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JUNE 18, 2020

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Schiff Takes Part in Council Meeting

By Julie BUTCHER

Rep. Adam Schiff (CA-28) addressed the Glendale City Council virtually from Washington, D.C. at the beginning of its Tuesday evening meeting, commenting on the extraordinariness of thousands marching peacefully in Glendale and how interminably long it felt to kneel on the pavement for eight minutes and 46 seconds. Schiff outlined what he described as comprehensive police reform introduced in Congress; the bill would: eliminate the use of chokeholds; provide funding for a database of police officers with a history of using excessive force; eliminate no-knock warrants in drug cases; eliminate or modify limited immunity; and utilize best practices in de-escalation. He is a co-sponsor of the bill.

"That is but one facet of the challenge facing our society, beyond the criminal justice system," he said.

Schiff described a bill he is working on "with leadership in the black community, to attempt to address racism in the healthcare system. African Americans are many times more likely to die from the virus. Our response cannot be incremental."

Congressman Schiff summarized some of the actions taken at the federal level to help address the economic effects of the pandemic, including the details of the Heroes Act, passed by the House, awaiting action in the Senate. Councilmember Paula Devine asked when that money is coming.

"No state could have anticipated going from near-full employment to near-depression levels," Schiff answered.

He acknowledged that foreclosure prohibitions currently in place on federally guaranteed loans will expire "like local eviction protections" and do not forgive amounts due. The Heroes Act includes provisions of \$100 billion for renters and \$75 billion for homeowners.

"European countries acted as the guarantor of payroll and, as a result, people haven't lost their jobs and can make their rent payments," he said.

The congressman ended by commending the work of Glendale Meals On Wheels.

see GCC on page 8

Bags Full of Essentials, Grace and Love

By Brandon HENSLEY

When help is needed, toss the talk and fill a bag.

Tom Provost is a man of many things: he's an author, screenwriter, blogger and amateur chef. He's also a man of the streets in the sense that he cares about the people he sees on the streets who are homeless and looking for care.

Not all of them want a place to shelter, he recognizes. He said he knows people who have told him that shelters have strict guidelines, and some homeless would rather stay on the outside. In that case, Provost thought, it still might be good to show a little grace. And use some bags to do it.

Provost is the founder of Bags and Grace, a start-up with currently nine members on the board whose aim is to donate bags with food and sundries to help those on the streets get through a day ... or a week.



Photo courtesy of Bags and Grace

Bags and Grace provides needed items to homeless folks grappling with life on the streets.

Provost began this journey a couple of years ago as he drove through the streets of LA noticing that every time he eschewed the freeways and took a new way to and from work, the severity of LA's homeless population smacked him in the face.

At first, it seemed it was just him who was inspired to help people more than by just giving money.

"I've had experience with this stuff before and been told that giving money isn't the best idea. You know, they'll spend it on other stuff," Provost said. "I still wanted

to give, but I often found myself out of time or out of food whenever I was approached."

Provost, who lives in Glendale, sat down and figured out a way to give back. His mission was clear: to provide tangible relief to homeless

see BAGS & GRACE on page 23

Building VITAL Medical Equipment

By Charly SHELTON

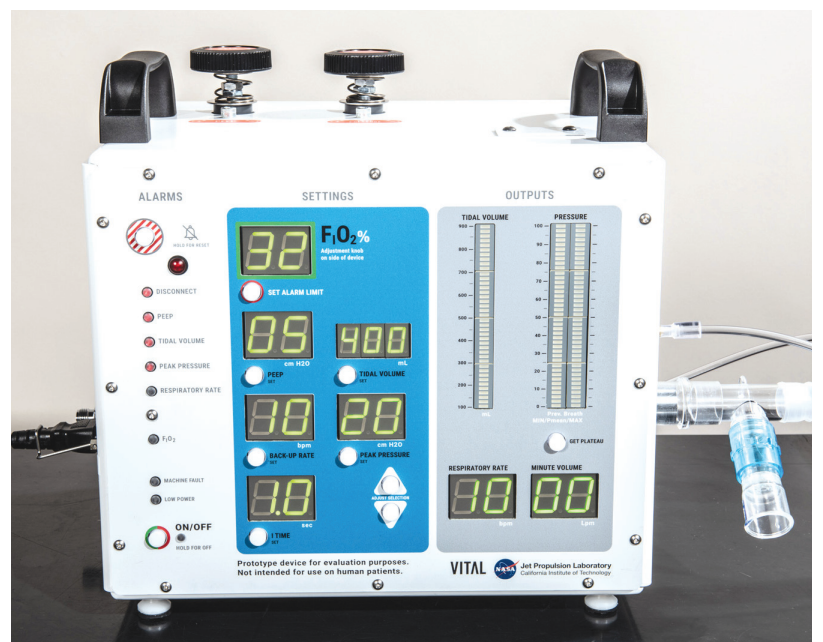
COVID-19 remains a major concern for medical professionals on the front lines of the pandemic and, while the number of new cases isn't increasing as quickly as it once was, the number of cases is still on the rise in many places. Between the reopening of the country's businesses, restaurants, gyms and event spaces and the mass gatherings at ongoing protests, medical leaders are debating whether the second wave will be worse than the first or whether the first wave has even ended yet.

Months ago, at the outset of the pandemic, ventilators became scarce. With thousands of patients at once in need of ventilators, the demand far

exceeded the supply or even the ability to mobilize the industrial force of America to create enough medical supplies. Now, after weeks of preparation, scaling up and changing modes of production, companies around the world are ready to join the effort to make face masks, face shields and other basic health and safety supplies. But one desperately needed piece of equipment is more difficult to manufacture - ventilators.

The many small, complex parts and exacting specifications make them one of the harder supplies to scale up to manufacture unless a company is already set up for creating medical equipment. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory got to work on the

see VENTILATORS on page 8



NASA/JPL-Caltech

A front-facing portrait of VITAL (Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally), a ventilator designed and built by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

The New Normal

When I was a little girl, my parents, sister and I would sometimes go to Palm Springs. As we drove along the I-10, my mom would tell my sister and me stories of how the settlers came to California in covered wagons. It was a hard trip, some didn't survive and none knew what to expect once they arrived in the Wild West. Traveling along the desert they were approaching their "new normal."

I was reminded of that story as I continually read and hear about the changes anticipated in our day-to-day lives resulting from COVID-19. So many things – from the way we get our hair cut to restaurant dining – will be changed because of the virus creating a new normal for us. In her story on page 5 of this week's paper, Mary O'Keefe outlined the decisions that the Glendale Unified School District is making regarding the future of teaching. Will students be on campus or off? Learning remotely or in-person? Each decision comes with its own challenges and I don't envy the district for having to make them, especially when it seems information changes nearly every day. How are you supposed to make an educated, informed decision regarding something as important as the education of our children when information supplied is shaky at best?

In that same vein, Mary explored the future of COVID-19 on page 6. Just because businesses are reopening doesn't mean the novel coronavirus is gone. Heck, no, my friend. As a matter of fact, we're being warned that a second (maybe worse) wave is on the way. And to make it that much more interesting, this first

wave may not even be over yet! So like a woman in heavy labor, there may not be a break between one pain and the next.

I'm reminded of the new normal that resulted from the tragedy of 9/11. For example, gone were the days of greeting loved ones at the gate as they disembarked from a plane. For those traveling, removing shoes and being scanned for contraband (these days a full-body scan may be used) is nearly second nature before passengers can gain access to the terminal. But we got used to it.

Do you ever watch old movies that include travel by plane, or watch a time-period movie that shows the way air travel used to be? From passengers dressing up to being served with silverware rather than plastic ware, it was an experience to fly. I'm curious if passengers are now going to have to wear a face shield every time they travel or face masks every time they go to the store or have their temperature taken before entering a restaurant or similar establishment. Maybe this will all fade away once a vaccine is discovered.

But for now, this is part of our new normal.

One question still nags at me, though: why the heck aren't nail salons open? To me it makes no sense.

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

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Weather in the Foothills

"Thorns may hurt you ... the sunlight turn to fog; but you're never friendless ever, if you have a dog."

~ Douglas Mallock 1877-1936 poet, short story writer & editor of trade paper "American Lumberman"

In a few days, on Sunday, June 21, the summer solstice arrives – the first day of summer. Based on hours of sunlight received, it is the longest day of the year. From this day forward the days will grow shorter until the winter solstice in December.

One would assume the day with the most sunlight would be the warmest. Not so! Due to seasonal lag the highest temperatures come in July, August and September. The main reason for seasonal lag is that the majority of Earth is covered in water (about 71%), which has a much higher heat capacity than land.

So, what is heat capacity? Basically, it is the amount of heat that must be added to or removed from something to change its temperature. Because water has a relatively high heat capacity, it requires much more heat and takes a longer time than land to warm up. So even though the greatest amount of solar energy occurs on the summer solstice, the substantial water bodies on the earth slow the heating process, which delays the hottest temperatures about a month or two.

It's just getting warmed up and ready to go. So, while we wait, we can prepare.

In order to be fun, summer must be safe for all the family members. In past years, swim lessons for our boys was a priority. According to the CDC, swimming pool drowning is the number one cause of death in children between 1 and 4 years of age. It happens quickly, without warning; a person is physically unable to call for help. Living in California, where many families, friends and neighbors have pools, pool safety is crucial. Like it or not, kids need to learn to swim. Fun flotation devices don't count!

Water safety should be extended to our furry family members as well. As many know, we have a golden retriever – Brighton. The breed usually takes to water like a duck. Apparently, Brighton wasn't informed! She's starting swimming lessons (with a certified trainer) on Saturday. Finding the stairs is the first step. Fun!

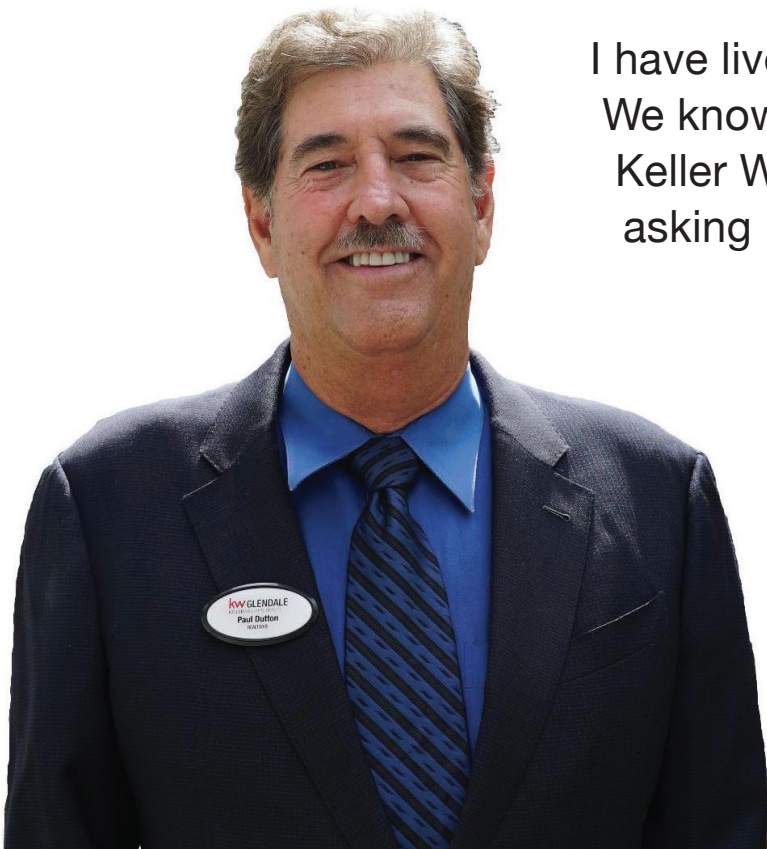
A warming trend is expected over the weekend into early next week. Fire-up the grill and grab your swimsuits because the lazy crazy days of summer are here!

"Dust off the sun and moon and sing a song of cheer!" from "Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer," by Nat King Cole.

Sue Kilpatrick is a Crescenta Valley resident and Official Skywarn Spotter for the National Weather Service Reach her at suelkilpatrick@gmail.com.

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

CVTC GENERAL VIRTUAL MEETING

The Crescenta Valley Town Council is having a virtual general meeting tonight, Thursday, June 18, at 7 p.m. A presentation will be made from Los Angeles County Public Works on the proposed sound walls. Ricardo Gordillo will update the CVTC about the sound wall project on 210 Freeway.

To join the Zoom meeting, call (877) 853-5257 or access via the Zoom app or visit the Council website at www.thecvcouncil.com and visit Public Meetings. Meeting ID is 956 9812 8070 and the password is 750226.

NCL HOLDING BLOOD DRIVE

The National Charity League, Glendale Chapter, is partnering with the American Red Cross and the Crescenta-Cañada YMCA to host its 14th annual From The Heart Red Cross Blood Drive on June 28. The blood drive will be held at the Crescenta-Cañada YMCA, 1930 Foothill Blvd., from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At each blood drive or donation center, Red Cross employees follow thorough safety protocols, including wearing gloves and basic face masks; wiping down donor-touched areas after every collection; using sterile collection sets for every donation; preparing the arm for donation with aseptic scrub; and conducting donor mini-physicals to ensure donors are healthy and well on day of donation. Only eligible and healthy people are allowed to give blood. These mitigation measures will help ensure blood recipient safety, as well as staff and donor safety.

To maintain social distancing, appointments and masks are required.

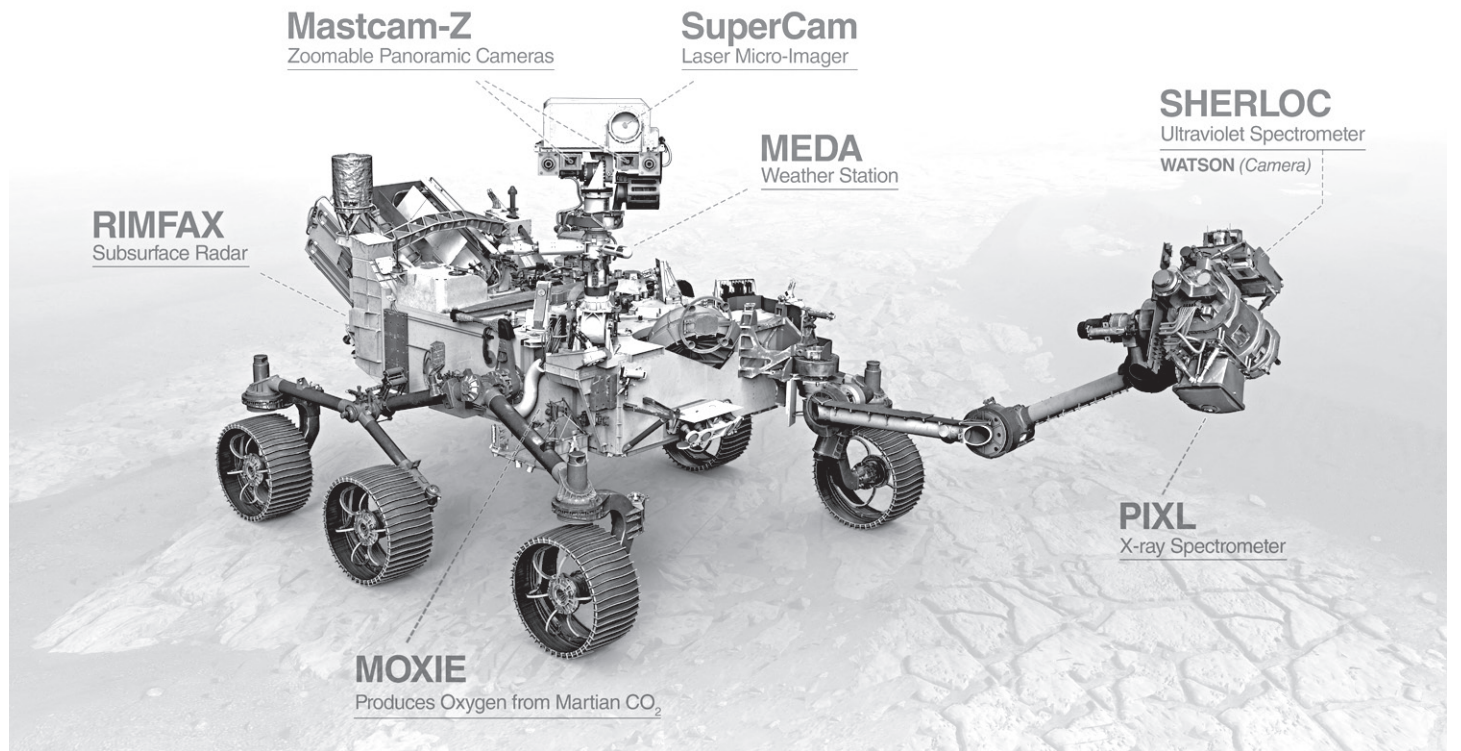
To schedule a donation, use the Red Cross blood donor app, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call (800) RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) and using sponsor code "nclglendale."

GWP ANNOUNCES POWER OUTAGES

Glendale Water & Power (GWP) announced that small power outages are planned to give the utility a chance to upgrade critical infrastructure before hot summer temperatures hit. Upgrades have begun and some small outages have already taken place. GWP crews will continue to work on upgrades to make sure that power interruptions are minimized during the summer when demand is at its highest.

As a reminder, customers affected by these outages will be notified 48 hours in advance via door hanger. Customers affected by larger outages may also receive postcards one week in advance. Outage information will be posted on GWP social media channels.

Launch Date Announced for Perseverance



Courtesy of NASA/JPL

The Perseverance Mars rover has a launch date of July 20 when it will head to the Red Planet.

By Mary O'KEEFE

NASA's Perseverance Mars rover is just over a month from its July 20 targeted launch date. The rover's astrobiology mission will seek signs of past microscopic life on Mars, explore the geology of the Jezero Crater landing site, and demonstrate key technologies to help prepare for future robotic and human exploration. And the rover will do all that while collecting the first samples of Martian rock and regolith (broken rock and dust) for return to Earth by a set of future missions. Mars 2020 Perseverance mission is managed by Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

"Fifty-one years ago [on Wednesday], NASA was deep into final preparations for the first Moon landing," said NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine in a released statement. "Today we stand at the threshold of another monumental moment in exploration: sample collection at Mars. As we celebrate the heroes of Apollo 11, future generations may well recognize the women and men of Perseverance – not only for what they will achieve 100 million miles from home, but for what they were able to accomplish on this world on the road to launch."

Perseverance is scheduled to launch on July 20 from Cape Canaveral in Florida. The launch window to Mars is through Aug. 11 and, if for some reason it does not launch by then, the next launch opportunity would not be until September 2022.

Perseverance Mars will be taking the heaviest payload yet to the Red Planet. The mission's foundation is bolstered by lessons scientists and engineers have learned through the previous eight missions to Mars. NASA/JPL's first rover to Mars was Sojourner, in 1997, which was the size of a microwave. Perseverance is the size of an SUV.

The place where the rover will land is a 28-mile-wide crater named Jezero Crater. Scientists think it was a possible oasis in the ancient past of the planet.

"Between 3 billion and 4 billion years ago, a river there flowed into a body of water the size of Lake Tahoe, depositing sediments packed with carbonate minerals and clay. The Perseverance science team believes this ancient river delta could have collected and preserved organic molecules and other potential signs of microbial life," according to a JPL statement.

One of the unique aspects of the mission is the collection of Martian samples for eventual return to Earth. This will be the first rover to bring a sample caching system to Mars. The rover's drill will cut sample cores from the living rock that are about the size of a piece of chalk and then place them in sample tubes to be taken to a drop-off location. Those samples will not be brought back to Earth until 2031.

The reason it will take so long is because the mission to retrieve and bring back the samples is very complex. It will require multiple steps and everything must be considered, from the development of a retrieval spacecraft to the cost of the mission. Luckily, NASA is working with the European Space Agency to help develop this mission.

The exploration done by Perseverance will pave the way for future human missions to the Moon and Mars. The rover's Terrain-Relative Navigation system will enable the rover to quickly and autonomously comprehend its location over the Martian surface and modify its trajectory during the descent to the crater bottom. This technology will be able to provide invaluable assistance for both robotic and crewed missions landing on the Moon and Mars, according to JPL.

Perseverance also has more cameras than any other interplanetary mission in history. The 19 onboard cameras will provide many views of Mars as well as views of the descent and landing.

People can follow Perseverance's journey on social media at @NASAPersevere and @NASAMars.

From Dr. Dale Ellwein & Standing Tall Chiropractic...

First off, I'm sorry for this crazy time.

I came to the realization the other day that if you want to heal the world, you must create more healers.

To help you, I am doing a daily video on how to become a healer. It's located at www.youtube.com/standingtallchiro.

So far, I've posted videos on Calming Your Emotional Stress, A Simple Exercise You Can Do at Home, and The Key Question to Help You Visualize Your Ideal Future, to name a few.

I feel that by keeping yourself healthy, you can minimize the effects of this pandemic for yourself and your loved ones, and become a healer yourself.

Sincerely,
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NOTES & NODS

This Week at LCIF

Lutheran Church in the Foothills continues to offer “Couch Church” for the foreseeable future. This week’s service will be live streamed on Sunday at 10 a.m. on the church’s Facebook page –facebook.com/Lcifoohills/videos. After the live stream, the service can be found at www.lcifoohills.org. This week our Children, Youth & Family director, Stephen Robertson, will lead the service with a sermon on “Withholding Nothing.”

All are invited on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for an interactive time of prayer and Scripture via Zoom. Details are available by contacting the church office.

Bulletins for children and adults (along with games for children and a Bible quiz for adults) are also available on the website. For more information on these and other activities, please email the church at office@lcifoohills.org or call the office.

Lutheran Church in the Foothills, the “touchdown church,” is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. For more information, call (818) 790-1951 or visit www.lcifoohills.org.

La Crescenta Presbyterian Opens Doors for Public Worship

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church will open its doors for public worship beginning Sunday, June 14. Three in-person worship opportunities will be offered, all following social distancing and sanitation guidelines set forth by the state and county.

At the 9 a.m. contemporary service, worshipers may gather in the LCPC sanctuary or in the outdoor courtyard. The outdoor location offers a friendly, worshipful setting for those seeking a higher level of precaution: temperatures will be taken, distancing will be greater and masks will be mandatory.

Worshipers at the 9 a.m. services will enjoy music by The Blessed, the same band featured in LCPC services posted at lcpc.net every Sunday. At 11 a.m., worshipers will enjoy classical music in the LCPC sanctuary.

At all in-person services, families with children or youth are invited to worship together. Separate rooms adjacent to the services will be available for young children and parents.

For those who wish to worship online, La Crescenta Presbyterian will continue to post services at lcpc.net.

For more information about LCPC policies to

protect the health and safety of our congregation, visit lcpc.net. La Crescenta Presbyterian Church, located at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta, can be reached by phone at (818) 249-6137.

St. Luke’s Anglican Takes Part in Lift Up La Crescenta

To address the great needs in the community, country and around the world, Lift Up La Crescenta works on helping people come together in the name of Jesus and in the name of love and in the name of unity of the Body of Christ to pray for healing of our land. The spirit of love can overcome anything that divides us and we are asking interested people to come and pray for each other and those who are hurting, angry, lost, and wondering what lies ahead with lifted hearts and hands.

Lift Up La Crescenta next meets at Deukmejian Park, 3429 Markridge Road in Glendale/La Crescenta on Saturday, June 27.

Walk and Word

Walk and Word on Sunday mornings, a time to discover Scripture while hiking Deukmejian Park, is on hiatus until further notice.

For more information, contact Jean Lavieri at (818) 383-3137 or email jnlavieri@earthlink.net.

Catholics Invited

ICF, the Italian Catholic Federation, is looking for members. ICF is a family-oriented, non-profit fraternal organization dedicated to promoting activities that build faith and family spirit and bring men, women and children of all ages together. The branch members extend an invitation to La Crescenta, Tujunga and Sunland Catholics to join the local ICF branch and share your culture, heritage and religious beliefs. The only prerequisite for joining is being Catholic. Our members are from many ethnic groups.

ICF is active in various cultural events throughout the state, supports local parishes, and provides various charities with financial and other support. ICF members believe in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through community and spiritual actions, activities and camaraderie.

Members do not need to be Italian to join or participate in ICF’s evangelical and charitable work, but must be Catholic. Call (818) 952-1969 for more information.



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Robin Goldworthy
Publisher and Editor-in-Chief
robin@cvweekly.com

Mary O’Keefe
Lead Reporter
mary@cvweekly.com

Designers
Steve Hernandez
Senior Artist
steve@cvweekly.com

Matthew Barger
matt@cvweekly.com

Columnists
Mike Lawler
lawlerdad@yahoo.com

Sue Kilpatrick
suekilpatrick@gmail.com

Contributors

Julie Butcher • Rev. Beverly Craig • Michael Dumansky • Ani Gasparyan
Brandon Hensley • Susan James • Vincent Page
Charly Shelton • Lori Bodnar, *intern*
Anne McNeill, *proofreader*

Advertising

Sonya Marquez
(818) 381-2000
sonya@cvweekly.com

Chuck Holler
(818) 468-2956
chuck@cvweekly.com

Lisa Stanners
(818) 523-1234
lisa@cvweekly.com

Office Manager/Inside Sales

Rachelle Miller
rachelle@cvweekly.com

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GUSD Plans School Reopening – Carefully and Cautiously

By Mary O'KEEFE

At Tuesday's Glendale Unified School District board of education meeting, members and staff discussed the process of reopening schools. Before the discussion began, several teachers weighed in with their concerns on how the reopening choices were made. They spoke about an upcoming district presentation, sharing their disappointment in not being included in the decisions on the options that will be offered. They pointed out that the first Return-to-School Committee meeting that included teachers to discuss these programs was last Friday, which they stated did not give teachers enough time to research

and prepare input.

District staff members presented the plans they will be looking at as they work toward an August back-to-school program.

"We have to ensure we are flexible to the needs of our parents in terms of scheduling the students in classrooms," said Hagop Eulmessekian, director of Student Support Services, as he began the presentation.

In addition to working with parents, district administrators' goals include maintaining a high quality of instruction while maintaining fiscal solvency.

In looking at the options that were presented, Eulmessekian said administrators considered recommendations from the

Los Angeles County Office of Education [LCOE], California Dept. of Education and Los Angeles County as well as looking at other countries as they opened their schools. They recognized the need to balance social distancing with maintaining a quality education.

"We walked through campuses to see how to provide social distancing and [looked] at the inventory of PPE [personal protective equipment]," he said.

More PPE has been ordered by the district to make certain supplies are plentiful.

Superintendent Vivian Ekchian added that one of the reasons they have taken time to decide on any plan is to avoid falling into the

situation that other districts and educators have – making several plans, only to have decisions change as more information is shared by other organizations. She gave the example of the CSU system initially issuing guidelines that all campuses would hold only remote classes then deciding that some campuses could hold some in-person classes then revising so decisions on classes would be made by individual campuses.

In addition, there are opportunities being offered that GUSD would like to take advantage of as it plans reopening.

The district is using Five Phase Planning: Phase 1 is research, which has been completed, and

Phase 2 is assess, also completed. It is now into Phase 3 – plan – to expand the task force and make recommendations to the board.

Phase 3 includes district representatives reaching out to teachers, which was done last Friday. On Wednesday, a survey was scheduled to be released to parents that would give them an opportunity to view and share their opinions of the plans put forth by the district.

There were many models of reopening reviewed and the district came up with three versions it would examine more closely. The first is Traditional Setting, which is back to what classes looked like prior to COVID-19. The second

see GUSD on page 8

Done with that Couch? Don't Dump Illegally – Call for Pick Up

By Mary O'KEEFE

Because of the Safer-At-Home Order issued due to COVID-19 many people spent the time at home cleaning out closets and reorganizing their homes and yards. But with all the cleaning and clearing came the challenge of what to do with furniture and large items that were no longer wanted. Donation centers like Goodwill were closed during the initial Order so some people took their unwanted items and just left them on the street.

In one morning in the Glendale and La Crescenta areas, CVW found four mattresses (one with a bed stand), a couple of sofas, a chair and a vacuum cleaner lying on the side of neighborhood streets.

There have always been large

items dumped on local streets, even prior to the pandemic. Briggs Avenue below Foothill Boulevard seemed to be a favorite dumping spot in La Crescenta/Montrose, and one resident in Glendale said she felt the problem had gotten worse since the Safer-At-Home Order.

But there is no need for this illegal dumping. Both Glendale and the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County have programs for bulky item pick-up.

"This is one of those issues that ebbs and flows with individuals moving in and out of residences," stated Eliza Papazian, spokeswoman for the City of Glendale. "We have seen an increase in bulky item pick-up [since Safer-At-Home]."

Over the years the City of Glendale has done outreach to educate

individuals, property owners and apartment managers on the bulky item pick-up program offered, which is a free service. However, there are still those who feel it is easier to leave the items outside the residence without calling for pick-up.

"We have also created public service announcements that get aired on our various social media platforms, newsletters and Channel 6 on a regular basis, and have installed banners at several highly visible locations that inform the public of the free service we provide," she said. "Please be assured that we empathize on the issue of illegal dumping and agree that that the prompt removal of these items helps to prevent blight and ensure that our neighborhoods are well-maintained."

Community members can report bulky/abandoned items through various platforms, either by calling (818) 548-3916, utilizing the MyGlendale app, or completing the electronic form on the city website. Those placing bulky items outside are asked to report them for pick up approximately three working days prior to the refuse collection day in their area.

"We greatly appreciate and encourage residents to continue reporting these types of observations, as well as other quality of life issues, as soon as they see them because these types of issues are indeed an eyesore and could consequently exaggerate the problem," Papazian added.

Once the reports are received, they are logged, scheduled and items picked up by the Public Works Integrated Waste Division. The fines for illegal dumping are \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second, and for three-time and subsequent offenders, \$500. Continued violations could be referred to the City Attorney's Office for prosecution, which can bring a fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment not to exceed six months; but that would be a rare occurrence and hasn't happened. If illegal dumping is observed, it should be reported immediately by calling the Glendale Police

Department's non-emergency line at (818) 548-4911.

"We must all work together to reduce illegal dumping by informing our neighbors of the process and contacting the City as soon as you see an item in front of your property," Papazian said.

In unincorporated La Crescenta/Montrose, the local garbage service Burrtec has bulky item pick-up days for its customers at no extra cost, twice a year. Residents are asked to call at least 24 hours in advance, (800) 325-9417.

If someone in the unincorporated area of LA County finds bulky items that have been dropped at their residence or on any street in the unincorporated portion LA County – La Crescenta/Montrose they can call (888) 838-6746 or download The Works iPhone or Android applications. The Works application offers a one-stop solution for residents in the unincorporated areas of LA County to address and track nuisances of illegal dumping and property violations.



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The Future and COVID-19

By Mary O'KEEFE

The plan was to reopen businesses slowly, to take a step-by-step approach, but even with those precautions in place warnings were issued by the Los Angeles County Public Health Dept. that numbers of COVID-19 cases were expected to rise. One of the last things on the list to reopen was, and is, sporting events that would see thousands of people gathered closely together.

That crowd scenario materialized sooner than planned due to recent protests throughout the country and the world. Although many protestors are wearing masks, social distancing during marches is difficult. So what does this mean for researchers who are tracing COVID-19? It is a waiting game as everyone keeps a watchful eye on any change in the COVID-19 numbers and, particularly, where those changes are focused.

"It is important to remember there will be a time delay between any changes," said Dr. Sharon Balter, director of the Communicable Disease Control and Prevention Division, LA County Public Health.

Since the timing of many phased reopenings coincided with the beginning of many of the protests, it will be difficult to pinpoint what caused a rise in case numbers.

"We want to emphasize there will be a delay," Balter reiterated. "The infection can last for a while; many won't feel sick or [will think] it's just a cold. The more severe [effects] take longer to [be felt]. It [can take] a number of weeks."

There are things that health officials are asking people to do to help minimize the risk to themselves as well as minimizing risks to others.

"We want to urge people to educate themselves on what they can do," Balter said. "It is important to stay [at least] six feet away from others and to wear a mask."

Those who feel they have been exposed to the virus are advised to

stay home for 14 days. COVID-19 has an average incubation period of about five days, and those who contract the virus can exhibit symptoms between 11 and 14 days.

The concerns centered on reopening businesses and the protests are that so many people are exposed to others who may be infected then they [go] home to those who live with them.

"You may have people at home who are vulnerable. Try to stay six feet apart and possibly even wear a face mask to protect them," she said.

The public is encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 if they are exposed to someone known to have contracted the virus.

"Testing is a moment in time," Balter warned. "You can be negative today and positive tomorrow."

"Risks are always higher in confined spaces," she added. "There is more risk inside than outside."

Restaurants that are reopening are adjusting to limited seating and, when possible, offering outside dining. Hiking trails, as well as other outdoor activities, have reopened, too, but it is still important to wear face masks and remember to social distance.

Balter said it is unlikely that herd immunity has played a role in the numbers going down or leveling off in LA County.

"When most of a population is immune to an infectious disease, this provides indirect protection – or herd immunity [also called herd protection] – to those who are not immune to the disease. For example, if 80% of a population is immune to a virus, four out of every five people who encounter someone with the disease won't get sick (and won't spread the disease any further). In this way, the spread of infectious diseases is kept under control. Depending how contagious an infection is, usually 70% to 90% of a population needs immunity to achieve herd immunity," according to John Hopkins.

Diseases like measles, mumps

and polio are infectious diseases that were once common but are now rare in the U.S. because vaccines helped establish herd immunity, according to John Hopkins.

There are occasional outbreaks of those diseases, like the outbreak of measles at Disneyland in 2014 that eventually was traced to children who had not been vaccinated, according to CDC.

There is no vaccine for COVID-19 as of now. Balter feels that the reason there has been a reduction in the number of COVID-19 cases was because many people adhered to the advice of social distancing and the wearing of face masks in the early stages of the Safer-At-Home Order.

"People need to continue to be aware," Balter said. "This is a new virus, not even a year [old]. Many viruses have a personality."

She added researchers are watching closely how the virus has progressed and is progressing.

"We are all very concerned about a reopening surge [in COVID-19 cases]," she said.

Even if a surge does not happen in the next month, researchers feel that as fall approaches when other viruses and diseases typically appear, like the flu, there will be more cases of COVID-19 as well. That is why researchers from the CDC and LA County Public Health want to remind the public to take precautions during the summer. Remember to wash hands often including before, during and after preparing food, before eating, before and after caring for someone at home who is sick, before and after treating a cut or wound, after using the toilet, after changing diapers, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing, after touching an animal, feeding an animal or picking up animal waste and touching garbage, according to guidelines from CDC.

"Even though things are reopening, the risks are still there," Balter said.

Contact tracing is very important in following the virus.

"If you get diagnosed with COVID, someone from Public Health will call you," she said.

The Public Health representative will guide people as to what they should do including isolating and how to protect others in their household.

"They will ask them for the names of people you could have been [close] to 48 hours before feeling sick," she said.

The representative will then call those people to let them know they have been exposed and to understand that testing is a moment in time and to stay home for 14 days.

The theory is that if researchers can reach the one person who has COVID-19 and contact all the people around that one person before they get sick, that will help contain the spread of the virus.

For more information on COVID-19, visit LA County Public Health at publichealth.lacounty.gov.

Males Arrested for Loaded Stolen Firearm

On June 16 just after 3 a.m., a patrol officer was driving in the area of Colorado Street and Pacific Avenue when the officer observed an occupied vehicle illegally parked in a handicap stall in the front of an open business without a handicap placard displayed.

The officer approached the vehicle, which was occupied by four males: the driver, 20-year-old Robert Whitehead of Spring Valley; the front passenger, 19-year-old Deangelo Miller of Henderson, Nevada; and the two back passengers, 20-year-old Mason Barrett of Central Point, Oregon; and 19-year-old Tarvarius Ward of La Mesa (who claimed ownership of the vehicle).

Officers smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and discovered that Whitehead's license was suspended.

During the subsequent investigation, Barrett was found to be in possession of brass knuckles. Officers also located a loaded handgun in the vehicle that had an illegal high-capacity magazine. A records check of the firearm revealed it had been stolen during a residential burglary in Oregon.

All four males were arrested and booked for felony firearms violations. The driver was also arrested for driving with a suspended license, and Barrett had an added charge of carrying metal knuckles. All four males were later released from custody with a notice to appear in court due to the State of California's emergency "zero dollar" bail schedule.



Deangelo Miller



Mason Barrett



Robert Whitehead



Tarvarius Ward

Officers De-escalate Situation with Knife-wielding Female

On June 13, 2020, just before midnight, officers responded to a fast-food establishment in the 100-block of West Broadway regarding a female suspect wielding a knife and refusing to leave.

Upon arrival, officers were contacted by security who stated that when they asked the female to leave the closed business, she picked up a knife and refused. Officers located the suspect, later identified as 23-year-old Anusha Sundar of Glendale, who was standing behind two cash registers inside the business and was still holding the large knife.

Officers began to negotiate with Sundar, asking her to put the knife down and to come out from behind the counter. Sundar was verbally unresponsive to any of the officer's commands and was trying to open the cash

registers. Eventually, officers were able to get Sundar to put the knife down and step-out towards them where they were able to safely detain her.

It was later discovered that Sundar had caused damage to a nearby business and had stolen property from another business. Anusha Sundar was subsequently arrested for burglary.



Anusha Sundar

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Traffic Enforcement Operations Plan for Glendale

The Glendale Police Dept. will step up Bike & Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations on Thursday, June 18 with focused enforcement on collision causing factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The department has mapped out locations over the past three years where pedestrian and bike collisions have occurred along with the violations that led to those crashes. Extra officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic and crashes occur in an effort to lower deaths and injuries.

Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers, bike riders and pedestrians alike that can lead to life changing injuries. Special attention will be directed toward drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks or any other dangerous violation.

Additionally, enforcement will be taken for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street

illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bike riders will be stopped and citations issued when they fail to follow the same traffic laws that apply to motorists. All riders are reminded to always wear a helmet – those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners.

Bicycle and pedestrian fatalities are rising in California as more people use these non-motorized means of transportation. Locally, Glendale Police Dept. has investigated 574 fatal and injury collisions involving pedestrians and bicyclists during the past three years. In 2013, California witnessed 701 pedestrians and 141 bicyclists killed, accounting for more than 28% of all traffic fatalities.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Knife-Wielding Male Safely Detained by Glendale PD

On June 10, 2020, just before 2:00 pm, a Glendale Police Motor Officer on a marked police motorcycle was hailed down by a pedestrian on the 2900-block of Colorado Blvd regarding a male who was waving a knife around while yelling at people and had just walked into a restaurant.

A motor sergeant and two more motor officers who were in the area responded to assist. Upon arrival, officers contacted the male and could immediately see the handle of a knife in his pants pocket. When officers asked the male to exit the restaurant, he refused and began walking around the restaurant yelling. He then began yelling at the officers, took a fighting stance and pulled out the knife. Officers gave verbal orders to the male to put down his

knife. The male continued yelling at officers while armed with the knife, but after several seconds, he put the knife down. Officers quickly moved in and detained the male in handcuffs.

After further evaluation, officers recognized the male was behaving in a way that was consistent with having a mental illness and was a danger to himself and others. The male was taken to the hospital and placed on a 72-hour hold for mental health evaluation and treatment by medical staff.

Glendale Police Officers continue to proactively patrol the city to keep Glendale safe. Please help us in keeping Glendale safe by reporting suspicious activity to 911 if it is an emergency or (818) 548-4911 if it is a non-emergency.

Pasadena Chalk Festival Goes Virtual

This year's virtual Pasadena Chalk Festival takes place from today, Thursday, June 18 through Sunday, June 21. Traditionally held on the same weekend as Father's Day, the popular event has attracted hundreds of thousands of spectators to Pasadena's civic center each year. Named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest public art event of its kind, typically the Pasadena Chalk Festival hosts approximately 600 artists who create 200 spectacular murals.

Although state health guidelines have precluded the staging of large public gatherings, festival organizers and the participating artists are not to be stopped. Artists will be executing their murals over the virtual festival time period in their own neighborhoods and local spaces.

Murals will be posted throughout the virtual festival on Facebook and Instagram at @pasadenachalkfestival and #pasadenachalkfestival. Perennial favorites will all be creating their virtuosic chalk art for the public to enjoy online. Images will also be posted on the Pasadena Chalk Festival website following the virtual event.

The Pasadena Chalk Festival is produced by Light Bringer Project, a nonprofit arts organization, which delivers arts education to public schools. Tom Coston, Light Bringer Project President said, "Although we will miss the grandeur of the main event, this is a wonderful opportunity to spread art and beauty throughout the diverse neighborhoods of Los Angeles."

For more stories, please visit us online at www.cvweekly.com

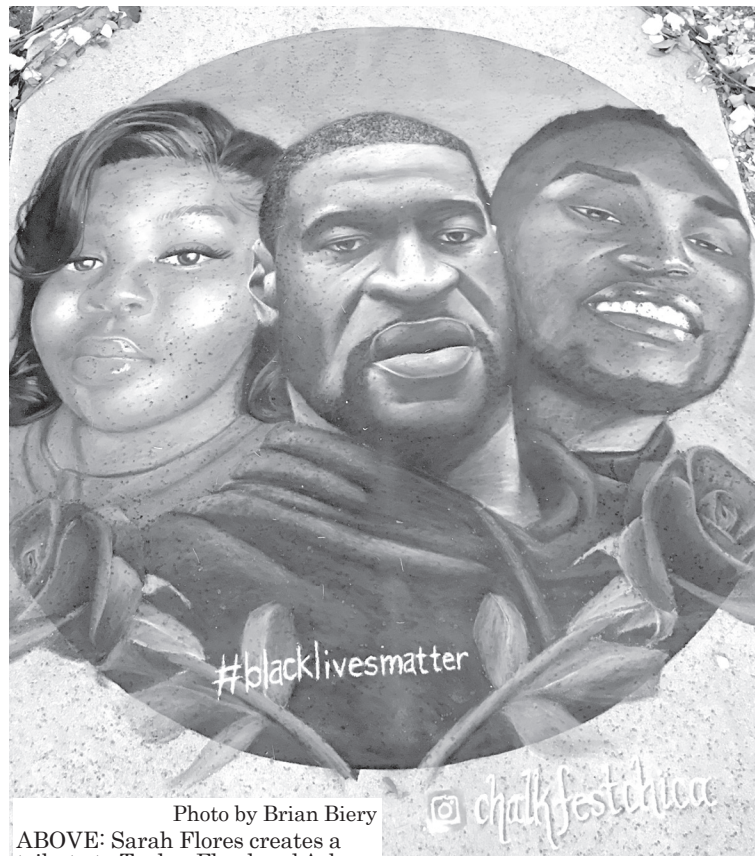


Photo by Brian Biery
 ABOVE: Sarah Flores creates a tribute to Taylor, Floyd and Arbery
 BELOW: The work of 2019 Chalk artist Allie Shehorn



Glendale Makes Amendment to the Commercial Eviction Moratorium Order

On June 9, the Glendale City Council modified the Commercial Eviction Moratorium by providing that the moratorium does not apply to any commercial tenant that has eleven or more locations worldwide.

On June 2, the City Council amended the commercial eviction moratorium by: extending it to June 30, 2020; increasing the time period for commercial tenants to repay any back due rent to six months commencing upon the expiration of the moratorium on June 30, 2020; and providing that the moratorium does not apply to any commercial tenant that had 100 employees or more pre-COVID (prior to March 16, 2020) that work in Glendale's jurisdiction.

If a commercial property is unqualified from the amended

order as described above, the company would have three months to repay any back due rent starting from the expiration of the Order (June 30, 2020). An additional rent repayment measure was passed that requires ineligible tenants to pay at least one-third of back due rent at the end of each month of the three-month repayment period, unless the landlord and tenant agree to different repayment terms. At the end of the three-month period, the tenant is required to pay the rest of the back due rent.

The moratorium does not apply to publicly traded companies. The moratorium is valid only for those tenants unable to pay rent for a COVID-19 related reason such as a loss of income associated with Safer at Home Orders. Tenants are

still required to pay their rent.

To date, the City Council has moved forward with several economic development efforts intended to provide resources or financial assistance to local businesses negatively impacted by the economic fallout associated with COVID-19. On May 19, the Council directed the inclusion of funding of several economic development and recovery programs into the fiscal year 2020-21 budget from Measure S funding, including: Small business recovery and assistance programs, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) grants, Support the Arts programming, child care support, and Enhancing Access to Emergency Recovery.

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CRIME BLOTTER

June 15

2900 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, a woman reported that she had stopped at the location to donate items. She did not lock her vehicle as she went into the business and when she returned she discovered her purse and cellphone were missing. She reported that when she arrived she saw a man in a vehicle parked at the location but did not see that man leave his vehicle. A deputy was able to use Find My Phone to locate her cellphone in an abandoned lot on Ocean View Boulevard; however the other items were not there.

The theft occurred at 2:30 p.m.

June 13

4200 block of Commonwealth Avenue in La Cañada, a glass door was smashed and a safe was stolen from a home between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

70 block of Angeles Crest Highway in Angeles National Forest, a man reported that he parked his vehicle in the area near the day picnic parking area. He did not remember if he locked his vehicle. When he was traveling home he got notices from his credit cards that they had been used to purchase items he did not give anyone permission to purchase. He had left his wallet in his car and found his identification and cash were still in his wallet but all of his credit cards were missing.

The theft occurred between 2 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.

June 12

500 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada, an employee reported that while he was on the sales floor three men entered the store; all were wearing face masks. One man walked to the west side of the store and began pulling the display

phones from the display stands. The other two men walked along the east side of the store and pulled cellphones from that display as well as two watches. Reportedly none of them spoke or made any physical threats toward the employee. There were not any weapons or tools seen by the witness. The three suspects ran out of the store with the cellphones and watches.

The suspects are described as black males in their 20s. The witness reported that the theft happened so fast he was not able to get a good description of what the men were wearing except that one wore a blue shirt and one wore a red shirt.

The theft occurred at 5:09 p.m.

Buckhorn Campground in the Angeles National Forest, a woman reported parking her vehicle at the campground while she went camping. When she returned she found that the rear passenger window of her vehicle had been shattered and her purse, with credit cards, had been stolen along with other personal items. She contacted her credit card companies and found that her credit cards had been used to purchase items without her permission.

The theft occurred between June 12 and June 14.

June 10

1200 block of El Vago Street in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident found a pile of mail on the sidewalk in the back of his home. The mail was addressed to a variety of addresses. Some of the mail had been opened and its contents emptied. After looking through the mail a deputy discovered an envelope that had been mailed out from the location on El Vago. The deputy contacted the resident and found she had mailed out a check on June 10.

GUSD from page 5

is Hybrid Learning, which will see 50% of students in school at any given time and 50% learning remotely. The third is Distance Learning, an online academy that would go through Verdugo Academy with 100% of students learning remotely. The fourth is Independent Study, similar to Verdugo Academy in which 100% of students learn remotely with on-site check-in.

Distance Learning would be the only option that would not include any on-campus instruction and Traditional Setting would be the only plan that would not include remote

learning.

Hybrid Learning would allow 50% capacity of students on campus, all observing social distancing. The schedule for middle and high schools would have some students attending classes at school in the morning while another group attended in the afternoon. Not all classes would be attended each day; for example, students in periods one through three would be on campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and students in periods four through six would be on campus on Wednesdays and Fridays with Mondays set aside to provide extra help in specific classes.

This model would not mean that students only attend classes half a day. The students will also have to incorporate remote learning. For example, according to the district presentation, a group of students would attend periods one through three at school in the morning while another group of students attended the same class remotely. Then when that morning group is not attending on-campus classes, it is attending remote classes in the afternoon as its counterparts are on campus.

It did appear that this is the model the district is leaning toward; however, it is still reaching out to parents, teachers and other stakeholders to share thoughts and gather opinions. The district sent out a parent survey via email and will follow up with phone calls to those parents who do not have an email address. There will also be town hall meetings that all stakeholders can attend, including non-parent community members. The district is in the process of creating and sending out a survey for its employees and finding ways to reach out to students.

Students in grades four through 12 received a survey on Wednesday that asked their opinions on how remote learning worked, or did not work, for them.

For those who would like to share their opinion on reopening, an email repository has been set up at returertoschool@gusd.net.

For more information on returning to school, visit www.gusd.net/returertoschool.

GCC from COVER

"I'm delighted to see Glendale performing these services. Some of the people we delivered meals to are normally volunteers for the program," he said, urging residents to step up and volunteer for something that can be done safely.

Getting down to business, staff announced that Glendale summer day camps will begin operations on July 6 with sign-ups starting on June 22 for residents, June 23 for non-residents. The six-week camping sessions will be offered at a reduced rate of \$75 per child per week and will not include swimming or field trips.

Local pools opened last week for recreational lap swimming by reservation. For more info on both pools and camps, call (818) 548-2000.

City staff reported working with LA County Public Health to offer limited focused use of sports fields to community groups for sports clinics and day camp programs.

Councilmember Daniel Brotman reminded the public about an ongoing educational forum organized by Glendale Community College called Deconstructing Racism: A Persistent American Challenge, which will conclude Friday evening with a Q&A session: <https://tinyurl.com/y7wy3696>.

Additionally, he called for a "deep dive into policing policies and practices" and for a public process culminating in a town hall organized with community input.

The council unanimously approved the Hospitality Workers Workplace Protections ordinance it had deliberated on at last week's council meeting. The emergency measure was proposed by UNITE HERE Local 11, a union representing hotel and hospitality workers, and addresses the issues of worker recall, just cause discharge, worker retention and worker safety training provisions. In April, the council directed staff to conduct stakeholder outreach and to review similar ordinances adopted by other cities in the region and to include limited worker personal safety training provisions in the legislation Glendale adopted. The city estimates the cost at \$408,000 in training and enforcement expenses.

The council received an extensive update from local and Sacramento staff and reviewed its overall policy goals: local control, fiscal responsibility, economic vibrancy, informed and engaged community, safe and healthy community, balanced quality housing, community services and facilities, infrastructure and mobility, arts and culture, and sustainability.

Regarding the state budget, the governor's "May revise" called for \$14 billion in education cuts as well as a 10% cut to state workers' pay. The legislature delayed these so-called "trigger cuts" until October anticipating potential federal help for state and local governments.

In local action, the council approved the final part of the Deukmejian Park Nature Education Center project, authorizing the use of local Glendale contractor Ironwood for interpretive work, authorizing the expenditure of up to \$1.2 million to complete the project. Some discussion ensued about increasing access to the natural treasure to families in all parts of the city.

Finally, the council took up a proposal to automate pedestrian traffic signals. Initially the measure had been introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the public from contraction. Councilmember Brotman proposed to implement broader measures to enhance the city's "walkability;" the council voted instead to install self-cleaning safety film on the buttons.

"Motorists are going to go bananas," Devine observed after understanding the proposal called for traffic to stop at every signaled intersection.

"If this is about traffic calming, let's go through the process and analyze it," Councilmember Ara Najarian added.

VENTILATORS from COVER

problem and, after only 40 days, the scientists tasked with making a cheaper, quicker, easier-to-build yet equally effective ventilator, came up with a solution.

"It's a new design. There were no blueprints for this. It was a new design based on input from medical professionals," said Leon Alkalai, one of the leaders of the Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally (VITAL) team and manager of JPL's Office of Strategic Partnerships. "Then we tested it in the field at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and then at UCLA Ronald Reagan Hospital. Then we [sought] medical approval from [the] FDA, which we got for emergency use authorization, and then we licensed the technology. Now we've licensed it to 21 companies."

The ventilator is approved by the FDA for Emergency Use, allowing doctors to assign the VITAL ventilator to patients with less severe symptoms thereby freeing up traditional ventilators for those in greater need.

"It's designed specifically to address the COVID-19 respiratory needs of patients. So it's specifically tailored for not every use of a ventilator for every possible condition that one finds in the hospital, but more specifically to the respiratory needs of patients suffering from COVID-19. And that was specifically gleaned from talking to the doctors who are treating such patients," Alkalai said.

The blueprints for VITAL and the license to manufacture them were awarded to 21 companies from around the world which applied and were chosen based on their ability to scale the production up from whatever they produced previously and implement the proper practices for manufacturing the machine. The companies that applied all had medical device production experience, though not specifically ventilator making experience, or they could team up with other companies to meet the requirements together and be able to scale more effectively.

"So we've picked companies that I would say are not in the first, [that is] not the obvious, usual suspects in the ventilator business. Those typically have scaled up as much as they could; you know, the Medtronic and the Philips and the GE and a bunch of them have already done that," Alkalai said. "They didn't really apply for this license. It was mainly the small-to-medium-sized companies that have either teamed up or have already some experience with building medical devices ... not all with ventilator experience, but experience with other medical devices and getting regulatory approval."

This is a huge step in the ongoing battle against COVID-19 and for an innovative solution to a major problem, JPL seemed like the perfect place to start brainstorming.

"This FDA authorization is a key milestone in a process that exemplifies the best of what government can do in a time of crisis," said NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine in a released statement. "This ventilator is one of countless examples of how taxpayer investments in space exploration – the skills, expertise and knowledge collected over decades of pushing boundaries and achieving firsts for humanity – translate into advancements that improve life on Earth."



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CELEBRATING OUR GRADS 2020



Cade Lipscomb prepares to walk to the stage.



A graduate and family pass under the scaffolding celebrating the graduates.

In a year like none other, the schools of the Crescenta Valley rallied around students who were promoting from sixth or eighth grades and graduating from high school. With the creative energy of staff, teachers, administrators and more, memories were made that will last a lifetime.



Amid shouts of congratulations, a senior walks past school staff members on hand to wish him well.

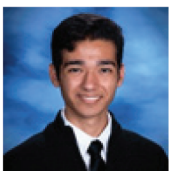


Superintendent Dr. Vivian Ekchian, Principal Linda Junge and a graduate on the stage outside the school.

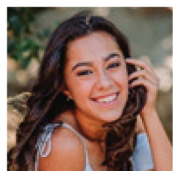


Glendale Unified School District Salutes Our Outstanding 2020 Graduates We wish you continued success in college, career, and life!

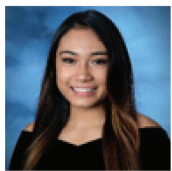
223 N. Jackson Street, Glendale, CA 91206 | 818.241.3111 | www.gusd.net | @GlendaleUSD



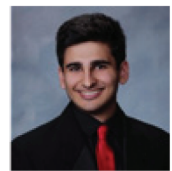
Cole Barrios
Clark Magnet High School
University of Southern California



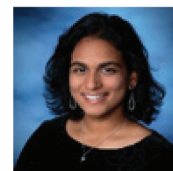
Sarah Benitez
Crescenta Valley High School
Whitman College



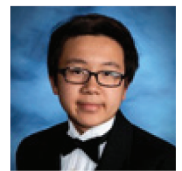
Isabelle Bruyere
Hoover High School
University of California, Los Angeles



David Chibukhchyan
Glendale High School
University of California, Los Angeles



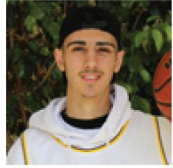
Joby A. Chiriyankandath
Clark Magnet High School
Princeton University



Justin Chong
Hoover High School
Dartmouth College



Jamie Fritz
Glendale High School
University of British Columbia



Toni Geragosian
Daily High School
Glendale Community College



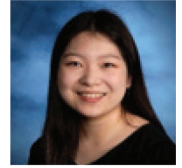
Nayra Gharpetian
Glendale High School
University of California, Los Angeles



Elizabeth Ju
Crescenta Valley High School
University of California, San Diego



Aryaan Khan
Hoover High School
Yale University



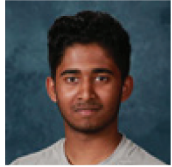
Hannah Kim
Hoover High School
Bowdoin College



Solomon Kim
Crescenta Valley High School
Stanford University



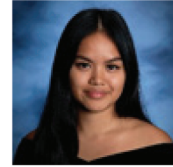
Janet Louie
Glendale High School
University of California, Los Angeles



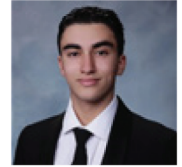
Rohin Manvi
Crescenta Valley High School
Stanford University



Roni Margousi
Clark Magnet High School
University of California, Los Angeles



Jilliane Marie Mendoza
Hoover High School
California Army National Guard



Artin Muradyan
Glendale High School
University of California, Los Angeles



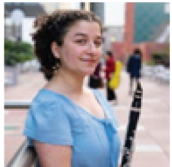
Eliza Park
Verdugo Academy
Pratt Institute



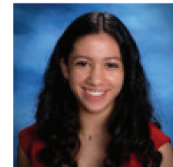
Ara Patvakanian
Crescenta Valley High School
University of Pennsylvania



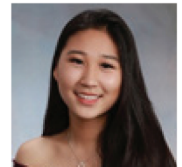
Edgar Petrosyan
Glendale High School
University of California, Irvine



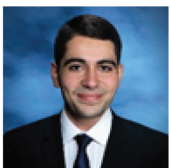
Anoush Pogossian
Verdugo Academy
Julliard Program, Columbia University



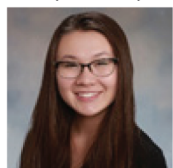
Ella Ramamurthy
Clark Magnet High School
University of California, Berkeley



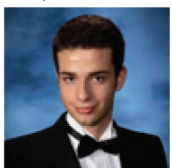
Jiyouon Roh
Crescenta Valley High School
Princeton University



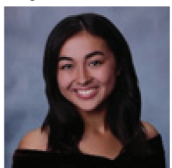
Edgar Sahakian
Clark Magnet High School
University of California, Los Angeles



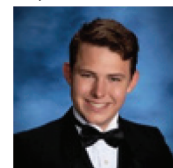
Eileen Stiles
Crescenta Valley High School
John Hopkins University



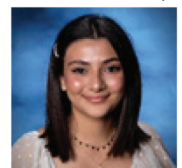
Diego Valle
Hoover High School
Cornell University



Ella Wasson
Glendale High School
Scripps College



Andrew West
Hoover High School
Emerson College



Tanya Yarian
Clark Magnet High School
Pepperdine University

MONTE VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Monty was on hand to wish the class well.



Driving by Monte Vista in style.



A send-off for the former sixth graders.



Principal Suzanne Risse and Assistant Principal Hury Babayan welcome the graduates.



Prom Plus celebrates all the 2020 students who promoted and graduated after a unique school year.



Congratulations to Matthew Stickles, recipient of this year's Prom Plus Scholarship and the Lion's Club Brett Tyler Scholarship. Prom Plus wishes him luck in the next leg of his journey: heading to USC!



Congratulations to the

CV Boys Basketball Seniors! We are very proud of you and know you will do great things in your futures - on and off the court!

You will always be in our hearts, with Nadin and Noah looking down from heaven. Good luck!

Go Falcons!

The CV Boys Basketball Booster Club

- #32 - Alec Voskarian
- #25 - Danny Khani
- #33 - Armen Avanes
- #54 - Chuck Meyer
- #14 - Keegan Schmit
- #11 - Tyler Carlson
- #24 - Zando Arzoumanian
- #45 - Nate Nuttall

CLARK MAGNET H.S.



Uniquely Crescenta Valley: Celebrating Local Promoting and Graduating Students

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the way most Americans live. Since March, its citizens have had to reconcile how to do many day-to-day chores – and rethink some milestone events. These include promoting from elementary school and middle school and graduating from high school and college.

Dena Blood is a fourth generation La Crescenta resident and mom to seven kids. Not only does she have fond memories of her own graduation but of her children's, too. However, none compare with the memories made at this year's promotions and graduations – including the one for her son Matt who promoted on June 9 from Mountain Avenue Elementary School.

"As the sixth of seven children, Matt has sat through many, many graduation ceremonies, so he was deeply disappointed to not be able to make his siblings finally have to sit through one of his own!" Blood shared. "Truthfully, it was really hard on Matt and his friends to miss out on the end of year activities. Matt was really looking forward to the sixth grade bowling party and parents versus students softball game. He was deeply disappointed to miss the sixth grade trip to Washington, D.C. Matt had been working to pay for the trip for over a year."

But the efforts made on behalf of the promoting class were not lost on the youngster.

"Matt was deeply touched by the great efforts put into making the promotion special and memorable. On Monday, the principal and staff decorated the front entrance of the school and we drove through the parking lot and were handed Matt's diploma. Additionally, on Tuesday, the principal prepared a video of student and teacher messages reminding students of their happy time at Mountain Avenue and reminding them to strive for excellence," Blood said. "The video, presented over Zoom, was heartfelt and memorable. Happy tears were shed by all – at least in my household."

Not only did Blood and her

husband David have to rally their children around the idea of Matt's promotion from sixth grade but they had to cope with the inability of traveling to Utah for their oldest son Johnny's graduation from Brigham Young University (BYU).

"We weren't allowed to travel to Utah to be with [Johnny] and his wife Maddie," Blood said. "It was so sad!"

Blood is also a graduate of BYU and Johnny was born while she and David were at graduate school.

"Little Johnny wore his own 'cap and gown' to see me graduate with a master's degree in English. David received his juris doctor from BYU Law School," recalled Blood. "We were really looking forward to celebrating Johnny and his wife Maddie when they graduated from our alma mater on April 24."

"Unfortunately, because BYU's graduation was just over a month after the school was shut down amid COVID fears, the university did not have time to make any alternate commencement plans. Additionally, we were under strict stay-at-home orders and were unable to travel to Utah to at least take pictures with

them or celebrate."

She added that, thankfully, Maddie's parents threw Johnny and Maddie a graduation ceremony in their backyard, though she still was sad at missing the festivities.

"I cried the day of his graduation – tears of joy for the children's accomplishments and tears of sadness for not getting to celebrate with them," Blood said.

Just up Rosemont Avenue, Monte Vista Elementary School held a drive-by parade for its promoting sixth grade students. Families drove across Orange Avenue through the Monty Lane in front of the school where more than 20 staff members cheered them on with posters, cowbells and pom-poms and celebratory music.

According to Suzanne Risse, MV principal, the event was planned by the MV sixth grade team, spearheaded by Susan Lee in conjunction with the 6th Grade Committee. The PTA team, organized by Sosi Parsegian and Jen Park, purchased decorations and a "step and repeat" photo banner.

Monty Lane was decorated, under

Welcoming students at Rosemont.



the direction of the PTA and sixth grade committee, with red and white, as well as "paw prints," see GRADS on page 12

2019

2020

**MOUNTAIN AVENUE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

DEAR CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations!

THE MOUNTAIN AVENUE FACULTY AND STAFF ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF YOUR HARD WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS. WE WILL MISS YOU TREMENDOUSLY NEXT YEAR. ENJOY YOUR LEARNING JOURNEY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL! MOST IMPORTANTLY, REMEMBER, ONCE A MOUNTAIN AVENUE BEAR... ALWAYS A BEAR!

#GoBears!

**BEEVE VISION CARE
CENTER**

**WE ARE
NOW OPEN!**

Observing distancing and sterile procedures for your protection.

**WE ARE HERE TO
TAKE CARE OF YOU.**

Stay safe & be well.

SCOTT W. BEEVE, MD, FACS
IS PROUD TO BE PART OF THIS COMMUNITY!

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GRADS from previous page

balloons and streamers. Huge Monty sheepdog mascots were placed along the sidewalk. Families decorated their cars with Class of 2020 balloons and banners declaring "We love you, Monte Vista" as well as written messages on the windows. Once the car reached the front of the school, each student emerged and walked to the front door where a Monte Vista Class of 2020 "step and repeat" served as a backdrop for a photo.

"Students then walked back to their car where our mascot, Monty, bid them farewell," said Risse. "The last sign as they drove away read 'Middle School Here I Come!' It was a team effort to pull off this unique event. In addition to nearly 30 staff members, Dr. Mary Mason and GUSD Board Member Shant Sahakian were in attendance."

At Rosemont Middle School, the staff, teachers, Principal Scott Anderle and the Spartan mascot were all on hand for the certificate distribution. Like other schools, parents drove up to the school as school members shouted congratulations before the students were given their certificate.

Crescenta Valley High School also had to put on its thinking cap to create a memorable experience for its graduates. On Wednesday morning, June 10, hundreds of cars lined up on Ramsdell Avenue, making their way north. Just before reaching Community Avenue, they turned into the faculty parking lot where teachers, school staff and administrators greeted them. At the driveway exit onto Community Avenue, the seniors got out of the car and, wearing cap and gown and a mask, made their way to a platform where Principal Linda Junge and Superintendent Vivian Ekchian waited with their diploma and congratulations.

"The graduation was an all-hands on deck labor of love! We spent roughly \$10,000 from funds allocated to host graduation - district monies. We worked with vendors we normally use for graduation. We knew we needed to make this extra special, and we are glad that it was so well received by our students and families," said Junge. "PTSA paid for each student to download an image from Bronson's Photography this year, too."

After getting their photo taken, sans masks, the students climbed back into their vehicle and drove eastbound on Community Avenue through a trestle with Falcons 2020 on it, balloons and a fountain of cold sparks.

Allan F. Daily High School and Verdugo Academy celebrated their Students of the Year. These are students who have good grades, are active in school leadership, and have

demonstrated caring for other students. At Daily, Toni Geragiosian was recognized and at Verdugo, Eliza Park was celebrated.

"The students at Daily High School and Verdugo Academy are used to doing things differently, but they never expected the huge changes this spring brought for them," said Principal Lonny Root. "However, our graduates rolled with the punches and did what needed to be done and were successful. I am confident they will take this ability with them into their adult lives."

Senior Alexa Hernandez appreciated the work the done on behalf of the graduating students. A graduate of Crescenta Valley High School, she understood the efforts put forth by the district's high schools.

"The drive-through graduation overall had amazing energy," she said. "It was great to see teachers, staff, and parents come together [something] I feel never happens at a typical graduation. The see GRADS on page 15



Quinn Marquez
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
TUJUNGA

Today's another reason to brag about our beautiful Quinn. Congratulations! Love, Dad, Mom, Celeste and Lucia



Samantha Ashley Moore
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Sammi, congratulations on all your hard work and your many achievements. We wish you a bright and successful future! Love, Mom and Dad



Claire Kupersmidt
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Sonoma State bound. Enjoy the journey as much as the dream. We love you to the moon and back! The fam-a-lam-a-ding-dong



Kayleigh Scott
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Kayleigh's plans are to attend the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma Washington and make lots of new friends.



Mackenzie Hofmann
VILLAGE CHRISTIAN

Congrats to my Sunshine! I love you & I am so proud of you. Can't wait to see you play @ Vanguard! Love, Grandma Erika



Hayley, Alexa, Kayleigh, Jana, Katie, Liz, Erin, Emily
CRESCENTA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

"Surround yourself with only people who are going to lift you higher"



Nikki Cassin, Riley Welsh and Sofia Camperos
CRESCENTA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

*All looking forward to College Life but will miss CVHS
Congratulations Nikki (Loyola), Riley (Cal-Poly) & Sofia (Oregon)
We are proud of you!
With love from your families.*



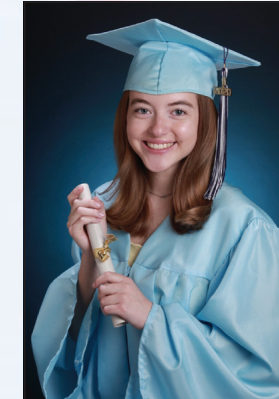
Wyatt Miller
ROSEMONT MIDDLE
SCHOOL

Congratulations Wyatt! We are so proud of you! Every single moment is worth its weight in gold. Love S'Mom, Dad, Grandma, Thalia & Indy



Lukas Newman
ROSEMONT MIDDLE
SCHOOL

Lukas, we are SO PROUD of your hard work at Rosemont. Looking forward to seeing you shine at CV. Love, M & D



Samantha Wells
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations Samantha! We are so proud of you and can't wait to see where the next chapter in your journey takes you!! We love you!!! Love, Dad, Mom, Allie, Roxy, Lucy & Randall



Sarah Stephan
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations Lovey girl! We're so proud of you. Mom, Dad, Nicole & Julie



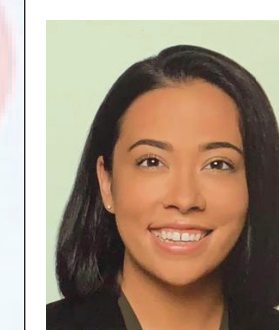
Sophie & Sara Viray
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

"Sara & Sophie- we are so proud of you both and we love you very much! Nay & Dad Good luck at Berkeley and UCLA!"



Trenton Tadaki
CRESCENTA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations! Follow your dreams as nothing is impossible! We are so proud of you! We love you! Dad, Mom and Ty



Marissa Robertson
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
GROSSMAN SCHOOL
OF MEDICINE

*After graduating NYU Marissa will be doing her Psychiatric Residency at the University of Chicago
Congratulations!
Love, Mom & Dad*



Seniors of the CV Marching Band & Color Guard
CRESCENTA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

This group of award-winning Falcons has much to be proud of and a bright future ahead!

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

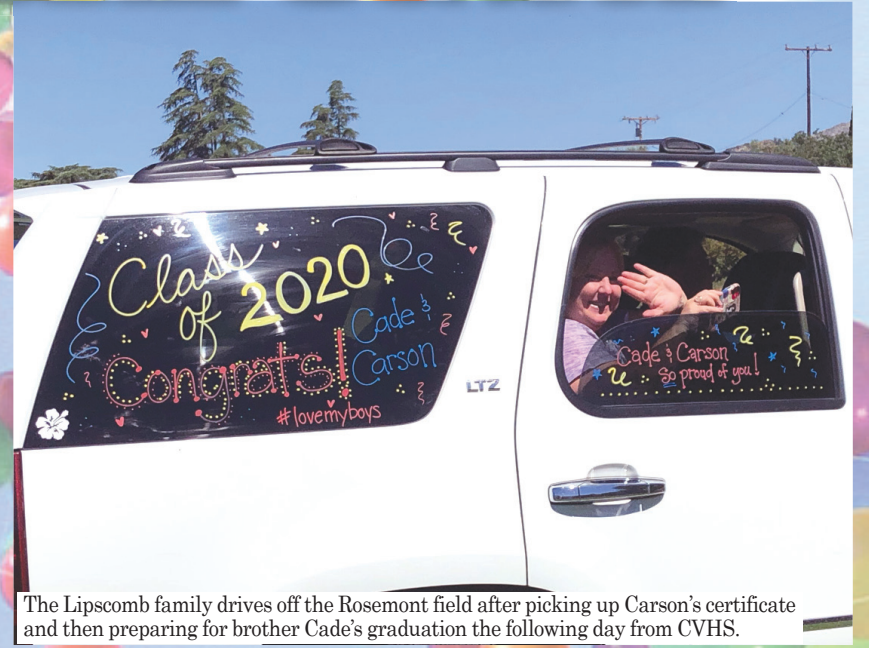
Congratulations,
GRADUATES!
2020

WWW.GLENDALE.EDU/APPLY

ROSEMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL



Balloons and cheers welcomed promoting Rosemont students.



The Lipscomb family drives off the Rosemont field after picking up Carson's certificate and then preparing for brother Cade's graduation the following day from CVHS.



The Rosemont Spartan greets the promoting students.



Teacher Amanda Baldwin could be heard shouting "I miss you already!"

Congratulations, graduates!

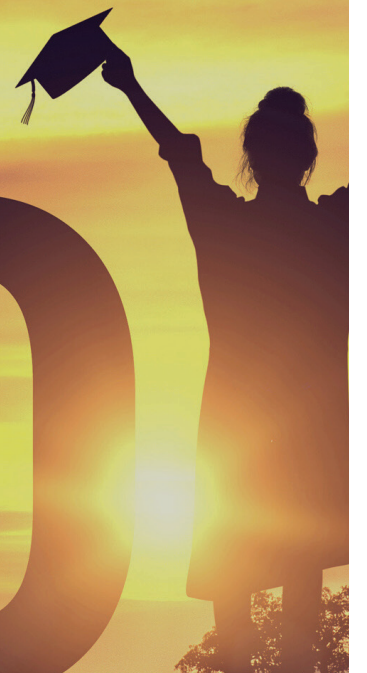
As the sun sets on this chapter, know the next will be even brighter. Your Crescenta Valley community is cheering for you every step of the way.



Kathryn BARGER

Chair • Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors • 5th District

2020



[f @SupervisorBarger](#) [t @KathrynBarger](#)
[i @SupervisorKathrynBarger](#) [KathrynBarger.LACounty.gov](#)

GRADS from page 12

overwhelming support made everything feel better regardless of the circumstances. It was a lot of fun seeing different cars decorated and coming out of the car and walking up to the makeshift stage where our principal Dr. Junge was handing us our diplomas. It was definitely a graduation [unlike any other], and I'm happy about that."

"It was pretty special," Junge agreed. At Clark Magnet High School, about 90% of its 244 graduating seniors took part in a car parade that gave them a chance to drive by clerical staff, custodians, counselors and Activities Director Shari Scott-Sawyer who all wished them well, said Assistant Principal Brian Landisi.

"All students were able to exit their vehicle, pick up their diploma case and have their photo taken with the superintendent and GUSD Board members Shant Sahakian and Greg Krikorian," said Landisi.

It was a lot of work to pull something meaningful together in a short amount of time.

"We knew that that pandemic had really affected local small businesses, so we worked with the parent of one of our graduating seniors to put together the flower arrangements and the parent of another one of our students owns Copy Network and printed signs for our staff to hold as they cheered on the graduates," said Landisi. "The Class of 2020 will be invited back to campus later this week to pick up customized bags that contain all their awards, their yearbooks and alumni gear. Graduation is our favorite day of the year, so we figure we should just extend the celebration."

Landisi added that in a very interesting twist of fate, this year's seniors chose a quote by Jack London as their senior class motto long before their world was turned upside down: "Life is not always a matter of holding good cards, but sometimes playing a poor hand well."

"While the end of the year looked a little different for teachers and students, I think we all are a little closer - even though we mostly have had to connect virtually - because of this shared experience and making it through together," said Landisi.

Finally, a drive-by graduation celebration for CVHS seniors was held on Saturday. Families of graduates hosted celebrations on their front lawns. These events were designed as a safe alternative for family and friends to offer congratulations from their cars or walking by from a safe distance while wearing masks. People coming by were encouraged to decorate their cars, make signs and honk, yell and wave.

"The event was an enormous success, with participating families receiving many drive- or walk-by visits from friends, family members and supportive community members to honor the grads," said Linda Abrams whose son Alex graduated from CVHS. "Participating families decorated their homes with elaborate graduation decorations and played festive music or hired a DJ."

At her home, Alex, who loves corgi dogs, was surprised when Linda decorated with corgi themed decorations. She also invited a host of corgis over to celebrate Alex's achievement. Over 30 corgis came, one traveling over two hours, to be part of the celebration. Among the pups was Instagram favorite Mr. Pickles and Jojo, the surfing corgi, both recently featured on "It's a Dog's Life" on the DisneyPlus channel.

No matter how the graduates and promoting students were celebrated, the efforts of local schools were not lost.

"Our GUSD promotions and graduations were amazing!" said GUSD Superintendent Vivian Ekchian. "Under the most unique circumstances, we were able to recognize and celebrate our youth and their accomplishments!"

Newly graduated Hernandez is settling into her new status. "Being around my family at this time is all I want," she said. "It's amazing that under these circumstances they are the only people that I want in my celebration because they are the reason why I made it! A dinner and house celebration is enough in this moment and I'm truly grateful."

Lori BODNAR contributed to this story.

Photos provided by Linda ABRAMS, Chris CALLAHAN, Robin GOLDSWORTHY, Brian LANDISI, Suzanne RISSE



Monte Vista student Max Junge shares a goodbye when passing the school.



A CVHS senior approached the stage while her family videos from the car.



College graduate Johnny Blood, left and top, and with parents Dena and David.



At Clark Magnet High School, school staff turn out to celebrate the soon-to-be graduates.

Congrats Class of 2020

The day you worked so very hard for is here...Graduation Day!
We are very excited to see what the future has in store for all of you!

Congratulations to all Members of the Class of 2020, High Schools, Middle Schools and Colleges!



This ad is sponsored by J's Maids as a service to the community. (818) 248-2001 | www.JsMaids.com Wishing you all calm and health!



YOUTH

A Driveway Graduation Story

By Dylan SYLVESTER

As the people of the Crescenta Valley know, it wouldn't be graduation day without over 90 degree weather and, without fail, this year's Crescenta Valley High School graduation date of June 10 had a high of 92.

Due to social distancing, however, all other aspects of graduation for the Class of 2020 was anything but traditional. Many families were not going

to let the milestone event pass without celebration, though.

La Crescenta local Debbie Meyer's son Charlie was part of the Crescenta Valley High School Class of 2020. With the help of other CVHS parents who had graduating students, Meyer invited friends and neighbors to her home to watch as about 15 students in cap and gown had their names and accolades read, then received their diplomas.

"All these kids worked so hard and I wanted them to have

that culmination of graduating with their friends," said Meyer.

Friends and families sat in the street at a distance from each other as students walked down the Meyer driveway, waving to the crowd. CVHS teacher John Pehar was a guest speaker.

"They're all my kids," said Pehar explaining that he had taught all of them, either in their academic classes, student government or in cheerleading.

The students and parents were happy to have Pehar

present as he was a teacher who had a special role in the students' CVHS experience.

Among the graduating students was Jocelyn Grande, who was ASB president for the 2019-20 school year. She said that although it was a shame that a traditional graduation couldn't be held for the CVHS senior students, it was nice to experience a ceremony with her close friends in a space that was much more personal.

Although current mandates

dictate people stay physically apart, they have also given an opportunity for people to come together in very unique ways.

Community members such as Meyer and the other friends and family members who planned the driveway graduation, reminded everyone that tradition doesn't have to be forgotten in 2020, just adjusted. And, despite strange circumstances, new memories were made for those living through this pandemic.




Class of 2020

Sara Chin
Ella Cristal
Aaron Garcia
Joselyn Grande
Christina Keogh
Lauren Kosco
Rachel McKinnell
Chuck Meyer
Anthony Norkus
Vincent Parrott
Colby Rees
Lautaro Ibarra Rocco
Kristen Sung
Karlie Vinceri
Emily Wang
Hanna Ziccardi

◆ ◆ ◆

Graduate Processional

Pledge of Allegiance

John Pehar, Opening Remarks

Joselyn Grande, Graduate Remarks

Rachel McKinnell, Poem

Conferring of Diplomas

Falcon Fight Song, CVHS Marching Band

Refreshments

CV WEEKLY
WE'RE HERE
FOR YOU!



NMSC Names Recipients Of Corporate-Sponsored Awards

On June 3 the third release was announced of National Merit Scholars by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). Additional recipients of college-sponsored awards will be announced on July 13. By the conclusion of this year's competition, about 7,600 academic champions will have won National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$30 million.

Glendale resident Cole B. Barrios, a graduate of Clark Magnet H.S. with a probable career in

law, received National Merit University of Southern California Scholarship.

Also from Glendale, Shanna L. Finnigan, a graduate of La Cañada H.S. with a probable career in entrepreneurship, received the National Merit University of Southern California Scholarship.

La Cañada Flintridge resident Naomi Karen Kearn, a graduate of La Cañada H.S. with a probable career in medicine, received the National Merit University of

Southern California Scholarship.

La Cañada Flintridge resident Emily S. Newsom, a graduate of Marlborough School, Los Angeles, entering an undecided career field, received the National Merit Harvey Mudd College Scholarship.

La Crescenta resident Sarah S. Paik, a graduate of Crescenta Valley High School, entering a probable career field of biomedical engineering, received the National Merit Vanderbilt University Scholarship.

GCC Hosts Annual Latina Power in STEM Virtual Event

On May 20, the 4th Annual Latina Power in STEM event went virtual. Over 100 middle and high school students from across the United States logged in to hear from professional Latinas in STEM with a special feature from TECHNOchicas. The online event was hosted at Glendale Community College (GCC), as it has been each year, to promote science, technology,

engineering, and mathematics to young Latina students.

Students, parents, and faculty attendees had the opportunity to learn about the career journey of each professional member of TECHNOchicas. Attendees heard of the personal challenges and the rewards each female professional has experienced as a result of pursuing a career in STEM. Students were able to directly

engage with the session by answering poll questions and having the opportunity of Q&A with each speaker.

Currently, many students are feeling uncertain about pursuing higher education at a two-to-four-year college program concerned with how to overcome challenges in the STEM field.

Ann Hernandez, a former GCC student, explained to the student body that there are a variety of paths toward a STEM career. She encouraged the students to "develop excellent study focus and to continue practices to establish the necessary skills for the STEM field". In regards to a two-to-four-year college, Hernandez went on to say that "there is great quality of support within each institution, with great professors and resources" to help navigate the college journey.

The ethos of the online event was built from a belief that exploring career pathways at an early stage of education is fundamentally essential. With this in mind, student attendees were encouraged to participate in dual enrolment classes in their high schools as an opportunity to explore their interests, develop new skills, and earn the necessary college credit they will need in their futures.

According to a report from the

National Science Foundation, Hispanics make up a smaller proportion of workers in science and engineering occupations than of the U.S. workforce as a whole (6% versus 16%). The shared belief of the event was that this should – and can – change in the future.

Latina women in the workforce and academics are working to increase the percentage of underrepresented females in the STEM field. The panel of the Latina Power in STEM event consisted of leaders in their respective fields who actively encouraged young leaders to reach their goals.

One member of the all-female panel was Liz Islas who is a sales specialist at Cisco Meraki. Islas is an engineer who holds a computer science degree and works to aid clients in understanding the value of cloud-managed technology solutions.

Ana Pompa, an entrepreneur and founder of LA-based tech company FindSisterhood, was another of the panelists at the event. Veronica Godinez, elementary principal at Pomona Unified School District, was another example. She has served on several Computer Science Advisory committees and wrote the CA Golden Computer Science Standards. Andrea Chaves was another panelist and speaker who shared her journey as founder

of PineApple Women, which is a platform and community for Latinas to share in Spanish their inspiring stories.

Lastly, Maria Jimenez joined the panelists. She is a private educator who conducts online learning as well as offering coaching and curriculum development using 2.0 Web tools.

To ensure the event was fully inclusive, the entire virtual event was sponsored by the Glendale Foundation that included the presence of a sign language interpreter.

The coronavirus pandemic, which is currently ravaging the world, has affected how activities are carried out in different sectors of the economy and the education sector isn't immune. At present, due to some of the preventive measures put in place by governments in many nations, faculties are now relying on the internet and technological devices to connect, interact and collaborate with their students.

In line with this development, the GCC Career Education hosted over 10 virtual industry Professional Career Series in May to new and continuing students. The Career Series was aimed at encouraging students to complete their certification and explore career pathways within the 16 CA industry sectors.



To our supporters and attendees of CV Fireworks: In the interest of public safety and respecting social distancing rules, we have made the difficult decision to cancel this year's CV Fireworks event. We know that many of you plan your Independence Day celebrations around our community event and we wanted to make sure you knew as soon as possible so that you can plan your family gatherings accordingly. Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to bringing you the biggest and best CV Fireworks show when we see you again on July 4th, 2021. May you, your family and friends remain safe.

www.CVFireworks.com

CVIM Celebrates Graduating Music Seniors

By Lori BODNAR, intern

Plato said, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything." Even the global COVID-19 pandemic can't stop music – during it people have been singing and playing instruments from balconies, porches, and sidewalks, or even virtually together over the internet. Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music held a Virtual Awards Ceremony on Friday, June 5 to honor their student musicians. The instrumental music department usually has a celebratory banquet and awards ceremony at the end of the year but due to the current restrictions, the ceremony was held virtually through Zoom, with over

200 participants taking part.

Mathew Schick, instrumental music teacher at Crescenta Valley High School, has been a fixture at the school for 20 years where he teaches six different music classes.

"Being virtual, it was quite lonely for me speaking to everyone because I couldn't see them [in person] and feel their live energy," Schick said. "However, I was happy that we had many people watching and opportunities for kids to chat and comment while we went through the awards. We had many more people involved making slides, organizing to drop off items afterward, and compiling the information needed for the ceremony. On one hand, I like the idea of listing awardees in slides because it was a wonderful way of recognizing the students and

when we go back to live ceremonies I want to continue that aspect of it. Crescenta Valley Instrumental Music [CVIM, the parent volunteer boosters organization] did an amazing job of helping to convert a live event into a great online experience."

Kimie Blood is an 11th grader at CVHS and is in the marching band and jazz band. Blood plays trombone, piano, clarinet, flute and percussion. She is also the assistant drum major this year and will be the drum major next year as a senior.

"This year's awards were on Zoom and were a bit disappointing that we couldn't share in each other's excitement in person," she said,

see CVIM on page 23

VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Back-to-back Wildfires – 1907 and 1908

Our valley has always been beset by wildfires. Before the land was covered with streets and buildings it was covered in sagebrush, which naturally burns with regularity. Before the valley was built-out as it is today, fires would sweep across the valley. Isolated houses and ranches were defended by the locals, who would quickly cut firebreaks ahead of the flames and then make a stand against the approaching blaze.

When fighting wildfires with no pumpers and limited manpower, tactics were important. It was important to know what direction the fire was headed and what you wanted to protect from the fire, such as structures, crops and orchards, or hillsides. Some of those could be protected by cutting a firebreak ahead of the advancing flames. That would mean cutting all the sagebrush away in a wide

strip so that once the flames hit that area there would be nothing to burn. That would obviously be a lot of work and ineffective in a strong wind. The only tools they had to fight the flames directly were shovels to throw dirt on the flames and beat down the burning brush, and wet gunny sacks to beat at the flames, which deprived the fire of oxygen. Backfires were sometimes used to fight the fire, but those could easily get out of control, and the use of back-firing was better left to experts.

This idea of standing face-to-face with burning brush and whacking at it with shovels and wet sacks boggles the mind. The heat is intense, blistering exposed hands and faces. Smoke is coming right at firefighters, choking them as they breathe hard from exertion. Barrels filled with water are set up near the fight and the men have to

run back and dunk their sacks to keep them wet. The fire can easily get around the firefighters and get behind them, surrounding them. It is dangerous, hard work and, back then, was performed by amateurs.

Just after the turn of the century, the valley was besieged by wildfire two years in a row, in 1907 and 1908. In both cases local resident Phil Begue was the hero of the day.

Phil Begue was one cool guy. His family moved to the mostly uninhabited valley in 1882. He served as one of the first forest rangers of the San Gabriels and was the local constable. He was a family man as well, and a teller of tall tales. He even looked the part, a sturdy man with a big handlebar mustache.

The 1907 fire was relatively small, a couple of square miles, and relatively simple, with only a mild breeze. The fire started near

the northern end of the Verdugo Canyon (approximately where the Oakmont Country Club is) and spread north. Phil Begue and two assistant rangers rode hard to all the surrounding ranches and from miles around gathered a large force of local volunteers. They formed into brigades, and Begue sent them to strategic points ahead of the advancing flames.

In this case, the strategy was to keep the flames out of the Verdugo Hills. The northern flanks of the Verdugos were dotted with small farms and bee ranches and if the flames got in there the fire would be uncontrollable. The volunteer firefighters were arrayed in lines with wet sacks and shovels to hold the flames away from the hills while the more experienced Begue lit well-placed backfires.

Within a matter of hours, the fire crew had brought the wildfire under

control and they methodically mopped up the hotspots. The fire had traveled as far north as La Crescenta Elementary School, getting into a dry, abandoned orchard just below the school, but getting no further. No structures were burned and, even more important, the fire was kept away from the hillsides. However, several groves of oak and sycamore were lost.

The Crescenta Valley got lucky but that luck would not hold. 1908 brought a much fiercer, more destructive fire. The larger fire also resulted in a clash of priorities between federal and state agencies that nearly left La Crescenta unprotected, save for the efforts of Phil Begue.

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

NEWS FROM SACRAMENTO » LAURA FRIEDMAN

Our state has a reputation. As the “Golden State,” California is known for its sunny weather, beaches, deserts, forests, mountains and abundant natural resources. However, that same diverse climate and rugged beauty also has a tendency to turn on us. All California residents must live with the question of when, not if, the next natural disaster will strike. And knowing our region’s predisposition for earthquakes, floods, drought and fire, are we prepared?

California’s wildfire season isn’t “just around the corner.” It’s already here. Just last week we saw two notable wildfires: one in the Sepulveda Pass and another in Mendocino County. During 2017 and 2018, California experienced the largest fires ever recorded in its history. Combined, the fires burned over 3 million acres of land, destroyed 32,700 structures, and cost the state an unprecedented \$40 billion and counting. In his revised budget, Governor Newsom proposed

millions of dollars in cuts to wildfire preparation and prevention programs. Here is the hard truth – wildfires aren’t going to take a break while we focus on COVID-19 and resulting economic crisis. Despite the pandemic, a strained budget, social unrest, increasing unemployment and homelessness, we cannot afford to take a pass on preparing for natural disasters.

Wildfires are just one of the high-risk disasters that can occur at any time. It’s hard to think about California without considering our more notorious challenge: earthquakes. In recent years, the legislature has struggled to get earthquake resiliency measures signed into law, although we have made some important investments. In the two prior budgets, we’ve allocated over \$116 million to the California Disaster Assistance Act, a program administered by the California Office of Emergency Services that provides financial assistance to local governments to

fund repairs and/or replacement of property damaged by disasters. This year, despite our budget challenges, we are allocating \$17.3 million for the California Earthquake Early Warning System. While these are good and crucial investments, I have to ask: Are they good enough? It is unlikely those funds, as currently allotted, would help communities through a major earthquake in which the damage to infrastructure and the local economy could cost billions.

When COVID-19 first began raging through our communities, taking lives, devastating nursing homes and grinding our economy to a halt, we had to move quickly and with unprecedented resolve. Fortunately, fiscally responsible budgeting allowed California to begin 2020 with an historically high “rainy day” surplus fund, which along with our long-established emergency plans, have helped us mitigate some of the impacts of this crisis. But we also know from our struggling hospitals and our economically devastated residents and businesses that we could have been much better prepared.

This week, due to the economic

devastation from COVID-19, the legislature had to drastically reduce spending in order to deliver a balanced budget. It is incredibly painful to be cutting the budget at the precise time that people need our help the most. To be truly resilient to future disasters, we must focus on making our social safety nets not only well-funded, but as efficient as possible. We must take a hard look at how quickly public agencies such as the Employment Development Department became overwhelmed, and how they continue to struggle to meet crucial needs. We have to demand the state fixes structural issues within all its departments and social service agencies so that they can function during any disaster.

We have seen what happens when disaster strikes in an economy that allows so many residents to survive paycheck to paycheck. Unless we take significant steps to pull more California families out of poverty and forge a more resilient economy, we could be right back here after the next disaster.

There’s no shortage of threats in California, such as climate change, earthquake, flooding and drought.

However, the guiding principle for all these scenarios should be the same: preparedness today will mitigate incredible suffering in the future.

We are in a learning moment. We need to realize that every dollar we invest in resiliency and preparedness is a dollar well-spent. This should be our mantra as we budget for the California of today and the California of the future.

What do you think about California’s preparedness for any number of the disasters we could be facing? Do you have any thoughts, suggestions or ideas on how we can best shift our focus and funding to make our communities more resilient? I would love to hear what you think. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to my District Office at (818) 558-3043 or email me at Assemblymember.Friedman@Assembly.ca.gov.

Laura Friedman represents Burbank, Glendale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Crescenta, Montrose, and the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Atwater Village, East Hollywood, Franklin Hills, Hollywood Hills, Los Feliz and Silver Lake.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Reminder: Life Matters

Life matters; be busy about making it count: learning so you can discover possibilities, sowing so you can reap, seeking those who will uplift you, helping those in need, doing unto others as you would have them do to you, and respecting authority so community can be built up in peace.

Your life will matter as you become an example for those who come behind you; it will put a smile on the face of those who have preceded you, and those who are watching will respect you. Walk proud, walk in righteousness and you will be fulfilled.

And no, this is not always the easy road, but it matters!

From an Old Woman to my Children’s Children.

*Inés Chessum
La Crescenta*

Idea Seems Off-Balance

I read with interest Charly Shelton’s article “Al Fresco Dining Coming to Montrose” in the June 4 issue.

I think this is a perfect opportunity to close off Honolulu between Verdugo and Las Palmas or another street. This does not have to be permanent, only until we can all gather indoors again.

Parking is a big problem in Montrose. I believe making parking lots into outdoor eating areas is not a good idea:

1. Many parking lots are not level; anyone who has tried to eat at an angle can probably agree that it is a pain in the you-know-what.
2. Not all restaurants have an easy access to a parking lot.

*Paul Liu
Glendale*

A Personal Perspective

I feel that I am uniquely qualified to speak out about recent events. On Feb. 8, 2000, my brother was shot and killed by a sheriff’s deputy.

The George Floyd killing is an abomination. The four officers involved all face second-degree murder and accessory-to-murder charges. They will never wear a badge again and will likely do up to 40 years in prison. Their lives are, for all intents and purposes, over. Their decisions put them in this situation.

For a long time I was bitter about what happened to my older brother, which only harmed me. But in speaking to many people, including police officers, I decided to forgive. Now we hear cries to “defund the police!” People who commit crimes

see LETTERS on page 23



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BETWEEN FRIENDS

LCFTOR Presents Float Rendering



The 2021 Tournament of Roses Parade theme celebrates the power of education to transform our daily lives and make the world a better place.

Henry Ford once said, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80." There is no greater feeling than

knowing you can accomplish something others may doubt you can. This is true of any age, but especially to those who have been around a little longer.

As the saying goes, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." Well, to all those doubters and naysayers out there, we say, "Who says we can't?"

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Triplets Delivered at Glendale Memorial Hospital During COVID-19 Pandemic



Pictured from left are Isabel L., GMHHC RN, Imelda Aguilar Perez (mom) holding baby boy Adriel, Dina M., GMHHC RN, Ariella (baby girl), Veronica T., GMHHC RN, and Anibal Lopez (dad) holding baby girl Ainara.

Los Angeles residents Imelda Aguilar Perez and Anibal Lopez welcomed their triplets on April 22 just as COVID-19 cases across LA County were at their highest. The babies were safely born at Dignity Health – Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center (GMHHC) and spent four weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) before going home.

"Although triplets are not rare, the Lopez triplets were unique in that all three babies were sent home from the hospital on the same day – Monday, May 25," said Dr. Nahid Esani, GMHHC neonatologist.

The triplets – Adriel, Ainara and Ariella – are healthy and gaining weight. At birth the trio weighed 3 pounds 11 ounces, 3 pounds 12 ounces, and 3 pounds 1 ounce, respectively. Adriel, their son, was born first at 6:26 p.m. followed by his two little sisters one minute apart. Proud dad Anibal, shared, "The hospital staff and doctors were so supportive throughout the delivery and the NICU stay. We appreciate all of their help and prayers."

Founded in 1926, Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center is a 334-bed, acute care, nonprofit, community hospital located in Glendale. The hospital offers a full complement of services, including its award-winning heart center, the colorectal surgery institute, a gastrointestinal program, and is a Los Angeles County approved primary stroke center. The hospital shares a legacy of humankindness with Dignity Health, one of the largest health care systems.

Visit dignityhealth.org/glendalememorial for more information.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Los Angeles Probate Court And Overbids

Dear Phyllis,

After looking at homes for months and making numerous offers, we finally got an offer accepted on a probate property. For some reason in this probate, the court needed to confirm our contract before we could close escrow. Our REALTOR® explained that at court, someone new could jump in and bid over our already agreed upon price. This home is a fixer upper and we told our Realtor® that we would not increase our price. So, we went ahead with the inspection, paid for the appraisal and got everything ready to close.

Court was last week, and our agent called us that evening to let us know that we were overbid. He said he didn't attend as we weren't going to overbid there was no point in him being there. So now, we have lost several

months' time, and spent the appraisal and inspection money with nothing to show for it. I really don't know what my question is, I want to vent but want to know if things could have turned out differently. JB

Dear JB,

I am sorry for your disappointment. Not all probate sales require court confirmation with the possibility of overbids. A probate sale is the sale of a home of someone who has passed and does not have a living trust.

Those requiring court confirmation At the court confirmation hearing three things can happen: 1) No other bidders appear in court; original buyer closes at the already agreed upon offered price. 2) There are other bidders, but the original buyer outbids them. 3) Other bidders appear and

the original buyer decides not to increase his offered price and the highest bidder opens escrow.

Your offer was accepted "subject to court confirmation". At the time of the court hearing your contingencies were removed and you were ready to close. Unfortunately, at your hearing, other bidder(s) came into play and outbid you. The first overbid is a complicated calculation. Approximately 5% over your currently "in escrow price".

When thinking of purchasing a probate listing, the first question to ask is whether or not the sale requires court confirmation. As you have sadly learned it's much better for the buyer when the court is not required to confirm the sale. As you weren't going to increase your offer, there was no point in you or your Realtor® attending the hearing.

People Making News

Michelle Rasic of La Crescenta graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in history from College of Charleston in May. Rasic was among the more than 1,500 students who received degrees.

Located in the heart of historic Charleston, South Carolina, the College of Charleston is a nationally recognized public liberal arts and sciences university. Founded in 1770, the College is among the nation's top universities for quality education, student life and affordability. Its beautiful and historic campus, combined with contemporary facilities, cutting-edge programs and accessible faculty, attracts students from across the U.S. and around the world.



Questions about Today's Real Estate? Ask Phyllis!
818.790.7325 phyllis@realtorharb.com

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Phyllis Harb (DRE# 008487500) is a Realtor® with Coldwell Banker Hallmark Realty

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Katherine Marsh and Patrick Marsh Perform for Noon Concerts

On Wednesday, July 1 at 12:10 p.m., the Free Admission Glendale Noon Concerts program will be streamed. Flutist Katherine Marsh and violist Patrick Marsh will perform works by Francois Devienne, Gordon Jacob, J.S. Bach, Franz Hoffmeister, George N. Gianopoulos, Jonathan Bayley, and a premiere by Los Angeles composer Kirstin Fife "Indoor Games" for flute and viola.

Flutist Katherine Marsh is an active professional musician and teacher. She is currently the solo piccolo player of the Santa Barbara Symphony, principal flute of the San Fernando Valley Symphony Orchestra, and has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Santa Barbara Grand Opera and Master Choral,



ABOVE: Patrick Marsh
BELOW: Katherine Msrsh

the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Pasadena Symphony and Long Beach Symphony as well as other symphony and chamber ensembles throughout Southern California.

Originally from Bowling Green, Ohio, Katherine received a Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California. She was a member of the LA Philharmonic Orchestral Training Program and was selected to

see LEIS on page 22



What's Cooking

Your Local guide to good food!

June 18th Specials!

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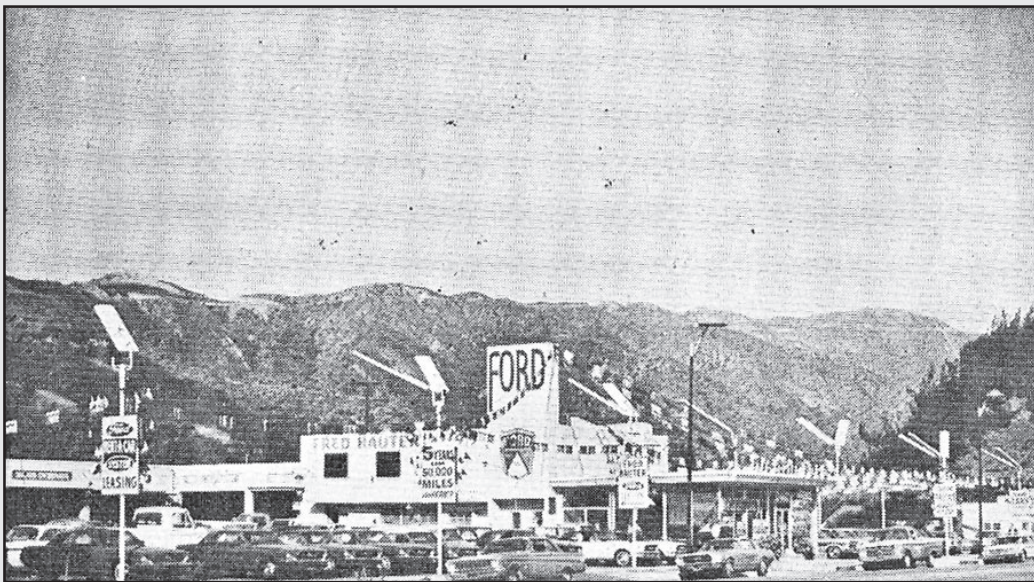
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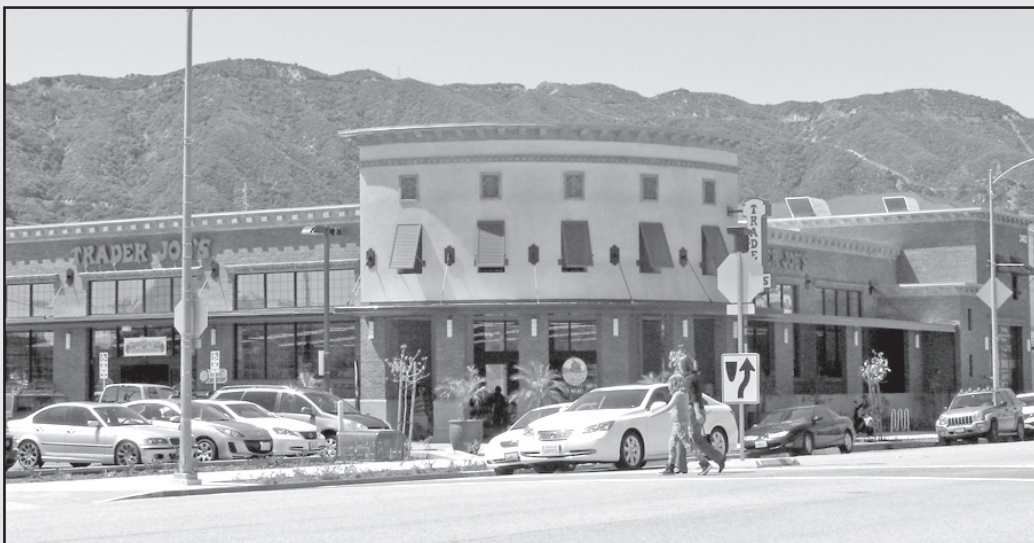
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THEN & NOW | Trader Joe's

Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then » Since 1955, the property at 2460 Honolulu Ave. had been occupied by a Ford dealership, most of that time as Hauter Ford. Besides the car lot and showroom, the site included a service shop, body shop and parts counter. After a couple of name changes, they finally went out of business in 2003, leaving the site as a City owned parking lot.



Now » Trader Joe's leased the property from Glendale and moved their very popular La Crescenta store to this beautiful new building in Montrose. The La Crescenta store was famous for its lack of parking, and some predicted that their new location, with 65 dedicated parking spots, would have plenty of space. But true to form for Trader Joe's everywhere, their new parking lot is always filled to capacity.

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JUST FOR FUN

» COOKING WITH CHEF ANDREW:

How to Make Risotto

Welcome and this week we will be discussing how I make risotto and, hopefully, you can use this as a guide for making your own as well. Here are a few tips when making risotto.

First, never use a metal spoon or a spatula. I always use a wooden spoon. I do not know the reasoning behind this, but sometimes it is just better to do and not ask questions.

Second, you are not going to add the liquid to the rice all at once, but instead a little at a time. So let's get started on what we need to make risotto.

You will need: 1 cup arborio rice, 4 cups water (or stock), 1 large yellow onion, 5 garlic cloves, ½ cup white wine, a pinch of salt,

parmesan cheese as needed and a stick of butter. When preparing this rice dish, the water-to-rice ratio is usually four parts water (or stock) to one-part rice. If you'd like your risotto more done you can always add more water or stock.

Bring your 4 cups of water/stock to a simmer on the stove. Then finely chop your yellow onion and garlic. Heat up a small amount of olive oil in a saucepot. On medium heat, throw in your onion and cook until translucent, then add your garlic.

Before the garlic browns, I personally add 1 cup arborio rice and kind of toast the rice while constantly stirring for about a minute on high heat. Then add the white wine, deglazing the pot and picking up that delicious fond on

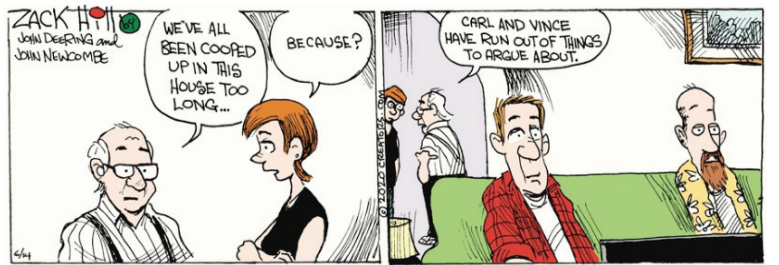
the bottom of the pot.

Once the alcohol is burned off slowing start adding your liquid, about 1 cup at a time. Once you've almost incorporated all the liquid, I would start to season the rice with parmesan cheese, butter and salt. Adjust as needed. Personally I like a lot of cheese and butter in my risotto. The result should look rich and creamy. Feel free to add fresh thyme, mushrooms or anything else you might like. This dish can be eaten by itself or as a side to an elegant meal such as filet mignon or grilled chicken.

I hope you all enjoy and if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, email me at goldsworthyandy@yahoo.com.

ZACK HILL

by John Deering and John Newcombe



WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com
June 15, 2020 - June 21, 2020

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

You seem to be in a sports-minded mood. You may be thinking about taking up golf, basketball, soccer, hockey, or another competitive activity that appeals to you. If you're socializing a lot, boost your immune system with echinacea and vitamin C. There's a chance you may catch a cold or sore throat. Look after yourself!

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You're encouraged to take stock and think about your overall health and well-being. You'd benefit from a detox at certain times of the year. It could mean a couple days of light salads, fruits, and vegetable juice, combined with a few sessions in a steam room or sauna. Get into exercise mode and begin feeling really good.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You may be moved to let go of old grievances and any negative patterns that seem to encourage tension in your body and drain you of energy. If you can find a way to let go by whatever means, then do so. You'll begin to notice a big improvement in your health as a result. It's worth it!

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

You may need to take extra vitamin C and echinacea now, as there's a chance that you could catch a cold or some other minor infection at work. You seem to be more vulnerable now. Exercise will help you flush the toxins from your body and encourage good circulation. Cut down on dairy to help reduce the mucus in your system.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

The Universe may encourage you to direct some of your excess energy into keeping fit and well. You may need a strategy that inspires you to commit some time every day to your well-being. You have a tendency to drift when it comes to following a routine, but anything associated with your health is important. It will help ground you.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Allow yourself to feel your feelings while you're working out. Try to get into the habit of running with your passion, dancing with your sorrow, or swimming with your stress. The act of simultaneously feeling and moving will help you release negativity and tension. You'll feel better and more energetic.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Your energy reserves should improve now. You may feel free of subtle fatigue that has plagued you for some time. It may be time to think about a short detox to cleanse both body and mind. You may also feel moved to invent a new health routine. Go for one you really enjoy!

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Your health zone is in focus, which means that you should be getting maximum benefit from working out. However, you may be getting just as much enjoyment from eating all kinds of rich foods. If you find your waistline expanding, you know it's time to take action. Don't beat around the bush. Make a determined effort to work out every day. You'll feel better.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

The Universe is encouraging you to see your well-being from a fresh perspective. If you've gotten stuck in a rut as far as your workout or diet is concerned, or even if you've lost faith in the process, now is the time to recommit. It's also a great opportunity to think about doing a short detox to get your system feeling fresh again.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

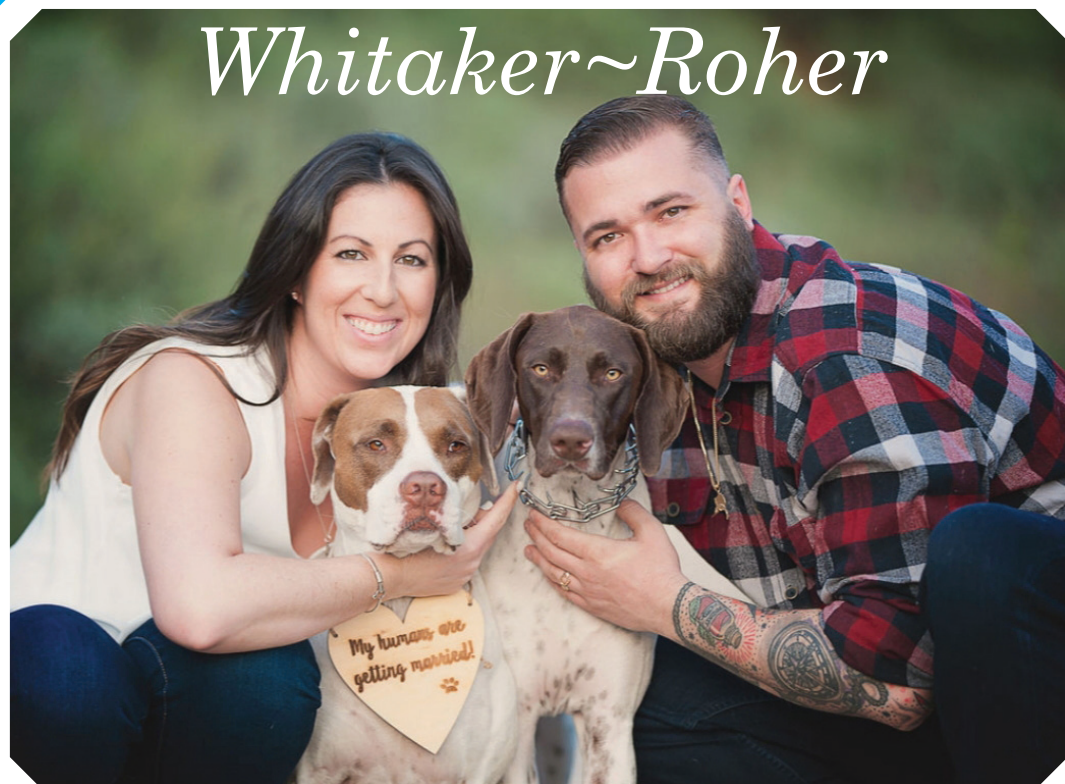
You may be inspired to take stock of your kitchen and the foods you buy. Think about making them more healthy and wholesome. If you have some garden space, you might enjoy growing your own vegetables and herbs. They'll be fresher, tastier, and certainly better for you. Try it!

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You have a new lease on life now. You may want to use this energy to keep fit and stay in shape. After all, your sense of pride almost certainly extends to your body. If you feel out of shape, then get to work. If you need the help of a personal trainer, find one. Some may be more suited to your personality than others.

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

You may be willing to pump more money into keeping fit and having fun at the same time. Pretty soon you'll make sure that any spending you do is fully justified. Look at your current goals and how far you've come. Think about what you need to invest in order to progress further along the path to total wellness. It's worth every cent.



Whitaker~Rohrer

Rachel Whitaker and Ron Rohrer of La Crescenta will be married on June 27 in Hamilton, Montana and will reside in Tujunga. Both are from La Crescenta. Rachel attended Mountain Avenue Elementary, Rosemont Middle School, CV High School and graduated from Cal State Northridge. She is in her sixth year of teaching elementary school. Ron attended CV High School and Mesa College in Arizona and works in real estate. The Whitaker family and the Rohrer family have lived in La Crescenta and La Crescenta area for the last 38 years.

Answers for puzzle 06.11.20
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PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE

By Mason Lorry

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CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
Robin@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
Lisa@CVWeekly.com
818.523.1234
La Cañada
Montrose

Sonya Marquez
Sonya@CVWeekly.com
818.381.2000
La Crescenta
Sunland-Tujunga

Chuck Holler
Chuck@CVWeekly.com
818.468.2956
Glendale

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LEIS rom page 20
perform in The Round Top Music Festival and the Orchestral Institute in Graz, Austria. In addition Katherine has performed in masterclasses with James Galway, Jean Pierre Rampal, Sarah Jackson and Catherine Karoly.
In November Katherine premiered James Domine's "Flute Concerto" with the San Fernando Valley Symphony. Her piccolo

and flute playing can be heard in many Star Wars video games performing with the Skywalker Orchestra. In addition to orchestral work, Katherine is a member of the California Music Teacher's Association and is a coach for Junior Chamber Music. She recently served as a board member for the Arts High Foundation.
Patrick Marsh received

his bachelor's degree in viola performance from the University of Michigan and is currently attending The Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins as a viola major.
As a violist, Patrick was one of the founding members of Clemens Quartet, a string quartet performing and competing throughout the United States.
As a violinist, Patrick is a former

concertmaster of The Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. His performance opportunities have taken him across the United States, Europe, and St. Petersburg, Russia.
Though classical music is the foundation of his technique, he is branching out into the jazz and rock genres. Patrick plays a blue Fourness Fuse 5 string electric violin and runs it through a Line6

Helix for effects, and two Gallien Krueger bass amps in stereo.
Patrick can also be heard as a featured soloist in such feature films as "Kids vs. Monsters" and "Pali Road" as well as such video games as "Relics of Gods" and Disney's "Cartooniverse."
For more information, email glendalesda@gmail.com or call (818) 244-7241.

LETTERS from page 18

such as robbery and burglary are likely shouting the loudest. Let me paint a picture for you.

Scenario one. It's 2 a.m., you are asleep next to your significant other. You have two children sleeping in another room. You awake to the sound of someone trying to gain entry to your home. You dial 9-1-1 and are told that, due to budget cuts, dispatching officers will take approximately 45 minutes. You then gather your family into your bedroom and grab the firearm you purchased for home defense.

Glass shatters and the perpetrator is in your home; still no police. The perpetrator hears a sound and turns; you can see the gun in his hand. He takes aim at you and you pull the trigger. Threat eliminated; now you have to live with the consequences.

Scenario two. The police, funded by your tax dollars, are patrolling in your neighborhood as they are right now. They arrive in minutes. They confront the perpetrator outside of your home and tell him to freeze. He levels his gun at them and they fire; threat eliminated. That's what they are being paid to do, right? Now they have to live with the consequences.

My brother was a 50-year-old white male when he was shot and killed by a sheriff's deputy. There was a two-paragraph article in the local paper. Nobody shed a tear or even took notice except for his friends and family ... and the sheriff's deputy who had to make the terrible decision to take the life of another human being.

Think about it, people.

Frank Pass
Glendale

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BAGS & GRACE from COVER

men and women, especially in a time of a crisis like COVID-19. He started putting together essentials in organic bags and, as he began handing them out around the city, he learned how to modify what to put in them. It couldn't just be granola bars, after all.

"Just stuff I had in my car ... like lip balm, moisturizer. Those kinds of things can go a long way," he said. Each bag costs around \$32. Provost also buys hoodies, which range in price from \$12 to \$14.

Provost said he learned to individualize each bag. If someone didn't have many teeth, soft food should be included, not just beef jerky. Socks were also important because of chilly nights in LA.

"There was one man I used to give bags to. I got him an extra

large hoodie, and he thanked me because he said no one ever gives him clothes that fit his size," Provost remembered.

Eventually, Provost's bag count climbed into the tens and he would go to encampments to hand them out. He also found a partner in Brett Feldman, director of Street Medicine at USC Keck School of Medicine. Together, Provost and the USC team can distribute bags in larger numbers to more people in need.

Provost recalls his upbringing in Galveston, Texas that helped him learn about hospitality.

"I was near the Bayou," he said, referring to New Orleans. "There are a lot of problems with the South, which I'm not ignoring, but we certainly know how to take care of each other."

Provost remembered a joke, that in LA if asked for directions and people don't know, they'll say sorry and go about their day. If Southerners are asked and they don't know, they'll send you to a relative who might know and, if they don't, you'll at least get a meal out of it.

Bags and Grace could always use more volunteers. But the goal, Provost said, is to reel in corporate sponsors. That would make life much easier for the team and benefit the community.

Provost started a blog on the website. He wrote about how the team handed out 50 bags in Hollywood. More help is always appreciated, he said.

To learn how to make a difference, visit bagsandgrace.com.

CVIM from page 17

"but I'm thankful that through modern technology we could still be connected and celebrate with our music family. I loved being able to see everyone's faces again. It's been hard being separated from these wonderful people for so long."

Andrew Kim, an 11th grader at Crescenta Valley High School, is in marching band and plays the saxophone.

"Obviously with the whole pandemic situation we could not have an actual in-person banquet," he said. "The emotional aspect of being with each other and celebrating the awards at the end of the year was missing. Although we could not physically be with each other, we had separate Zoom calls going so we could talk to each other and emotionally support each other during the banquet. The virtual award ceremony gave me a sense of normalcy and in a way some closure to the year. Even though it was not in-person, the awards banquet was still something and for that I am very grateful. It was really nice getting to see all of the faces that I haven't seen in a while, and in a way it was fun because we could still celebrate the accomplishments of my peers and friends even if it was through a screen."

The awards ceremony featured videos of the musicians playing music, recognized CVIM parent volunteers, recognized the seniors and acknowledged the students and their hard work throughout the year. Announcements were made of awards for the students, plus a picture slideshow was created by Andrew Kim that summed up the year. The different music classes at CV are marching band, string orchestra, symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, jazz band, and color guard.

There were 45 seniors in the instrumental music department this year. Many seniors were in instrumental music throughout all four years of high school, an amazing accomplishment. Some seniors joined music in their last year of high school.

"Our CVIM Foundation put together senior gift swag bags and delivered them the day after the award ceremony. It had gift items for everyone as well as what they earned at the awards ceremony. We always give perpetual tickets to every four-year senior that grants them free admission into any CV Instrumental Music Concert for life, as long as I'm the director. It also

had CVIM mugs for everyone as well as some fun and special keepsakes to recognize and acknowledge our musical seniors who are graduating for all they have accomplished."

The students worked hard throughout the whole year and, in marching band, the music students even labored last summer in band camp to learn their music and field formations. In each instrumental music class, there were student officers who help out with tasks in the classroom. The students volunteer to be student officers and gain leadership experience.

Blood was a drum major assistant this year for marching band.

"Being drum major assistant allowed me to give back to an organization that has blessed my family for over two decades as well as to serve the most kind, deserving people I know," she said.

Next year, Blood will be the president of jazz band in addition to drum major of the marching band.

"I am super excited to lead the jazz band next year. We have enrolled a really talented and dedicated group of musicians so I know it will be a fantastic year," she said.

Andrew Kim was vice president of the marching band this year.

"I was able to help a lot of people, and was essentially a catch all for problems that needed to be resolved," Kim said. "This was by far the most rewarding portion of my role as I could see a physical representation of my work, whether it was working alongside our equipment crew, or fixing broken props, or taking pictures, I was able to make a difference."

Kim will be the marching band president next year.

"I am very excited to be the next marching band president because of the strong leadership team that we have this year. All of my fellow peers have been working so hard for this upcoming year and I cannot wait to see what we as a group accomplish musically," he said of his new role. "Although the role of the marching band might change in the coming year due to COVID-19, I am confident that we, as a group, will have a very memorable year. I cannot wait to see what is in store for us."

The music students performed in the Winter Concert, although the Spring Concert was cancelled due to COVID-19. However, the music students kept practicing and playing music via remote learning.

There is also an equipment crew

who helps load the trailer and U-Haul for performances at football games and festivals, and assists with other tasks such as checking the instruments and helping with the lockers.

Additional awards were given for the most spirited, outstanding musicians, and outstanding initiative in the different music classes that were voted for by the students. Students also made awards for their peers such as the three musketeers, most likely to be Tik Tok famous award, walking history textbook, and best hair.

Scholarships were presented to exceptional music students. The national awards presented at the CVHS Instrumental Music Virtual Awards Banquet were the Director's Award, Louis Armstrong Award for Jazz Band, National Orchestra Award, and John Philip Sousa Award.

Alexa Hernandez, a senior who was in both marching band and string orchestra for four years, won the Director's Award. Hernandez was also the president of string orchestra this year.

David Januzik won the Louis Armstrong Award. Leo Gonta won the National Orchestra Award. Nicholas Sandoval, the drum major of marching band for this year, won the John Philip Sousa Award. The criteria for these awards include private lessons, commitment, enthusiasm, dedication, growth, involvement, leadership, citizenship, dependability and musical accomplishment. The students who won these awards are clearly dedicated to music.

The marching band usually has band camp in the summer.

"Band camp will happen, but depending on what the District allows us to do, I'm not sure if we'll be doing virtual or in person," said Schick. "I'm planning for both so when we know I can implement a fun and worthwhile experience either way."

The memories and skills that these students take with them will not be forgotten.

"Marching band has a special place in my heart because of the bond that we share amongst members," said Kim. "Due to the amount of time that we spend with each other, we become very close with one another and, in a cheesy way, they are like your family."

And through music there might be direction on how to handle current uncertainties.

"I know right now we are all grasping how to deal with the current situation," said Schick. "I find that music helps give us purpose and an outlet. Whether we just listen or play, music can give us a way to express how we feel without having to verbally articulate it. We will get through this period in our life and we will

have fantastic stories to tell our kids and grandkids. Look ahead to the time we get to be around each other again and don't take the little things for granted when we can get together because as we've learned, those things can be taken away at a moment's notice. Appreciate those around you and do your best to make life better for them."

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