supposedly in.

"They would instruct the [customer] not to tell anyone about the problem with their grandchild," the banker added.

The banker said despite her warnings to the customer that the scenario is fake, it was difficult to convince the customer that their grandchild was not in danger.

Stuart Perlitsh, CEO at Glendale Area Schools Federal Credit Union, has also seen this type of scam, as well as another concerning lottery winnings.

"They would get a call from [an alleged foreign country] representative," Perlitsh said. "They would tell [the customer] that he or she has won the lottery in that country."

All they had to do was send a few hundred, or at times, a few

BLOOD DRIVE from Cover

thousand dollars for taxes and the winning millions would be theirs to collect.

Perlitsh said he too had found it difficult to convince customers this type of scenario was a fraud.

"I would ask them if they had ever been to [that country] or if they had ever bought a lottery ticket from there. They would say 'no'," he said.

But still the lure of big money is difficult to compete against.

"If it sounds too good to be true, it more than likely is," said Det. Rodger Burt, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department at Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station.

Burt has taken several reports on identity theft and scams that are targeted at the elderly. Although he hasn't seen a recent spike in reports, it is a constant problem.

He added the scams can be as simple as a call from a supposed lottery to extremely elaborate tales.

"Another [scam] that isn't necessarily targeted at the elderly is when someone buys something online," he said.

For example, on a site like Craig's List.

"For some reason, and there is always a reason, the person who is purchasing the item will send a check that is over the amount of the item," Burt said. "The seller takes the check to her or his bank and deposits or cashes it and then sends the overage to the buyer."

It is only days later that it is discovered that the original check used to purchase the item is fraudulent, however by that time the funds have already been sent and the seller has no choice but to count that amount as a loss.

Sgt. Harley Wing, Glendale Police Department, said his request for seminars on the subject have increased. He and his staff recently spoke at Glendale Adventist Hospital to over 150 people, many of them members of ASTER, a Crescenta Valley senior group.

"We go to retirement homes and hospitals and ask for a list of what issues are of most interest to those [that will be attending the seminars]," Wing said.

The problem is there are so many concerns and only so much time.

"Our goal is to have a whole series of talks about [specific] scams," Wing said.

He too has dealt with scams that appear to target the elderly, however there are many more that target people from all walks of life.

"Especially with Valentine's Day coming up," Wing warned adding that some scams are a type of "lonely hearts" scenario.

"Internet romance," he said. "Someone will say, 'Why don't we get together?' but the person can't afford it so they ask the man, or woman, to send them money to help them [travel] to the person."

Wing spoke of another popular scam when a person will call a resident and ask them if they have a Visa. Most people have that type of credit card, so they tell the caller they are a Visa holder.

The fraudulent Visa representative will then explain that the cardholder's account may have been compromised.

"The caller will read off the person's card number and ask if it is correct," he said. "It is [relatively] easy to get someone's card number. The [caller] will ask if the person has purchased [something like a computer] and the Visa holder says 'no'," Wing said.

The caller then tells the

Please support the community blood support giving blood. person that they are victims of a fraud and ask to verify the card number and then ask for the three digit security number on the back of the card called a CRV.

"That is a difficult number to get," Wing said.

The caller may sound legitimate but it is all a scam. "Banks do not ask you for

that information," he said.

Bankers and law enforcement advise anyone who receives a phone call that offers a deal that is just too good, asks for private financial information, or has money for someone from a lottery ticket that was never purchased in an country never visited, they can call their bank or law enforcement to verify.

And if a representative calls concerning a grandchild or relative in trouble with the law but that the information must remain a secret, the person should contact law enforcement.





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LEFT: First time donor Sherry Smiles-Hernandez is assisted by phlebotomist Jhun Cruz. *Photo by Timithie* NORMAN

RIGHT: Wednesday's blood drive, hosted by the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department at the Crescenta Valley Station, benefitted the American Red Cross as part of its sixth annual Southern California "Battle of the Badges" competition. Photo by Molly SHELTON

promotes their drive to their own geographical region in an effort to involve local constituents.

Deputy Jorge Valdivia said that this is the third time the CV station has participated and he had seen a wonderful response from the community.

"It was nonstop all day," he said. "Last year we had 28

people come out, and this year we had over 40."

Red Cross representative Susan Josephson was on hand to assist with the drive and explained that the need for blood is constant.

"Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood," she said. "Donated blood can be used for just 42 days, so we are

always needing to replenish our supply."

Blood from the sheriff's department drive is transported to the local Red Cross facility in Pomona before it is distributed to hospitals throughout Southern California. is issued!

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www.cvweekly.com

Obituary J. Baroni



Jan. 2, 1920 -Jan. 22, 2012

lost one of its stars with the away in 2001. death of Eugene J. Baroni Jan. 11 resulting in a brain 26, 2007. injury from which he did not recover.

family a few years later.

School in 1938 and joined Western his mid-50s and was a life long Electric as a cable splicer. During World War II, he joined the Army He was a technical sergeant providing communications support to elements of the famed Merrill's Marauders battalion.

married the love of his life Barbara topics. He was a gruff mentor with Jane Baroni in 1948. They had three children: Sandra, Janice

suffered a devastating fall on marriage until her death on Dec. of northern Nevada.

baseball. He was a high school Gene's life was marked by star who had dreams of playing two great loves: his family and in the major leagues. He was

the American pastime - baseball. scouted by the St. Louis Cardinals He was born in Los Angeles on and was to have signed with Eugene "Gene", Jan. 2, 1920 the first child of Sam the AAA Pacific Coast League and Philomena Baroni. Twin Los Angeles Angels. His Army brothers Tony and John, who commitment intervened and predeceased him, joined the he never returned to this level of competition. He played and Hegraduated from Lincoln High managed semi-pro ball until Anaheim Angels fan.

> He had many stories and and served in India and Burma. entertained his family with lots of memories. His first was being quarantined due to an outbreak of bubonic plague in 1922.

His war experiences and, of Returning home, he met and course, baseball were frequent a heart of gold.

Gene is survived by daughter and Richard. Janice died while Sandi MacKinnon (Bruce) of Reno, The "Greatest Generation" still an infant; Richard passed Nev.; grandsons Robert Bodkin, Jason Baroni and Joshua Baroni, Gene retired from Western all of northern Nevada; and great on Jan. 22. He celebrated his Electric in 1985. Gene and granddaughters Seativa Gomez, 92nd birthday on Jan. 2. Gene Barbara enjoyed a lasting Madison Baroni, Emily Baroni also

Services were held at Holy Gene's other great love was Redeemer Catholic Church in Montrose; interment is at the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, Calif.

> In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the World War II Museum, P.O. Box 97336, Washington DC 20090-7336. Crippen Mortuary

www. CrippenMortuary. **CRIME** BLOTTER

Jan. 30

3000 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, a girl reported she had left her backpack at the front of the Walgreen's, as directed by the store's employees. When she returned, the backpack and all the items within were gone. A Walgreen's employee reported to deputies that he saw a man described as 5'8" to 5'9" tall with a goatee, about 19 to 20 years old, wearing a black T-shirt and green cargo pants pick up the backpack and walk out the front door of the store. The employee followed the suspect and took pictures of the van he got into. The employee reported he saw about four people in the van including a woman, 17 to 18 years old, that had been in the store with the suspect. Photos that displayed the van's license number were taken of the vehicle as it drove away. After an investigation, deputies found the owner of the van and went to his home in Tujunga. As they were at his home, the van drove into the driveway. The driver did not resemble the suspect, however after an investigation the driver allegedly told deputies he had been at Walgreen's earlier but it was his friend that had gone to the store. The driver was found to have a warrant out in his name and was taken to the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, cited and released.

2400 block of Los Olivos in La Crescenta, a global positioning system, emergency tool kit and several personal items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle between Jan. 28-30.

Jan. 24

3100 block of Foothill Boulevard, a 20-year-old Sunland man was arrested for burglary and possession of burglary tools after he allegedly stole cans of spray paint from OSH (Orchard Supply Hardware) store. According to the sheriff's report, deputies were parked in front of OSH when they witnessed the suspect exiting the store. He first walked over to some parked vehicles, then walked to the deputies' patrol vehicle and asked what they needed. He appeared to be nervous, according to the deputies, and then suddenly walked away. The deputies noticed two cans of spray paint underneath a parked truck, near where the suspect had been walking. Deputies contacted the suspect and, after an investigation, he allegedly told them he had taken the cans of paint from the store without paying. He allegedly admitted to being involved in a tagging [graffiti] crew. The incident occurred at 6:57 p.m.



\$55 Admission

Presenting the 2012 GLA Honorees:

"Woman of the Year"

Denise M. Miller - Director, Live Well Senior Program Glendale Adventist Medical Center

"Man of the Year"

Gary Montecuollo - Chief of Police Glendale Community College

"Business of the Year"

Sadd Velazquez Higashi Shammaa Certified Public Accountants and Advisors

film companies and with the merchants and make it all work," said Pierce. "And I think [what I need to do] right now is just to be open to what [the film crews want to do and

He was also on set for the filming of "Awake," and will be working with any future film crews that the Glendale office sends up here.

"I'm actually wanting

and its also a commercial community and merchants are there to make money, not just to be friends with film companies. So we have to make sure that there is that fine mix of filming in our community but also recognize the fact that the merchants need to run a business - that's what it's all about." And that is where Pierce steps in - to make sure all the crew members and shops are treated fairly. "I'm going to try to encourage businesses to see this as an advantage for them," said Pierce, "and to do things during a film shoot that might attract people to come to their store and to look in and see what they have to offer here."

Directors comFILMING from cover

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make sure the merchants are taken care of at the same time so that everybody is on the same page and everyone is happy."

Pierce began working as the Montrose Shopping Park Filming Liaison last week with "True Blood."

to work with the city of Glendale a little bit more [in the near future] to see what we can do to bring film crews into our community," said Pierce. "I think the one thing that we have to remember is that this is a community of residents,

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MY THOUGHTS, EXACTLY » JIM CHASE Bowled Over By Commercials

glad it's finally February. For one thing, I can't remember a January before this last one that I had to turn on the ceiling fan just to be able to sleep comfortably at night.

With any luck, this month will at last bring seasonally some more cold temps and rainfall. But I'll leave the official weather prognostication and precipitation prestidigitation to my columnist colleague Sue Kilpatrick.

Mostly, I'm thankful it's February because those awful, terrible, annoyingly vapid JCP commercials with all the screaming people are supposed to be replaced by, well, something else. It seems like only yesterday that we were subjected to months of that screaming guy in the commercials for Universal Studios' King Kong attraction.

But back to JCP, which, in case you haven't caught on to their marketing sleight of hand, is what JC Penny is now calling itself. You know, like Kentucky Fried Chicken tried to become relevant and cool by calling itself KFC. Or like California Pizza Kitchen suddenly became CPK. It's marketing gimmicks like this - along with obnoxiously loud and uncreative commercials like the current JCP teaser campaign - that make me cringe with embarrassment at my own profession.

Thankfully, this weekend has the potential to redeem my faith in the creative process.

As someone who has spent the last 30 years or so writing advertising copy (not

"verbage," please!) including literally thousands of TV and radio commercials, or "spots" as we call them in the biz, the annual NFL Super Bowl broadcast is Christmas, the World Series and Olympics

all rolled into one event. To get an idea how important and prestigious the Super Bowl is to advertisers, the going rate for a mere 30 seconds of airtime on this Sunday's broadcast is a reported \$3.5 million. For 30 seconds! That's over \$116,000 a second. Even the federal government doesn't spend money that fast. Oh wait, yes it does.

This year's Super Bowl advertisers include Volkswagen, Acura, Coca-Cola, Toyota, Career Builder, Anheuser-Busch, Audi and others with deep marketing budgets. I really couldn't care less whether the Patriots or the Giants win on Sunday, since the Dodgers didn't even make it into the playoffs (and that right there should tell you how much of a football fan I am). No, I'm more interested to see whether the agency creative teams have come up with winners or wieners to debut during the broadcast. If I have to go to the bathroom or the kitchen, I'll be going during the game itself so I can be sure not to miss any of the commercials. I'm not kidding.

At some point in the early '80s, the Super Bowl became the place for advertisers and the agencies who produce their commercials to showcase new, hopefully breakthrough work - spots that were created to be talked about at office water

coolers all across the country the following Monday. The advent of online streaming video channels has only increased the importance of having a hit commercial air during the Super Bowl.

Apple's "1984" commercial to launch the Macintosh computer was one of the first TV spots to use a "big idea" concept along with featurefilm production values (the ground-breaking spot was directed by then newcomer Ridley Scott, who went on to direct "Aliens," "Thelma & Louise," "Gladiator," "Black Hawk Down" and other mega-hits). It also enjoyed the highly unusual status of airing only once - during the game itself - and never again. At least, Apple never paid to have the commercial run again.

This Sunday I'll be glued to the set, watching to see if another water-cooler-worthy commercial is aired. I'm certain of one thing, however. If the ad agency creative teams have done their jobs, the only screaming heard during Sunday's game will be from unhappy Patriots or Giants fans.

Then again, it could also be me screaming at the summer-like weather that continues to torture my very soul.

I'll see you 'round town.

© 2011 WordChaser, Inc. Jim Chase is an awardwinning advertising copywriter and native of Southern California. Readers are invited to "friend" his My Thoughts Exactly page on Facebook. Also visit Jim's new blog with past columns and additional thoughts at: http:// jchasemythoughtsexactly.blogspot.com/

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY

» MIKE LAWLER

Jewish Life in Old CV

The early settlers of CV were mostly wealthy Midwesterners, along with immigrants from Germany, Italy and other European countries. All white, and predominantly Protestant or Catholic. Those of differing color, ethnic background or faith had problems being accepted, and early people of the Jewish faith faced just that problem in La Crescenta.

An early member of the Jewish community in the valley, Jerry Weinberg related that his family moved to the valley in the late '20s and felt culturally isolated.

One day they participated in a tree-planting project in Montrose. When little Jerry spoke some words of Yiddish to his mother, one of the tree-planting supervisors overheard, and enthusiastically iumped into the conversation. The Jewish "Goldie" Goldstein was working locally as a forest ranger and he and the Weinbergs became fast friends. Jerry told me that as a kid he was shunned by many neighborhood kids and some parents banned their children from playing with him because of his Jewish roots. He related too that the small enclave of local Jews was uncomfortably aware of the German Bund, the American arm of the Nazi party, that were part of the weekend celebrations at Hindenberg Park in the 1930s.

By 1955, the Jewish community in the valley had grown large enough to warrant the construction of the Crescenta Valley Jewish Center at 3966 Pennsylvania. About 100 families were members of the Center, but for reasons unknown to me they didn't last. Sometime in the '60s they folded and that building today is a preschool with a very recognizable purple paint job, right at the intersection of Pennsylvania and Honolulu avenues.

A more recent view of Jewish life in CV comes from my good friend John Drayman. He told me that his father Jay Drayman, a clothing manufacturer, moved to L.A. in 1949 seeking a dryer climate for his wife Dale. He was attracted to Glendale because of its great schools, but as he was house hunting several homes he made offers on mysteriously were taken off the market or inexplicably fell out of escrow. He was finally able to purchase a home in CV outside the Glendale borders which was free of the racial and ethnic covenants so typical of many Glendale properties at the time. As a businessman, he was active in the community, and like other businessmen was anxious to network. He was encouraged to apply for a membership to the Oakmont Country Club by a close friend and local developer who had built the Glenwood Oaks tract. However he was denied membership and was told by the committee that his religion was the reason. Interestingly, the son of the man who blackballed John's father later became one of John's closest friends and recounted the details of this act of prejudice.

For Jewish families in

the '60s there was still a sense of threat, unspoken but tangible despite the enactment of the Civil Rights Act. By the time John was a teenager in the '70s, local anti-Semitism was far less overt, and only seemed to surface when folks of a certain generation got angry. He remembers that as a kid selling Christmas cards door-to-door, he once had a disagreement over a misspelling approved and initialed by a customer. She ended the argument by calling him a "dirty Jew." Drayman also suffered a beating at the Keyhole public pool during the Six-Day War by older boys whose parents told John he should "go to Israel to fight alongside the other Jews."

Drayman believes that things have changed for the better, and that CV is today a tolerant and inclusive place. The simple fact that he was elected to the City Council in Glendale, a city that was home to the American Nazi Party for decades, speaks volumes to John.

I like to think that the bias that American Jews faced in our community is history now. But history often repeats. Today the Armenian-American community, which shares a background of genocide, Diaspora and immigration with the Jewish experience, struggle for acceptance in the Crescenta Valley just as the Jews did before them.

Mike Lawler is the president of the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley. Reach him at lawlerdad@yahoo.com.

comments, humor and reflections and Shares His Thoughts on Starbucks insights on issues. (Does the Rifleman really fire 13 shots from a rifle that only holds 11?)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lends His Support Jim [Chase], keep on telling it like you

Takes Offense to Attitude In the article, "Lunch Signature Needed

Proposal

see it [Viewpoints, My Thoughts Exactly, Jan. 26]. Those thin-skinned people can take a hike to a hot place. I too am sick and tired of those who want someone fired or to apologize because they do not agree with what was said or written. That is life. Nowhere is it written that anyone has the right to not be offended. Tough!

I may not always agree, but that is my privilege. I will not conflict with your right, or anyone else's, to say or write what you want. Dennis Miller said it best when he said that was his opinion, he could be wrong.

If the [CV Weekly] were to let you go for stating your opinion, they would not see another red cent from me.

Keep it up. The others be damned!

Tom Suter La Crescenta for CV Kids," [Jan. 26], GUSD Deputy Superintendent Dr. John Garcia was reported to have said, "It is a privilege to leave campus, not a right."

I take offense to this. Not solely to Dr. Garcia's comment, but to the notion that seems to be behind this comment, that students leave certain rights at the door when they enter school, almost as if they were convicted criminals entering prison. This notion is nigh-universally accepted, to where even the Supreme Court upheld the right of schools to punish students for even off-campus speech and those who oppose this notion are lampooned as being only silly teenagers and young adults. I understand the concerns that have led to the possibility of the CVHS lunch policy being changed. But there are ways to address those problems while still respecting the rights of students.

Michael Sutherland

La Crescenta

I'm pretty upset about the proposal of what Starbucks is planning for the remodel of the structure at Ocean View and Honolulu. If it does evolve where they are granted approval, I would like the MSPA along with the City of Glendale to require the original facade of the building be restored. This would benefit the community in the event the business didn't survive (at least we'd have benefited visually as an community).

In fact, this could be a beneficial approach for negotiating future contracts for outside entities wanting to develop in our community.

Just my thoughts.

Bill Costello La Crescenta

Cheers to Chase

Jim Chase's columns are a highlight of the CV Weekly. I like Mr. Chase's

A few weeks ago, Mr. Chase mentioned the excessive number of laws passed last year including the surprising number geared toward the homosexual agenda. Recently, letters have appeared not only attacking his opinion column entitled My Thoughts, Exactly, but insisting the column be removed because the writers disagree with the facts, thoughts, and opinions expressed. Yet they all claim they welcome a diversity of writers and opinions.

Perhaps someone else can make sense of this. I am not only puzzled, but I am surprised by the nasty letters. Mr. Chase is to be applauded for characterizing the letters as "vitriol-soaked missives" and moving on to other issues. I'm looking forward to his next column.

> Julie Hill La Crescenta

YOUTH

YOUTH notes

LCFEF Announces Summer School Registration

The La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation announced that registration will open for 2012 summer school on Thursday, Feb. 9. This program is open to all students entering ninth through 12th grades in the fall of 2012. Course offerings include English 1-4, Spanish 1-3, algebra IB, geometry, algebra II, U.S. history, world history, government/econ, biology, chemistry, physics and P.E.

Summer school is a great way for students to free up their upcoming academic year schedule or improve upon a previously received grade.

Registration information is now available at www. lcfef.org. Questions? Leave a message on the LCFEF Summer School hotline at (818) 952-8070 or email summerschool@lcfef.org.

Track and Field Registration Opens

The Los Angeles Falcons track and field team has officially launched its 2012 season. Children between the ages of 5 and 15 will compete in events such as sprints, distance running, long jump, high jump, shot put, relays and hurdles.

There are five divisions (based on age as of (Dec. 31, 2011): Gremlins (ages 5-7), Bantams (8-9), Midgets (10-11), Youth (12-13) and Intermediates (14-15). Competition will take place throughout San Fernando Valley and locally.

Falcon head coach Pablo Carlos founded the team in 1994.

Registration and orientation will be on Feb. 4 at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at Verdugo Park in Glendale (corner of Colina Drive and Canada

Assistance League Glendale Offers SAT Seminars

Assistance League Glendale is offering SAT Seminars again this spring for \$45. There will be eight two-hour sessions during the month of March. The sessions are held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 314 E. Harvard, Glendale.

Registration forms are available by going online at www.alglendale.org/sat. htm. Registration forms are also available at the Assistance League thrift shop, Thrift Alley, at 314-A Harvard, Glendale.

For details, call (818) 247-4296 or email info@ alglendale.org.

Scholarship Apps Sought

The La Cañada Thursday Club, celebrating its centennial year, announced that applications are now available for its annual scholarship awards. One of the main philanthropic projects of the Club is to encourage the youth of the community in their academic endeavors. Each year members of the La Cañada Thursday Club celebrate the academic achievements of our youth at its May Tea by hosting and honoring the recipients of these annual scholarship awards.

All applicants must live within the boundaries of the La Cañada Flintridge postal district (91011).

Scholarships are based on academic achievement, promise and financial need. Applications will be available at local high schools or by contacting the Scholarship Committee at (818) 952-1856. The application is also available on the club's website, www. lacanadathursdayclub.org. The deadline for submitting applications is March 11.

Club of Kiwanis Montrose-La Crescenta President Lynn McGinnis invites seniors from Crescenta Valley and Clark Magnet high schools to apply for one of the eight \$500 scholarships from the Montrose-La Cresenta Kiwanis Club and one Alvena & Leslie W. Dobbing Memorial Scholarship. Applications can be obtained from Sungsook Kim or Cheryl Mulvoy at Crescenta Valley and from Valencia Watson at Clark. The completed applications are due at the high schools on March 23.

Carbonators Take Another Win

By Jason KUROSU

lark Magnet High School was the beneficiary of yet another Lexus Eco Challenge win last week as a team of eight students, the self-proclaimed Carbonators, won a \$10,000 prize for their research on the negative effects of ozone smog in Los Angeles County. Clark Magnet students previously won the Lexus Eco Challenge, a nationwide project for raising student interest in environmental affairs, with their studies of pollutants threatening the local lobster population.

Clark was one of only two schools in the country to win last year and two of the students involved in that win are part of the Carbonators. Dominique Evans-Bye, Marine Science teacher at Clark, showed pride for her students' multiple wins.

"They've certainly done a great job," Evans-Bye said.

The Carbonators' research showed that already notorious smog levels in Los Angeles County are still high. The team looked at data of smog levels from 1999 and compared that with Environmental Protection Agency data from sampling stations throughout the state. They then created maps from this data on ArcGIS, spatial analysis software that creates maps based on statistical data. The data, displayed through ArcGIS, showed that San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties had high levels of ozone smog.

The Carbonators also looked for potential solar energy possibilities in those areas with the highest levels of smog, exploring where the best places to install solar panels might be.

The next step for the Carbonators is to compete for the Eco Challenge's \$30,000 grand prize. To do this, they will expand their research outside of Los Angeles County.

"Now they have to take their



Photo by Leonard COUTIN Clark senior Dillen Maurer and teacher Dominique Evans-Bye look over the team's proposal that won them \$10,000 for air control.



Boulevard).

Registration fee is \$135 that includes a team uniform, ribbons, awards, invitational fees, team photo, training and lots of fun. Practices will be held at Crescenta High Wednesdays on and Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The season begins on Feb. 18 and concludes in May. Registration will remain open until March 17. Further updates are available on the website www.la-falcons.com.

research to a global scale," said Evans-Bye. "They've already mapped out ozone smog levels in Europe through data collected on the Internet."

They would also like to collect data on smog in Asia.

"We're looking at places with high populations, industrialized countries," said Evans-Bye.

The deadline for the grand prize is in late February.



GARY SHTEVNBARTand the perfect card with just the right words.

Joanne, formerly of The Montrose Village Newsstand, and now part of our team made sure that we carry copies of the Fantasy Draft Playbook for baseball, basketball and football!



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For further information, call Coach Pablo Carlos (818) 541-0355 or email at carlosfamily@earthlink.net or coach-carlos@la-falcons. com. Marching to the Drum Major



Photo courtesy of the Archer Family CV High School junior Marta Archer was only one of nine drum majors chosen to travel to London to participate in the 26th annual London New Year's Parade.

CVHS junior travels to London for popular New Year's Day parade

By Maddy PUMILIA

London's New Year's Day parade is considered equivalent to the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, touting approximate 10,000 an performers from 20 different countries. Lining the two mile parade route are about a half million people with another 20 million watching on televisions throughout Britain.

One of those performers came from "across the pond," Crescenta Valley from specifically.

CVHS junior Marta Archer was selected to join the parade after attending a training camp in July hosted by an organization called United Spirit Association. At the camp, she learned the skills, drills and techniques of a band drum major. Out of hundreds around the U.S., only the top 10% were invited to participate in the 26th annual event.

Just nine drum majors, all

Whitehall and Parliament Street. The drum majors were given a set routine to learn via DVD. Marta estimates that she practiced at her house for about 20 to 30 hours then another hour and a half in London.

"The weather was nice during the week, but it rained the morning of the parade," Eric said.

"It was sunny," Marta said. "There were no clouds and we all thought we're going to be okay. Our uniforms weren't going to get all wet and we were going to be fine and we lined up for the parade and we start marching. A block in, it starts pouring rain and there's nothing we can do."

Marta plays five instruments - flute, tuba, tenor saxophone, baritone and the piccolo. She has been in band for three years. This is in her second year as apprentice drum major at CVHS.

"I love band and I love music and I thought my understanding of music and my musical ability, because I play so many instruments, would really help the band grow musically," Marta said of why she became an apprentice drum major. There are four apprentices, two assistants and only one drum major. Designations are done by audition; not everyone makes the cut.

Valley View's Dads and Beat of a (London) | Daughters Attend Royal Ball

By Misty DUPLESSIS

On Friday, a royal ball was held for the princesses of Valley View Elementary in celebration of the annual Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance.

The room was filled with photographs of famous royals, family crest posters and tables adorned with tiered glasses overflowing with jewels.

Girls arrived dressed in gowns and tiaras, escorted by their fathers, brothers, uncles, grandfathers or family friends who were all ready to eat, play games and dance.

For the last six years, a group of dedicated parent volunteers work together to choose a fun, themed night for the annual event.

The women worked nonstop all night to ensure that everything ran smoothly, overseeing all aspects of the event from the catered food provided by Peppercorn Kitchen to distributing the tiara necklaces that all the girls left with at the end of the night.

Thanks to donations by students and parents, there were plenty of baked goods for the girls and their dads to enjoy including sparkled cake pops and tiarashaped white chocolate candies.

Committee member Zoe White was excited that the same DJ from last year was available to entertain the school this year.

"We're lucky to have Kendall Roberg because he rocks. It wouldn't be the same without him," White said of the returning DJ.

The room was temporarily divided between daughters and the dads as they participated in a playful, competitive song game.

For many families this event is the highlight of the year. Many of the girls look forward to dressing up and dads and daughters appreciate spending time with each other.

Daddy Jonathan Price has enjoyed attending the dances for years. This year he came with his younger daughter, third grader



TOP: Jaylene Flores holds flowers father Jairo gave to her just before the dance. MIDDLE: Jonathan Price with his third grader Jensen. ABOVE: Dana and dad Neil Goodside. Photos by Misty DUPLESSIS



from California, were chosen to go to the parade.

"I feel honored," Marta said. "Out of however many people who got selected, being in the top nine is a big deal. Not that many people know that much about drum majors, so to be in the spotlight of it all feels really good."

"It's pretty impressive," agreed Marta's father, Eric.

"It's nice to have her skills talents recognized," and added her mother, Jan.

The drum majors joined 500 cheerleaders and 400 dancers seen along the parade route that went through Piccadilly, Piccadilly Circus, Lower Regent Street, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, Cockspur Street, Trafalgar Square,

"It requires skill and discipline and leadership skills and a good understanding of music," said Jan.

CV student Mac Wright was also selected to go in the London New Years' Day parade, but he chose to participate in Pasadena's Rose Parade on New Years' Day as a herald trumpet. CV students Weston Foote, Riley Scott, Madison Artis and Aaron Hancock also were a part of the Tournament of Roses Honor Band.

Jensen.

"It was really fun and great," said Jensen of the evening, adding that her favorite part of the night was dancing with her father.

Committee member Linda Hunter said that every year the event gets bigger and bigger, and that this year they broke a record for the highest number of attendees.



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YOUTH

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K-Kids Elect President

La fifth grader Nicole Johnson has been elected the 2012 president of the Kiwanis K-Kids of the Community Center of La Cañada. K-Kids is a service organization for elementary students sponsored Kiwanis International, bv and a local Kiwanis club, composed of leading business and professional people of the community. K-Kids is a student-led community service organization open to any fourth, fifth, or sixth grade student who would like to provide service to Community Center of La Cañada and the community.

"It's important for a community to have a K-Kids club so we can be helpful to other people," said Nicole who has served with the K-Kids for two years. "We give flowers to the elderly in nursing homes, have sent shoes to needy kids in Madagascar and we even raised enough money to provide one cleft palate surgery for a kid through

Cañada Elementary Smile Train. I love K-Kids."

The K-Kids meetings are held the first Thursday each month immediately after school, and require parents to drop off and pick up their children. This year K-Kids will participate in the Fiesta Days Parade, collect donations for homeless children and adopt a "grandparent," Kiwanis One Day, School Nurse Appreciation Day, planting flowers at the Community Center, baking

cookies for the fire department, and the annual Plan-Spec Construction Food and Clothing Drive to benefit the Midnight Mission.

For more information about K-Kids, visit www.kiwanis-k-



kids-lacanada.webs.com.

K-Kids meets the first Thursday of the month from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center of La Cañada, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr., La Cañada Flintridge.

Now also available







LEFT: Miro Nauha paints his

group photo.

other parent works, only hearing about the activities at CCNS. Imm decided to open the doors of the nursery school on Saturday, Jan. 14 to give working parents an inside look at how their children spend their time.

Working dads took to the floor and played with their Busy Bear (4 year olds) or Darling Duck (3 year olds.) The day was filled with smiles and laughter as dads interacted with their children.

The Darling Ducks and their dads painted handprints and decorated little flowerpots with stickers, then planted a flower in the pot to take home for their mothers. Both classes participated in story time, danced the Chicken Dance and the Hokey Pokey and enjoyed snacks together. The Busy Bears painted footprints with their dads and, although a little messy, everyone had a fun and memorable time. The Bears showed their parent how well they use scissors, spell their names and made flowers to take home for their mothers. Photos of fathers with their child were taken to commemorate the special day. CCNS is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd, La Canada. (818) 952-2524 www.ccnsonline.com





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Lives are not only

Crescenta - Cañada

Cooperative Nursery School -

CCNS - director and teacher

Nita Imm decided to reach out

to the working parents of her

students by inviting them to a

special CCNS session ... on a

Often just one parent

participates at the cooperative

on a regular basis while the

father Petri's foot. ABOVE: The Darling Ducks Working Parents pose for a

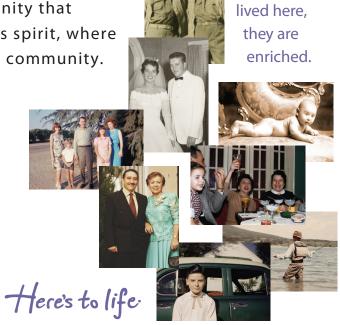
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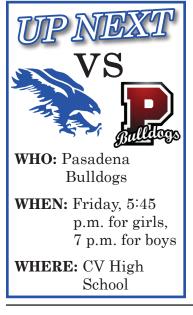
Falcons win their 20th game with dominating defense and efficient offense, setting up a week of key rematches with the Pasadena schools.

By Brandon HENSLEY

Tith every shot put up by a Hoover player Tuesday night in the first quarter came groans from some of the students in the stands. And with every miss those groans turned into cheers. On this night, it wasn't just about fans wanting to see their CV boys' basketball team beat the Tornadoes, but rather enjoy a dubious scene unravel before them from the team in purple and black.

And what a scene it was. Hoover did not score a single point in the first quarter, and not until the 5:54 mark of the second when Ando Adjemian's 3-pointer went in did the number change on the scoreboard under the word Visitor.

The Falcons dominated early and often, building a 15-0 lead after one guarter and won 78-31, clinching the team's third straight 20-win season, putting



them currently at 20-4 (8-2 in the Pacific League).

Once the ball passed half court, CV pressured fast and forcing numerous furious. turnovers. Maybe it was all in preparation for Friday's big game against Pasadena, but whatever the case, the defensive mindset was impressive.

"Our goal is to ball pressure as much as we can and limit good looks and I think we did that," said CV Coach Shawn Zargarian.

"We came out with focus. We were all just playing really well, so it was nice," said senior guard Dylan Kilgour. CV has won four games in a row, having beaten Burbank last Friday 62-55.

Kilgour's offense was also a spark. He scored 15 points, including four 3-pointers. In all, the Falcons were on top of their game from beyond the arch, shooting an eye-popping 9-of-17 from that distance.

Zargarian almost didn't have words for how well Kilgour shoots the ball.

"We don't keep a record book of percentage, but last year he was in the 40s from the 3-point line. It's just unheard of," Zargarian said. "When he's open, I'm shocked when he misses ... even when he misses it looks good."

Hoover played CV almost evenly in the second quarter, but the floodgates opened in the third. Cole Currie drained a 3-pointer at 5:39 of the quarter to make the lead 47-18. By the end of the quarter, it was 68-25.

The Falcons like to push the tempo on offense, and were extra aggressive Tuesday. Forward Christian Misi didn't score many - just three points, all on free throws - but he grabbed 10 rebounds, leading to numerous fast breaks, and Kilgour and Currie took care of the rest (Currie had 14 points).

Against a smaller team like Hoover, Zargarian said he likes his team to go inside first and that will open up shots from the outside.

"I thought our guards took good shots, good open shots, and made them," Zargarian said.

CV's reserves came in and played well, with guard Razmik Hacobyan scoring nine points in the second half.

A noticeable change as the season goes on is who Zargarian puts on the court to start the game. Rudy Avila came into the year entrenched as the starting center, but has since been replaced several times by guard Tade Keshishyan or forward Elliot Wilson. Wilson started Tuesday and played "great," according to Zargarian.

"It's dependent on matchups and it's dependent on guys coming in and working hard," Zargarian said. "I think Elliot's been working his butt off and getting better. The last four games he's started for us we've had wins."

The Tough Week Ahead

The Falcons will have to work that much harder Friday at CV, when they will try and even the score against Pasadena. Friday is also Senior Night for CV.

"We have a sour taste in our mouth after last time, and this comes down to pride," Zargarian said.

But it won't get any easier on Tuesday when CV travels to Muir. Both teams beat CV in January by over 20 points.

Those schools are the measuring sticks in the Pacific League. CV is still in third place behind Pasadena (9-1) and Muir (10-1). Muir features long and athletic players, and Pasadena



Cole Currie and the Falcons were aggressive on offense Tuesday night in a dominating win over Hoover.

features physical players, like Brandon Jolley, that gave CV a hard time previously.

Kilgour was asked specifically what needs to be done against the Bulldogs in the rematch. He said he didn't really remember their Jan. 13 affair. Maybe that's a good thing.

"We're watching film tomorrow, I'm sure Coach Z has stuff in mind," he said. "We have to play CV basketball and we'll be fine.

"I think we're in a better place now. We're clicking right now and so it's going to be fun

to come out and play Pasadena."

Zargarian said he wants to see his team come out energized and compete better than they did before. A loss wouldn't wreck the season, he said, and a league title isn't what he's concentrating on at the moment.

"Not that it's out of reach but it's kind of somewhere where it's not in our hands," he said. "We just have to take care of our business. It's a pride game Friday night. We're going to come out and fight. All we can do is play as hard as we can."



CV Weekly Fantasy Football **Closes Season Two**

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Saluting our Diamond Award Honorees:

Weekly Fantasy Football came to a close last week with local dentist Terry Webber edging Dan Hooper of Andy's Storage 56-53 for the championship.

On Labor Day weekend, more than two-dozen players kicked off the season. During the 17-week season, there were nine different weekly winners. Hooper led the pack winning four times.

Defending champion Holly Heurkins, middle school student Taylor Bosveld, business executive Pat Longo, Montrose Ambassador Steve Pierce and Dr. Terry Webber, D.D.S. each won twice during the season. At the end of the regular season, 12 players qualified for the playoffs. Hooper and Webber emerged from the very hotly contested semi-finals with 84

semis by virtue of a tie breaker. Heurkins' season ended with 81 points.

The second season was a success with the players already looking forward to next year. CV Weekly Fantasy Football III returns in August.





www.cvweekly.com

Falcon Boys Top Hoover

By Timithie NORMAN

The Crescenta Valley boys' soccer team hosted the Hoover Tornadoes Tuesday, winning 3-1 to continue their undefeated (9-0-2) run in Pacific League play this season. The victory ensured that the Falcons will be awarded at least a share of the league title, which the Falcons have claimed for the last two seasons.

Senior captain Pavle Atanackovic got things started early in the first half when he headed the ball into the Hoover goal after a cross from Jaehoon Jung. Both Atanackovic and senior Mike Shahnazarians were back on the field for the match after sitting out Friday's 4-0 win against Burbank because of red card penalties the previous game.

The first half saw Hoover (2-5-4) make a few good runs, but only two shots on goal. Crescenta Valley's ball control and strong passing game were no match for the Tornadoes struggling defense, which gave up another two goals before halftime. Senior Salar Hajimirsadeghi scored on a cross from junior Erick Trejo in the 19th minute; Trejo scored his own goal soon after to take the Falcon lead to 3-0.

Atanackovic had a promising drive down the field that put him one-on-one with Hoover



CV's Erick Trejo followed teammate Salar Hajimirsadeghi's goal to take the Falcon lead to 3-0.

goalkeeper Malek Azadegan, but Azadegan made the first of his three one-on-one saves just before the half.

The Falcon momentum waivered in the messy second half with what Head Coach Grant Clark called "a few dips in intensity." The referees came alive, however, awarding a smattering of yellow cards to players on both teams that interrupted the flow of the game and riled up players and spectators alike.

Hoover was given a penalty kick late in the game, the result of a handball in the Falcon penalty box. CV goalkeeper Nick Ruiz made the save, but soon after Tornado Patrick Awad made a drive for the goal that created a collision with Ruiz and teammate Carlos Oblea. All three scrambled for the ball, but Awad was able to put it in the empty net for Hoover's only score of the game.

"We played well," said Clark after the game. "This game showed why they are league champions. They earned it."

Now at the end of a compressed schedule, Crescenta Valley has just three more matches in league play. Clark anticipates that their next game against Pasadena will be their toughest remaining match.

"They are a good team, and we can't look past them," he said. "Plus, it's our last home game of the season so it means a lot to the seniors on the team."

The Falcons face Pasadena High School on Friday at 3:15 p.m. at Crescenta Valley.

Girls Basketball Still Struggling in League

The Lady Falcons' basketball team was 12-10 overall and 4-6 in Pacific League play heading into Wednesday night's game at Hoover. CV beat Hoover 65-28 on Jan. 11. The team suffered a tough loss last Friday at home to Burbank, 43-42.

Against the Bulldogs, it was a game of runs early on. CV led 6-2 before Burbank pushed ahead 14-8. The Falcons tied it at 17. Burbank led 22-21 at halftime.

The Falcons had 7-2 surge in the third to build a five point lead, 34-29. Guard Catherine Davis led the way, scoring four of the five points on free throws. Center Samira Seraji left the quarter with 3:52 remaining due to foul trouble, thus affecting Falcons offense.

"Our offense bogged down," said Coach Jason Perez.

Both teams went on a scoring drought at the beginning of the final quarter. Burbank's Damarie Gonzalez made a three-point play, scoring a basket along with free throw with 6:36 remaining for a 37-34 Bulldogs lead.

It came down to the final seconds. Davis hit a 3-pointer for a 40-39 CV lead. The Bulldogs responded with a two pointer by Gonzalez to regain the lead, before CV's Ella Stepanian made two free throws.

But then Davis was called for a foul on the baseline trying to defend Gonzalez, who made the free throws with seven seconds remaining, and the Falcons couldn't score on the next possession, losing 43-42.

Perez was upset at the call on Davis after the game.

"They come out and play their hardest only to lose on a blocking foul on the baseline behind the basket," said Perez with anger.

He continued, "It's a questionable call, such a bad way to lose."

CV hosts Pasadena on Friday and Muir on Tuesday. Both of those teams beat the Falcons in January. CV was sixth in the league standings as of Wednesday.



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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Local Science Teacher **Receives Fellowship**

By Brandon HENSLEY

nly one word came to Susan Gendreau's mind when she heard she had received a fellowship from the New Science and Teacher Academy.

"Wow," she said.

Indeed, given the numbers, it is quite an accomplishment for Gendreau, a La Crescenta resident who teaches chemistry Environmental Science at and Technology school in Los Angeles.

Gendreau was one of about 600 people who applied last summer. In California, 39 teachers were chosen and 215 were selected nationwide.

"It was a long shot, I really didn't expect to," she said. "I know there were many applicants for these things. I feel extremely fortunate."

The academy was created in 2007, aimed specifically at second and third-year science teachers in middle and high school and gives them professional development and support, according to program director Damaries Blondonville.

"Some of the most difficult years of their profession are usually the first couple of years," said Blondonville.

fellowship sponsored by DOW. Blondonville said the amount of fellowships given annually depends on the funding, and DOW is one of the greatest contributors to the academy.

This is Gendreau's first year teaching at ESAT after spending time at Crescenta Valley High. She is the only chemistry teacher at her school, and the fellowship has given her a chance to be a part of an online community of experienced teachers. She talks with mentors who suggest new things via web seminars to try in her classroom, and they can track how well they work.

Funding is also provided for her to attend the academy's national convention in Indianapolis in March. She's already enrolled in a program at the convention to learn how to improve.

"It's making me a more effective teacher," she said.

Blondonville said the academy seriously looked at applicants who "really showed a commitment to teaching - those who had a focus on their own professional development and growth as an instructor."

Blondonville noted the effort it takes to be a part of the NSTA. "[Susan] is giving up a lot of

her own personal time because Gendreau will receive the not only is she doing the things



that we require, she still has to go on be the teacher in a classroom."

ESAT is a college preparatory school and Gendreau estimates 96% of the student body is Latino. Students come in from Lincoln Heights and Watts.

Schools like these provide the only opportunity for them to go to college, said Gendreau.

"They know if they graduate they will be able to get into a four-year college," she said. "Our school is their shot. We take that very seriously."

That is why Gendreau decided to apply for the fellowship, to be better for the kids.

"The fellowship has been very helpful. I'm learning things and the emotional support it provides is very good, too," she said.











Board Installed, Awards Presented at Dinner

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

The Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce held its annual installation and community awards dinner on Jan. 26.

Held at the Angeles National Golf Club, the event was an opportunity to introduce the chamber's incoming officers and directors while acknowledging the work done for the community by civic leaders.

his father's attitude of, "I try my best every day, every year"; Harriet Hammons was recognized for her ongoing devotion to Oktoberfest, the Boy Scouts and other organizations.

Newcomer Giuseppe's Pizza was celebrated as Business of theYear for its active participation in the community; the CV Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition was recognized as Organization of the Year; Dr. Michele Doll, principal of CV High School, was named Educator of the Year with presenter Naviri Nahabedian of the GUSD noting that "good schools equal good communities," and commending Doll on her contributions. JR Ruiz of the CV Sheriffs was bestowed with the inaugural In the Line of Duty award; the recently opened Trader Joe's in Montrose received the Beautification Award and the owners of the revamped Vons Center in Montrose were presented with the Community Enhancement award. Kate Bernier presented long time volunteer Chris Waldheim with the Oktoberfest Volunteer Award, saying that Waldheim gives "selflessly" and "makes Oktoberfest the best it could be." Recently retired GPD Lt. Ian Grimes was recognized as Peace Officer of the Year and the President's Award was given to Joe Allen.

Frank The prestigious Roberts Award was given to CV Weekly reporter Mary O'Keefe for her tireless efforts in donating time to the community including her work with Prom Plus, the Firehouse and the CV Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition.

O'Keefe received a standing ovation for her work.

The passing of the gavel of president was a quick exchange - from the left hand of Scott Trulik to his right as he undertook the duties for a second year.

City of Glendale Mayor Laura Friedman administered the oath to the new officers and directors (for a complete listing, visit www.cvweekly.com and click on Between Friends).

Several local leaders and organizations were recognized their work for for the betterment of the community. These included Volunteer of the Year Robbyn Battles for her work with the CV Town Council and ASTER; Montrose Bakery owner Henry Baeza, honored as Business Person of the Year and whose son, Michael, accepted the award on his behalf noting

For more photos, visit www. cvweekly.com and click on Between Friends.

Photos by Molly SHELTON 1: The newly installed board of directors for the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce. 2: MVCOC CEO Joe Allen, left, with President Scott Trulik. 3: Mike Perry introduced Volunteer of the Year Robbyn Battles. 4: Former MVCOC president Jane Kane, right, with awardee Harriet Hammons. 5: CV Sheriff's Capt. Dave Silversparre, left, asked GPD Chief Ron De Pompa to join him in presenting Dep. JR Ruiz with the In the Line of Duty award. 6: Chris Waldheim was lauded by Kate Bernier who presented him with the Oktoberfest Volunteer of the Year award. 7: CV Weekly reporter Mary O'Keefe, left, was chosen as the recipient of the Frank Roberts Award, presented by Robin Goldsworthy.

Ask Phyllis!

Questions About Today's **Real Estate?**

Selling Short – What is the first step?

Dear Phyllis,

In 2007 we bought our first home and currently owe at least \$100,000 over our loan balance. My husband and I are getting divorced and neither of us can afford to keep this house. We have decided to sell via a short sale. My question is whether we should first contact the bank or a real estate agent about selling?

- Moving On

Dear Moving On,

You indicate that neither of you can afford to keep the home, but if one of you would like to remain there, a loan modification may be a solution. Have either of you contacted your lender regarding this possibility? In some instances your lender might reduce your principal balance or lower your

mortgage payment.

Short sales be can complicated and extremely time consuming. After discussing tax implications with anv your accountant, you should contact a local real estate agent experienced in short sales. In addition to the listing contract, your Realtor® should have you sign an Authorization to Receive and Convey Information. This form gives your Realtor® written approval for your lender to communicate with him/her.

Your real estate agent will contact the lender on your behalf and start the short sale process. Typically most lenders will not agree to a short sale until a written offer is received. At some point after the lender reviews the offer (or offers), a Broker's

Price Opinion (BPO) will be ordered. The BPO is completed by an independent real estate agent (not affiliated with this transaction) who provides a written estimate of a value. The lender may or may not hire an appraiser.

Once the lender receives the BPO and a closing cost estimate from escrow, they are ready to move toward the short sale approval process. Expect it to be time consuming but an experienced real estate professional can help streamline the process.

Phyllis Harb is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty. She may be contacted at (818) 790-7325 or by email AskPhyllis@RealtorHarb.com.

BETWEEN FRIENDS

People Making News

Springfield College has named Chantalle Abdelkerim of La Cañada to the dean's list for academic excellence for the fall 2011 term. Abdelkerim is studying health science/occupational therapy.

Jason Trueblood of La Cañada Flintridge was named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. To receive this honor, a student must achieve a 3.6 grade average, based on a 4.0 scale.

Natalie Sherif of La Cañada has been placed on the Gettysburg College dean's honor list for outstanding academic achievement in fall 2011.

Students with a quality point average of 3.60 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) for a semester's work are placed on the college's dean's honor list.

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Matthew Cannata of La Cañada has been named to its dean's list for fall 2011.

The Allen Lund Company has been awarded Truck Load Carrier of the Year by Berry Plastics Corporation for the second consecutive year.

Berry Plastics Corp. and the Charlotte office of the Allen Lund Company have been working closely together since 2001.

LC Republican Women Host Luncheon

On Thursday, Jan. 12, the La Crescenta Republican Women gathered for lunch at the La Cañada Country Club to hear guest speakers Tamara Colbert and Deborah Flora. They are launching the organization American Women Media.

Flora has been in the entertainment industry for 20 years as a producer with a degree in theatre. As Miss Colorado and second runner-up to Miss America, she spoke and performed extensively around the world and continues to speak across the United States. Flora and her husband Jonathan, who is an award-winning producer with The Walt Disney Company, is a movie director and a veteran of the 82nd Airborne.

Colbert has nearly 20 years of experience in public relations and production. She has worked in 70 countries around the world as a public relations executive, free-lance



Photo provided by Danette ERICKSON From left are president Mary Owens, Deborah Flora and speaking is Tamara Colbert.

news and documentary producer. This international experience has provided her with a wider, global perspective in business, news, political and community relations.

Additionally, Colbert helped found and organize the Pasadena Patriots Tea Party Organization and was actively involved in her husband John's Congressional campaign.

President Mary Owens and program Vice President Debi Devens introduced the dynamic ladies who inspired attendees with their enthusiasm.



Dvorák: Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Op. 70

Gershwin fused jazz with symphonic music to create one of the world's most popular piano works. Dvorák's genius was to shape the boisterous beauty of the Czech village into music for a virtuoso orchestra with a finale that may well be the most exciting in all of classical music. Don't miss this thrilling concert!

February 12 • Sunday • 4PM

Occidental College • Thorne Hall • 1600 Campus Road • Eagle Rock Tickets \$26, \$20, \$7 (youth)

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Crescenta-Cañada Family YMCA - 1930 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada CA 91011

LEISURE

Pacific Serenades Inaugurates 26th Season

By Ted AYALA

Pacific Serenades, one of Southern California's finest chamber music ensembles, opened its 26th season last week with four concerts devoted to the music of Ravel, Beethoven and local composer Laura Karpman. One of the most appealing facets of Pacific Serenades' concerts – something that has surely ensured this organization's continued good health – is its organizers' understanding of Los Angeles' multipolar orientation.

Whereas most musical organizations are tethered to a single area or hall, the Pacific Serenaders find a home for their music-making all across the city: from the shores of the South Bay to the foothills of Altadena.

Their concert on Sunday at Pasadena's Neighborhood Church – the second of this season's four inaugural concerts – proved to be a sheer delight, providing another vibrant testament to the richness of the musical culture in Los Angeles.

Violinist Movses Pogossian and cellist David Speltz led the proceedings with a revelatory account of Maurice Ravel's thorny "Sonata for Violin and Cello" from 1920-1922. To those reared on "Daphnis et Chloë" and the "Pavane for a Dead Princess," Ravel's sonata may come as an acidulous surprise. Often harshly dissonant and peppered throughout with Hungarian folk scales and a dash of Schoenberg for flavor, the work represents an important transition from the opulence of his earlier work to the austerity of his final pieces. A tough musical nut for the listener to crack, to be sure, but an unreservedly delightful one in the hands of Pogossian and Speltz.

Unfurling with wild-eyed freedom and abandon, Pogossian and Speltz succeeded by digging into every dissonance, relishing the sonata's alternating meters, refusing to



Musicians Brian Dembow (viola), Connie Kupka (2nd violin), David Speltz (cello), and Movses Pogossian after Pacific Serenades' Jan. 29 concert in Pasadena. constrain it or reign in its often an array of iPhones and iPads, all

savage beauty. And beauty most certainly abounded here, most memorably in

the desolate third movement, which in its climax finds Ravel prefiguring by 20 years the Shostakovich of the "Piano Trio No. 2." A joyful revelation; had the recital consisted of this performance alone it would still have been worth the price of admission. It's moments like these that one lives for as a concert listener.

Fortunately for the audience, Pacific Serenades didn't stop there.

Closing the first half of the program was the world premiere of a piece commissioned by Pacific Serenades-"Different Lanes"-from local composer Laura Karpman.

"Part of Pacific Serenades' mission is to examine life in Southern California," said Karpman in a brief speech that prefaced the playing of her piece. To that end she mined two of Los Angeles' most iconic symbols for inspiration: its sprawling web of freeways and the legacy of its classic Hollywood era.

Composed for string quartet (violinist Connie Kupka and violist Brian Dembow joined Pogossian and Speltz here), "Different Lanes" also incorporated the use of prerecorded traffic sounds, and in a particularly contemporary touch, an array of iPhones and iPads, all of them displaying to the audience a panoply of moving images of traffic and freeways.

"I wanted to create a multimedia experience no bigger than the quartet," she explained. "I didn't want it to overwhelm."

It was a curiosity, but one not altogether successful, as the use of such small devices made it difficult for members of the audience seated farther away to view them without resorting to squinting or wishing for a stronger prescription for their glasses. Nonetheless, the music is the thing here and it was there where Karpman succeeded.

Conjuring up a frenetic nighttime car chase down the winding and narrow stretches of the northern 110 Freeway, Karpman's suite begins with the driving (no pun intended), fandango rhythm of Bernard Herrmann's music for Alfred Hitchcock's "North by Northwest." Homages to the 105, 90, 405 and even to the recent "Carmageddon" weekend jostled past each other – all with a deep tip of the hat to Herrmann. Not profound music, but all of it very enjoyable. About as fun as taking a summer evening drive down PCH in a convertible with the top down – and without having to worry whether there's a CHP officer

see SERENADES on next page

"Major Triad": Synchromy, Symbiosis, and Music on Argyle

By Ted AYALA

Above the main streets of Hollywood, where cars driven by Friday night club and bar hoppers crowded the streets, stereo systems thumping top 40 radio, music of another sort lured music lovers up the wending streets looming over the Hollywood skyline. A program of new music from local composers was held last Friday night at the Russian Hall on Argyle Street.

Three of the Los Angeles area's most dynamic classical music groups – the young Los Angeles composers' collective, Synchromy; the Symbiosis Chamber Orchestra and Music on Argyle – met up in a musical collaboration that celebrated the dynamism and diversity of the region's new music scene.

How diverse? Try the works that bookended the program's first half for starters.

Vera Ivanova's "Four Variations for Two" led the evening with music that explored the extreme registers of the flute, weaving a delicate interplay with a small battery of percussion that accompanied and paired it. Or them, rather, as Ivanova instructed her flautist to switch from the standard flute to piccolo and alto flute by turns. The sonorities coaxed were at once refined and primitive, glimmering like broken shards of glass in sunlight. Long held tones, flutter-tonguing and pitch bending were just some of the weapons in Ivanova's arsenal, one which flautist Johanna Borenstein and percussionist Yuri Inoo dispatched with sureness and control.

On the other end you had the first movement of George N. Gianopoulos' "String Quintet," an affectionate and wryly witty homage to the Viennese waltz.

Bubbling away with a disarming amiability, the music's likeability belies the sophistication of Gianopoulos' voice. This is a composer with an unerring ear for taking the old and refashioning it into something fresh and new, juggling musical tradition and contemporary sensibility with acrobatic finesse. The members of Symbiosis here - Stirling Trent (1st violin), Mishkar Nuñez-Mejia (2nd violin), Bryan Gonzales (viola), Lars Hoefs (1st cello) and Joo Lee (2nd cello) - clearly agreed, their delight palpable in every bar.

Sandwiched in between were works by Jason Barabba and a sly musical miniature – "Tiny Machine Designed to Make Altocumulus Clouds" – reminiscent of Josef Matthias Hauer by Nick Gordon. Too miniature, perhaps, because at barely over a minute, this tasty aperitif whets the appetite for a main course that never arrives. Can we hope for something more substantial at the next concert?

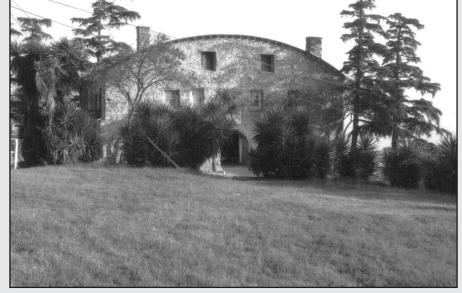
Barabba's work, "a declarative sentence whose message is that we must try harder," found its inspiration in the poetry of hipster icon Tao Lin, though the composer took pains to inform his audience that the work was merely an "impression" of Tao Lin's poetry, not a straight setting.

Employing moments of controlled chance in the manner of Witold Lutoslawski's music, Barabba's work was a searching piece that took the seemingly bass heavy combination of viola, cello and double bass, and wrought from them beautifully prismatic colors. Alternating between serenity and severity, the piece duly impressed, emerging as some of Barabbas' best work to date; an intriguingly moody work that stands in sharp

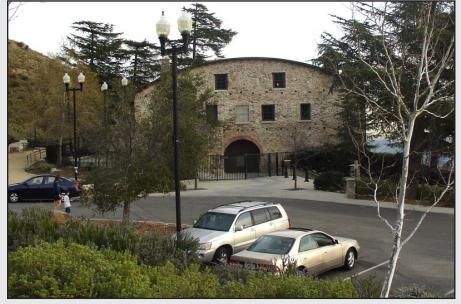
see SYNCHROMY on next page

THEN & NOW I Deukmejian Park

Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then » This was the appearance of the Intervalley Ranch when the City of Glendale bought the land in 1989. It had been slated for a massive housing development, but due to community pressure the City bought the land, including the historic barn, for open space. Then California Governor George Deukmejian supplied critical funding for the purchase and so the park was named for him.



Now » In stages over the years, the small portion of the park below the canyon has been reconfigured to include parking, restrooms, picnic areas and a historic demonstration vineyard. The last stage of the park, still awaiting funding, will be the opening of an interpretive center in the stone barn. This park is truly a gem in the Glendale Park system.

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LEISURE

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SERENADES from previous page

to pounce on you with a speeding ticket.

Seriousness came with a capital "S" at the program's close. Or rather with a capital "B" - as in for Beethoven. Pacific Serenades played the third of his "Opus 18" string quartets, one of his initial volleys into a genre that he would eventually leave as deep an imprint as he did with the genre of symphony and piano sonata.

"Musicians are trained to make beautiful sounds

lurking nearby just itching and left to their own devices that's all they'll do," opined Ian MacDonald. It certainly is true of the way Beethoven (and much music in general) seems to be approached today. Cosmetically immaculate while leaving the listener curiously unmoved, a lot of contemporary performances of music appear to be more concerned with exterior gloss at the expense of spiritual depth. Not so with this performance.

The Pacific Serenaders played with a fire and

sinew that would have surely pleased the Master himself. Lovingly molded one moment, laying full force into Beethoven's ham-fisted wit, with its heavy downbeats and jabbing sforzandi, the next. In short, a world-class demonstration of brilliant technique and intelligent musicianship.

In case you needed further confirmation, Pacific Serenades is further proof that local classical music lovers enjoy a spoil of riches in Los Angeles.

SYNCHROMY from previous page

contrast to the absurd humor that informs much of his music. The second half of the program was also a superb study of contrasts and musical diversity, with the opening work as grim as the closing was

jaunty. Continuing the poetic inspiration was "Years" by Damjan Rakonjac, a setting for voice and small instrumental ensemble of an eponymous poem by Sylvia Plath. Though the instrumental music captured the ear's attention, the setting for voice remained curiously sullen. Soprano Roksana Rakonjac acquitted herself admirably, though one wished for more body and firmness in her top register, which tended to hoot and thin out. The music seems to demand a bigger voice, so a future hearing with a heftier voiced singer may well reveal the true stature of this work.

Daniel Gall's playful chamber suite landed the program back home by way of his "Songs of L. A. Life" for a quartet of flute, clarinet, viola and cello (played by Amy Tatum, Andy Leonard, Bryan Gonzalez, and Lars Hoefs respectively).

After the concert, Gall mentioned how the music, in particular the central "In My Dark Corner" movement, was an expression of his "dark

side." If anything resembling existential anguish were lurking in this music, it bypassed these ears completely. This was radiant, life affirming music where the shadows of melancholy occasionally shadowed the landscape, but never pose a dire threat.

The influence of swing and cabaret music heavily marked the finale, "And The Stars Come Out To Play," though the music ends with an unexpectedly poignant air of quiet resignation.

A triumph from this very gifted composer - one that intrepid chamber ensembles on the hunt for fresh repertoire should seize upon immediately.





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JUST FOR FUN



For Better or For Worse by Lynn Johnston



WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

Provided by horoscope.com January 30, 2011 - February 05, 2012

A ARIES March 21 - April 19

You're enjoying networking and making new friends as well as helping out in groups. The cosmos encourages you to join online forums and connect. Venus opposes Mars in Virgo, so mind that you aren't selling your soul to someone for little return. Neptune quietly moves into Pisces and your spiritual zone on Friday, turning you into a modern-day mystic. Your psychic abilities and intuition grow stronger. You'll also discover that imagination can create reality if you know how to use it.

B TAURUS April 20 - May 20

The Taurus Moon on Monday means you can ask for what you want with a greater likelihood of getting it. Go for it even if you've been refused before. Venus opposes Mars, which can coincide with ego conflicts combined with a powerful desire to get what you want. If you fall in love, you may get more than you bargained for. Neptune's move to Pisces and your social zone suggests you'll be involved with spiritual and creative friends. Trv to avoid obvious losers.

C GEMINI May 21 - June 20

Mars is retrograde in Virgo, so you may have to put time and energy into resolving family matters or sorting out issues associated with property. If you're drowning in junk, this is the time to clear it out - every last bit. Venus opposes Mars midweek, so career success goes hand in hand with getting your house in order. The exciting news is that Neptune moves to your career zone to help you thrive in creative environments. You need goals to keep you grounded.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

Saturn teeters on the edge of Libra, but isn't done there yet. You've been feeling less burdened and much happier in your home environment. You're doing better for much of this year and it shows. Venus opposes Mars, suggesting that a strong attraction could shake up your world and upset routines. It could be a blast from the past. Neptune glides into Pisces and your Ninth House, encouraging you to enjoy exploring the world of dreams, spirits, and mysticism.

E LEO July 23 - August 22

Your perception of your relationship is due for change as Neptune moves out of Aquarius and into Pisces. Trying to understand your lover and make sense of your love life has been like walking through a hall of mirrors. Everything has been distorted much of the time. You're about to see things as they are and it could be a revelation. Meanwhile, the Sun and Mercury encourage conversation, humor, and doing crazy, heartwarming things.

G LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Your creative zone is the part of your chart where love affairs begin and artistic tendencies appear. Neptune enters Pisces and brings a whole new vibration to your lifestyle and related issues. This means you'll have greater awareness when choosing whom to date, and you won't be so easily sucked into a sob story. As Pisces is a very plastic sign, make sure you think about what you want rather than what you don't.

H SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Home and family life are in focus this week. You may be visiting family or having them to stay. The Sun and Mercury in Aquarius encourage you to think ahead about ways you can invest in your property and make it homier. Perhaps get the advice of a feng shui expert. Neptune moves out of Aquarius and into Pisces, so you'll become more creative as a way to express your deeper purpose and spiritual nature. Your love life becomes more mysterious than ever.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

If your career progress just stalled, it could be due to Mars retrograde. You may have to rethink some of your more ambitious goals and the dates by which you wanted to reach them. Did you forget to check important details? The advice is don't rush. Take your time and do the job well. On Friday Neptune enters your home zone to stay for many years. You may yearn to live by the sea. Keep a cautious eye on your plumbing.

J CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

As Mars is now retrograde, you may have to backtrack and learn something you thought you'd mastered. Maybe there are new techniques and principles involved that you have to understand. Don't ignore this, as you'll benefit by going through it again. You may have to postpone a trip. Perhaps the timing wasn't right. Neptune enters Pisces, making your imagination more vivid. Think about good things, as they will then appear in your life.

K AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

The Sun and Mercury in your sign encourage you to share your essential essence with the world. Be your natural self and spread your message everywhere. Your finances are in focus but with Mars retrograde in your joint financial zone, be careful how much you borrow and watch your use of credit cards. Don't give money to a lost cause midweek. Neptune enters your money zone on Friday, encouraging you to see the source of your wealth as purely spiritual.



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F VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Mars retrograde in your sign could cause delays to your best-laid plans. You may have to backtrack or tread water as life teaches you the meaning of patience. There could be conflict between you and your lover midweek, but nothing you can't resolve with humility and sensitivity. As Neptune enters Pisces and your relationship zone, where it will be for many years, use your imagination to enhance your love life in all ways. Expect only the best!

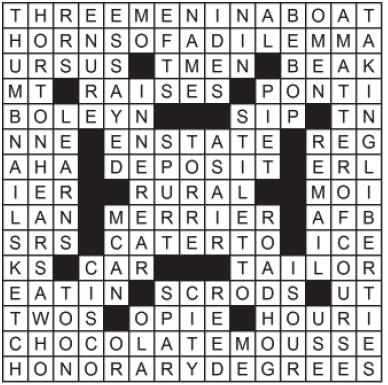
. PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

This is a big week for you. Neptune enters your sign to stay for many years. You're going to become a mega-Pisces, as all your attributes will become larger than life. Because the energy of this placement is so plastic, it's important that you maintain healthy boundaries and use your imagination in positive and upbeat ways. What you persist in thinking can actually happen, so put your focus on your brightest dreams and goals and make them happen.

JUST FOR FUN

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ANSWERS from 01/26/2012



Across

1. 1889 Jerome K. Jerome comedy novel **16.** Undesirable alternatives 17. Bear, in old Rome 18. Some feds 19. Bill **20.** See note **21.** Office rewards 23. Carlo who married Sophia Loren **24.** Anne who married Henry VIII 26. Not guzzle 27. See note 28. New Orleans-to-Indianapolis dir. 29. Put into office: Var. 33. Gas pump abbr. 34. Cry interrupting a prank 35. Bank book entry **36.** Schubert's "The King" **37.** Comparative suffix **38.** Like a certain route **39.** "You mean me?" 40. Telecom setup 41. More, it's sometimes said



Date:

First Name:

43. Langley, e.g.: Abbr. 9. Time of danger **44.** Yearbook div. 45. Indulge **46.** Something with this is not neat **47.** See note **48.** Game piece in Hasbro's The Game of Life **49.** One who knows what's suitable? 51. Alternative to "take out" 53. Young haddocks 56. See note 57. Jefferson bills 58. Classic TV role for Ronny Howard 59. Beautiful woman of paradise **61.** Dessert not for the calorie-conscious 64. Some awards for accomplishment Down 1. Outline

2. Whence the line "A person's a person, no matter how small" 3. Purview of the I.C.C. 4. Accustom (to) 5. Made an effort 6. See note 7. Certain newts 8. Finger

10. "Delta of Venus" author 11. See note 12. Swing alternative 13. Warning sign

14. Something customary 15. Pushing beyond proper limits 22. Superior canal locale 23. Painter Mondrian **25.** Overhears, perhaps 26. Heel style **30.** Short burst **31.** Joe who was twice A.L. Manager of the Year **32.** Light

33. Forward 41. Footwear giant Thom

42. One who won't move over 48. 1973 War hit "The Kid' 50. "God refuge" (start of Psalm 46) 52. Pixar drawing

53. Not really fight 54. Part of a mileage rating **55.** Shoot in a swamp 58. Pay extender? 60. Service 62. See note 63. See note

Subscribe to the Crescenta Valley Weekly!

CALENDAR this

KERTES, HUMPHRIES HOLDING EXHIBIT

The Michael Humphries Gallery will present the original paintings of Michael Humphries and Trish Kertes in an exhibit entitled "Heart and Soul."

The exhibit runs from Feb. 4 through March 24. A reception for the artists will be held on Feb. 4 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Sunday and Monday.

The Michael Humphries Gallery is located at 829 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada.

ATTENTION MUSIC LOVERS

Dr. Ted Stern, professor of music at Glendale Community College, is again conducting a series of off-campus music appreciation classes for adults in the community. This ongoing series is for musicians and non-musicians alike. This semester will cover the topic "Popular Music Before the 20th Century."

Each semester offers new and interesting information. Dr. Stern weaves music examples with cultural history to increase the listener's understanding of the evolution of music. Classes are held at the Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church in Montrose. The weekly series of classes continues through Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and each Tuesday thereafter through May 29. The cost of the 14-week series is \$90. Everyone is welcome! For more information call Dianne at (818) 445-2390.

Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church is located at 2700 Montrose Ave. in Montrose.

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION NEWS

Verdugo Hills Art Association presents a watercolor demonstration by Ted Nuttall.

Nuttall is a signature member of the American Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Watercolor West and Western Federation of Watercolor Societies. He teaches watercolor workshops in portraiture and figure painting for arts leagues and organizations throughout the world. His workshops and private classes have been enjoyed by many who have benefited from his personal and insightful instruction.

The Verdugo Hills Art Assn. next meets at the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge, 4469 Chevy Chase Drive, La Canada Flintridge on Friday, Feb. 3 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The price is \$5 for guests.

members to promote their own businesses.

The luncheon/seminar cost is \$25 extended to Jan. 31. For questions and reservations, contact Lynn White-Shelby at lynnws@msn.com.

Glendale Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado, Glendale

TEAM HILLSIDE HOSTING E-WASTE FUNDRAISER

Foothills Relay for Life - Team Hillside will be holding an e-waste fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 4 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hillside School.

Hillside School and Learning Center will be offering complete electronic waste destruction and recycling services for a fundraiser for Team Hillside. One hundred percent of the proceeds will benefit Team Hillside's Relay for Life team that is sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

The following items are acceptable for destruction and recycling:

CPUs, laptops, hard drives, monitors, printers, fax machines, cellphones, pagers/PDAs, network equipment, circuit boards, cables, floppies, video cassettes, transistors, televisions, keyboards, DVDs/CDs, telecom equipment, DAT or CRT tapes, microcassettes, memory.

Hillside School is located at 4331 Oak Grove Dr., La Cañada.

Y OFFERS SENIOR SUPPORT EVENTS

The Crescenta-Cañada Family YMCA is hosting several events and support groups for seniors during the month of February.

Feb. 8 – Local chiropractor Mark Anthony will present the lecture "How to be Happy and Healthy Until You're 100." This lecture is free and open to the community. The event is at noon. Feb. 17 – The Socal Movement Disorder Society will be hosting another Parkinson's support group at the Y at 11 a.m. There will be a special guest presenter at this meeting. The Parkinson's Support Group meets monthly at the Y and is free for the community.

Feb. 22 – The Neuropathy Support Group will be meeting at the Y at 1p.m. There will be a special guest presenter at this meeting. This group meets monthly and is free for the community.

For more information on Senior Events, contact Nancy Turney at (818) 790-0123, ext. 225.

MONEY TALK SUBJECT OF PASADENA WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Pasadena Women's Connection invites everyone to the "Who Win\$ the Race? Will Your Money Outlive You?" luncheon and program on Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Altadena Country Club. Keegan J. Tanghe, financial planner, will tell how to make important life decisions necessary to get not only to retirement but through it. Angela Alexander, former member of the U.S. Air Force, author and inspirational speaker explains how she was able to turn pain into power and grief into peace in her talk "Love Letters."

Memorial Hospital. She received her MD at USC and her BS in Biochemistry at UCLA and did her residency at the Mavo clinic in Rochester, Minn. She will speak on scientific facts about the effects of habits and exercise on women's heart health. She will inform on the latest guidelines from the American Heart Association on how to encourage women to better care for their own heart. Luncheon is \$25. Call (818) 246-9457 before Feb. 8 for a reservation.

Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive, Glendale

HISTORY OF WINEMAKING IN LOS ANGELES

Whether the grapes were grown locally or shipped in from a grape growing region outside the city, the history of winemaking in Los Angeles goes back several generations and is part of the fabric of the culture of the foothills. Speaking on this subject at the next meeting of the Little Landers Society is Stuart Byles.

Byles is the director of the Le Mesnager Barn (also known as the Stone Barn) at the top of Dunsmore Avenue in La Crescenta and is Vice President of the Crescenta Valley Historical Society. Wine is still being made at the old stone barn, and in fact, they are on their fifth vintage. Please join us for this interesting and informative program.

This program is free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome. It takes place on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 1 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum in Tujunga.

Parking is available a few doors uphill at the Elks Lodge.

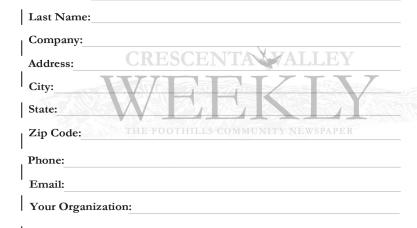
Visit the website at www. LittleLandersHistoricalSociety.org.

Additional information is available from Regina Clark or Christina Whelan at the Little Landers Historical Society, (818) 352-3420 or littlelanders@ verizon.net.

Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga

ORCHID SOCIETY OF SO CAL STARTS CULTIVATION SERIES

The first in a series of short talks on orchid cultivation will be given at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13 at the next regular meeting of the Orchid Society of Southern California in the meeting hall of the First Christian Church, 221 S. Sixth St. in Burbank. The topic will be "The Importance of Light," and it will be presented by veteran orchid grower and American Orchid Society judge Doug Overstreet of Nature's Bounty Orchids. The evening's featured speaker, starting at 7:30 p.m., will be AOS judge and expert Cymbidium grower and hybridizer George Hatfield of Hatfield Orchids. Hatfield will be speaking about "Cymbidium Species and their Contributions to Modern Day Hybridizing." Topping out the night will be judging of members' orchids and a raffle of quality orchids. Visitors are always invited to attend OSSC meetings for free. Additional information on the speakers' backgrounds and the OSSC in general can be found at www.orchidssc.org.



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BUSINESS WOMEN HOST EXPO

Verdugo Glen Chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) is hosting its first Heart of Business Expo" on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Glendale Elks Lodge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event begins with networking and shopping with exhibitors such as Gigi Hill Handbags, Party Lite Gifts and Silpada Jewelry followed by the opening presentation by Linda LoRe, president and CEO Catalyst9 and former president and CEO of Frederick's of Hollywood.

During lunch, attendees will have a choice from three "Lunch with the Experts" seminars presented by Jenn August (marketing your business), Katy Tafoya (using social media in business) or Robbie Motter (business networking).

ABWA Verdugo Glen is hosting this event is to provide networking between area organizations and businesswomen and to assist their

Tickets are \$23. For reservations or information call Darlene (818) 353-2212 or Carole (818) 790-1907.

Altadena Country Club, 2290 Country Club Drive, Altadena

HEART HEALTH SUBJECT OF FEB MEETING

American Association of University Women will host Dr. Marineh Yagubyan at its Feb. 11 branch meeting at the Oakmont Country Club, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. brunch. Dr. Yagubyan is the director of the women's Heart Disease Program at Glendale

NOON CONCERTS OPEN TO PUBLIC

Glendale Noon Concerts is a free admission concert series taking place every first and third Wednesday from 12:10-12:40 p.m. in the restored chapel and sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Glendale (downtown at Louise & Wilson, no religious affiliation).

The next concert is on Feb. 15. AllDayNight is a musical journey of original instrumental music and songs in English & French with Adriana Zoppo - violin.

RELIGION

NOTES & NODS

Messy Church at St. Luke's

Messy Church: Intergenerational Creative Worship takes place at St. Luke's of the Mountains on Friday, Feb. 3. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. The church provides the main dish. Attendees can bring a side or dessert.

Meet in the Firehouse at 2563 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta.

Also, the next knitting group meets on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. at the church.

'I AM' at Center for Spiritual Living

The Center for Spiritual Living is "I AM" on Friday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. A love donation will be collected.

"I AM" is an engaging and entertaining non-fiction film that poses two practical and provocative questions: What's wrong with our world? And "What can we do to make it better?" The filmmaker behind the inquiry is Tom Shadyac, one of Hollywood's leading comedy practitioners and the creative force behind such blockbusters as "Ace Ventura," "Liar Liar," "The Nutty Professor," and "Bruce Almighty." However, in "I AM," Shadyac steps in front of the camera to recount what happened to him after a cycling accident left him incapacitated, possibly for good. Though he ultimately recovered, he emerged with a new sense of purpose, determined to share his own awakening to his prior life of excess and greed, and to investigate how he as an individual, and we as a race, could improve the way we live and walk in the world.

All are invited to the screening. Center for Spiritual Living

Center for Spiritual Living, 4845 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta

Scouts Welcomed this Sunday

Scout Sunday is this Sunday at Holy Redeemer Church in Montrose. All troops are welcome at 10 a.m. Mass. A school open house follows from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. that includes a barbeque lunch for all who stop by

to visit.

Come and see Smart board technology in use, science projects and special programs will all be featured.

For more information, contact Principal Susan Romero (818) 541-9005.

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 2411 Montrose Ave., Montrose

Tuesday Table Talk

On Tuesday, Feb. 7, Bethel Church will offer a showing of the film "The Grace Card" preceded by a potluck supper. The potluck starts at 6:30 p.m.; the video starts at 7:15 p.m. followed by dessert and discussion at about 9 p.m.

After his son's death, embittered police officer Mac McDonald loses faith in God and himself, but his new partner, part-time pastor Sam Wright, offers him friendship and sets him on the path to grace and redemption in this stirring Christian drama. Free.

For more information, call (818) 767-4488. Bethel Church, 10725 Penrose St., Sun Valley

New Men's Ministry at La Cres Pres

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church is launching a new men's ministry on Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. in the church chapel. The new ministry is open to men of all ages and will be led by a trio of leaders including Lee Cook, director of Spiritual Formation, Phil Van Horn, a national sports consultant and Pete McKenzie, a notable leader of men's ministry groups in Orange County.

The mission of this new group is to reach men for Christ, impact marriages and families, and support the church's spiritual and financial leadership.

For more information, contact the church office at (818) 249-6137 or online at www. lcpc.net.

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church is located at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta.

Temple Sinai Goes Green

By Leonard COUTIN

Sunday, On families and friends of Glendale's Temple Sinai congregation, numbering over 150 strong, dedication attended а ceremony to honor the completion of solar panels that were installed in December and January by the Moore Solar Company. The event hosted representatives from the office of Assemblyman Mike Gatto, Senator Carol Liu, Mike Antonovich and Senator Barbara Boxer. Jason Moss, executive director of the Jewish Federation of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, and Rabbi Linda Bertenthal, Congressional representative of the Union for Reform

Judaism, were also there to join the celebration. The program started with the song, "Or Zarua" led by Cantor Steve Hummel.

Rabbi Richard Schechter welcomed the audience to the historic occasion. Jan Freed, the member with a vision that brought solar to Temple Sinai, was first to be thanked. "His vision, his

commitment and his hard work is bringing this vision to life," said the Rabbi who also praised the members of the congregation, the children who donated their weekly tzedakah money, the parents and families that had already contributed to the solar fund, and to Moore Solar and the



committee that made the the el

event happen. Schechter addressed the need for solar. "[This is] true environment sustainability," he said. "This act will help reduce our energy consumption and lower our carbon omissions. Judaism and Temple Sinai are committed to this primary value of 'tikkun olamo,' repairing and improving our world."

He added a quote from Margaret Mead that further illustrated the power of the Temple Sinai congregation: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens could change the world."

The 125 solar panels is a 30 KW DC photovoltaic system that will help to defer growing energy costs for the next 30 to 40 years and provide the temple with a stable energy cost that will add to their savings. It is expected to fulfill between 31% to 34% of

the electric needs of Temple Sinai of Glendale (TSG). The annual production is about 40,000-45,000 KWh. Last

year TSG used approximately

104,320 KWh of electricity. Freed first considered approaching TSG with the idea of solar panels when he had them installed in his Eagle Rock home.

"To me it was obvious. As almost all experts say, life on Earth (all life) is in deep and serious danger from carbon emissions," Freed explained. "Instead of just hoping they are wrong we ought to, and can, do something about it. The fact that we would also save a great deal of money doing this made it a no-brainer. So I took the initiative to present some proposals.

"I discovered a great deal of support from fellow members at Temple Sinai of Glendale. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life."

Temple Executive Vice President Eddy Polon commented, "Temple Sinai is the third temple in Southern California to go solar. We are also the third house of worship [to go solar] in the area. When Jan Freed first proposed the solar installation, the temple leadership was very skeptical. It seemed too expensive. We didn't think we could raise the money. We were not sure of the science. We were concerned about unintended side effects, such as a leaky roof. When we finally made

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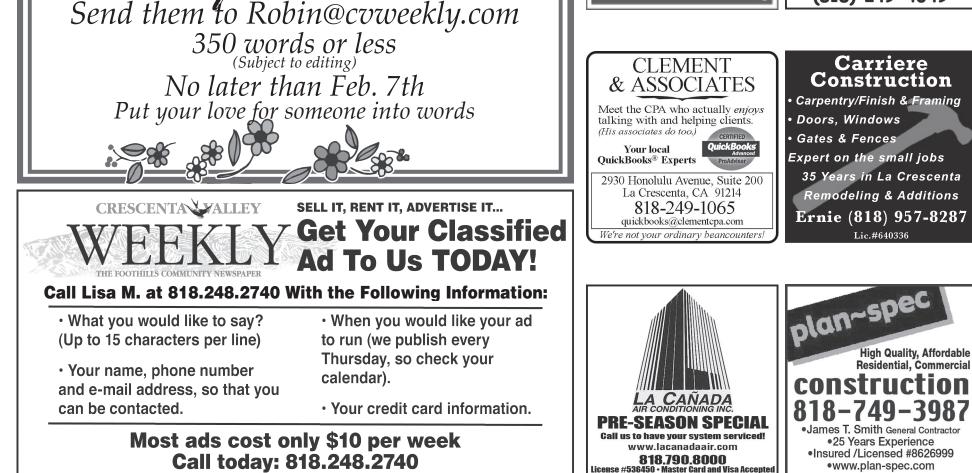
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BUSINESS

» NEWS FROM THE CRESCENTA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Counting Our Blessings – Isn't Too Hard to Do "The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to

count our blessings." Eric Hoffer

With weather like we have had this week in the Crescenta Valley, it is a little easier to count our blessings that we live in this great community.

One place you can go to enjoy this beautiful weather is Leon Bakery & Café. Inspired by the cafes around Europe and America, Leon Bakery & Café offers the finest cafe dining, European pastries, danishes, artisan breads and sandwiches. Their unique special order cakes, baked goods and gourmet cupcakes are made to order. Their café includes a wide variety of natural teas, fresh fruit smoothie creations and specialty coffee drinks. The best part is you can enjoy your coffee, tea or smoothie with your dessert of choice in their outside sitting area under a Leon umbrella shade. In the evening they have a spectacular fire pit made to keep you warm and enjoy the glow of the fire with friends, family and new acquaintances. Leon Bakery & Café is located at 2519 Cañada Blvd., Glendale and is a free public WiFi zone.

A great opportunity to see this beautiful bakery and café is Wednesday, Feb. 8 at the Crescenta Valley Chamber business mixer. Join 50 to 60 of our members and prospective members for only \$7 for members and \$9 for non-members, which includes a chance to mingle with

great people and enjoy delicious refreshments.

Thank you to these members that renewed their membership to the CV Chamber: S.I.G. Property Management is a fullservice property management company that can handle all your renting, screening, and fiscal responsibilities. Whether you own apartment complexes, commercial properties, condos or rental homes, they handle it all in



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From young children to great grandparents, Thompson Family Dental provides dental services for the entire family. Dr. Thompson has built his practice on quality care and referrals from happy patients. Whether

you need emergency treatment or full mouth dental care, Thompson Family Dental has a great reputation for quality treatment, prompt service and smiling faces. Dr. Thompson attended UCLA School of Dentistry and graduated with honors in 1990. He is also a product of the Crescenta-Cañada community having attended Mountain Avenue Elementary School, Rosemont Junior High School, and Crescenta Valley High School. Thompson Family Dental is a family dental practice, with an emphasis on quality care, located at 4526 Rinetti Lane in La Cañada. For more information see www.thompsonfamilydental. net or call (818) 790-5220.

Thank you to all our members. It is a collaborative effort that enables us to successfully impact the Crescenta Valley. We count our blessings for serving you.

Important dates: Feb 8 -Business mixer at Leon Bakery & Café; March 7 – Business mixer at Bob Smith Toyota; March 18 - Day at the Races; March 28 -Smart-a-Thon.

Please contact our office for more details on any event. How to reach us: (818) 248-4957/ crescentachamber@aol.com www.LaCrescenta.org / 3131 Foothill Blvd., Ste. D.

Julia Rabago is the executive director of Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce.

» MONTROSE SHOPPING PARK NEWS

Montrose ... Take Two



Here is how Bella Boutique looks normally. Watch to see them with a fictional name in the "True Blood" series.

The next time you are watching your favorite TV series you might see something that looks very familiar. It seems the film industry has a renewed interest in the Montrose Shopping Park these days as several prominent series are being shot on our streets

Just last week we had a major film shoot as HBO's award winning series "True Blood" came to town and took over Bella Boutique for a full day of shooting. Bella owner Janet Vandagriff knows how these things work as she was a film editor for many years working with all the major studios. She has nothing but praise for HBO and their professionalism describing their film crew like a "small city" complete with round the clock security and medical personnel.

According to Janet, these folks put in long days. They showed up at her store at 7 a.m. on a Thursday and took detailed pictures of how the store was arranged so they could put everything back in perfect order when they were done. "True Blood," in its fifth season, is a series about the co-existence of humans and vampires set in Bon Temps, a small town in Louisiana. It has a huge cast and stars real life husband and wife team Anna Paquin and Stephen Moyer.

cast worked all day and well into the night finishing up at 1 a.m. Friday morning. Janet was there much of that time and watched as they also shot scenes at The Black Cow, Images Salon and in the alley. Of course in the show they will be changing the name of her store from Bella to a fictional name but we should recognize it nonetheless.

Filming in Montrose is a good thing for many reasons. In addition to giving us good publicity, it also provides an extra source of income for the shopping park and our merchants. In recessionary times this helps us pay for the special events and advertising the MSPA does to promote the community.

Another by-product is that the film crews help support our stores by shopping and dining. Many of them have never been to Montrose before and are charmed and amazed by such a cute town so close to the hustle and bustle of L.A.

Did you know that just three days ago Jason Isaacs was walking Honolulu Avenue filming the new NBC series "Awake"? If you saw him you probably wouldn't recognize him. But if he had shoulder length white blonde hair like his character for his most popular role he would surely set off a major frenzy. Yes, Jason Isaacs played Lucius Malfoy in the Harry Potter movies!

So keep your eyes open and keep shopping Montrose. It's verv exciting

here, especially with many of our stores and cafes ready for Valentine's Day.



» MONTROSE VERDUGO-CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **Community Partnerships**

I got back from an event yesterday called Glendale Outlook 2012 where the new Glendale City Manager Scott Ochoa spoke. He gave an update on the status of the city, told of his vision for Glendale, talked about all the "financial concerns" in the city and then confidently let us all know that the city of Glendale was one of the premier places to live, work and play in Southern California.

As I was listening to all

we have to find an answer to the problem?"

Of course, we all know the answer to that question. We have to find a way to continue and develop new ways of creating a thriving community on limited resources. As history proves, this is the time when radical changes take place in



new organizations to meet a particular need that you see or just stopping by your neighbors' to see if you can lend a helping hand. Community partnership is very important in this time.

Here at the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce, we want to be a community partner to businesses and residents. We are working on ways to network and partner with other organizations and with the city of Glendale to meet the needs and concerns of the area.

and in our stores and cafes.

For last week's scenes, the

that he had to say, I thought, "What part can I play in all of this and what part can the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce play in this?" I knew right away that when he began talking about the reduction of funding to the state of California from the federal government, from the reduction of funding from the state of California to the city of Glendale, we were going to have to begin to think of new ways to "get the job done."

When Glendale's budget is impacted, it affects us all. It affects our businesses, our schools, our public safety, our housing market and general way of life. But, like Mr. Ochoa said, "Does that mean that we give up, or does that mean that

CLARKE

how we approach our day-to-day living. The changes occurring force us to stretch ourselves, to begin to think outside of "the box" and think of new creative ways to do the same thing. After all, necessity is the mother of invention! However, the one thing that never seems to change, as Mr. Ochoa pointed out, is the importance of community involvement and support. This is where we come in.

Now more than ever, each of us, individually and collectively, has to offer what we can. This could be volunteering at many the local organizations of in the community, creating

If you need any assistance with your business or have questions about the area, please do not hesitate to contact us. Not a chamber member yet? We would love to have you join our network. We are running a special offer for new members who would like to join the chamber of commerce during the first quarter of this year. Please contact the office if you are interested in becoming a member or have any other questions that we can answer

for you!

Melinda Clarke Executive Director Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce 3516 N Verdugo Road Glendale, CA 91208 (818) 249-7171 www.montrosechamber.org



Mary Dawson serves as vice president for the MSPA board. She and her family own Revelation Tops and Mountain Rose Gifts.









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