

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

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JULY 2, 2020

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Meeting Increased Internet Demands on Council Agenda

By Julie BUTCHER

Glendale City Council returned to the council chambers this week – city hall elevators were back in service after lengthy repairs – to tackle a long list of issues, approve a status quo contract with most of its employees, and extend most COVID-19 related emergency orders through the end of July.

First the council heard from Charter Communications - Spectrum in response to questions raised by Councilmember Ardashes "Ardy" Kassakhian about the company's ability to respond to the dramatically increased demands of service due to the pandemic.

"Can you hear me now?" director of government affairs Stephen Sawyer asked at the beginning of his virtual presentation. Once the connection was secure, Sawyer ran through some history and detailed what is being done to meet the needs of the moment. For example, Spectrum Internet Assist is a low-cost program to get Internet access to students and seniors who qualify. The company said it has waived fees and late charges and maintained and expanded free Internet service to students. Spectrum News is offered for free, Sawyer said, and a couple of the council members have appeared on the local news programs.

Quoting Charter Communications Chairman and CEO Tom Rutledge, Sawyer recognized the company's 95,000 employees and detailed actions taken to support them including announcing a minimum wage of \$20 per hour phased in over the next two years, retroactive pay increases and additional paid time off.

Responding to questioning from Councilmember Kassakhian and harsh criticism from a caller from the Rossmoyne neighborhood, Sawyer pledged to follow up on the congestion and quality issues raised.

"I do apologize. You should not have to go through 45 days of miscommunications like that," he said.

During the general council comment period, Councilmember Paula Devine recognized Montrose's Steve Pierce on his "reported retirement from volunteerism. I just want to wish him well."

She also inquired about letting the senior soccer program at the Pacific Community Center resume for its walking soccer games and about the feasibility of

see GCC on page 15

High Temperatures and Fireworks Put Safety Personnel on Edge

By Mary O'KEEFE

The absence of professional fireworks displays this Fourth of July leaves an opening for the use of illegal fireworks – and the injuries and fires they can cause.

Emergency responders continue to see an increase in calls regarding the use of illegal fireworks across Los Angeles County. During the annual LA County fireworks press conference held in Santa Clarita earlier this week Mayor Cameron Smyth of Santa Clarita spoke of his concerns about the danger of illegal fireworks.

"It is important to remember that, no matter the size, all fireworks are illegal in Santa Clarita, including those that are labeled safe and sane," he said.

Those fireworks rules also apply to La Crescenta/Montrose, Tujunga and Glendale, as well as all unincorporated cities in LA County. People who are found in possession of illegal fireworks are



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

At a demonstration in Santa Clarita on Tuesday, fire safety personnel demonstrated how quickly clothes can catch fire due to illegal fireworks.

subject to arrest that could lead to up to six months in jail and fines up to \$1,000.

"Each year, as we approach the Fourth of July, we reiterate and remind our residents and communities [in LA County] of the importance of viewing a profes-

sional fireworks show," said David Richardson, LA County Fire chief deputy of Emergency Operations.

He acknowledged there may be fewer professional shows in the area due to COVID-19 but added there are still some shows available, though with restrictions. San-

ta Clarita, which had announced it was going to go ahead with its fireworks show, announced on Tuesday it decided to cancel the show in compliance with guidelines from LA County Public Health.

To find professional fireworks see FIREWORKS on page 7

District Continues Information Gathering

By Mary O'KEEFE

The discussion of reopening school campuses continues and means that Glendale Unified School District is reviewing a lot of data gathered from numerous surveys, task force committee meetings and emails. Data continues to be collected from surveys sent to parents and students, and meetings between stakeholders and GUSD administrators.

Members of the Glendale Teachers Association have voiced their concern and disappointment with the district's administration for not reaching out to them for input; however, according to Superintendent Vivian Ekchian, outreach efforts have been, and continue to be, made. Data

from these meetings is what the district has been using as it moves forward in the reopening process.


With guidelines due to COVID-19 changing on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis it has been a challenge to keep up on all the new information concerning the pandemic.

"We had been told the health risk remained low," Ekchian said. "That was on Feb. 26."

As all now know, that was not the case. To keep abreast of changes, Ekchian said she is in constant touch with Los Angeles County Public Health personnel.

Since the early days of the pandemic, Ekchian sent out information on the district's COVID-19 response via email

see GUSD on page 6



For the health and safety of our employees and community, all Glendale Unified school campuses are closed until further notice.

Please visit www.gusd.net/RemoteLearning for updated information and resources.

For questions, please contact the school principal at 818 249 5871 or Ljunge@gusd.net.

For school deliveries, please call (818) 809-7749.

Be well and stay safe.

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

What the future looks like for GUSD campuses is uncertain though the district did announce that school will begin on Aug. 19. The district is processing information from a variety of stakeholders on reopening protocols.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Racially Sensitive or Politically Correct?

It appears to me as people strive to be more racially sensitive they are instead becoming more politically correct.

A couple of weeks ago, when Montrose was the site of a predominantly peaceful BLM protest, a couple of kids pulled into the shopping park area and were stopped by the cops. The car's tags were expired and it turns out that the driver's license was also expired. The car was impounded.

What caused a major brouhaha was that the young men were Black.

CV Weekly had a reporter on the scene who was asked by some nearby people if the young men were arrested because they were looters (this was when looting occurred at some other protests). In addition to explaining why the young men were stopped and that they were not arrested, CV Weekly also posted the incident (along with information and photos of the protest) on social media, following our existing editorial protocols. This was in an effort to quell the rumors that Montrose was being looted – which were starting to make the rounds.

This action ignited the fury of those who felt it appropriate to call our office and, in addition to calling our office manager "stupid," called me "racist," "anti-Black," "privileged" and "entitled." One woman who called up started in on me but did give me the chance to explain the reasoning behind the post. When I told her why I made the decision I

did, she said she understood.

Another man who called had no interest whatsoever in learning why the decision was made. He was instead focused on the goal of his call: tell me I was privileged.

While it is being touted that "silence is not an option," have no misunderstanding: silence is not an option – as long as the opinion given and information shared falls in line with the loudest voices among the masses.

Political correctness has generated fear within some people who even dare to consider reporting a concern for their own safety. For example, I have a friend who ordered food from a local takeout spot. There was a man who approached her vehicle, mumbling to himself and circling her car menacingly. The owner of the establishment had to come out and escort her inside. My friend asked if the man was there all day; the owner said he was. But neither called the police to report him. Why? He's Black and they were afraid of social backlash.

If the goal of our society is to be truly equal in how it treats its citizens shouldn't all be held to the same standard?

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

"We are in midsummer; the sun is in full power, and at noon all nature is silent under his spell ... Glancing across the plain, you see the rarefied and glimmering air ascending from the heated earth."
~Eliza Cook's Journal, 1850

No fireworks on the 4th of July ... The beaches are closed ... Picnics and other social gatherings are discouraged. And not a single note of "The Star Spangled Banner" will drift into the summer night from the Hollywood Bowl. Most concerning, of course, are the devastating and far-reaching effects of COVID19. Fourth of July 2020 will be one for the history books, no doubt.

Fortunately, the weather is cooperating and not causing undue hardship during these difficult days. In fact, quite the contrary could be said. May and June were without their usual "grey" and "gloom." These first days of July are, so far, without fault as well. Typical for this time of year, night through morning foggy low clouds will reach into the valleys (including CV) through tomorrow (Friday.) Over the weekend, these conditions will be limited to coastal areas. Temperatures will then be on the rise as an area of high pressure settles in. Do you want to know, firsthand, just how hot the temperature may be? Get a thermometer!

The earliest thermometers or thermal instruments were developed during the 16th and 17th centuries. These simple instruments were constructed to trap air in glass tubes with the open end of the tube submersed in a reservoir of water. These open thermometers were termed thermoscopes. In 1610, Galileo used wine instead of water and was one of the first to use an alcohol thermometer. While it is sometimes claimed that Galileo was the inventor of the thermometer, what he actually produced was a thermoscope. He did discover that glass spheres filled with alcohol of different densities would rise and fall with changing temperature.

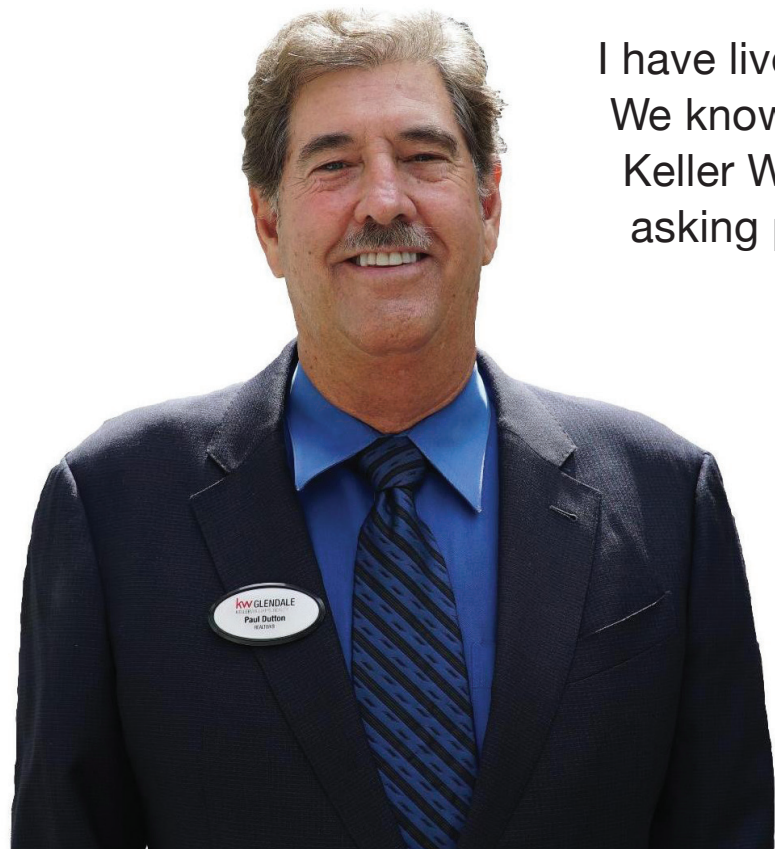
Upper air observations began as early as 1749 in Europe with the use of a kite to carry aloft a thermometer. A few years later, in the American Colonies Ben Franklin conducted a very dangerous experiment by flying a kite near a thunderstorm to demonstrate the electrical nature of lightning. With the invention of hot air and hydrogen balloons in France in the early 1780s, scientists ascended taking with them barometers, thermometers and other instrumentation to investigate weather.

Fourth of July weekend and into early next week, highs are forecast five to 10 degrees above normal. The combination of these weather conditions and illegal fireworks are disastrous.

Celebrate America's 244th birthday safely!

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

OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

In observance of Independence Day, CV Weekly offices will be closed on Friday, July 3. Enjoy the weekend and remember that fireworks are illegal.

BAILEY CENTER STILL NEED DONATIONS

The Bailey Center food pantry at United Methodist Church in Tujunga is still collecting donations of boxed cereal, pasta, spaghetti sauce and non-perishable canned goods. People can also donate cash or grocery cards.

Donations can be dropped off at the Center at United Methodist Church, 9901 Tujunga Canyon Blvd., Tujunga on Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Donations can also be dropped off at the CVW office, 3800 La Crescenta Ave. Ste. 206, Glendale/La Crescenta. For more information, email mo5966@sbcglobal.net or call CVW at (818) 248-2740.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT RETURNS

The City of Glendale reinstated parking enforcement for parking meters and street sweeping as of July 1. Warnings will be made until July 14; citations will be issued beginning July 15.

Questions can be directed to the Glendale Police Dept., Parking Enforcement, (818) 548-3131.

MORATORIUMS EXTENDED

The LA County Board of Supervisors extended an existing temporary moratorium on evictions in parts of the County in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. The eviction moratorium will remain in place until July 31.

The temporary eviction moratorium covers all residential and commercial tenants in the County, except those who live or conduct business in cities that have already enacted their own eviction moratoria. The moratorium includes a ban on evictions for nonpayment of rent, if the tenant can show they have been financially impacted by the health emergency, among other protections.

The order also extends the temporary rent freeze in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. Property owners may not increase rent for rental units or spaces covered by LA County's Rent Stabilization and Mobilehome Rent Stabilization ordinances. These actions are retroactive to March 4.

For details, contact a DCBA Rent Stabilization counselor by calling (833) 223-RENT (7368); email rent@dcbalacounty.gov; or visit rent.lacounty.gov.

On Tuesday, the Glendale City Council also extended an existing temporary moratorium on residential evictions and rent increases to July 31 in response to the COVID-19 health emergency.

Tenants are still required to pay rent and will have up to 12 months following the expiration of the moratorium (from July 31) to repay any back due rent; tenants are required to pay at least 25% of back due rent at the end of each three month period of the 12 month repayment period, unless the landlord and tenant agree to different repayment terms; the moratorium is valid only for those tenants unable to pay rent for a COVID-19-related reason such as a job loss or reduction in work hours associated with COVID-19, increased child care expenses, etc.

The order also extends the temporary rent freeze to July 31. This means landlords may not issue new rent increases until the expiration of the emergency

Steve Pierce Retires from MSPA/Harvest Market



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Members of the community and civic leaders came out to the Montrose Shopping Park on Sunday morning to wish Steve Pierce, center, well after he retired from his MSPA duties.

By Mary O'KEEFE

Those who have been to the Harvest Market on Sunday mornings have seen Steve Pierce. He is the guy who is usually racing down Honolulu Avenue talking to vendors and, recently, making sure everyone has on face coverings, and measures and marks six feet spaces and entry and exit paths for vendor booths.

Pierce is also one of the guys who organized the annual Montrose Movie Night, and for years took care of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the corner of Honolulu Avenue and Ocean View Boulevard (Pierce is a Vietnam veteran). He also helps oversee the seasonal decorations installed along Honolulu Avenue and is the film liaison for the area and the Montrose Shopping Park Association. None of these activities/events are without stress and yet Pierce has always taken a positive attitude when meeting every challenge.

On Sunday, he retired from his MSPA duties. He is taking time to spend with his wife, kids and grandkids. At an understated event on Sunday, representatives from Assemblymember Laura Friedman, State Senator Anthony Portantino, Glendale City Council and MSPA board all shared their praise for Pierce.

"Steve is one-of-a-kind. He is not only a terrific volunteer but also a terrific person with a kind heart," said Paula Devine, Glendale City Councilmember.

She, along with fellow Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian, were at the event to thank Pierce for his collaborative work with the City of Glendale.

For five years Pierce served as the caretaker for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; he then worked with MSPA for three years helping on a variety of events the organization sponsored, along with taking on the role of Marketplace manager for the Harvest Market.

"Life has officially given you permission to splurge, so enjoy and relax," said Andre Ordubegian, president of the MSPA board. "You are the person who gets everything done, the person who moves ahead and takes everyone else along."

He praised Pierce for being a team builder, all the while with that positive attitude that Pierce is known for and "a smile even when things are not going so well."

"You never let anyone down," Ordubegian said. "It is not every leader who can accomplish so much with such grace, dignity and respect ... We are so proud to have worked with an extraordinary person like you. Thanks for making everything extraordinary and brightening up every day for us."

Pierce was surprised by the event celebrating his retirement and simply said "thank you." The event was organized by Victoria Malone who will be taking Pierce's place as Marketplace manager after he retires.

Pierce plans to continue helping the Shopping Park, even walking along Honolulu Avenue and picking up trash.

This is not the first time Pierce has stepped back from being a community organizer. He served on the Crescenta Valley Town Council for years, many of those as the Council

president. When he left CVTC he said he would be stepping back from volunteer duties, but that didn't last long. He soon began working with MSPA, joined the CV Fireworks Association, was on the committee for the Montrose Christmas Parade, volunteered with Prom Plus, contributed to the American Legion Post 288 as a member ... just to name a few organizations he has been part of.

So though Pierce is "stepping back," many of the people who know him well advise to keep your eyes open; most likely Pierce will still be found lending a hand where needed.

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NOTES & NODS

This Week at LCIF

Lutheran Church in the Foothills continues to offer “Couch Church, Fellowship and Prayers” 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/Lcfoothills/videos. After the live stream, the service can be found at www.lcfoothills.org. This week, July 5, Pastor Scott Peterson will lead the service with a sermon on “Rest for the Weary.” Take part on Sundays at 11 a.m. for a time of fellowship via Zoom. Details are available by contacting the church office.

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@lcfoothills.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.lcfoothills.org.

La Crescenta Presbyterian Offers Virtual Vacation Bible School

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church’s annual Vacation Bible School is going virtual, with three days of fun, worshipful activities from July 13-15 – all free.

Children ages 4 through incoming sixth graders are encouraged to join VBS from home, through videos, crafts, games and devotionals, as well as a Facebook Live worship time each day at 9:30 a.m. The LCPC Children’s Ministries staff will deliver boxes of supplies to the homes of participants.

This year’s VBS theme is BOLT! and all programming and supplies are offered free of charge. Register today at bit.ly/lcpcvbs2020.

La Crescenta Presbyterian, located at 2902

Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta, offers four opportunities for Sunday worship: indoor and outdoor contemporary services at 9 a.m.; a classic service at 11 a.m.; and online services at lpc.net.

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 more information about our policies to protect the health and safety of our congregation, visit lpc.net or call (818) 249-6137.

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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Parklets Installed in Montrose



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

K-rails define the space for outside dining, known as parklets, for outdoor dining at local restaurants.

By Charly SHELTON

With COVID-19 cases continuing to rise in record numbers, social distancing for the restaurants that have reopened for business is more important than ever. This means tables must be spaced farther apart to keep at least six feet between parties, reducing the dining capacity at each restaurant. This means fewer tables are available for hungry diners and less money is being made by the businesses. Restaurants in Glendale have felt this reduction all across the city and, recently, the City government stepped up to offer a solution.

Al Fresco Glendale is a program established by the City to create small outside seating areas in the parking spaces in front of restaurants by bordering the area in cement K-rails, the same protective measures that guard against flooding debris flows and partition one side of freeways from the other side. These K-rails were installed recently in front of participating businesses in Montrose Shopping Park and are undergoing a beautification process to become "parklets," surrounded in shrubs and filled with tables, chairs and umbrellas for nearby restaurants to expand their seating areas outdoors. These parklets will allow the restaurants to comply with the new ordinances on social distancing as well as current restrictions on indoor dining.

"The City of Glendale, from the time they started talking to us to the time [the K-rails were] installed, it was quick and easy," said Corey Grijalva, owner of Joselito's. "They wanted our input when everything came in; they were just super helpful. The plants have to be in a certain way to create barriers for the alcohol beverage control and they helped me out on that. They were really good with it."

Many businesses in the Montrose Shopping Park were alerted to the coming parklets through the Montrose Shopping Park Association meeting, through the City newsletter and even through door-to-door visits from City officials. Because some businesses remain closed during the shutdown contacting them became infeasible. But many restaurants asked to be part of the program to reclaim some tables.

"To date, nearly 15 Montrose businesses have applied or intend to participate in Al Fresco Glendale, which includes those that will be extending sidewalk dining service in the

public right-of-way, including the parklets," said Jennifer McLain Hiramoto, deputy director of Economic Development with the City of Glendale. "Businesses include Basin 141, Blue Fish Japanese Restaurant, Black Cow, Star Cafe, Seasoning Alley, Joselito's, Gio's Bakery, Mamas and Papas Pizzeria, Froyo Life, Thee Elbow Room and Shawarma Kingdom. Other businesses, such as Casa Cordoba and Avignone's, are exploring expanding outdoor dining service in front of their business. We expect this figure to continue to increase."

While the K-rails are in place now, there are still a few aspects to tidy up in some locations. Finishing touches will be added over the next week or so to get the parklets to their final form that will remain until full capacity inside seating is restored.

"There are still several steps. Plants, tables, chairs and umbrellas were delivered to the parklets on Monday [June 29]. Participating businesses are now responsible for securing tables and chairs, and parklet hours will correspond with the hours of the businesses," Hiramoto said. "Generally, the parklets are to be utilized as an extension of the service area of participating businesses. Plants will continue to be installed in the next two weeks and on Monday, July 6 decals will be installed on the K-rails."

Currently the K-rails are in place and the seating is rolled out at many locations, and the parklets seem to be a hit.

"It's been full pretty much every night since we've gotten them," Grijalva said.

For more information on Al Fresco Glendale, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y9pxqgg4>.

Editor's note: As this story went to press, Gov. Newsom closed indoor dining; however, the City of Glendale said it has not had time to respond to the order. The parklets at this time are open for business.

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Dear Community,

The Family Fireworks Festival Committee volunteers have been working for almost a year to bring another memorable July 4th event to Verdugo Hills High School. Unfortunately, our whole world has been changed by the coronavirus (COVID-19). It has been a roller coaster of waiting for the "all clear" so that the event could continue.

The Committee is saddened to officially announce that the 2020 Family Fireworks Festival is postponed to July 4th, 2021. We will be working hard with you to ensure the Family Fireworks Festival in 2021 is a tremendous success. Stay safe and see you next year!

May you have a very happy and safe 4th this year!

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**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,
Dr. Dale

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Obituary

Helen Grossi



May 27, 1942 – May 23, 2020

Helen Grossi passed away peacefully on May 23. She was born on May 27, 1942 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She moved to Glendale in 1956 and married Pete Grossi on May 19, 1962 in Glendale before moving to La Crescenta in 1967.

Helen devoted her time to raising her daughter Tina Grossi until 1984 when she went back into the workforce as a secretarial assistant for an insurance and surety business.

She enjoyed living life to the fullest with her dear family and friends. Helen especially enjoyed boating and water skiing and entertaining at her home.

Helen is survived by her husband Pete and daughter Tina.

Obituary

Warren James Westerholm



Nov. 19, 1929 - June 25, 2020

Warren James Westerholm peacefully passed away at home on June 25 in La Crescenta. Born and raised in Glendale, Warren graduated from Glendale High School in 1948. While attending high school he joined the Glendale unit of the 40th National Guard. Shortly after the Korean War began Warren and his brother Bob were sent to Korea where he served as a sergeant in the army. Just before his activation to Korea, Warren met his future wife Dorene on Catalina Island.

Warren and Dorene's courtship continued through letters; they married in 1953 and celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary this year. In 1954 they bought their home in La Crescenta and by 1959 he

opened Warren's Auto Service in Montrose.

Warren and Dorene have been active members of the La Crescenta First Baptist Church.

Throughout his life Warren's passion was vintage cars. He also enjoyed golfing, cycling and volunteering with the sheriff's department, Verdugo Hills Hospital and the Nethercutt Museum. At age 67 he rode his bicycle across the United States, first dipping his front wheel in the Pacific Ocean in Washington and then again in the Atlantic Ocean in Maine.

Warren was preceded in death by his older brother Robert Westerholm and his twin sister Beverly Mohr. Warren is survived by his wife Dorene and three children: Scott (Jan), Julie (Charles) Stemberge, Lori (Mos) Misi; eight grandchildren: Brooke (Jeremy) Hageman, Joshua (Dolly) Misi, Mele (Siaki) Mortenson, Carrie (Kyle) Calónico, Cole (Valerie) Westerholm, Sierra Westerholm, Bryn Stemberge, Christian Misi; and six great grandchildren: Mataia, Maika, Warren R., Abram, Conley and Isaac.

Warren was the life of family parties, always ready for a game of Hearts and a enthusiastic fan of all his grandchildren and great grandchildren's sports. He will be greatly missed by us all.

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GUSD from Cover

and posted information on the district's website. The district let families, staff and students know everything from canceling field trips to extending spring break to canceling school altogether. Changes didn't happen all at once but as Public Health released more information on how COVID-19 was spreading throughout LA County decisions at the district level were made.

On March 4, Ekchian sent a directive to GUSD students, families, employees and the community that field trips would be postponed but sporting events, open houses and parent meetings and clubs could continue.

"On March 10, I sent another message [to the same group] that we are preparing to extend spring break for additional days, if necessary, and that was because at that time the information was really coming on a daily basis," she said.

Ekchian has a long list of emails that were sent out to all stakeholders as the district moved closer to the inevitable decision of closing schools. During this time Ekchian said she did reach out to teachers and staff.

The district created a task force to work on how the future of education would play out. On Wednesday, in fact, there was a meeting of the Return to School Committee that included teachers suggested by GTA president Taline Arsenian, Ekchian said.

Ekchian said she understands this is an unusual time and acknowledged that stress is affecting everyone; however, she firmly stated there has been ongoing communication among teachers, staff and herself. She

has responses from Arsenian who thanked her and the district for her response to issues like the tentative agreement that had been reached between the GTA and the district.

The task now is to include all stakeholders and to gather opinions from parents, teachers, classified staff, administrators, students and the community as the district moves forward in reopening schools. COVID-19 has presented challenges not only to GUSD but also to districts across the nation and the world. This is why Ekchian feels data from stakeholders and conversations with those same stakeholders are so important.

The data that has been shared by classified employees and teachers and information from parents made it clear that childcare would be needed when students head back to school. On Wednesday, the first childcare program began at the district for its classified employees, which include custodians since they have gone back to the campuses. This is something that is now free for employees and Ekchian said she is hoping it will remain free as the district expands to help parents and teachers when all return to school in August.

There was a presentation at a recent GUSD board meeting on back-to-school options but Ekchian said there has not been a definitive decision made on what program will be chosen.

"Let me be clear: we have not made a decision of the type of schedule [the district will include]," she said.

The choices that have been discussed include a regular back-to-school scenario in which nothing changes, a totally remote learning

option and a hybrid of half the students attending in-classroom school on some days and the other half attending on other days. This would also include virtual learning. The latter would allow the most options for adjustment for social distancing and for any changes that may occur with LA County COVID-19 guidelines.

The data collected so far is being reviewed. The classified and certified employees' surveys were sent out between June 17 and June 24. Almost all employees responded. When asked if they feel confident the district can bring them back to work safely, 12% of classified employees indicated they "disagree/strongly disagree" and 31% of certified employees [teachers] indicated they "disagree/strongly disagree" with the statement.

Data continues to be gathered. The most recent surveys were sent out last week to parents and students with deadlines for completion and return of July 10. As of Wednesday, over 8,000 parents had responded. There are also two virtual meetings on July 8, one at 11 a.m. and the other at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to join the virtual community meetings at www.gusd.net/ReturnToSchool or by visiting [facebook.com/GlendaleUSD](https://www.facebook.com/GlendaleUSD).

Opinions or questions about the reopening of the schools can be shared by emailing ReturnToSchool@gusd.net and information can be found at www.gusd.net/ReturnToSchool.

At present Ekchian said she is pleased with the response from the surveys with thousands of employees and parents responding thus far.

FIREWORKS from Cover

shows call (888) 654-3473.

“Recent data shows more than 9,100 people within the United States were treated in hospital emergency rooms due to fireworks-related injuries. Last year, in Los Angeles County alone, the activity [we saw] between June 17 and July 17 [was] 76 fires sparked by fireworks. This was an increase of 46% from the prior year [2018],” Richardson added.

In 2019, he said some of those injuries came from safe and sane fireworks – those fireworks determined not to travel, fly or explode.

“In the past few weeks, leading up to the Fourth of July, [LA County Fire Dept. - LACoFD] has already responded to a number of incidents related to fireworks here in Santa Clarita Valley. We [also] had one fire in the Division Three area in La Cañada Flintridge and one [fire] is under investigation in Hacienda Heights,” he said. “Don’t be misled by the ‘safe and sane fireworks’; they can cause injuries especially to children. Small fireworks that seem harmless, like sparklers, will burn at least at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit and can cause serious burns and even blindness.”

He added this weekend will see high temperatures, which adds to the risk of brush fires.

“There is an abundance of fire fuels and grasses that are ready to burn,” he added.

Stephanie English, formerly with the LACoFD, was at the conference representing the LA County Board of Supervisors and its chair Kathryn Barger. She also spoke of the risk of fire and injury.

“This is not the time to take a risk and use [illegal] fireworks in our community,” she said.

Captain Justin Diaz of the Santa Clarita LA County Sheriff’s Dept. added that each year LASD receives hundreds of calls for service due to illegal fireworks, and reminded LA County residents that possession of fireworks is illegal in most communities.

Dr. Matt Young from the Grossman Burn Center spoke of the injuries from fireworks.

“One of the best ways you can enjoy this holiday is by not going to the hospital,” he said.

He asked people to speak up and let their friends and family know of the dangers of fireworks. He held up a small piece of wire from a sparkler.

“One of the most dangerous fireworks is this little piece of wire that probably causes more damage than any other fireworks,” Young said. “This can burn as hot as a blowtorch. You wouldn’t give your child a blowtorch but you would give them a sparkler.”

The Grossman Burn Center medical staff has seen so many injuries, and even deaths, due to fireworks. He said fireworks could harm people in many ways including igniting clothes on fire, burning skin and even causing blindness. The staff has seen fireworks, like sparklers, embedded in eyes.

“Every fireworks injury is preventable,” Young said.

In addition to fire and injury, the sounds of fireworks can cause added stress to many veterans, especially those suffering from PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder].

Another area that is a cause for concern regarding fireworks is Angeles National Forest.

“The July 4th holiday weekend is expected to be exceptionally busy all across the Angeles National Forest. With the fire season upon us, restrictions

are in effect for fireworks, campfires and outdoor burning. 2020 started out with the driest February on record since the 1850s, and there is an increased fire danger posed by dead grass and hotter, drier conditions throughout the region,” according to ANF spokesman John Clearwater.

The use and possession of fireworks, including safe and sane fireworks like sparklers, on national forest lands is always illegal.

“The effects of fireworks on our wildlands is potentially catastrophic. Fireworks have been responsible for huge wildfires that have damaged public lands with long-lasting effects. Further, as the Angeles National Forest is an urban forest, adjacent to densely populated areas, a wildfire in the Angeles can quickly threaten homes and communities,” stated Clearwater. “The Forest’s wildlife is already facing unprecedented levels of visitors. Fireworks frighten and disrupt wildlife and have a negative impact on our ecosystem.”

ANF Fire Chief Robert Garcia said the forest is seeing an increase in visitors.

“Many visitors are local and new to the forest,” he said.

It is important that all visitors understand the ANF rules and regulations prior to visiting the area. As of Wednesday, the fire level was raised from “high” to “very high.” This means that fires are only allowed in designated fire barbecues provided by the Forest Service in campgrounds and picnic areas; personal barbecues are not allowed.

The change in the fire level is because of the upcoming Fourth of July weekend and the number of illegal fireworks activity occurring in the ANF.

“[Fireworks activity] has been occurring for several weeks now and is very steady,” he said.

Forest Service personnel are also worried about injury and fire, especially with the predicted dry weather. The U.S. Forest Service will have more patrols in the area beginning today and continuing throughout the long weekend.

“It is what we call all hands on deck,” Garcia said. “Fire prevention [personnel] have had their days off canceled and we’ll have extra fire [patrols], including aircraft, and extra engines.”

Even with the patrols it is difficult for emergency responders to catch those who are using fireworks. Garcia said those visiting the forest could help by reporting any suspicious activities including fireworks.

“We are not asking for the public to approach anyone,” he added.

Those who do see illegal fireworks activity are asked to call the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept. - Crescenta Valley Station at (818) 248-3464.

The Angeles National Forest will have extra personnel working over the holiday weekend including fire prevention technicians who will be patrolling the forest looking for illegal fireworks, campfires and barbecues. A violation can result in six months in jail and a fine of up to \$5,000 per person.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

The Big Wildfire of 1908 – Part 2

Last week we covered the beginning of this massive late-summer wildfire that swept the valley floor of La Crescenta. It had started about noon in the southwest of the valley, near today's CV Park. It swept northwest and west, across the sagebrush-covered future Montrose. Fickle winds then sent it roaring north across Foothill Boulevard and up Briggs Avenue. Another wind change sent it west across the valley above Foothill. In one hot afternoon it had effectively circled the valley floor.

At that time there were about 50 families living in the valley in homes, farms and ranches. It was every man for himself in protecting the isolated buildings. Every single building on the valley floor was at some point during the fire threatened or consumed. There were no helicopter drops to pick off hotspots as there are today. Instead, every flank of the fire could spread, and smoldering logs could suddenly

flame anew. Men on the ground beat at the fire with shovels and wet gunnysacks, running to keep ahead of the fire, suffering blisters and smoke-inhalation. Temperatures over 100 degrees only made the job harder.

As evening approached the column of smoke attracted help from neighboring communities. Volunteers came from Glendale and Pasadena. In La Cañada, rancher T. Fenton Knight organized a small army of La Cañada ranchers who joined the fight. On the ground in the Crescenta Valley, the volunteer firefighters were organized and directed by Ranger Phil Begue. Begue was actually off-duty, but jumped into the action as one of the more experienced men.

The fire was still burning fiercely in the valley, moving among the scattered ranches. At the same time, on the north flank, the fire headed up the front face of the San Gabriel Mountains and edged east toward

the Arroyo Seco. It was here the fight took a political turn. A force of about 100 federal foresters and a few state rangers had been dispatched to the Crescenta Valley to help save homes but, as the fire moved into the federally-owned Angeles Forest Reserve (today's Angeles National Forest), they were suddenly pulled off the fire line and sent into the mountains. As the local volunteers objected, the Federal Supervisor R.M. Charlton (for whom Charlton Flats is named) told his men, "Never mind this place. Get up into the mountains." The federal foresters obeyed and left, but the few state rangers refused to abandon La Crescenta and stayed.

Phil Begue and T. Fenton Knight were left to direct the local men to continue the fight through the night. Begue and Knight, along with the locals, beat the fire to a standstill that night only to have it reignite and roar back toward the center of the valley. They were able

to stop that line at one of the many irrigation ditches that crossed the valley.

That effectively ended the majority of the fire in the valley itself, leaving tired men to mop up the isolated small fires. There really wasn't much left to burn. The hundreds of acres of the valley floor were left charred and smoking. The locals, under the direction of Begue and Knight, had done a phenomenal job of saving the community, despite the abandonment by the federal force. Only four ranches were completely burned.

Up in the mountains the fire continued for several days, but the fight went well. The large force of rangers and volunteers was able to save Switzer's Camp and Mt. Lowe and on the other flank were able to keep the fire from descending into Tujunga. Extra effort was made to protect the water sources in Pickens Canyon and the Arroyo Seco, which supplied water to La Crescenta, La

Cañada and Pasadena.

The dry timber and high temperatures (110 degrees in La Cañada) made for a long and stubborn fight, which had to continue when another fire broke out concurrently south of here in the Santa Ana range.

Next week we'll wrap this up with some of the social fallout, the blame-game played on the Rev. Ward who had accidentally started the fire, and the infamous William Mulholland, who refused to help the fire fight.



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

VIEWS FROM THE VALLEY » SUSAN BOLAN

United We Stand?

Do you remember the feeling you get during a fireworks show, that surge of excitement when the crowd emits a collective gasp as the sky lights up and the booms reverberate? At that moment, do you feel a sense of pride in your community and for your country? I sure do. On the Fourth of July, we are all Americans celebrating our independence together, just as we have done for 244 years. Fireworks, flags, parades,

backyard barbecues, apple pie – all are symbols of the good life that we share and reminders of a simpler time. I am holding those happy memories in my heart knowing that we will have to wait to celebrate the holiday under the stars, perhaps another year.

It has been a long time since the Declaration of Independence was signed but, compared to most other countries, we are still very young. Our ancestors, the freedom fighters

who broke from European control, had a vision of how life in America could be: freedom to live your life how you want, freedom to speak your mind, and freedom to celebrate your God; a land where everyone can enjoy domestic tranquility and pursue their own happiness. After the Revolution, our forefathers laid out a set of rules for everyone to follow then amended them as common thinking changed. The Constitution, written in 1789, has been the guiding document for our country ever since. The leaders back then didn't always get along and they had characters that were far from perfect, but it is the history that they created and their inherent strength that we must carry forward.

The United States of America is still in its early stage of development and continues to grow, one small step at a time, just as a child finds its way into adulthood. Each period in our history has brought both successes and turmoil and the country has

had to shift to adjust to those highs and lows. We have evolved from some of the mistakes in our past and are condemned to repeat others because we haven't yet learned those lessons. We have seen so much change but what remains is that the whole is resilient. Our people are good.

Right now, it seems we have lost our way as a country. The branches of government are at odds with each other and the citizens are upset. Throw in a serious pandemic and tell people to stay home and it pulls many out into the streets again. Some have said that it feels like everything is falling apart, like it's the end of the world as we know it. It certainly feels that way with each passing day. But I would suggest that what we are experiencing is just normal growing pains. Like a child who is maturing, we have now entered puberty and it's going to get a little emotional for a while. There is bound to be more screaming, stomping and defiant behavior. Everybody will

take sides just like every teenager believes s/he has the right ideas. In this process, some leaders will emerge and some will be defeated. Like every adolescent, though, we will have the opportunity to come out healthy and productive on the other side by being more understanding and compassionate with each other. The pain that we are going through now didn't start in 2020. It developed over the last two centuries. The flames were already here. They just got fanned again for the umpteenth time and the smoke we are seeing is blocking our clarity. The virtual smoke detector is screaming.

Let's remember we still have amazing beauty from sea to shining sea and it will be there when we come out of the darkness. Be true to yourself, respect your neighbor and love your country. We can make it better, together.

Happy Independence Day!
Susan Bolan
susanbolan710@gmail.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Corrects Misleading Statements

First ... John Kretz's [letter of June 25] entitled "Where is the Rest of the Outrage?"

While Mr. Kretz says he was outraged by George Floyd's wrongful murder, he then says that "many good people have died at the hands of violent protesters" and mentions Dave Patrick Underwood, a Black law enforcement officer, leading the readers to assume he was killed by violent protesters. Mr. Underwood was indeed murdered, but neither of the two people arrested (Steven Carrillo and Robert Justus) had anything to do with the protests and apparently were part of the extremist "Boogaloo" movement, which is trying to cause a civil war and attack police officers. In addition, Steve Carrillo is charged with murdering a Santa Cruz County officer.

Second ... Yatindra Bhatnagar's letter [on June 25] entitled "Protests, Chaos and Political Agenda." This letter is also very misleading. Although the numbers of people killed by the police are accurate, the rate of killing of Whites by police is about 13/million, while for Blacks it's 31/million (see <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>) – a huge difference.

The reason that the killing of George Floyd has

triggered so many protests is the cavalier way he was killed – by a police officer kneeling on his neck for nearly nine minutes – and the alleged offense was passing a counterfeit \$20 bill. How good or bad a person he was is fairly irrelevant – none of us are saints, but no one deserves to die in such a horrible manner, certainly not for such a minor offense. Our president, while not responsible for this incident, has emboldened attacks on minorities of all kinds by such comments as "very fine people on both sides" referring to the neo-Nazis and protesters in Charlottesville, by his use of "Kung flu" to smear people of Asian descent, by the use of "bad hombres" to refer to criminals and smear people of Hispanic descent, by his other attacks on immigrants ("s-hole countries"), the LGBTQ community (trying to take away health insurance for trans people), Muslims (his Muslim ban), by his support of Confederate monuments, etc. And the action taken by his administration to clear mostly peaceful protesters using pepper spray and rubber bullets so he could have a photo op with a Bible in front of a church (whose clergy was also removed) is despicable.

Jackie Gish
Glendale

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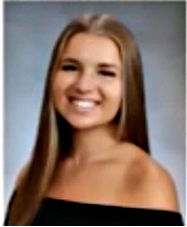
Crescenta Valley Lions Club Awards Scholarships to Four CVHS Seniors

Crescenta Valley Lions Club Scholarships



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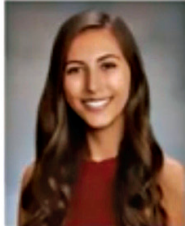
Sofia Camperos



Brendan Harvey



Allison Rowe



Riley Welsh



In a virtual scholarship presentation, the Crescenta Valley Lions Club awarded scholarships to four outstanding, community service-minded seniors from Crescenta Valley High School. A fifth award was presented jointly with Prom Plus to another deserving CVHS senior.

2020 marks the 25th year the local Lions Club has been awarding scholarships to deserving Crescenta Valley area high school seniors and this year's awards bring the club's total giving to nearly \$125,000.

With service being the focal criteria for selection, applicants were asked to detail how the community benefits from their work as a volunteer, to describe an impactful community service or volunteer event, and to list their many volunteer, leadership and community service activities, along with earned awards and recognition. Sofia Camperos, Brendan Harvey, Allison Rowe and Riley Welsh were each presented with \$750 scholarships. Prom Plus hand-picked Matthew Stickels to receive its Brett Tyler Memorial Scholarship.

June Mack, CV Lions scholarship chair, provided opening remarks during the presentation. She said how impressed she and the scholarship committee members

were with the caliber of applicants and how honored she was to bestow the scholarships to these most deserving students.

Camperos, Rowe and Welsh have all been active in the high school's LEO Club, a youth organization of Lions Club started at CVHS in 2016. Both Camperos and Welsh have held leadership positions as publicists and co-presidents. Camperos and Welsh have also both been active with Youth and Government. Rowe has been active with the Special Olympics and City of Hope and volunteering within her soccer community. Harvey, who earned the rank of Eagle Scout, also has an impressive list of volunteer activities including Special Olympics, Adopt A Child Abuse Caseworker Program, Brothers' Helper and installing a Japanese Tea Garden at Dunsmore Elementary School.

Stickels was presented with a \$1,000 Prom Plus/Brett Tyler Memorial Scholarship, funded in part by the CV Lions. The CV Lions has been providing funds for this annual scholarship for more than 10 years. Prom Plus board members Mary O'Keefe and Robin Goldsworthy were on hand to make the presentation.

In presenting the award to Stickels, O'Keefe said, "Matt,

an avid musician, has been an exemplary volunteer with Prom Plus since day one. His positivity and can-do attitude made him stand out and was an easy selection as this year's selected recipient."

Connie Janson, District Governor MD4-L1 Lions and longtime member of the CV Lions, added, "I am proud to be a member of a local club that remains so committed to helping the youth in their area for the past 25 years."

Jeero Habeshian, club president and LEO club advisor shared, "Our LEOs' dedication to community and their leadership skills gives me hope for a bright future, and I'm very proud of our scholarship recipients."

In the fall, Camperos will attend University of Oregon; Harvey will attend BYU, Provo; Rowe will attend UC Davis; Stickels will attend USC and Welsh will attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

The Crescenta Valley Lions Clubs has been serving the Crescenta Valley community since 1947 with such activities as free vision screening clinics, Kases for Kids backpack program for foster children, scholarship program and student speakers contest for the students at our three local high

see LIONS CLUB on page 15

La Cañada Flintridge Teen Among Distinguished Young Women of Los Angeles County

In May, Nina Lidar of La Cañada Flintridge, who attends La Cañada High School, was among those named a Distinguished Young Women of Los Angeles County for the Class of 2021. The young women were awarded cash scholarships during a countywide scholarship program for high school girls held virtually due to current social distancing guidelines.

Lidar was among high school junior girls who competed to represent the county as the Distinguished Young Women of Los Angeles County. Participants were evaluated in the categories of scholastics (25%), interview

(25%), talent (20%), fitness (15%), and self-expression (15%).

Throughout the next year, Lidar will represent Los Angeles County and serve as a role model to young people by spreading the program's national outreach message of "Be Your Best Self." The outreach program is designed to encourage self-esteem and excellence in all young people through its five principles: Be Healthy, Be Involved, Be Studious, Be Ambitious, and Be Responsible.

The California state finals will take place Jan. 28-31, 2021 in Bakersfield. Lidar will travel to Bakersfield along with

representatives from across the state. Due to the special circumstances of the current environment, all alternates and finalists were also invited to take part in the California finals. All representatives at the California finals will participate in personal development activities and community service projects before competing for the opportunity to become the Distinguished Young Woman of California for 2021 and approximately \$40,000 in cash scholarships.

Lidar is the recipient of the Scholastic Award, the Interview Award, the Talent Award and the Self-Expression Award.

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Glendale Noon Rotary Holds Food Drive for The Campbell Center



The Glendale Noon Rotary Club, which is dedicated to bridging the gap for underserved and vulnerable populations in our community, recently put out the call for help and quickly gathered more than \$800 to purchase nutritious, non-perishable goods for The Campbell Center. The Campbell Center operates three residential homes for 22 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The list of items requested for the food drive emphasized a need for non-perishable yet nutritious items, such as canned soups, proteins, fruits and vegetables, granola bars, peanut butter, jelly/jam and applesauce. The Rotary organizers of the event recommended that each donation contain about a week's worth of food for one person to make for a convenient drop off at The Campbell Center headquarters for distribution to residents.

Among those who facilitated the drop-off were Rotary members Elizabeth Manasserian, Joy Garcia, George Saikali and Art Markarian.

TCC Executive Leadership David Fields and Nancy Niebrugge, TCC associate Maria and TCC board member Danny Manasserian attended to accept the donation and thank the Glendale Noon Rotary members for their efforts.

"It's incredible to see the community rally around to support our associates," said Fields, executive director. "We aim to be holistic in our service – it's so important to be able to provide nutritious meals for [our associates]."

"We're so excited to contribute to The Campbell Center's cause," said Elizabeth Manasserian, Noon Rotary member and an organizer of the food drive. "Seeing the look of joy on Maria's face was so rewarding."

The Campbell Center is a nonprofit organization that partners with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, empowering them to successfully gain independence and attain their desired outcomes through opportunity and choice. www.TheCampbell.org



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People Making News

Natalie Berner and Elizabeth Crotty of Glendale were recently named to the dean's list at the College of William & Mary for the spring 2020 semester.

In order to achieve dean's list status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

William & Mary is the second oldest institution of higher learning in the United States.

Local students were among those recognized by The University of Wisconsin-Madison as being named to the dean's list for the spring semester of the 2019-20 academic year. Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction. Most call the honor "dean's list," but some grant the "dean's honor list" and "dean's high honor list."

From Glendale were Aleen Babikian, College of Letters and Science, dean's list, Samantha Gilmore, School of Human Ecology, dean's honor list and Megan Gmelich, College of Letters and Science, dean's list. From La Cañada was Ethan Sharp, College of Letters and Science, dean's list; from La Cañada Flintridge was Sydney Mueller, College of Letters and Science, dean's list. From La Crescenta was David Komjathy, College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, dean's list.

Tyler Williamson of La Crescenta will attend Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York as a member of the Class of 2024. Williamson, who will be majoring in mechanical engineering, will begin studying at Clarkson in the fall.

High school students can always check out Clarkson's virtual viewbook & interactive campus map. Contact the Admissions Office at admissions@clarkson.edu.

As a private, national research university, Clarkson is a leader in technological education and sustainable economic development through teaching, scholarship, research and innovation. The main campus is located in Potsdam, New York with additional graduate program and research facilities in the New York Capital Region, Beacon, New York, and New York City. Clarkson educates 4,300 students across 95 rigorous programs of study in engineering, business, the arts, education, sciences and health professions.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Benefits Of Pre-inspections

Dear Phyllis,

I love reading your column.... Strange times for all of us. I was laid off due to COVID. My daughter lives in Texas and just had her second baby. I have decided that now is the perfect time to move and be closer to them. I was divorced many years ago. As a single woman it's been hard for me to properly maintain my home so there is some wear and tear. My fear is that once I sell, there will be a lot of back and forth over the condition. With the divorce and then the layoff, my nerves are shot. I hate negotiating and don't want to have to go through that. How do you think I best avoid this? **Jeannie**

Dear Jeannie,

This has been a lot for everyone and I am sorry that you lost your job. But it's exciting that you will be moving closer to loved ones. Perhaps this was just the push you needed.

I understand that you are concerned about the back and forth negotiations. Indeed, they are tiresome and frustrating. All homes in California are sold AS IS. But that doesn't always prevent a home buyer from trying to renegotiate after their inspections.

It never ceases to amaze me, when after obtaining a home inspection a buyer balks at an old worn roof, when it was readily apparent that the roof was old. After the inspection, home buyers

often have second thoughts. This is a big purchase and now the cost of repairs and upgrades are very real.

One of the benefits of a pre-inspection is that it will very clearly list your homes deficiencies. I have found that pre-inspections for homes in worn condition can be very helpful. It can be provided to a buyer either before or after they make an offer. That timing will depend on current market conditions. But always it should be reviewed before an offer is accepted. The pre-inspection almost always alleviates any renegotiation.

Best of luck on your sale and your move.

Questions about Today's Real Estate? Ask Phyllis!
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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Tribeca Film Festival Heads to Rose Bowl

The "Tribeca Drive-In" launches today, Thursday, July 2 at the Rose Bowl Stadium in Pasadena. It will feature a slate of over 30 iconic films shown throughout the summer. This limited-engagement drive-in series will provide families with a safe, comfortable entertainment experience that is appropriate for audiences of all ages as the nation takes steps to emerge from coronavirus lockdowns.

Drive-ins are signature programs for Tribeca; they have been a part of festival programming since the beginning 20 years ago. The series will take place each weekend (Thursday through Sunday) throughout the summer, beginning today, Thursday, July 2 and running through Aug. 2. In appreciation for the workers who have risked their lives serving on the frontlines for their communities amid COVID-19, Tribeca Enterprises, IMAX, AT&T, and their pop-up venue partners will offer complimentary access and reserved parking to essential workers the first night.

The Tribeca Drive-In series will encompass a variety of engaging and thoughtful themes in tribute to modern classics and all-time

audience favorites, such as: Music Movies with "Selena," "The Bodyguard" and "Straight Outta Compton;" Sports Sundays with "Creed," "Jerry Maguire," "Space Jam" and "Love & Basketball;" Time Travel Comedies with "Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure" and "Back to the Future;" High School Comedies with "Mean Girls" and "Superbad;" Ladies' Night with "Girls Trip" and "Bridesmaids;" Hit the Road with "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby" and "The Fast and The Furious;" James Bond tribute with "Goldfinger" and "Casino Royale;" and Kids' Night with "Inside Out," "The Lego Movie" and "Spy Kids." There will also be a 4th of July celebration featuring "Field of Dreams," "The Wizard of Oz" and a special 25th anniversary screening of "Apollo 13."

The series will also feature some surprise elements including special filmmaker and talent introductions, live stand-up comedy, new teasers of upcoming film releases and more.

For a full schedule of films and to purchase tickets, visit <https://tribecafilm.com/drive-in/RoseBowl>.

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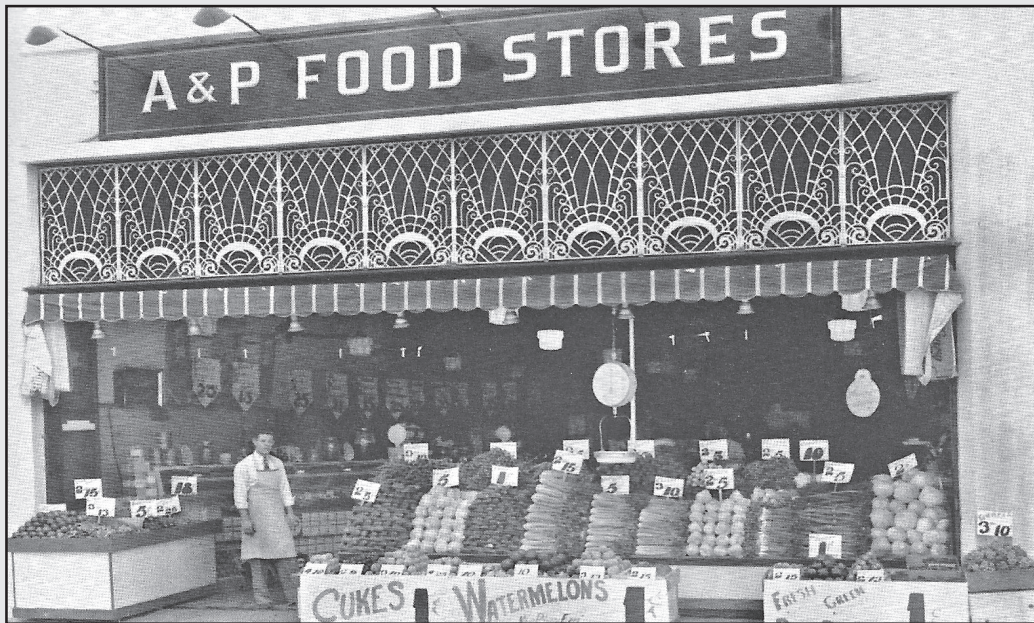
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THEN & NOW | Blue Fish

Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then » A&P Market was located in Montrose very early, in the 1920s. Here we see the mid-block store, with the classic wide-open front that was a signature of early grocery stores. What ever happened to those beautiful patterned window coverings above the open front?



Now » This location, like many in Montrose, has been a wide variety of stores and restaurants through the decades. Currently the old A&P store at 2261 Honolulu Ave. is Blue Fish Sushi Bar offering Japanese-Pacific fusion cuisine. The old brick walls and open ceiling give the place a vintage look.

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VIRTUAL COMEDY NIGHT

The USC-VHH Women's Council will be hosting a virtual comedy night to seek support for the IR cath lab drive at USC-VHH. Since laughter is the best medicine and to improve the Council's service to the USC-VHH community, it is soliciting support while supplying this important commodity.

The event is scheduled for Friday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m. Trivia and fun will be provided

at the "virtual happy hour" and guests are encouraged to bring their favorite cocktail. The comedic stylings of Jason Love will be offered followed by a hospital update by Dr. Armand, USC-VHH chief medical officer.

RSVP to usdvhh.org/comedynight to receive the Zoom log-in information. Admission is free, but guests are asked to consider a donation to the Women's Council IR Cath Lab Fund.

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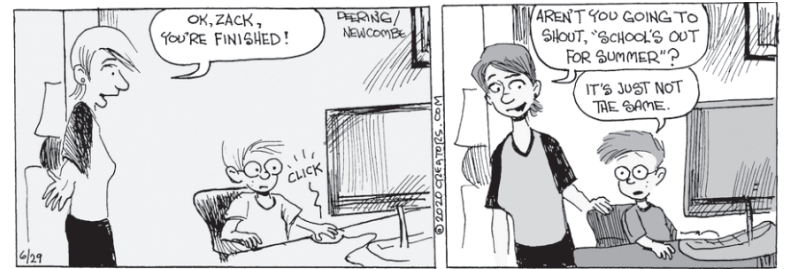
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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com
 June 29, 2020 - July 5, 2020

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

This may not be the best time for any sort of cosmetic surgery. You may not be happy with the outcome. Whether it's a minor or major procedure, consider putting it off for a few weeks. The whole process should go more smoothly if you can wait. It may be easier to improve your looks by drinking plenty of water and eating good food.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Take good care of yourself and check any symptoms rather than wait and see what happens. A powerful aspect that affects your health may bring a few surprises your way. The problem is nothing new, but over the coming days you may find a solution that will help you cure it for good. This period is great for a new start with a diet and exercise routine.

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You're always impatient when it comes to health matters. You dislike the inconvenience of illness and the time wasted convalescing. You're equally impatient when it comes to getting fit or losing weight. You tend to give 100 percent for a while and then burn out. Perhaps you could take your time. You'll feel better.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Don't be surprised if treatments are delayed or there's confusion over health issues. If you feel that a diagnosis is incorrect, get as many other opinions as necessary. If you're eating out, find a restaurant that has good reviews. There's a chance you may eat something that disagrees with you.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You digest ideas and mental concepts as well as food. Some may be more easily assimilated than others. If you're taking the time to research issues associated with your well-being, go to a source you trust. Make sure that the next batch of ideas you consume really suits you on all levels. If they do, it will be easy to apply them.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You may have been through a period of cleansing on all levels. Letting go of resentment or bitterness is every bit as important as clearing out toxins from your body. If you haven't tried a short detox yet, perhaps you could make it a regular habit. You'll feel so much better.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

You may have been under pressure to reach deadlines on time. You'll find it easier to cope if you slow down and relax. When you work, you sometimes you find it hard to switch off. But this is the key to creating a healthy balance in life. When you leave your job, think pleasant thoughts and take it easy!

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You may decide to go back to a treatment that you experimented with in the past. You could be inspired by the results others have had and by glowing testimonials. You may think of it as a luxury and wonder if you could do without it. But it will be worthwhile if it helps you in any way. Listen to your intuition and go from there.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

Let your renewed enthusiasm for good health and wellness infect you with a powerful desire to work out daily and eat nourishing food that's good for your body. Your diet may have more of an impact on you than you realize. Check for food intolerances and sensitivities so you can tailor your diet to your needs.

♈ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

The Universe is encouraging you to look more deeply into current health issues. A lot of what you're experiencing could be caused by deeply held resentments and toxic emotions, which are known to have a negative effect on well-being. The more deeply you understand this and the more willing you are to explore your past, forgive, and move on, the healthier you'll be.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

The pounds may pile on if you aren't careful. If you're going to be doing more socializing, the temptation to indulge may be too great. There are a few measures you can take to help yourself. Drink plenty of water to help you feel full. Drink hot water and lemon to dull a sweet tooth.

♊ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

The desire to enjoy too many rich and fatty foods may be too strong to resist. No matter how good you've been recently on your latest diet, you may find it easier to enjoy the ice cream than to push it aside. It's no great sin to veer off course now and again. Just don't make a big thing about it. Enjoy it and then move on. Don't beat yourself up over it!

PET OF THE WEEK



Sue Kilpatrick shared how her pup Brighton celebrated summer by jumping into a spray from the hose.

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(All letters must be 250 words or less) Send CV WEEKLY your thoughts and comments on any of our articles or happenings in our community and we'll share them with the rest of our readers!

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BUSINESS

» NEWS FROM THE CRESCENTA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 "OUR BUSINESS IS YOUR BUSINESS"

A Year Full of Surprises

It's been one of those strange years . . . political turmoil, social isolation, restaurant closures, restrictions on businesses opening, cancellation of local events (Hometown Country Fair, Montrose Car Show, 4th of July Fireworks, Oktoberfest – just to name a few), masks/social distancing/hand sanitizers, protest marches, toilet paper hoarding and the disappearance of the handshake/hug/kiss when greeting friends. And we're only halfway through the year! What else could happen? I have a strange feeling 2020 may just be starting to warm up!

During this year of surprises there are always bright rays of sunshine and hope. It's individuals like Joe Kroening at Andy's Transfer & Storage, Chris Waldheim at J's Maintenance, Keith Hobbs at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, Vince Iuculano at

the YMCA of the Foothills, Robin Goldsworthy, publisher of the CV Weekly newspaper, Linda Junge, principal at Crescenta Valley High School, Andre Ordubegian at Copy Network in Montrose, and community friends like Dr. Cynthia Livingston, Ken Biermann, Jean Maluccio, Mary O'Keefe and Victoria Malone, who inspire us and keep us focused. These are just a handful of those who keep the "light burning" in our community. There are so many others but take this moment to recognize what a blessing it is to live in our Crescenta Valley community with so many caring individuals.

A couple of Chamber Notes

First, while unfortunately the Crescenta Valley Fireworks Association had to cancel this year's show, our Chamber is sponsoring a 4th of July "Show Your Patriotism" home decoration

contest. We will recognize the top eight home decoration displays. Drive around, find the homes with the best and most original displays and contact us at (818) 248-4957 or info@crescentavalleychamber.org. And for those of you decorating your home . . . be creative, unique and give us your best patriotic effort!

Our Chamber had to cancel the planned July 8 mixer event at Alissa's Ocean View Bar and Grill due to concerns with social distancing during the latest round of the COVID-19 virus. But Alissa's beautiful restaurant is open for sit-down service, along with many other fine restaurants throughout La Crescenta and

Montrose. Please support our local restaurants and their "take out service" as well.

Our newest Chamber member is Bebacue Sauce Company (www.bebacue.com). Co-owners Bruce Beba and Emmanuel Munda offer a variety of nationally recognized barbecue sauces for your enjoyment. Bebacue Sauce Company will be making its community debut this next Sunday, July 5 at the Montrose Sunday Market (8 a.m. to noon).

Emergency Preparedness Tip: July is the month to clean out your rain gutters of debris, check or replace your vent screens, learn how to turn off your water, gas and electricity at the main

switches, and plan your escape route from your home or office. Fire season is fast approaching and you need to be ready!

Our Chamber is available to help you plan a ribbon cutting or grand opening (or reopening) for your business or help you promote a special opportunity for your customers. Contact us at the CV Chamber office and remember, "Our Business is Your Business."

Steve Pierce,

Executive Director

CV Chamber of Commerce

3131 Foothill Blvd. 'D'

La Crescenta, CA 91214

www.crescentavalleychamber.org

» NEWS FROM THE MONTROSE VERDUGO CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Changes at the Chamber

The "new normal" is ever evolving. With all the changes and the halt to business as usual, the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce has also been affected.

Working from home meant we were not in the office each day. Yet since the Stay-At-Home Order, the MVCC has worked to keep the business membership and the community overall apprised of the changing landscape. We exemplified the purpose of a chamber: as a resource for the businesses and the community, to support and evolve as the business climate evolved. You received our daily emails when new information was coming from the County, the Health Department, and the City of Glendale. Monthly newsletters and our social media platforms have kept the community aware of businesses that were open and available for pick-up or delivery. And we brought new ideas, such as the Montrose restaurant bingo, to show your support of those businesses. Even though we could not gather in person, MVCC did not stop new member

ribbon cuttings; instead we created the virtual ribbon cutting with great appreciation to all the local legislative offices for supporting and providing digital certificates of recognition to the new businesses. We asked local photographer Stephanie Wiley to allow us to showcase and share her photos of the "Face of COVID-19's Impact." We have kept business in the forefront by implementing new and alternate ways of doing and recognizing business.

During this pandemic the MVCC has also been affected financially, as have all businesses, organizations and households in communities across our nation and around the world. The annual events have been cancelled or delayed, and that affects the bottom line. Without events, the MVCC has had a good portion of its revenue stream halted. Thus, in order to try and make the remaining dollars stretch as far as they can go, we are changing our structure.

I try not to involve myself in any of the monthly articles. The CV Weekly articles are about the

organizations, the community and the noteworthy events. I would, however, like to take this opportunity to let you know in light of the situation and the need to evolve the office, I am stepping down as the executive director of the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce.

This has been an arduous decision. With many restless/sleepless nights worrying about revenue options, it finally came to me that the chamber itself could function on fewer hours and less expenses and still be effective. I also know that in my household we could not sustain the impact of that change; I would need to find other work. I knew that if I stayed on with the chamber I would be holding it back. I could never do that. I have taken great pride in raising the chamber as a reliable resource for the businesses and the community – not just for annual events and mixers – and I hope that during the pandemic I was able to lead the MVCC office to work on behalf of the businesses and community to keep all informed and provide a sense of support during this unprecedented time. I had hoped I could continue that work and sustain the MVCC as a beacon of what a chamber can and should do for businesses and the community. Unfortunately, the time has come to downsize and adjust.

Having had a conversation with the 2020 president of the chamber we came to the conclusion that I would step down. But I will be in the background. You will see me around the community and always supporting the chamber. The chamber will continue on; it has been around since 1923, and should be around for many more years to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to work for you. And thank you for what this experience has taught me while I was in this position. This is truly a role and responsibility I never took for granted. I showed up and worked diligently and with great pride for the community that raised me.

Victoria Marie Malone, MVCC
 Executive Director



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.

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GCC from Cover

Wi-Fi availability in the city's parks. Councilmember Ara Najarian reported that he was elected to the second vice-chair position at Metro, meaning that he is in rotation to chair the transportation organization that is aimed at increasing public transit. He hinted at projects pending, both long and near-term.

Najarian commended the staff at the Pacific Pool for doing "a great job" keeping the pool open safely.

He then asked city staff to do something about the property at the intersection of Victory and Winchester; "it's a mess, quite an eyesore," he said.

Councilmember Kassakhian requested support for a report on ways to increase city support for local businesses, specifically looking to enhance purchasing requirements to buy locally.

"Every week we approve contracts and expenditures and cities like Glendale spend a lot of money. I believe we need to give preference to local businesses when these procurement decisions are made to support and grow our local economy," Kassakhian said. "Furthermore, we need to especially consider those businesses that are owned and run by women and minorities. It may be a small step but it's about making choices and leading by example."

Glendale Fire Chief Silvio Lanzas provided a COVID-19 update, starting by expressing his concerns as the numbers of those affected grow and the age demographics of those affected change. An estimated 500,000 people visited local nightlife starting on Memorial Day, he explained, and cases in those between the ages 18 and 34 are now on the rise. Lanzas called the numbers "troubling," recalling his previous concerns about spikes he anticipated around June 20.

"There have been 2,500 new cases in Los Angeles County in each of the past seven days," Lanzas continued.

Globally, there are now more than 10 million confirmed cases and more than 500,000 deaths. Of those, more than 2.6 million cases and more than 130,000 deaths are in the U.S. In California, there are over 230,000 cases and 6,000 deaths confirmed; in LA County, there are more than 100,000 cases and 3,300 deaths.

In Glendale, as of Tuesday, there were 1,432 confirmed cases and 106 confirmed deaths.

On Tuesday, in Los Angeles County, chief Lanzas reported there were 2,779 new cases and 45 deaths.

Encouraged at seeing the city's seven-day average of new cases remain under 20, the chief urged the public to "heed the warnings and stay home unless you must go out so we can continue to keep these numbers flattening. Wear a face

LIONS CLUB from page 9

schools. Over the years, the Lions Club has also donated to many worthy local organizations and causes. In 2018, the Lions formally adopted The Fire House Youth Center to support with annual fundraisers. In the coming months and years, the Lions Club plans to increase its service to the community as it grows its membership. In 2016, the Lions Club sponsored the first student LEOs Club at CV High School, which continues to serve the community.

covering – so we can get on the better side of this pandemic."

Answering questions about the reported uptick in cases throughout the local fire service, Lanzas affirmed the reports, sharing that Glendale firefighters would be participating in a procession to accompany a severely ill Torrance firefighter to another treatment site the following day, but that there has been only one positive case of COVID-19 in the Glendale fire service. He then knocked on wood.

The council debated extending emergency orders adopted to address the coronavirus crisis in consideration of actions taken at the county, state and judicial levels, and ultimately voted to extend protections against residential evictions and rent increases until July 31. The local provision requiring the wearing of facial coverings was

also extended to July 31 by a unanimous vote.

The council allowed protections against commercial property evictions to lapse, effective immediately, acknowledging that state and other measures may remain in effect.

Noting the late hour and the length of the proposed staff presentation and following debate expected, City Manager Yasmin Beers suggested delaying the discussion until next week about the future of the city's commercial and multi-family trash collection. Currently commercial and multi-family trash is collected by city workers. The franchising proposal would contract it out to four private haulers.

Finally, the council voted on a one-year contract with its largest union representing

approximately 700 city employees. The Memorandum of Understanding maintains the contractual status quo, provides no additional pay raises, and adds nine hours of floating "diversity" holiday time that workers may use at their discretion.

Councilmember Daniel Brotman thanked the GCEA

[the union of most non-management city workers] for understanding as the city moves forward with the existing terms.

"Although we're signing a one-year agreement it is still possible if we face a dire economic situation that they'll come back to the table and negotiate concessions," he said.

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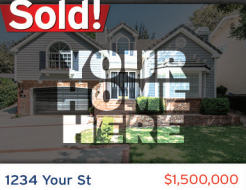
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