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Single-use Plastics, Mask Wearing and More Discussed by Council

By Julie BUTCHER

Next week the Glendale City Council will hold a joint meeting with the board of the Glendale Community College District to discuss issues of mutual concern including plans for low-income housing assistance.

This week, Councilmember Paula Devine announced a virtual exhibit by the Museum of Neon Art called "Glendale, Illuminated: A Zoom Presentation with Arlene Vidor and Corrie Siegel" set for Friday, Jan. 29 at 6:30 p.m. Information and tickets are available at <https://www.facebook.com/events/454674772200452/>.

Devine also asked that city staff provide an update to the council on the work of the city's senior task force.

Councilmember Dan Brotman proposed to include language in the ordinance banning single-use plastics that the council introduced last week to add a "skip the stuff" option requiring food delivery services to include utensils and other such items only upon request.

Brotman further opined that the city is still falling short in enforcing its mask mandate.

"We're not doing enough," he said. "I know I suggested using volunteers and Pasadena tried that and apparently failed; I also understand there are ideas about digital ambassadors and the ability to use a cellphone citation app that can take identification information to make a record."

"We are deadly serious about this."

Councilmember Ardashes "Ardy" Kassakhian requested a report on the status of the city parkway trees. He also requested an update on plans for the city's "slow streets" program, particularly on streets typically more traveled.

"I'm guilty, too, and I should go around rather than overtax our residential streets," he said.

Councilmember Ara Najarian announced that he has been re-elected for a four-year term on the Metro board, one of four seats tagged for cities in the region, and that he would continue his focus on advancing funding for transit and alternate transportation projects.

Additionally, he raised concerns about a commissioner's behavior at a recent Design Review Board meeting.

"I have received a report that a member of the Design Review

see GCC on page 15

Mars 2020 to Land

"You know the greatest danger facing us is ourselves, an irrational fear of the unknown. There is no such thing as the unknown – only things temporarily hidden, temporarily not understood."
— James T. Kirk, "Star Trek: The Corbomite Maneuver"

By Mary O'Keefe

The one constant in human nature is the spirit of exploration. Considering what America has coped with lately, specifically the pandemic and political unrest, among the things learned is the importance of science and how it will propel us into the future.

The Perseverance rover, part of the Mars 2020 mission, will be landing on the surface of Mars on Feb. 18 at about 12:30 p.m. PST. Perseverance was named by seventh grader Alexander Mather of Lake Brad-dock Secondary School in Virginia, who submitted the winning entry to NASA's name the rover contest.

"Three weeks, one day and about 49 minutes away, but who's counting?" said Ray Baker, Mars 2020 Flight System manager at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, of when the landing is expected.

Although those at JPL may make traveling to Mars look easy, it is

anything but. It is a certainty that everyone involved in the Mars 2020 mission will be dealing with some anxiety as the spacecraft gets closer to its red planet destination, and the all-important landing.

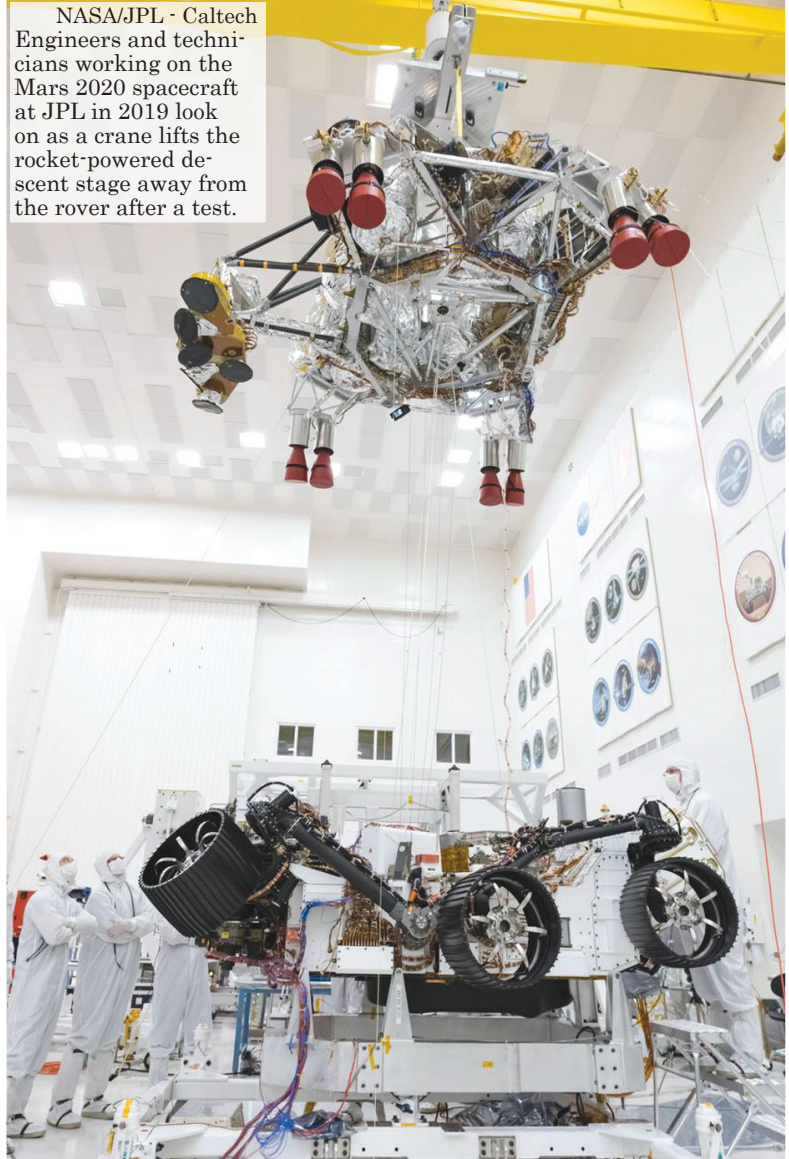
"This is not an easy thing," Baker said. "It's actually kind of a crazy, and amazing, thing that we are doing."

There are so many things that have to go right for the rover to land on Mars and Baker said he is confident in all the preparatory work that has been done for the Feb. 18 landing.

"But Mars gets a vote in this," he said.

JPL has managed several successful missions to Mars but that does not mean that workers rest on the successes of the past; not only do the engineers have to design a spacecraft to fly over 100 million miles, and then land in a specific location on Mars, but they also have to take into consideration the weather

NASA/JPL - Caltech Engineers and technicians working on the Mars 2020 spacecraft at JPL in 2019 look on as a crane lifts the rocket-powered descent stage away from the rover after a test.



see MARS on page 6

County Loosens Restrictions, Outdoor Dining to Reopen

By Mary O'KEEFE

It was on Jan. 26, 2020 that Los Angeles County Public Health announced its first case of novel coronavirus, later identified as COVID-19. Since that time there have been over one million cases reported in LA County with about 16,000 deaths.

This week the State of California lifted the regional Stay-At-Home Order and moved all counties back into a color-coded tier system. LA County is in the more restrictive purple tier.

As part of the restrictions lifted restaurants will be allowed to open to outdoor dining as of Jan. 29. The roller coaster system of opening and shutting outdoor dining has taken a toll on restaurant owners, especially independently owned restaurants. Several of the owners had purchased specialized equipment, from tents to heaters, to accommodate the winter months of outdoor dining when they were closed by a 3-2 vote from Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Kathryn Barger, fifth district supervisor, had voted against the closure at the November 2020 board meeting. At that time she introduced a motion to allow the restaurants to remain open for outdoor dining at 50% capacity.

"I support following the Governor's recommended guidelines for Southern California, and reopening outdoor dining, personal care services

see RESTRICTIONS on page 5



File photo

On Friday, COVID-19 restrictions that will be lifted include on outdoor dining.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Grab a Menu ... Fast: Restaurants are Ready for Diners

After nine weeks of head scratching – since Nov. 25 – why restaurants, which were already hurting due to COVID-19 restrictions, were closed to outdoor diners, the powers-that-be at the state level decided that voila! Diners are welcomed back to dine outside.

In late November, when LA County numbers were hovering at nine new deaths and 3,143 new positive cases in a day, the state shifted from a model of colored tiers to determine how restricted the County would be to a model reflecting the availability (or lack thereof) of ICU beds. When a County, like Los Angeles, went below a capacity of 15% available beds, a stringent lockdown would be enacted.

“Restaurants, bars, breweries and wineries remain closed for in-person dining and drinking, as there is high risk of transmission of COVID-19 when people are eating, drinking and talking together without a face covering, as happens when people are dining onsite at restaurants. They are permitted to remain open for pick-up, delivery, and take-out and breweries and wineries may remain open for retail sales at 20% occupancy.” (Los Angeles County Public Health statement, Nov. 28, 2020.)

On Dec. 28, Public Health stated, “Targeted Stay at Home Orders issued by the state – and adopted by the LA County Health Officer – were extended and remain in effect. These orders will remain in effect as long as hospital ICU capacity remains below the 15% threshold estab-

lished by the state.”

On Tuesday, Public Health marked the one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 case. And, despite 291 new deaths and 5,927 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County reported by Public Health on that day, it was decided that the County, following the state’s lead, would revert to the prior metric of colored tiers with no real information offered as to the availability of ICU beds. I guess that there must be plenty available?

I know that for many small businesses, like restaurants, nail and hair salons, and many others, the loosening of restrictions is a godsend. But is it too little too late? In the future, will we look back at the actions of our governing bodies – from the state to the county – and accept the decimation of so many businesses as a necessary byproduct of hard to make decisions? Or will it be determined that they were made by a governor who had a supersized ego that fed on holding hostage the state’s inhabitants?

In the meantime, I’m donning a mask and making dinner reservations at a local restaurant.

God knows restaurants need it.

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



Weather in the Foothills

“It is the life of the crystal, the architect of the flake, the fire of the frost, the soul of the sunbeam. This crisp winter air is full of it.”

~ John Burroughs

All eyes should be looking skyward and all umbrellas prepare to come forth from hiding as the peak of another system moves toward our neck of the woods. If all goes as forecast, arrival time is estimated for today, Thursday; to be more specific, late morning over Santa Barbara County, during the afternoon in Ventura County, finally reaching Los Angeles County in the evening. The name and potential for these rains are unique. Okay, we are ready – bring on the rains!

This weather event is one of those so-called “Pineapple Express” atmospheric rivers that take shape over Hawaii and head towards California. Due to this year’s weak La Niña, the late arrival as such was predicted by the NWS. Originating in the Gulf of Alaska and setting up off the Pacific Northwest, its circulation swoops down, gathering up the extremely moist air in the Hawaiian Islands. In doing so, an atmospheric river is formed that can transport 10 to 20 times as much water volume as the Mississippi River and has been responsible for some of California’s most damaging winter storms.

Atmospheric rivers are a concentrated stream of water vapor in the middle and lower levels of the atmosphere. Visualize a continuous conga line of moisture streaming across the ocean without interruption until it encounters an obstacle such as the coastal ranges in California. Our so-called “obstacle” is the San Gabriel Mountains and here the atmospheric river drops buckets full of water, i.e. rain!

Some atmospheric rivers are weak and produce beneficial rain and some are larger and more powerful and produce extreme rainfall (plus floods and mudslides). Most importantly, fresh water supplies in California are replenished as reservoirs fill and slow-to-melt snowpacks form; locally, we hope for local wells to fill.

An interesting side note: The name Pineapple Express was used by sailors to describe the fast winds that propelled their ships from the Hawaiian Islands towards the West Coast. Aboard were the mostly unheard of and delicious fruit ... pineapples.

Thus far, beyond the weekend two more storms are lurking in the forecast. One will stay north and the other east; so, presently and once again, my umbrella awaits the storm.

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

CVCA WELCOMES 2021

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its first meeting of the year tonight, Thursday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. The meeting will include discussion on local issues as well as an opportunity for Foothill area residents to bring their own concerns. For those who live in Glendale between Lowell and Pennsylvania avenues, the Far North Glendale Homeowners Association will hold its annual meeting from 6:30-7 p.m. just before the CVCA meeting. The agenda includes a vote to change the name of the organization to Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association and to install new board members.

Please join in on Zoom. All are welcome. For further information and Zoom meeting link, contact crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com or visit Crescenta Valley Community Association on Facebook.

MEAL TRAIN FOR USC-VHH LOOKING FOR PASSENGERS

The Meal Train for frontline staff at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital has been reactivated. Some meals from the community would go a long way to lifting their spirits especially as COVID hospitalizations rise.

To sign up, visit <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/nn5z0d>.

BATTLE OF THE BADGES BLOOD DRIVE

The annual Battle of the Badges blood drive will take place at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station on Feb. 4. Donors are required to wear a mask during the donation process. Donations benefit the American Red Cross.

The Battle of the Badges Blood Drive will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station is located at 4554 Briggs Ave. in La Crescenta. Those who are eligible and are feeling well can make an appointment on the Red Cross blood donor app, by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling (800) RED-CROSS.

ASCENCIA HOLDING DRIVE-IN EVENT

The non-profit organization Ascencia, which has programs to lift people out of homelessness, is having a drive-in fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 6. In lieu of its annual in-person gala, the drive-in will be held at Forest Lawn Memorial Park. The theme is celebrating the superpowers of Ascencia's homeless families who have successfully transformed their lives. Individual tickets are \$150 for one car entry and driver (includes one boxed meal) and \$100 for each additional passenger (includes boxed meal). Virtual Zoom tickets are \$75 per person and include one cocktail.

Tickets can be purchased at Ascencia.schoolauction.net/GALA2021. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Call (818) 246-7090, ext. 120 or email gala@ascencia.org.

THEFT PREVENTION TIPS BY CV SHERIFFS

Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station reminds everyone of several simple steps to help prevent theft of property. Lock your car! Never leave valuables in plain sight. This is one of the most common reasons why thieves target a vehicle or home. Take your keys/key fobs with you. Never hide a spare key on the vehicle. Roll up windows completely. Park in well-lighted areas. If your home has outdoor lights, use them. If you have a garage, use it. Activate alarms. Lock your garage door. Bring in your mail.

Taking the Trail Ahead: Saying Goodbye to Angelo Chiarot



“And guide me on the long, dim trail ahead that stretches upward toward the Great Divide.”

— ‘A Cowboy Prayer’ by Cowboy Poet Badger Clark

By Mary O'KEEFE

Angelo Chiarot didn't speak much about his service in World War II, according to his grandson Robert Wollenwebber. He was typical of those of the “Greatest Generation” who served.

Angelo passed away at the age of 97 after contracting COVID-19. He had been in poor health for a while but COVID-19 was his final battle, according to Wollenwebber.

Angelo was born in Canada to Italian immigrant parents. They moved to Los Angeles when Angelo was young. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on Dec. 9, 1942 at the age of 19. He completed boot camp at Treasure Island in San Francisco. He trained as a watertender at Norfolk and served aboard the frigate USS Gulfport in 1943 then, in 1944, joined the crew of the destroyer USS Balch in New York. He completed five trans-Atlantic convoy escort crossings to various ports in North Africa from 1944 to May 1945. He served as a U.S. Navy watertender, second class, for four years, through the end of the war.

“He told me how [while] he was in the boiler room of the ship he heard the Japanese plans overhead and heard the ‘boom’ of the bombs [dropped],” Wollenwebber said.

Angelo was an active member of American Legion Post 288. He attended several events at the lodge, like bingo fundraisers, and even celebrated his birthday with fellow vets. The veterans at Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars 1614 honored his service throughout his membership including on Veterans Day ceremonies and, most recently in May 2020, veterans, law enforcement and fire department representatives did a “drive by” celebration for his 97th birthday. At the time he was living at Mountview Senior Living facility and waved as the parade of admirers drove by.

The American Legion recently named him Veteran of the Year. “Angelo was one of the roughest, toughest guys I knew with a heart of gold,” said Darren Azarian, former commander of American Legion Post 288. “He was a true patriot, hard worker, defender of family and friends and would do anything for anyone. Up to the last day I saw him he had a positive outlook on life and always contributed to any community ask put his way.”

After the war Angelo worked for the Los Angeles County Fire Dept. as a heavy equipment operator. Prior to his retirement from LACoFD he responded to several wildfires.

But for Wollenwebber, Angelo was just a wonderful grandfather.

“He was a rough and tough [man],” Wollenwebber said. “My fondest memory as a kid was when he would take me to rodeos.”

Angelo was a cowboy at heart and loved his horse, which he boarded for years in Shadow Hills.

“He would go there every morning to see his horse,” Wollenwebber added.

In recent years his health began to fail but that didn't stop him from attending American Legion events and being available for



his fellow, though younger, veterans.

Angelo was a loving grandfather, father and husband. Although he has died, the debt owed to him by the country will never be forgotten.

Photos by Dick CLUBB

LEFT: Angelo spent his later years at Mountview Senior Living.

CENTER: Angelo Chiarot during his days in the Navy.

RIGHT: Waving to birthday parade participants.

ABOVE: Angelo at a special celebration at the Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall.

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Town Council Receives Request on Honolulu Project

By Brandon HENSLEY

The Jan. 21 Crescenta Valley Town Council Meeting, held virtually on Zoom, saw a request made to council regarding property that was formerly the site of Leo's All-Star Bar and Grill.

Grant Michals, from the Crescenta Valley Community Association, spoke to council and said he would like support in opposition to the proposed housing project that would replace Leo's at 2941 Honolulu Ave.

"I'm asking for a comment letter from Town Council on something that would support our determination that this is not compatible with the North Glendale Community Plan, which has many similarities with the Community Standards District you have," Michals said.

No decision was made at the meeting.

Michals said the neighborhood associations in Glendale have appealed the project. A date for appeal before the Glendale City Council has been moved to Feb. 16.

Michals said he is concerned primarily over the height of the design, which would stand at 43 feet, a violation of design standards of the Community Standards District. The building that was Leo's was 25 feet high, which is the standard.

The plan includes subterranean parking, with three residential stories and 18 apartment units. Michals also noted the "boxy" design in renderings would not fit well with the architecture around La Crescenta and the North Glendale area.

In other presentations, Glendale Unified School District Superintendent Vivian Ekchian said the district has "put a pause of instruction programs on-site" due to concerns over ongoing COVID-19 cases from winter break. That will continue to the end of this week.

"It was a really difficult decision for us," she said "Through every element of the pandemic we've stood by our students based on science."

Ekchian said the district has partnered with Verdugo Hills Hospital, and that district employees are allowed to be vaccinated, most likely in early February. She also said the district is hoping to receive to additional funding by the state, and that it is making preparations for the summer to "make up for lost time."

At the start of the meeting, council said goodbye to outgoing members Charlie Beatty and Daniel Kim. Both received certificates of recognition from the offices of LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Assemblywoman Laura Friedman and Sen. Anthony Portantino.

"Both of you guys have been fantastic contributors to the entire community, and we've been really lucky to have your contributions to the Town Council," said Vickere Murphy, senior representative for Portantino. "Town councils in general are kind of unique ... participation from all of you is much more than people realize, and for Daniel and Charlie both have contributed so much time to make the community even more special than it is. It's been really meaningful, so I appreciate that."

Kim thanked Council, and said he didn't realize how much work it would be at first. He said he hoped to see everyone down the road.

Beatty was not present at the meeting, but was there last month and had a chance to thank Council as well as hear many thanks and goodbyes.

"Charlie has been an icon to this community. He has served several positions. He led chair, several committees and has been a very good part of our lives, especially my life for 12 years," said council president Harry Leon. "Daniel, thank you for your contributions to the community, especially to the youth council ... I hope you won't forget us; we're always here and look forward to seeing you again."

The next virtual meeting is scheduled for Feb. 18.

NOTES & NODS

This Week at LCIF

Lutheran Church in the Foothills invites local residents to Couch Church at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31, on the church's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Those who miss the live presentation can watch the videos on the church website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. This week Pastor Scott Peterson will deliver a message called "Healing."

After the service, everyone is invited to join a time of fellowship on Zoom at 11:30 a.m. There is also a time for Zoom prayers on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. More details are available on the church website www.lcifoohills.org.

The church office is located at

1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge and is generally open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact the office at office@lcifoohills.org or call (818) 790-1951 for details, information, offering help or requesting help.

Prayer Gathering at Deukmejian

Though things are happening in the world and, regardless what the world is doing, as spiritual beings we are called to a higher purpose. That purpose is to love our neighbor and our enemies! We are all one in Christ. Let's not pay attention to those who are trying to divide us or turn us against each other.

All are invited to come to Deukmejian Park on Saturday, Jan. 30 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. to pray in

the unity of spirit with multiple churches for our community, our nation and our world.

Deukmejian Wilderness Park is located at 3429 Markridge Road in La Crescenta/Glendale. Meet in the bleachers just east of the parking lot.

Parking can be very limited, so early arrival is recommended.

Bring masks and remember to keep social distancing.

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.



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Crescenta Valley Weekly is distributed on Thursdays to: La Crescenta, Montrose, La Cañada, Sunland, Tujunga, Glendale and Eagle Rock. Yearly subscriptions are *\$65.00
*Rate is higher for mailed copies

Mail Payment to:

CV Weekly, 3800 La Crescenta Ave., #206, La Crescenta, CA 91214
To contact us, call (818) 248-2740, fax (818) 248-2444

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Printed by Valley Business Printers 16230 Filbert St, Sylmar, CA 91342



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Three Arrested for Catalytic Converter Theft

On Jan. 17 just before 3 a.m., officers responded to the 500 block of Glenwood Road regarding a resident reporting two subjects using a loud tool to cut through metal on a truck parked near the location.

As officers were arriving, they observed a vehicle that appeared to be fleeing the area with its

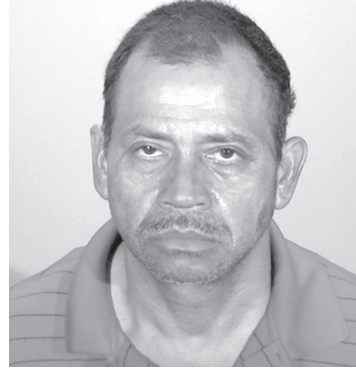
lights off. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and discovered it was occupied by three individuals: the driver, 35-year-old Shavonda Hamilton (transient), along with passengers 36-year-old Mitzael Jimenez-Perez (transient) and 43-year-old Gabriel Ramirez of Los Angeles.

While contacting the occupants,

officers observed a reciprocating saw, two methamphetamine pipes and a cut-off catalytic converter in plain view inside of their vehicle. A records check of Hamilton revealed she was unlicensed. Officers also located methamphetamine in Hamilton's possession. All three individuals were arrested and booked

for grand theft and possessing unlawful drug paraphernalia. Hamilton was also arrested for

possessing a controlled substance and driving without a license.



Gabriel Ramirez



Mitzael Jimenez-Perez

RESTRICTIONS from Cover

and other industries that were previously closed by these orders. A data-driven and pragmatic policy approach is essential to protecting public health, while balancing the devastating social, emotional and economic impacts of this virus," according to a recent statement from Barger.

Supervisor Janice Hahn supported Barger's November 2020 motion.

"Now that Governor Newsom has lifted the statewide Stay-At-Home Order, the question is what is LA County going to do? We should align ourselves with the state as much as possible, which means, among other things, reopening outdoor dining with commonsense health protocols in place as soon as possible. The restaurant industry was devastated by this lengthy

COVID-19 numbers as of Jan. 25 at 6 p.m.:

City/Area	Positive Cases	Deaths due to COVID-19
Burbank	7,280	163
Glendale	16,039	393
La Cañada Flintridge	641	12
Eagle Rock	3,233	71
Sunland	1,914	43
Tujunga	2,352	41
Unincorporated		
La Crescenta/Montrose	900	8

shutdown and I know this would be welcome news to them," Hahn said in a statement released on Monday.

With the lifting of the state's Order, several sectors are allowed to resume operations. Businesses are urged to adhere to safety protocols and specific sector guidance in order to protect both employees and customers. Public Health's compliance teams continue to visit businesses across the County every day. Inspectors review Public Health protocols with business owners, identify deficiencies, and issue citations for businesses out of compliance.

From Jan. 18 through Jan. 24, 74 citations were issued to businesses including restaurants, gyms, personal care salons, hair salons/barbershops, and shopping malls for noncompliance with

Health Officer Orders. Since the end of August, a total of 761 citations have been issued.

Outdoor dining is allowed beginning Friday. Other restrictions that were lifted earlier this week include private gatherings outdoors up to three households and up to a total of 15 people; museums, zoos, and aquariums to resume outdoor operations at 50% occupancy; card rooms outdoor operations at 50% occupancy; miniature golf, go karts, batting cages outdoor operations at 50% capacity; outdoor recreation activities are open; fitness facilities are open for outdoor operations; personal care services, including nail and hair salons, are open indoors at 25% capacity; and indoor malls are open at 25% capacity.

An EDD Update

By Mary O'KEEFE

In September 2020 CVW reported on a reader who had received over 150 fraudulent letters from EDD – the California Employment Development Department – at his residence. The letters were addressed to different names but all had the reader's address. This scam occurred in areas throughout California and the EDD was not quick to respond to the issue, either from our repeated attempts to contact the agency nor when the reader attempted to contact EDD to ask what to do with the fraudulent mail. In early January the EDD suspended payments of over one million benefit claims in part due to their fraud response. This left many legitimate applicants without funds.

This week, EDD provided an update on the department's efforts to "get unemployment benefits to struggling Californians while stopping fraud committed against the unemployment system," according to an EDD statement.

According to EDD, the department has processed 19.5 million claims between March 2020 and Jan. 16, 2021.

EDD has confirmed that 9.7% of those payments had been made to fraudulent claims. In addition, up to 17% of payments made during this time have been identified as possibly fraudulent.

"EDD is now working with some of the country's most successful fraud prevention businesses and law enforcement agencies to protect the state's unemployment benefit system," stated California Labor and Workforce Development Agency Secretary Julie Su. "We know that many Californians are waiting on payments, and EDD is working quickly to validate their claims and get their benefits to them."

The EDD has received over five times as many unemployment claims in 2020 that in 2010, the worst full year of the Great Recession. This unprecedented number of claims provided a "window of opportunity" for thieves, stated EDD.

"EDD was clearly underprepared for the type and magnitude of criminal attacks and the sheer quantity of claims," said EDD Director Rita Saenz. "We are focused on making the changes necessary to provide benefits to eligible

Californians as quickly as possible and stopping fraud before it enters the system."

In 2019, fraud accounted for about 6% of California's total Unemployment Insurance payments. There have been arrests made throughout the state and nation concerning EDD fraud, including arrests by Glendale police.

California elected officials have been hearing from constituents concerning the fraud and the suspended payments.

"Something is terribly wrong here. While President Biden sends \$2.6 billion to California for rent relief, EDD sent over four times that amount (\$11 billion) to fraudsters," said Assemblymember Miguel Santiago. "We could've paid rent, utility bills and invested in vaccine rollout. Instead EDD blew it. Every day my office receives desperate constituent calls worried about paying rent, bills and putting food on the table. COVID-19 has widened income inequality and it's been worsened by EDD's inability to send unemployment checks. EDD deserves a big fail on its report card."

Got COVID Questions?

Do you have questions regarding COVID-19? Perhaps regarding legislation, vaccination availability or other related issues? CV Weekly wants to help get you the answers you need from reliable, trustworthy sources. Send your questions to Covidquestions@cvweekly.com to get the answers you need.



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Male Arrested for Burglary and Vehicle Theft

On Friday, Jan. 15 just after 8 p.m., patrol officers were dispatched to a residential subterranean parking structure on the 3900 block of San Fernando Road regarding a grand theft auto in progress. Officers were advised that two suspects were at the location and had just been interrupted as they were in the process of loading the victim's motorcycle into the back of their white Ford van.

Upon arrival, officers located a white Ford van parked in the driveway of the subterranean parking structure with the same license plate given as the van involved in the attempted motorcycle theft. Seconds after officers observed this van, they noticed a male, identified as 30-year-old Bryan Murray of Bellflower, enter the driver's seat and close the door. Murray was quickly detained without incident pending further investigation.

A records check of the Ford van revealed that the license plate attached to it returned as being registered to a Toyota. While on scene, a citizen called the Glendale Police Dept. to report his/her license plate had been stolen, which turned out to be the plate that had been affixed to the suspect's Ford van.

Murray was ultimately identified as one of the males involved in the attempted theft of the victim's motorcycle and was arrested for burglary and attempted vehicle theft.

The other male remains outstanding.



In Memory of Reserve Deputy Charles D. Rea



The Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station community this week remembered the anniversary of the death of Reserve Deputy Charles Dudley Rea.

On Jan. 26, 1969, during an El Niño storm, Rea drowned in Big Tujunga Creek. Rea served as a member of the Montrose Search and

Rescue team working out of Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station. He and fellow team members were making their way toward 30 people stranded in the La Paloma Flats area above Montrose when the tragic accident claimed his life.

Reserve Deputy Rea lived in La Crescenta. He was 35.

Obituary

Ruth Anne Nardoni



Dec. 20, 2020

Ruth Anne Nardoni passed away peacefully on Dec. 20. She is survived by her son Daniel Nardoni and daughter Ronda Nardoni.

Ruth Anne was a longtime leader in the La Crescenta community. She was a PTA president at Dunsmore Elementary, a Girl Scout Troop leader and piano teacher. She loved music and her Shellies.

She will be missed and remembered fondly.

Funeral directors: CrippenMortuary.com



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MARS from Cover

on the destination planet.

"Anytime you are hitting another planet, going something like 12,000 miles per hour, [and] we are going to build up temperatures on the heat shield of 1600 Celsius, that's over 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit, it is a scary proposition [that should] not to be taken lightly," he said.

The rover will land using the sky crane process used for Curiosity, which landed in 2012 and continues

to explore the surface of Mars.

The sky crane maneuver begins as the spacecraft nears the surface. The landing will be controlled by thrusters, the rover connected to a descent stage will be lowered onto the surface by cables and an "umbilical" that provides a power and communication connection. Once the rover is on the surface, it communicates this to the descent stage.

"Think of it like a puppeteer controlling its space puppet down to [the surface]," Baker said. Then it is a step-by-step process. The rover communicates it is on the ground, the bridal/umbilical is cut, and the descent craft flies away just like with Curiosity.

"We've done it before, landed like this before, exactly once. And what we say a lot is 'one in a row is not a trend,'" he added.

So although engineers are learning from the past they are not taking anything for granted, and continue to scrutinize every detail.

Once the rover is safely on the ground there will be a bit of housekeeping done to make sure the rover is safe after its long journey. One of the first things the rover will do is deploy a remote sensing mast, which looks like a head on the rover.

"We have two ways of talking to the rover. One is with a high gain antenna ... that is direct [communication] to Earth," Baker said. "The other way is called the UHF link and it actually talks to the orbiters currently orbiting

Mars. Then those transmissions get relayed back through those orbiters."

This will give many opportunities for the rover to communicate with Earth.

Communication is not immediate with the rover. On Feb. 18, it will take about 23 minutes for a signal sent from Earth to be received by the rover and then for the JPL team to see its response.

Mars 2020 will search for signs of ancient microbial life, characterize the planet's geology and climate, collect carefully selected and documented rock and sediment samples for possible return to Earth, and pave the way for human exploration beyond the Moon.

Perseverance will also ferry a separate technology experiment to the surface of Mars - a helicopter named Ingenuity, the first aircraft to fly in a controlled way on another planet, according to the JPL website.

In addition, this will be the first phase of collecting samples of the Martian surface to be returned to Earth. After it is determined Perseverance rover is safe and functioning on Mars, Baker will be focusing on the mission to retrieve those samples.

"One part of this rover's [mission] is a sample and caching system. It is a first for the Mars program, a subsystem specifically designed to collect samples, store them in sample tubes and drop them off on the surface of Mars," he said.

The samples will then be

retrieved and returned to Earth with the next Mars mission.

Although JPL may be looking toward the future it has not forgotten the present, and has had to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic like others on Earth.

"It has been a mission like no other because of the pandemic," Baker said. "We were very fortunate to even launch."

Most of JPL staff has been working off-lab, which like other businesses has not been easy to transfer to a virtual schedule. And viewing the landing will be different as well. There won't be the typical views of Mission Control where every seat is filled as the engineers and scientists count down the landing, and of course passing around a jar of lucky peanuts, a tradition at JPL since 1964.

Baker will be watching the landing on Feb. 18 from his home with his children who are remote learning.

Those who are continuing working on the Mars 2020 mission will be on Martian time and their schedules vary. According to the schedule, Baker is supposed to be sleeping at the time of the landing.

"I assure you I will not be asleep," he said. "I probably won't get much sleep that day."

There are many ways NASA/JPL has arranged for the public to participate in the Mars 2020 mission including watching the landing online. For information, visit mars.nasa.gov.

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Obituary

Virginia "Chickie" Dudley Bengtsson



Jan. 12, 2021

Virginia "Chickie" Dudley Bengtsson passed away from complications of COVID-19 on Jan. 12. She was 94 years old.

Born in Glendale, Chickie graduated from Hoover High School and attended Glendale College. In 1950 she married and settled down in Glenoaks Canyon to begin a wonderful life with her family.

Chickie was preceded in death by her husband Charles "Chuck" Bengtsson, and her brother Lee Dudley. She is survived by her younger sister Geraldine Glidden and many beloved nieces and nephews along with wonderful lifelong friends and neighbors.

Chickie is also survived by her children Chris Bengtsson (Sue) and Stevie Goffredo (Johnny); grandchildren Tom Watson, Melissa Smith, Christopher Bengtsson, Allison Katz, Kristen Milano, Kimberly Tatman, Jimmy Goffredo and their wonderful spouses; great-grandchildren

Kieley Hicks and Kasey Watson, Addie and Colton Smith, Juniper Bengtsson, Zoey Katz, Katie and Olivia Milano, Maegan, Noah and Emerson Tatman, and John Goffredo.

She was smart, funny, caring ... and her smile lit up the room! Nothing gave her more pleasure and happiness than time spent with her loving family. She will be greatly missed.

Because of COVID-19, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to The Salvation Army.

Angelo D. Chiarot



May 16, 1923 – Jan. 22, 2021

Beloved patriarch, veteran and friend, Angelo Domenico Chiarot, 97, passed into the loving arms of Our Savior on Jan. 22. Born in Winnipeg, Canada to Italian immigrants Guiseppe and Antonietta (nee Sellan) on May 16, 1923, Angelo spent the bulk of his life in Los Angeles County.

His teen years ended with the onset of World War II when he enlisted on Dec. 9, 1942. He proudly served in the United States Navy as watertender, second class, deployed on the

Tacoma-class patrol frigate (PF-20) USS Gulfport USS Charlotte (PF-60), and destroyer the USS Balch (DD-363), among others, completing five trans-Atlantic convoy escort crossings to various North African ports until the end of the war.

Angelo retired from the Los Angeles County Fire Dept. where he served as a heavy equipment operator handling the large firefighting bulldozers and machinery on countless wildland fires and special projects throughout the years.

He is preceded in death by his devoted wife Stella (nee Cantacessi); parents; sister Vilma (Paneno); and brother Roy. He is survived by sister-in-law Jeanne Chiarot; children John LaJeunesse (Andrea); Jo Ann Stanton (Richard); and Kathleen Wood (Allen); multiple grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nephews and nieces, including grand-niece Nichol Paneno, who lovingly cared for Angelo during his later years and days.

Angelo is remembered for his love of music, dancing, horses, Westerns, all-things Italian and the Montrose Christmas Parade. He embodied for many the Los Angeles culture of The Greatest Generation with stories of dancing at The Palladium and observing Ascot racing from "the hill." For years, he rode his horses daily after early morning meetings of The ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Club at the Burger King (now Starbucks) on Foothill Boulevard.

His decades-long memberships in St. Peter's Italian

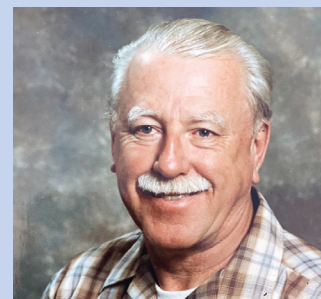
Church's San Trifone Society and La Crescenta American Legion Post 288 additionally reflected his love of community, charity and faith. Always grateful for assistance and a snappy dresser, Angelo's presence impacted those who knew him and those who met him. During American Legion memorials, bingos and meetings, Angelo humbly would say of his service, "We didn't know we were doing anything special!" as children would ask to take their picture with him.

To this, "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'" (Matthew: 25:23)

Rest in peace, our dear Angelo, and jitterbug! You will be missed, you are celebrated and, above all, you are eternally loved.

In lieu of flowers any donation to the American Legion would be greatly appreciated. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 223, Montrose, CA 91021.

William "Bill" Geist



Sept. 12, 1927 – Dec. 23, 2020

William "Bill" Geist passed away peacefully in his home

on Dec. 23 at the age of 93, surrounded by love and family.

He is preceded by his wife of over 50 years, Hildegard "Hildy" Geist, and is survived by his three children: Gretchen (husband Dave), Robert, and Richard (wife Peggy); two grandchildren: Ashlie and Richard; and three great grandchildren: Desiree, Kelsi and Harper.

He was an active member of the La Cañada Presbyterian Church and Seafarers for over 60 years. He was an entrepreneur and started multiple companies during his life: W.K. Geist Company, Crescenta Rents All, Marine Charter and Exploration and Event Power Associates.

He served in the Navy, stationed on a submarine, and graduated from MIT. He took family and friends to Catalina hundreds of times on boats he built himself. He traveled often to Death Valley and was president of the Death Valley 49ers.

He lived a good life, a long life and one of integrity. To honor his spirit, the family asks that donations be made to the La Cañada Presbyterian Church.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." ACTS 20:35

In respecting the health and safety of our friends, family and community, services will be held at a later date. Please visit his memorial website at www.everloved.com to share your memories and stories.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

More Local Movie Filming Locations

I've written several columns about the many films that have been shot in our community over the years, most of which were in Montrose or at the La Crescenta Motel. But recently I was introduced to a short video by Sunland-Tujunga based filmmaker Craig Durst. He presents scenes from famous movies, along with a guide as to where they were shot. Most of what Craig presents, with one exception, was shot to the west of us, in Sunland, Sun Valley or Lakeview Terrace. I'll run through a few of them here.

The first real Hollywood movie was "The Squaw Man" (1914), and Craig said part of it was filmed in Sun Valley along the railroad tracks that still parallel San Fernando Road. The director of that film, Cecil B. DeMille, bought a ranch in Little Tujunga Canyon and shot several early silent movies around there. D.W. Griffith also bought a filming ranch in that area, just past Lakeview Terrace, about where the 118 branches from the 210, and some shots in the infamous "Birth of a Nation" (1915) were possibly in that area. Craig shows us some amazing scenes from "The Mark Of Zorro" with Douglas Fairbanks and tells us that those scenes were shot on Sunland Boulevard near La Tuna Canyon.

Craig Durst said the iconic hitchhiking scene on "It Happened One Night" (1934) might have been shot somewhere in Sunland, possibly

on Sunland Boulevard approaching Sunland. He shows a couple other scenes in the Academy Award-winning film that were shot in and around Sunland Park.

Lancaster Lake, a tree-lined pond just north of Sunland Park, was used in many films in the 1930s. "Little Sinners" (1936) had the Little Rascals using the lake for one of their slapstick comedies. Ironically, Craig shows us later in his video that "The Little Rascals" reboot in 1994 used that same neighborhood for the soapbox derby scene.

Next up is "The Spoilers" (1942). John Wayne and Marlene Dietrich star in this film about the Alaskan gold rush. The set for the Alaskan mining camp movie was built in Big Tujunga Canyon, right about where Oro Vista crosses the creek. It was an elaborate set with a town, bridges, railroad tracks and a full-size steam train.

Craig briefly jumps out of the Sunland area and over to La Cañada where he shows scenes from "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946) with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. The area around Viro Lane and Lamour Drive, then a development just under construction, stands in for Bailey Park where the Martini family moves into their new house.

Here we move ahead in time to "Chinatown" (1974). The Foothill Boulevard bridge over Big Tujunga Creek is a focal point as Jack Nicolson descends into the creek bed

in this moody mystery. The scene is so well-known that even today that Foothill Boulevard bridge is known as the "Chinatown Bridge." From that bridge, we move to the 210 Freeway bridge over La Tuna Canyon Boulevard where a scene from Cheech and Chong's "Up In Smoke" (1978) was shot.

One of the best-known movie locations in LA is the house from "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial" (1982). The alien E.T. is befriended by Elliot and hidden in the house at 7121 Lonzo Street in Tujunga. "Teen Wolf" (1985) was filmed several places locally, including the Montrose Bowl. Craig shows us the scenes shot in the liquor store at 6670 Foothill Boulevard, which still looks the same today.

1996 saw two major films shot in Tujunga, "River's Edge" with Keanu Reeves, and "The Craft." Director



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

Christopher Nolan, who has just released the movie "Tenet," shot one of his early films "Memento" (2000) almost entirely in Tujunga. Arnold Schwarzenegger's "Terminator 3" (2003) filmed some big action shots on the southwest corner of Foothill and Mt. Gleason that included car crashes, killer

robots and big explosions. The video by Craig Durst is fun to watch, although the sound goes off-sync about halfway through. I posted it on the Historical Society's website cvhistory.org. Click on "What's Happening This Month" and you'll find a link to the video. Enjoy!

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON » REP. ADAM SCHIFF

America's Renewal and Restoration Has Begun At Long Last

Jan. 20 marked a new beginning. For a nation that never got to celebrate the new year, the historic inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris was New Year's Day. Listening to President Biden's inaugural address, I couldn't help but feel optimistic about the future, about our nation's endless ability to remake itself, to renew itself, to press on with hope for the future no matter how difficult the past.

The lesson of the past four years has been a profound one – our democracy is not self-effectuating. It is up to us, to every generation, to protect and defend it, to cherish and preserve it. As our new President said: "We've learned again that democracy is precious. Democracy is fragile. And at this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed."

We are facing four crises that will test our nation in the coming weeks, months, and years – a crisis in health, in our economy, with our climate and one crying for racial justice. All of these challenges require urgent action, and Joe Biden and Kamala Harris will devote themselves completely to helping us overcome.

With over 400,000 of our fellow citizens dead, our most urgent priority must be addressing the pandemic, which continues to devastate the nation every day. In his first day in office, President Biden issued a mask mandate on federal property and inter-state travel and invoked a 100-day mask challenge for all Americans. The science is clear – masks work, masks save lives, and this order will help us slow the spread until vaccines are fully deployed. America also rejoined the World Health Organization, as we rebuild our trust in science, and our standing on the global stage. Looking ahead, the ravages of the pandemic have only made the need for universal health care that much clearer and more urgent.

Coronavirus has brutalized our economy as well as millions of American families struggle to pay rent, keep the lights and heat on, and put food on the table. I'm glad that President Biden quickly moved to extend nationwide restrictions on home evictions and foreclosures and extend student loan payment deferral. But more relief will be needed – urgently. When we passed the most recent COVID relief package, we knew it would only be a down payment on more relief to come. I support President Biden's

\$1.9 trillion economic relief plan, which will provide critical funding to bolster our vaccine rollout, direct aid to families in dire need of support, and relief for small businesses.

America faces other great crises as well, including the fight against climate change. Under President Biden, America immediately rejoined the Paris Agreement, the landmark international accord that was adopted by nearly every nation in 2015 to address climate change and its negative impacts, and he signed an executive order to formulate a plan to achieve 100% clean energy economy and net-zero emissions by 2050. This will be an ongoing priority for the administration, and I'm confident that Biden will make fighting climate change his enduring legacy – the fate of the planet and our nation is at stake. With Biden, we will once again put our faith in science and lead the world in protecting our planet for generations to come.

And we will need to finally begin to dismantle the systemic racism that has plagued our nation since its founding – especially in the criminal justice system – but also by eliminating disparities in access to education, employment, health care and more. President Biden and Vice President Harris have already announced the most diverse cabinet in American history and I'm confident that, with a team that looks like and represents the vibrant diversity of America, we will begin the work of ensuring this nation lives up to its promise as a land of opportunity and equality for all.

There is significant work to be done, but America has never shied away from a challenge. I am clear eyed about the long road to recovery, but I'm feeling hopeful about our future.

And I hope you are, too. The process of renewal and restoration has begun at long last. America is resilient, and we build back better. That's the American way.



Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) represents California's 28th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opposes Censoring of Letters

The letters in [the Jan. 21] paper were interesting to say the least. What did disturb me was the request for [the CV Weekly] to censor what letters it prints. That writer seems to think that you should not print what offends or disturbs that reader.

I see, hear and read things that offend me, but I would never suggest that they be eliminated. Too many people died to defend a nation that is supposed to believe in freedom of speech. That does not mean only

speech that the reader, viewer or listener agrees with. If it offends, change the channel, move away from the source or remove the source. Do not interfere; there may be others who may be interested in the subject. Thank you.

Tom Suter
La Crescenta

Do the Glendale Design Review Guidelines Still Apply?

The Comprehensive Design and Hillside Guidelines need to be

applied to new developments. In the Glendale hillsides, there are massive modern block homes built that dwarf the surrounding older mid-century homes. One by one, older homes in the city are being demolished and replaced resulting in changing the look and feel of our city.

In November 2011, Glendale established a Comprehensive Design Guideline for residential developments. The city spent thousands of dollars to create these guidelines. However, residential projects are being submitted to the Design Review Board that do not meet the design codes. This is leading to unpredictable results, unhappy neighbors and neighborhoods forever being changed. Many projects are now appealed to the city council.

The Design Review Board (DRB) hearings and cases appealed to the city council, show that the Design and Hillside Guidelines are not a main concern in plans submitted. Developments are required to be compatible with neighborhoods in terms of size, mass and scale, bulk, height, setbacks and compatibility with the surrounding homes. These listed items are supposed to be carefully considered.

Architects and property owners should be required to read the guidelines and address each of requirements listed above. A separate city analysis, maybe done by a historic preservationist, describing the effect a new development will have on a street and neighborhood should be

see LETTERS on page 15

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YOUTH

Students, Teachers and Local Businesses Thank Hospital Workers

Many people in La Crescenta call USC Verdugo Hills Hospital their community hospital. The hospital is where many local students were born, parents work and, from time-to-time, an injury or sickness leads to their hallways.

The second and third grade teachers at Monte Vista Elementary School thought gratitude would be a positive way to begin 2021 and, after returning from winter break, asked students to reflect on the many things they were grateful for during the pandemic. The teachers gathered the students' reflections and decided to thank frontline workers who tirelessly work to keep the community safe. They asked students to write letters expressing their

gratitude. Not only did the students learn about letter writing formats, they were able to express gratitude for something beyond themselves.

Students worked on the letter writing process with their teachers and asked hospital staff questions like: Are you scared? Are you tired from the long shifts? How do you get to spend time with your family? They also wrote sweet words such as, "I hope this letter warms your heart," and "Even though I don't know you, I thank you." As a staff, the Monte Vista teachers were deeply moved by their earnest and heartfelt sentiments.

The students' families also donated money to fund a meal for a unit at the hospital. The donations allowed 100 meals plus some

beautiful sweet treats to be provided to the hospital. The teachers worked with local small businesses and were overcome by their generosity, even as they faced their own hardships.

In addition to gratitude extended to second and third grade families for their letters and monetary donations, Gardenia Market & Deli was thanked for its generous partnership in making and packaging 100 meals and Cake Creamery donated beautiful sweets.

All involved with the project understood they didn't have to look far to see that there is much good in the world!

To see more photos, visit www.cvweekly.com/YOUTH.

Written by Monte Vista teachers Silvia Yi and Michelle BLESSINGER



TOP: Gardenia Market & Deli provided 100 meals for frontline workers at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital.

LEFT: Cake Creamery created "sweet treats" that were delivered to St. Joseph Hospital ICU and Glendale Adventist Hospital.

RIGHT: The staff at USC-VHH received 100 meals donated by families of second and third grade students at Monte Vista Elementary School.



YOUTH SPORTS

Pacific League Looks Forward

Southern Sections cancels fall championships, games can potentially still be played

By Michael LEVITSKY

Following last week's announcement that CIF Southern Section playoffs have been canceled, members from the Pacific League met on Jan. 20 to discuss possible season layouts for all fall sports, now that there are an additional four weeks to work with.

"We are still hoping to play," said Jordan Lessem, CV's AP of athletics. "An abbreviated season is better than no season at this point."

The league, which includes Arcadia, Burbank, Burroughs, Glendale, Hoover, Muir, Pasadena and CV high schools, held discussions on possible start dates for every sport and obstacles, such as a strain on facilities, and even pondered a possible league tournament for some sports.

"It's something that we will work out," said Lessem. "Even if we can try a reduced season, as difficult as it would be for us, if we can give [our seniors] four games, it's better than nothing."

Despite the continued efforts by the Pacific League, nothing can be set in stone until LA County drops from the California Dept. of Public Health's "Widespread" tier to the "Substantial" or "Moderate" tiers. This will only be accomplished if numbers of cases and hospitalizations continue to decline in the coming weeks.

Gov. Newsom tweeted on Monday that cases are down almost 38% over the last seven days and hospitalizations are down 20% over the last two weeks across California. The rollout of vaccines and opening of vaccination supersites across the County could offer a glimmer of hope as well; however, only time



Image captured by Michael LEVITSKY
Commissioner Rob Wigod addressing the media via livestream following the CIF Southern Section's cancellation of fall championship contests.

will tell.

For the current fall sports schedule, only cross-country in "Widespread" tiers is allowed to compete. Southern Section commissioner Rob Wigod emphasized that all fall sports must still conclude on their official end dates in order to have the schedule for spring sports start on time.

An incredibly busy and difficult 10 months for the CIF Southern Section office, and the CIF as a whole, ended unceremoniously on Tuesday, Jan. 19 and the decision to cancel section championships was one that many anticipated but no one wanted to hear.

After pushing back and adjusting a projected calendar in which every school could have viable league play, five league games for six-team leagues, and seven games for eight-team leagues, along with several

rounds of playoffs, there was no other choice but to cancel.

The decision was made as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations remained at a high rate across California, and especially in Los Angeles County. The CIF Southern Section, California Dept. of Public Health and local health officials determined it would be unsafe to hold section championships that had schools traveling long distances and often cross county lines to play one another.

Despite the cancellation of section championships, CIF Southern Section commissioner Wigod emphasized that the decision did not mean that fall sports are canceled altogether, as they were last spring.

"[Schools] can take away that they have time now remaining in

the fall season of sport to schedule as many contests as they possibly can," he addressed the media. "League contests, non-league contests that have already been postponed or canceled, could now potentially be added to our season up until the end dates of each sport."

The end dates for all fall sports range between March 20 and April 17; therefore schools now have the flexibility to play real contests until those dates, following the guidelines by local health officials.

In order for play to potentially resume, LA County would have to

fall out of the California Dept. of Public Health's "Widespread" tier.

Financially, the cancellation of section championships is quite a blow to the CIF Southern Section's yearly revenue total. Championship playoff revenue accounts for nearly half of the Southern Section's operating budget, according to the commissioner.

As vaccines begin to slowly roll out through the state, players, parents and coaches can hold their breaths and hope the county gives kids a chance to do what they have been waiting nearly a year to do: play.

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Veterans Corner January 2021

The Registry of the American Soldier

Note: This article is copied from an email sent out recently to members of the VFW Post 1614 and American Legion Post 288 in La Crescenta by Dick Clubb, the assistant adjutant. The primary focus is for U.S. Army veterans.

The article is from the National Museum of the United States Army newsletter named "Call to Duty" written by Colonel Jerry Hansen. The article is about The Registry of the American Soldier. This is an opportunity of every Army veteran to add their name to the Army Museum Registry and the names of others you may wish to be added. To add your own entries to the Registries visit armyhistory.org/the-registries/.

As a longtime supporter of the Army Historical Foundation and the National Museum of the United States Army, one of the features that I love is The Registry of the American Soldier, which captures the stories of the many men and women who have served our country as a soldier throughout Army history. The Registry is not only available to Museum visitors, it is also available online.

I often go to the Soldier Registry and enter the name of a historical personage or someone with whom I had served and wanted to recognize. When persons' names are not found, I feel the urge to do an entry on their behalf. The practice has become addictive. Before long, I began making lists of people who came to mind so that I could enter them when I had time, assuming they weren't already well documented.

I am trying to document as many as possible the junior

soldiers and NCOs with whom I have served. Researching their stories has created a great opportunity to contact them after many years, telling them how much I appreciated their service, and asking if I may document their story.

I have had a lot of fun doing the project and I've learned a lot in the process.

We need many more amateur historians to begin adding Soldier Registry entries, and to keep at it for years to come if we're ever going to capture the majority of veterans since the 17th century – a herculean task! I am up to about 120 entries now and my list of unfinished entries continues to grow. The more I do, the easier it becomes and the more I enjoy what I'm doing.

In addition to soldier stories, there is a Registry of the Army Community and even a Registry for Service Animals. Please join me in this enjoyable past time, which may put you back in contact with many lost friends.

Writer Jerry Hansen graduated from United States Military Academy (West Point) and was commissioned as an Artillery officer in 1968; served as Forward Observer, Fire Direction Officer, and Executive Officer in A Battery 320th Field Artillery, 82ND Airborne Division, 1969 - 1970; Battalion Liaison Officer and Battery Commander, C and A Batteries, 1st Bn 77th Field Artillery, 1st Air Cav Division, (RVN & US) 1970 - 1972. Following schooling at Ft Sill, OK, returned to West Point as an instructor and course director, Office of Military Instruction, 1973 -1976, then as Aide-de-Camp to Superintendent (LTG Sid Berry) USMA 1976 - 1977.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Home Buyer Research Amid COVID

Dear Phyllis,

I have been enjoying your column for years. Interesting how much things have changed amid COVID. My partner and I are separating and selling our home. She has moved out and I will be residing here until it sells. I am hoping to buy another home with my share of the profits. My niece is a newly licensed Realtor® and we will be using her to sell and I will use her to buy as well. I would like to start looking at homes so that I can get a feel for what I can afford. As there are no longer any open houses, I am not sure how to proceed. I am hoping you can offer some guidance.

Perplexed

Dear Perplexed,

COVID has been a game changer in real estate and it is certainly more difficult for a home buyer to research the market amid COVID. I think the key takeaway from 2020 was

adaptability. You are correct, open houses are no longer allowed. Showings are limited to one party at a time and strictly scheduled.

Have your niece provide you with an estimated Seller's Net Proceeds Sheet. This will outline all the costs associated with selling so that you will know approximately how much profit you will have after your sale.

1) Get prequalified with a local mortgage lender. Ensure that you and the lender are comfortable with the monthly PITI (principal, interest, taxes, and insurance).

2) Have your niece set up a listing search which will email you new listings that meet your criteria. This will give you a feel of what's available. Have her also include sold listings. In today's market many listings are selling over the asking price so it's important for you to have a clear picture of values in the

neighborhoods in which you are looking.

3) Once you have a prequalification letter you can view owner occupied homes. However, as your down payment may be coming from the sale of your home, it may not get you in the door for owner occupied listings. Sellers and their listing agents are taking extra precautions due to COVID and are hoping to minimize showings rather than maximize them. If you aren't in a position to buy today, a seller may not want you in their home until you are in a position to close.

Some listing agents are not as rigid when scheduling showings on vacant homes. Chances are your niece can arrange showings on some vacant listings without a prequalification letter. This may allow you to do some research amid COVID.

Best of luck on your sale and purchase.!



Questions about Today's Real Estate? Ask Phyllis!

818.790.7325 phyllis@realtorharb.com

Keep up-to-date with local real estate trends at:
LareBlog.com | facebook.com/HarbandCo | instagram.com/realtorharb
 Phyllis Harb (DRE# 008487500) is a Realtor® with Coldwell Banker Hallmark Realty



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» USC VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL

Free Resource Center Helps Older Adults Navigate Aging

To assist local older adults and their caregivers during this challenging time, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (USC-VHH) has launched the Community Resource Center for Aging (CRCA).

The USC-VHH CRCA, which is funded by a generous grant from the Navigage Foundation, aims to improve the quality of life for older adults by connecting them with a broad network of support services from the hospital, as well as nonprofit and public health organizations. People can also receive guidance navigating anything from daily needs, like food and medicine delivery or transportation, to major life decisions like long-term care or assisted living. Access to the CRCA is free to anyone in the community.

"Older adults have their own unique questions and challenges, which are further complicated by the pandemic," said Adria Navarro, PhD, LCSW, program manager of the CRCA. "USC-VHH has created a support network for older adults in our community and we are excited to be here for them at such a critical time."

For Toni M. of La Cañada Flintridge, the CRCA provided invaluable guidance navigating care for Toni's

97-year-old mother. The CRCA gave Toni referrals for in-home care and options for future assisted care. Her mother now has a live-in nurse and enjoys spending peaceful time in the garden with her friendly neighborhood squirrels.

"Working with the CRCA enabled both my mother and me to live more independently, with the security of knowing our options for the future," Toni said. "I would recommend this organization for anyone with loved ones in their older years."

To contact the USC-VHH CRCA for assistance, call (818) 949-4033, or learn more at uscvh.org/aging-resources.



Hogg's Hollow Offers Hallowed History

It was 1975 and La Cañada resident Rose Hogg wanted a unique, educational and fun place for her young son Robert and his friends to attend. After exploring local options she decided to create a team of highly skilled teachers and opened Hogg's Hollow. It was important that Hogg's Hollow teachers were well trained and experienced and also had a heart for young children. Rose feels that children thrive when treated with respect and love.

The Hogg's Hollow program has been refined over the last 40 years and today offers a creative hands-on program that delights young children, and includes language arts, math skills, science experiments, music activities, dance lessons, art, cooking, field trips and much more! Programs include Mommy/Daddy & Me classes, preschool for children 2 & 3 years old, T/K and kindergarten classes for children 4 & 5 years old plus after school private tutoring, summer programs and more.

Since 1985, Hogg's Hollow has leased part of the La Cañada School District's former Foothill Intermediate School, a large

facility where Hogg's Hollow has its own preschool play area plus the use of the adjoining track and field. Having all this space available gives Hogg's Hollow students room to run on a beautiful grassy area. Needless to say, students are physically fit while enjoying a safe environment with lots of outdoor space. In addition to its own play yard with a fountain-fed river, a side-ways rock-climbing wall, and other climbing and sliding equipment, Hogg's Hollow students have room to run. A free shuttle program in La Cañada also allows Hogg's Hollow to take field trips to community facilities such as the nearby fire stations or to go for a hike along a local stream. Hogg's Hollow students go places!

A personal tour with founder and director Rose is currently available that will further inform families of the many services and programs offered at Hogg's Hollow. Visit www.hoggshollowschool.com or call (818) 790-1700.

Hogg's Hollow, a licensed preschool 191200048, is located at 4490 Cornishon Ave. in La Cañada Flintridge and follows all current COVID-19 safety protocols.

TRAVEL & LEISURE

Visitors Invited to ‘Sedimental’ Journey at La Brea Tar Pits

By Charly SHELTON

Los Angeles, 30,000 years ago, was much like the Los Angeles of today – it was crowded with traffic. Well, relatively speaking.

The LA basin was a lush area of little streams and low-lying plants with clusters of shade trees, and the basin and valleys made for easy travel. This encouraged many migratory populations of animals and humans to pass through LA on their way to find food, water and shelter or to move with the seasons. Here and there between Hollywood and the beach are little black pockets of asphalt that well up to the surface – tar pits. With liquid methane collecting on the surface, they looked like enticing watering holes to passing animals. One animal gets too close and becomes stuck (just a few inches of asphalt could stop a mammoth in its tracks) and called for help. This attracted predators that come to grab an easy meal then they got stuck in the asphalt too. Carrion birds, like vultures, swooped in to eat these animals that died of exposure while stuck. The birds got stuck, too. Then mice and bugs tried to sneak some meat off the bodies and got stuck as well. Plants fell into the asphalt and, as the bodies decomposed, more bones fell in and slowly, over a period of several months, the whole mess of bodies and plant material sunk into the ooze, preserved for tens of thousands of years. This happened every few years for several thousand years.

All of this is being dug up at the George C. Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits, and now visitors can be part of that scientific legacy.

The tar pit excavation, which began in 1969 and ran every summer up to the pandemic,



A Columbian mammoth is one of the many megafauna (big animals) that are found in the tar pits.

Photo by Charly SHELTON

has collected a massive number of specimens. Thousands upon thousands of individual specimens, from huge skulls and saber teeth to tiny mouse feet bones and dermal ossicles (skin bones from ground sloths), have been recovered and noted in field records. Field records are the measurements and location of where the specimen was recovered. Many of these from the last 40 years were written on index cards or notebook paper and as such were not searchable or able to be incorporated into larger data studies like modern records

are. This is why the Page Museum has opened up the collection to the public to invite members of the public to help transcribe these field records and bring the last 40 years of scientific research into the 21st century.

“When you have digitized records, you can actually ask questions about whatever it is that you want to ask questions [about],” said Aisling Farrell, Collections manager at the Page Museum. “You can look for patterns. You know what you have so you can plan ahead for expansion space or building cabinets, doing

prep work, hiring curators, doing research with students – the whole shebang, really. It’s super important. I mean without it, you’re kind of blind. You’re just sort of stumbling around in a warehouse.”

Interested members of the public are invited to visit the project, “Sedimental Values: Digging in to La Brea’s Past,” on Zooniverse, a community science platform. After a brief how-to, anyone with a computer and an internet connection can help bring to life these fossils that were excavated yet undiscovered until now.

For more information and to help bring these field records up to a 21st century standard, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yx9uf2mm> to get started.

And for more information on this and other science initiatives from tar pits around the world, follow Farrell’s BREAS group – Paleontologists Bridging Research & Education in Asphalt Sites – on social media: @BREASproject on Twitter, @BreasInitiative on Facebook and @B.R.E.A.S on Instagram.

THEN & NOW I



Then » In 1925 a swampy area next to Sunland Park was dredged to make Lancaster Lake, a tree-lined pond for fishing, swimming and boating. Many films were shot there in the 1930s and '40s, including “Ben Hur,” “Mildred Peirce,” “Little Women” and “Tarzan.” Here we see Spanky MacFarland of the Little Rascals in 1935 for the short comedy “Little Sinners.” The big lake is seen in the background.

Lancaster Lake

Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Now » Lancaster Lake began to silt up and by 1950 it no longer was viable as an attraction or a film location. The lake was filled in and a trailer park was developed over the top of it. Today the Sherman Grove Mobile Home Park at 10711 Sherman Grove Ave., Sunland-Tujunga sits atop the former lake.

'No Movement': Art Installation at Glendale's Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station



The community is invited to enjoy artist Erin Fussell's art installation "No Movement" at the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station, 1020 E. Palmer Ave. in Glendale continuing until Feb. 26.

"No Movement" celebrates and critiques the Streamline Moderne architecture of the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station, which emphasizes speed at the early stages of car culture. Today, those who live in the greater Los Angeles area deal with extreme congestion and long commutes. The tradeoff, however, is mobile independence and the ability to go anywhere at any time.

This exhibit examines how much has changed since the 1930s when the Adams Square Gas Station was constructed. How might commuters shift their thinking when dealing with changes in climate, relationships and resources? What do these things reveal about the culture?

The sculpture within the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station will be made of repurposed used car parts with a one-channel sound installation using a low power radio transmission that can be picked up on visitors' car radios only on-site.

For more information about the Glendale Arts and Culture Commission see the website: <https://www.glendaleartsandculture.org/>

Schiff Nominates Local Students to U.S. Service Academies

Rep. Adam Schiff recently announced the nomination of seven students from the 28th Congressional District to U.S. service academies for the class of 2025.

Nominees included Gavin Choi from La Cañada High School and a La Cañada Flintridge resident who was nominated to Military Academy and Naval Academy, Abigail Kim from Crescenta Valley High School and a La Crescenta resident who was nominated to Naval Academy, Air Force Academy and Military Academy and Vincent Kim from New Covenant Academy and a La Crescenta resident nominated to Naval Academy, Military Academy and Air Force Academy.

"In reviewing each of these students' applications, I was amazed by their strong records of accomplishment in areas ranging from community service to academics to athletics," said Rep. Schiff. "Their demonstrated commitment to make our community a better place, and their dedication to our country make each of them outstanding nominees for this profound honor. These young men and women are our

nation's future and I am so proud to submit their names for nomination to attend our U.S. Service Academies. Along with our entire community, I want to wish the nominees good luck in all their future endeavors."

Four U.S. Service Academies, the Air Force Academy, the Merchant Marine Academy, the Military Academy at West Point, and the Naval Academy, require a nomination by a member of Congress in order to attend. The nomination process is competitive as each service academy offers those who attend a free college education at a highly ranked and nationally recognized academic institution, while simultaneously preparing these students for an officer's commission in the armed forces.

Students interested in applying to a Service Academy for the Class of 2026 should contact Congressman Schiff's District Office at (818) 450-2900 or (323) 315-5555 or visit <https://schiff.house.gov> to obtain an application form.

The application deadline for next year's class is Nov. 19.

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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com January 25, 2020 - January 31, 2020

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

You can do a lot to help yourself by watching for the first signs of stress and not getting tangled into emotional knots. There are powerful aspects around that could cause you to work even harder than usual and burn out. You'll suffer if you do this day after day. Don't push so hard. You could use a break before you reach the breaking point.

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Your health is in your hands now more than it has been for some time. It would be helpful if you understood the relationship between your fears, worries, and defenses you erect and the health problems that result. You're going to understand this relationship even more in the coming weeks. What you obsess over can be bad for your health.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

The cosmos is encouraging you to go outside and enjoy the feeling of the sunshine on your skin. This is one of the most enjoyable ways to get your daily dose of vitamin D, as long as you don't overdo it. It may also help to do a short cleansing diet. It will enable your body to get rid of toxins and give you plenty of extra energy.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

If sheer frustration is giving you headaches, calm your thinking and give your mind a rest. It's better not to keep pushing to achieve something that isn't going to work. In a few days you'll feel a lot less wired than you have been lately. It will be quite a relief.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

Life may be disjointed, which could account for your feeling ill at ease. With a lot happening in your life, it's important that you not allow yourself to feel pressured. No matter what is happening on the outside, take the time to eat properly and be good to yourself. Experiment with what works best for your health, especially where your diet is concerned.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Too much thinking is wreaking havoc on your health. This translates into tension that gives rise to muscle aches. Keep your head clear of too many troublesome thoughts, especially if you have a tendency to worry unnecessarily. A massage, hot bath, or relaxing aromatherapy session would work wonders. You might want to try meditation, too. It will help your blood pressure.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Life looks a lot easier now, so you'll be able to unwind no matter what stress you've been under. Let go of tension by exercising. Release any lingering resistance to feeling your best. Doing this will increase your energy level dramatically. If you're feeling restless, alleviate this with massage and herbal baths.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Start a practice like meditation, yoga, or tai chi. It will help your whole system settle into a more balanced state. This is important if you're dealing with more stress than usual. You may have no control over circumstances, which can be exhausting and draining. Take action. Sign up for some classes so you can feel renewed.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Put any difficulties from recent weeks behind you and enjoy the scents and sounds around you. You may have to deal with a few challenges, so be nice to yourself. Take the chance to relax in a bath filled with delightful aromas whenever possible. Get out in the fresh air, and visit one of the beautiful natural spots near you.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Continue to take responsibility for your health. You'll make fabulous progress if you develop an exercise routine that you enjoy. If you make this a regular discipline, you'll feel better in all ways. Most of all, take baby steps toward achieving a state of total health. The more you feel that inner balance, the brighter you'll shine.

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You don't seem to have any real health problems, but you could be taking on too much. The cosmos indicates that you may have a tendency to overextend yourself and think that you can do more than you're physically capable of. There's also a degree of tension around, and this, too, may mean that you aren't feeling as together as usual. Be good to yourself!

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

All work and no play does make Jack or Jill pretty dull - and you're in danger of going that route. Don't spend all your days plodding along and feeling sorry for yourself. You need a break in order to rediscover the joys of life and regain that sense of vibrancy that coincides with good health. It might help to go slightly crazy and laugh a lot. Your body will thank you for it.

Answers for puzzle 01.21.21
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MY TREAT

By Roger D. Ellis

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ZACK HILL by John Deering and John Newcombe



» FIRST PERSON PERSPECTIVE

America Needs You, Mom: Kansas City Chiefs Defensive End Alex Okafor Speaks Out For Justice

Alex Okafor is a defensive end for the Kansas City Chiefs, former Texas Longhorn and native of East Texas. His girlfriend is CV High School graduate Kaylee Lumsden.

Okafor wrote the following, which was originally published in the Kansas City Star and Fort Worth Star-Telegram.



Alex Okafor and his mom Sonia Danette Alexander Okafor

After an injury in Week 15 of the 2019 season, I watched from the stands with my parents as my Kansas City Chiefs win the Super Bowl.

It was a heartfelt experience. There's nothing that I wanted more than to be on the field, battling with my teammates. But being able to watch our team win, with my parents next to me, is an experience that I wouldn't trade for the world. I wish time would have stopped and we could live in that moment forever.

Just a few months later, Mom was in the hospital, diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. Because of coronavirus restrictions, we could not visit her in the hospital during her chemotherapy. Within three weeks, at only age 59, she was gone. Soon after, so were three more

African-Americans: Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd. At this point, I was about to melt down. The pain from my mother's death was sitting heavily on me, not to mention the rage that took over since these slaughters. I was overwhelmed with so many

emotions; all I wanted to do was crawl into a cave and hide while the rest of the world burned down.

Then I thought to myself, "What would Mom have done?"

Sonia Danette Alexander Okafor has always been my biggest role

see OKAFOR on next page

CALENDAR this

USC-VHH WOMEN'S COUNCIL OFFERS HARMONIES FOR THE HEART

The USC Verdugo Hills Hospital Women's Council presents Harmonies for the Heart, a free online concert with The Mary Dyer Band. The concert is on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 p.m. To take part, ESVP to bit.ly/HarmoniesUSCVHH; Zoom log-in information will be sent.

Admission is free, but a donation to the Women's Council IR Cath Lab Fund would be appreciated.

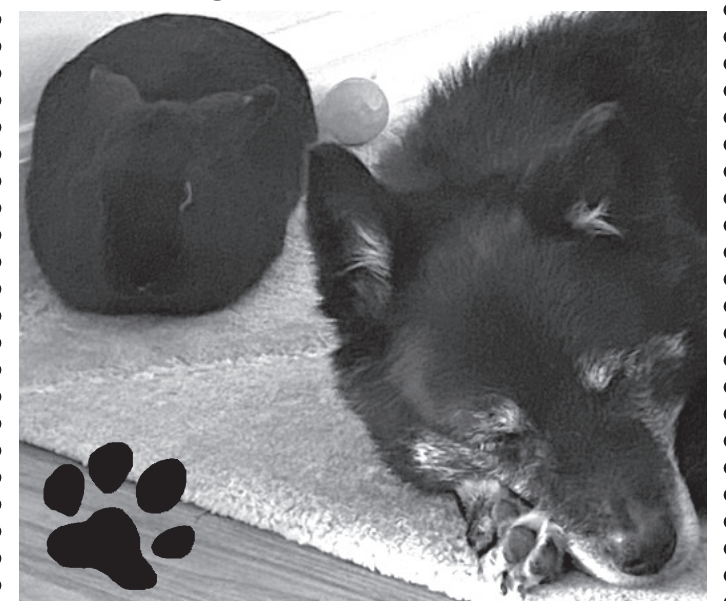
For information, contact Barbara.Jordan@med.usc.edu or call (818) 952-2226.

SPRING CLASSES OFFERED

Glendale Community College is offering a variety of free classes, including classes on administrative medical assisting and clinical medical assisting, beginning Feb. 16. These are part of the short-term vocational curriculum.

For details, visit https://tinyurl.com/y3k2tx4a or call (818) 240-1000 ext. 5690.

PET OF THE WEEK



These are Tom Hanks and Wilson. Tom Hanks is our 14-year-old shepherd mix that we rescued while living in Georgia.

Wilson is our 1-year-old lop mix bunny that we rescued in California. Tom Hanks is named for the actor who we are a fan of, and Wilson is, of course, from "Cast Away."

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

CLASSIFIEDS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

LEGALS

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta located at 4454 Lowell Ave La Crescenta, CA 91214 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 2/18/2021 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Andrew De Palma. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 28, February 4, 2021.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Montrose located at 3708 Clifton Place Montrose, CA 91020 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 2/18/2021 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Joseph Ramos; Christine Vrtanesyan; Robin Joy Seifert. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 28, February 4, 2021.

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OKAFOR from page 13

model. She grew up in East Texas, lost her mom at age 9, and went to Grambling State University, majoring in criminal justice. She had grown up in the civil rights movement and experienced a lot of racial trauma post-segregation. She always made my brother and me aware of the racial injustices in this country. She did her best to prepare us for the obstacles to being Black in the suburbs of Texas: Don't stay out too late. Don't wear durags in public. Drive carefully while passing through Williamson County. Put both hands on the steering wheel when being pulled over by the cops.

She stopped at nothing to assure everyone in my family excelled. She had a kind heart and was always trying to improve society. She worked as a probation officer for 11 years and was certified as an alcohol- and drug-abuse counselor. Later, she worked for a nonprofit organization finding housing for underprivileged families. I'm sure if

she were alive today, she would say we need more organizations as such to help level the playing field.

She was one of the most courageous people I knew. My dad moved from Nigeria at 19 and met my mom at Grambling. Shortly after marriage, his mother got sick and he wanted to bring her to the states for better medical care. But he wasn't a U.S. citizen yet, so Mom volunteered to bring my grandma back. My mom had never been to Nigeria, and the area my dad grew up in wasn't safe for foreigners.

Nevertheless, she went and brought my grandma back seamlessly. That kind of courage and selflessness are what we need right now.

We also need more of her tolerance. Which reminds me of the story in which my dad brought home goat meat for the first time. In Nigeria, the head of a goat is considered a delicacy; my dad was saving it for a special occasion. When Mom opened the freezer door,

she screamed: A goat's head was staring back at her! Initially, she was terrified, but she made it a point to learn about the Nigerian culture so she could understand my dad's upbringing. (She eventually came to eat goat meat but never would try that goat head.) She knew it wasn't fair to judge my dad without truly understanding where he came from.

We as a nation need to come together to learn more about one another's upbringing. The more we learn, the more sensitive we will be to other demographics' struggles.

Mom was a huge fan of Oprah Winfrey. She recorded every episode of her show and bought all of her magazines. Nowadays, I get emotional every time I see or hear someone mention Oprah. I see my mom in her. Both are strong Black women who strive to make this world a better place. Oprah once advocated, "Turn your wounds into wisdom." This resonates with me because if Mom were alive, I

believe this would be her advice for our country. We must learn from the recent murders if we want to end systemic racism in the United States.

After Mom passed away, I vowed that I would stop at nothing to make her proud. I'll be the best man I can be while honoring her to the fullest. The first big step is making a legitimate effort to end racism in this country. As much as I wanted to cut off all news networks and social media outlets so that I could mourn in peace, I knew this is not what Mom would have wanted. Because of her, I'm writing this article. Because of her, I wanted to have this uncomfortable conversation about racism and inequality.

Mom worked as an alcohol- and drug-abuse counselor for 11 years. There's a term in that field known as "emotional sobriety." In order for the Black community to take the next step, we must embrace these emotions of anger. We have to address our pain and agony in

a way in which it doesn't eat at us anymore, but motivates us to take care of our own. We must practice emotional sobriety so that we can take these negative emotions and channel them into concise and conscious efforts. This includes voting, and not just in the Presidential election.

Mom always urged me to go vote. If I had time in my schedule I would, but I never took it seriously. If I voted it was only because Mom kept bugging me. Growing up, mom used to always say, "If you don't like what's going on in your life, what do you plan to do about it?" Well, since my mother is no longer here to pressure me every election, I must take it upon myself to vote while encouraging others to do the same.

Mom, I love you. I'm more determined than ever to continue your work in creating a better society, a better America.

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Kansas City Star and
Alex OKAFOR

GCC from Cover

Board was drinking during the meeting and I'm asking that we agendize this and evaluate what other actions we should take," he said. "Can I get a second?"

Councilmember Brotman asked first to be recognized.

"You know what happened; the person was given a glass of diluted wine by her husband after a long session at home during COVID and has already written an apology and said it would never happen again," he said. "Unless you think there's an endemic issue here, I think it's a waste of the public's time to be scoring political points like this – I know she makes some people uncomfortable because she works to hold to the highest design standards."

"We all make mistakes," Brotman added. "I know you were on social media immediately after the George Floyd incident and used words like 'locked and loaded.'"

Councilmember Najarian jumped in. "No, Mr. Brotman, that's not what I said."

Mayor Vrej Agajanian sought assistance from the city attorney. Kassakhian suggested an overall code of conduct might be required.

Mayor Agajanian then addressed Glendale Police Chief Carl Povilaitis.

"Are we doing enough?" he asked about the department's response to the pandemic.

Povilaitis updated the council, indicating that Glendale is one of the only police agencies in Los Angeles County to mount such an aggressive response, including the designation of a departmental task force back in August. He explained the move to electronic citations and the challenge of integrating the new technology into a 20-year-old information management system.

Councilmember Devine proposed help for seniors needing to make vaccine appointments. The county website for vaccination appointments is <https://tinyurl.com/y24m4zku>.

Fire Chief Silvio Lanzas told the council that the problem is that vaccines are simply not available; the county has 130,000 doses with 85,000 designated for second shots. Right now vaccines are going to Tier 1, healthcare and emergency workers; staff and residents of skilled nursing facilities; people 65 and older (approximately 1.4 million in LA County are 65 or older).

"We need the vaccine and we need it to be plentiful," Chief Lanzas explained the challenge, noting this also affects the push to include the Rose Bowl as a mass vaccination site (Pasadena is getting vaccines directly from the state).

Encouragingly, he added, "Keep checking back. Efforts are underway to partner with 75 pharmacies."

Next, police Captain Robert William overviewed a prospective new ordinance prohibiting various tools and potential weapons from public demonstrations and protests.

"In the past several months, we've seen an increase in violence in cities across the country," he said. "Safety is our priority and so we've examined events and our responses and other steps and measures we can take to lessen the likelihood of a violent act, to enhance the promise of public safety."

"Among other items, the proposed ordinance prohibits a person from carrying or possessing any length

of wood unless that object is one-fourth (¼) inch or less in thickness and two (2) inches or less in width or, if not generally rectangular in shape, such object shall not exceed three-fourth (¾) inch in its thickest dimension and is blunted at the ends. The possession of bats, bricks, clubs, sling shots, projectile launchers, knives, swords, hammers, nunchucks, metal or plastic shields, aerosol sprays, open flame torches, laser pointers and glass bottles, among other items, are also prohibited in the proposed ordinance," the report detailed the action.

Captain William noted that several cities (Burbank, El Monte, Santa Monica, Covina, Los Angeles) have similar ordinances.

"Glendale has had many demonstrations and the police department is committed to constitutional, respectful policing," he said. "At demonstrations over the past several years, the police department has been professional, respectful and supportive of the public's right to exercise its First

Amendment rights. Our aim is not to interfere or interject ourselves into a crowd but rather to offer a tool to be used preventatively and in advanced planning."

"There are some sporting events that you just can't bring some things into," Chief Povilaitis noted. "This is like that. Our goal is maximum safety for everyone involved."

The council debated the length of time for the council agenda and meeting materials to be published and settled on no fewer than six days, with a goal of eight, including the promulgation of commission agendas, and the publication of an agenda forecaster.

An agreement between Glendale Water and Power and the union that represents most of the workers at the utility was approved, which will allow the contracting out of work to reconstruct the city's electrical distribution systems converting from 4kV to 12kV distribution lines in exchange for extra pay for certain workers and the ability to perform some of the work, particularly to train electrical helpers and truck

operators, human resources staff detailed.

The council approved the purchase, installation and maintenance of a new land management system for nearly \$3 million.

"We've been planning for this. It is funded through the first five years of maintenance," said staff members who then explained the benefits of a centralized modern enterprise software system to track plans, permits, licenses, etc., for every piece of property in the city.

"Kudos and congratulations on this," Councilmember Brotman said. "I've been part of a large organization implementing enterprise software."

Finally, the council heard an extensive update on the city's work in facilitating historic districts and urged fair but quick action moving forward to organize the districts that are pending.

The council adjourned in memory of Armond Gorgorian, former executive director of the Homenetmen athletic and scouting non-profit and beloved Glendalian.

LETTERS from page 8

provided to aid the DRB in making an informed decision.

The guidelines specifically state "the overall character of the neighborhood and surrounding context should be carefully considered, including historic character, overall look and feel, quality and scale of the architectural and landscape design."

Glendale's guidelines were enacted to provide predictability for all parties involved including to our city residents. Our city officials years ago had the vision to preserve our beautiful neighborhoods and it should still be a priority today.

Derick Mailan
Glendale

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4621 Vineta Avenue • La Cañada
4 Bedrooms • 5 Baths • 4,500 SF
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4351 Fairlawn Drive • La Cañada
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,667 SF
15,455 SF Lot • Represented Buyer

SOLD Sold for \$1,320,000



222 Baptiste Way • La Cañada
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,887 SF
9,927 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$817,500



1012 Newby Street • Glendale
3 Bedrooms • 1 Bath • 1,330 SF
5,088 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,100,000



7461 Chanteclair Court • Tujunga
5 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 3,326 SF
32,252 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,335,750



4521 Daleridge Road • La Cañada
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,670 SF
7,574 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,108,000



3295 Dunsme Road • La Cañada
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,784 SF
10,260 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,230,000



4545 Briggs Avenue • La Crescenta
4 Bedrooms • 4 Baths • 2,795 SF
13,549 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$2,010,000



4647 El Camino Corto • La Cañada
4 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 2,705 SF
22,348 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,243,000



34721 Calle Los Robles • Dana Point
4 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 2,559 SF
6,650 SF Lot • Represented Buyer



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509 Meadow Grove • La Cañada
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5111 Caroli Lane • La Cañada
4 Bedrooms • 5 Baths • 2,287 SF
0.34 Acre Lot • Represented Seller and Buyer

SOLD Sold for \$1,300,000



3118 Durand Drive • Hollywood Hills
1 Bedroom • 2 Baths • 1,946 SF
7,479 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,093,000



2446 Cheremoya Ave • Los Angeles
2 Bedrooms • 1.5 Baths • 1,231 SF
4,157 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$2,950,000



834 Wiladonda Drive • La Cañada
5 Bedrooms • 4 Baths • 3,818 SF
11,393 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,480,000



4329 Chevy Chase Dr • La Cañada
4 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 2,405 SF
10,559 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,025,000



1445 N. Fairview Street • Burbank
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,704 SF
6,283 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$1,067,500



3215 Frances Avenue • Glendale
3 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 1,955 SF
6,074 SF Lot • Represented Buyer

SOLD Sold for \$1,302,500



11320 Burbank Blvd. • North Hollywood
20 Subdiv. Plat Book • 4,608 SF
0.19 Acre Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$950,000



3436 Mary Ann Street • La Crescenta
3 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,158 SF
7,234 SF Lot • Represented Buyer

SOLD Sold for \$1,240,000



3322 Castera Avenue • Glendale
4 Bedrooms • 3 Baths • 2,433 SF
8,027 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$900,000



3010 W. Wyoming Ave • Burbank
4 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • 1,998 SF
6,626 SF Lot • Represented Buyer

SOLD Sold for \$1,810,000



2502 Cross Street • La Crescenta
5 Bedrooms • Office • 5 Baths • 3,551 SF
32,366 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$565,000



10332 Leolang Ave • Sunland
2 Bedrooms • 1 Bath • 800 SF
5,078 SF Lot • Represented Seller

SOLD Sold for \$4,780,000



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