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VOL. 13, NO. 30

COVID Case and Hospitalization Numbers on the Rise

By Mary O'KEEFE

"With high rates of transmission, unfortunately, even those who are vaccinated can become infected and infect others. And while the hope is that omicron symptoms are milder, the current rise in hospitalizations is a cause for concern. Hospitalizations have increased by 30% since last Tuesday; the alarming rise in hospitalizations follows an alarming increase in cases last week," according to the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health (Public Health) as of Tuesday.

On Tuesday Public Health reported 9,473 new cases of COVID-19, 22 new deaths and 966 people currently hospitalized due to COVID. Of the 9,960,000 individuals tested 15% tested positive for COVID.

As of Tuesday, the City of Burbank had a total of 12,827 cases of COVID-19. Glendale reported 27,765 cases, La Cañada Flintridge reported 1,366, Eagle Rock 4,978, Sunland 3,085 and Tujunga 4,011. The unincorporated areas of LA County Altadena reported 4,657, Angeles National Forest 47 cases and La Crescenta-Montrose 1,652.

"While we all wish that 2022 would begin without the continued tragedy of serious illness and death associated with COVID, we are instead facing the prospect of an alarming surge that requires every person to act with intentionality: get vaccinated and boosted, get tested and please, always wear a mask around others. These are the tools we have to try to keep each other safe over the holidays," according to Public Health.

CVW found two sites in the local area for testing; one is at the west side of the 76 Service Station at 2384 Foothill Blvd. The tests are free and results are available in 24 to 48 hours. Test takers will need a QR code reader on their phone. After pulling onto the site, they will click on the QR code, fill out the form and wait in their vehicles until a technician comes to the vehicle to administer the test. The test is administered while remaining in the vehicle and that's that.

The location is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For

see NUMBERS on page 10

La Cañada Flintridge Prepares for Return to Rose Parade

By Bethany BROWN

After a pandemic break, the LCFTRA is eager to once again show off its creative skills for its entry in the 2022 Tournament of Roses Parade.

The La Cañada Flintridge Tournament of Roses Association (LCFTRA), with the help of hundreds of volunteers in the community, have spent the week tirelessly decorating the city's entry for the 133rd Rose Parade scheduled for Jan. 1, 2022.

After the parade was canceled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the LCFTRA retained the original design concept, matching the parade's theme of "Dream. Believe. Achieve." and eagerly awaited the green light to bring their vision to life.

The animated float titled "Who Says We Can't?" will feature a skatepark full of skateboarding dogs. The dogs, despite their advanced years, represent the youthful and spiritual energy awakened within them and an unwavering determination to learn new tricks despite



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Some might say the La Cañada Flintridge entry into the Tournament of Roses Parade is going to the dogs – skateboarding dogs at that. The aging canines represent the ability to learn new tricks, adopting the float's title of "Who Says We Can't?"

their age.

Grant Delgatty – associate professor and chair of Product Innovation at USC's Iovine and Young Academy and inventor of the URB-E scooter – developed the float design and created the addition of

a satellite float that he will drive alongside the main entry on parade day. The satellite float will feature one last thrill-seeking dog out on a jet ski with the intended illusion that he's moving through the waves.

Decorative co-chair Jennifer Lazo emphasized that these dogs symbolize the power of dreaming and believing in achievement.

"Old dogs really can learn new tricks," Lazo said. "That's

see LCFTRA on page 10

Test Positive with COVID? How to Respond

By Mary O'KEEFE

"We certainly have seen an uptick in patients presenting to the Emergency Department," said Jessica Thomas, RN at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital. "We are seeing about 10% to 14% of those folks testing positive for COVID-19."

Thomas said USC-VHH has seen a lot of patients in the Emergency Department (ED) with respiratory complaints and have seen a "rather dramatic" increase in pediatric patients. Aside from COVID-19 patients, others have come in with symptoms relating to influenza A, rhinoviruses and other respiratory issues.

A common cold that is making the rounds has been described by a local

see COVID on page 23



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Several testing sites in the area can be found that administer a PCR test, known as the "gold standard" in the medical field.

PAGE 3 » YEAR IN REVIEW



PAGE 15 » SPORTS YEAR IN REVIEW



PAGE 19 » LEISURE YEAR IN REVIEW



» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER



The Family We Choose

The holidays are a wonderful reminder of how special families are.

Two of our sons are in North Carolina and we didn't spend the holidays with either of them. Work beckoned and, as it turned out given the airport delays, it was probably a good thing that we didn't try to get them home for the holidays. FaceTime, as it turned out, is a wonderful thing. Though we were apart we were able to watch them open their gifts from us, seeing the delight on their faces. We also were able to watch our granddaughter open her presents.

Because so many of our family members were away and due to miscellaneous medical ailments, Christmas dinner at our house was a much more modest affair. Our son Danny, his wife and mother-in-law, and my friend Amy were the only ones who joined Steve and me around our table. And to be honest, that was okay. We were all relaxed and able to enjoy each other's company, spending quality – and quantity – time with each other without hurrying or worrying that not everyone had everything they wanted.

The holidays can also be a painful reminder of how fractured traditional families are. I'm aware of families – several as a matter of fact – who are in turmoil. For one reason or another there is tension and family members are ill at ease when they're together – if they get together. While we try to focus on the positive aspects of being a family the truth is that sometimes the best we can hope for is being polite to each other, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. If we have to be in a room together, why not

just be polite?

Which leads me to an epiphany: while we cannot choose the family into which we're born, we can build a family that we choose to be around. Maybe the perfect "family" is one that challenges a person's intellect; maybe it's one whose members are accepting and loving no matter the circumstances; maybe it's one that saves a spot for you on the couch to watch a game. Whatever that perfect combination is, those who find it and are able to pursue it are truly fortunate.

As we move toward 2022 (and, lord, it has to be better than 2021 and 2020) maybe the best we can hope for when we get together with our family (and we need to get together at least occasionally) is to be polite. And when we get together with folks who are like our family we can let our hair down and relax!

Happy New Year and thank you to everyone who supported me and the CV Weekly.

CV Weekly has enjoyed some very generous gifts this holiday season and I have tried to thank everyone who has been so very kind to us. But one gift basket arrived from Hickory Farms that had no identification of the gift-giver. Whoever sent it – thank you; the goodies were gratefully accepted and are being enjoyed.

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

INSIDE	NEWS.....	3	SPORTS.....	15	LEISURE.....	19
	VIEWPOINTS.....	12	BETWEEN FRIENDS	17	JUST FOR FUN.....	21
	YOUTH.....	14	VIEWPOINTS.....	12	JUMPS.....	19



Weather in the Foothills

"As long as I live, I'll hear waterfalls and winds sing. I'll interpret the rocks, learn the language of flood, storm, And the avalanche. I'll acquaint myself with the glaciers And wild gardens, and get as near the heart of the world As I can."

~ John Muir, ecological thinker, political spokesman and religious prophet

Upon inquiring the morning after Christmas Day as to my sister's experiences with three school-aged grandchildren, her answer and experience were contained within a single word: "tornado." Okay, makes sense.

Envisioning boxes, wrapping and bows strewn about, in addition to lost owner's manuals and game pieces intermingled with strewn about pre-breakfast goodies, one's living room takes on a resemblance of a storm struck area. But this was not just an analogy; at around 7 a.m. Christmas morning, a small tornado (NWS in Oxnard states a possible microburst) hit the coastal town of Grover Beach in San Luis Obispo County.

An incomplete meteorological algebraic equation ... tornado=Kansas and earthquake=California. But California does get tornadoes. They are nowhere as big as the killer storms that hit other parts of the country. But they have caused damage – and sparked surprise – from those who assumed tornadoes were one of the few natural disasters not on the state's danger list.

Mother Nature gave us a gift – or perhaps more of a reminder – last Saturday morning when swirling winds hit Grover Beach. My eyewitness reporter (sister) told of street signs ripped off their poles, uprooted trees, lifted roofs and one flying pink plastic wading pool. Thankfully, no injuries occurred.

Textbook tornadoes form in the Midwest portion of the country where warm moist Gulf of Mexico air collides with cool, northern air. If these air temperatures intensify and become more polarized, the likelihood of a massive storm forms. From here tornados are created and spin off from the storm. Most occur during the spring and fall.

California tornadoes originate in the Pacific as winter thunderstorms. As some storms approach the coast, the cold air above the ocean water mixes with warmer air on land, resulting in the kind of climate instability that can cause tornadoes. One of the most documented tornadoes in LA County was in 1983. It stripped off part of the roof of the Los Angeles Convention Center before roaring south along Broadway, ripping apart houses, smashing brick storefronts and overturning cars. More than 150 buildings were damaged. Thirty-two people were hurt.

On to the Colorado Boulevard forecast ... cold and no rain. A storm system is expected through today (Thursday) bringing, rain, winds and mountain snow. Another one is expected next week.

"May your cup always be full ... Happy 2022!"

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

CV Weekly Offices Closed for Holiday

The offices of CV Weekly will be closed on Friday, Dec. 31 in observance of New Year's.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Coming to La Crescenta Library

A COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be at the La Crescenta Library on

Thursday, Jan. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and boosters will be available for adults; Pfizer vaccines and boosters will be available for teens 12 to 18 years old. Pfizer vaccines will be available for children 5 to 12 years old.

The clinic will be held in the library meeting room and is provided by the LA County Dept. of Public Health.

The library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd.

LOOKING BACK AT YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

Remembering 2021 – the Year That Was



The New Year welcomed baby Thomas who arrived at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital at 4:48 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2021.

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Toluca Lake and surrounding

CV Weekly shares some of the stories that reflected a year of decision, indecision, disaster and hope. Through it all, COVID-19 was on the minds of most everyone, affecting each person's course of action.

Let's toast a year that we want to end.

January

It was a New Year baby like no other as baby boy Thomas was born on 4:48 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2021 at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital. The usual gathering of family and friends in the hospital waiting room was not possible because of COVID-19 restrictions. But pandemic or not, Thomas was ready to make his debut and his parents Julyana Tekin and husband Arbi Vartanian could not have been more excited.

One vehicle started a fire that spread to multiple vehicles in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park. Luckily there were no injuries.

Americans can never take for granted again the peaceful transfer of power. On Jan. 6 a group of people that had been at a rally for former President Donald Trump breached the security at the Capitol and violently entered the building. The mob of insurrectionists wanted to stop the certification of votes making Joe Biden President. They called for the hanging of former Vice President Mike Pence, threatened congressional representatives and attacked law enforcement. (Update: Four civilians died during the insurrection. One individual who was part of the mob that was attempting to enter the Capitol building was fatally shot by Capitol police. According to the D.C. medical examiner, two civilians died due to natural causes and a third person died due to amphetamine intoxication. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick was attacked and

collapsed after confronting rioters. He died on Jan. 7. Numerous officers were injured and four officers died by suicide in the months after defending the U.S. Capitol.)

Emergency responders were the first to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. One in five people in Los Angeles County tested positive

for COVID-19 and, although the vaccines offered hope, there was no end in sight to the pandemic. COVID-19 fatigue was something many people felt as they continued to isolate and made sure not to leave home without a face covering.

see YIR on page 5

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Parent Ed Director Goes 'Over the Edge' for URM

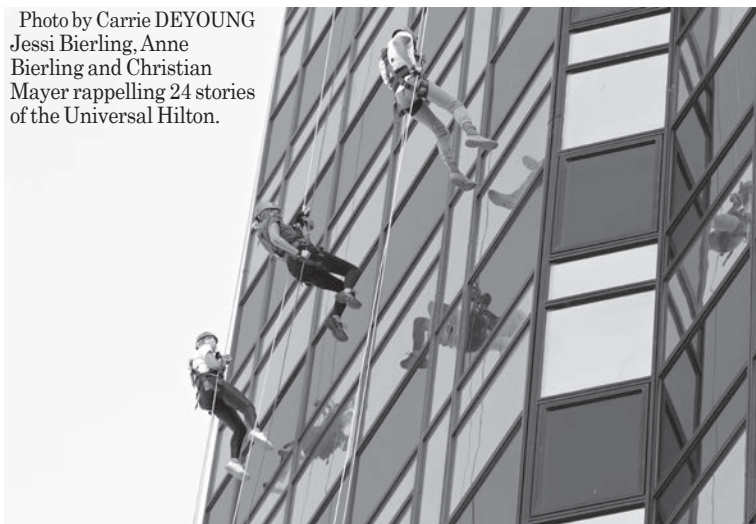
LCPC Parent Ed Director Anne Bierling and her team, The Soaring Eagles, went "Over the Edge" rappelling 24 stories of the Universal Hilton and raising \$44,426 for Union Rescue Mission (URM) Skid Row and Hope Gardens. In total, the Over the Edge fundraising campaign allowed URM to raise \$1,125,000 to support neighbors devastated by homelessness.

Bierling's team included her two daughters, Jessi and Tasha, and her nephew Joshua Lange and friends Chris Anklam, Christian Mayer, Dean Eatedali, Dennis Deyoung and Eric Spoelker. Others rappelling to raise funds included URM CEO Andy Bales and actor Joel McHale.

"We are so grateful for the support our team received from the La Cañada community," said Bierling. "My family has been so deeply touched by the many stories of life transformation that are possible because of Union Rescue Mission/Hope Gardens. Anyone interested in touring the facility to learn more, please contact me at Anne@lacandapc.org. Together, we can make a difference in our city."

Bierling's team name, Soaring Eagles, was based on the passage from Isaiah 40: 31: "Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not

Photo by Carrie DEYOUNG
Jessi Bierling, Anne Bierling and Christian Mayer rappelling 24 stories of the Universal Hilton.



grow weary. They will walk and not be faint."

Homelessness in Los Angeles continues to spiral out of control and recent 2021 figures estimate that Los Angeles County now has a homeless count approaching 86,000 with 72% being unsheltered. This means that there are more than 62,000 men, women and children with nowhere to go, and are living in a car, tent or makeshift shelter. For over a century, URM has been responding to this mounting crisis. As America's largest mission of its kind, it provides emergency food and shelter on Skid Row and longer-term housing at other locations. It provides medical and emotional care, education, addiction recovery

and job training. Spiritual support is also a strong component offering discipleship, Bible studies, chapel services, and connection to local churches.

URM is known for strong fiscal stewardship and accountability using 82 cents on every dollar for programing and services. It holds impressive ratings on GuideStar and Charity Navigator – as well as endorsements from the LA Police Commission Charitable Services Section and the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. See the URM website for more details on how to support this life-giving mission: www.urm.org.

Submitted by Amanda BAUGHMAN



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NOTES & NODS

This Week at LCIF

Lutheran Church in the Foothills invites the community to worship at the second Sunday of Christmas on Sunday, Jan. 2 at 10 a.m. Interim Pastor Chuck Bunnell will lead worship. The service will also be live-streamed on the church's YouTube channel. For those unable to attend or watch live, the videos will be available on the website, Facebook page and YouTube channel later in the week.

Visit the church's website at lcifoothills.org for details on all of the events happening including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve.

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 via email at office@lcifoothills.org or call (818) 790-

1951 for details, information, offering help or requesting help.

Walk and Word

In December, Walk and Word participants will meet in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in La Crescenta/Glendale at 8 a.m. They will walk for the first hour and then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.

Participants are asked to bring something to write with, anything wanted to eat or drink, and a chair to use for the writing part of the morning. Because people will be outdoors and social distancing will be practiced, masks will be optional.

Those with questions can email Jeanne at jnlavieri@earthlink.net.

All are welcome. If the hike is too strenuous, there are level paths at the park. There are ramps from the parking lot to the field where the group gathers after the hike.

Christmas Season at La Crescenta Presbyterian

Celebrate the Christmas season with joyful music and messages of hope at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church.

During each Sunday of Advent explore the themes of hope, peace, joy and love at the 10 a.m. worship services or online at lcpc.net. Visit the website for a new Advent family devotional each week.

And every evening in December, La Crescenta Presbyterian will light up for

Christmas. At 5 p.m., a 12-foot tree, Nativity scene and lights along the front of the church will be illuminated and instrumental Christmas music will play until 7 p.m.

La Crescenta Presbyterian is located at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information on Christmas programming and its COVID-safe practices, visit lcpc.net or call (818) 249-6137.

Christmas Service for All

La Cañada Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Jan. 2 will offer service at 10 a.m. The regular schedule of traditional worship at 9 a.m. and contemporary worship at 10:30 a.m. will resume on Jan. 9.

For more information visit lacanadapc.org. La Cañada Presbyterian Church is located at 626 Foothill Blvd.

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YIR from page 3

The minimum wage increased in California to \$14 an hour for businesses employing 26 or more people, and \$13 an hour for businesses that had 25 or fewer employees.

For the third year the Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys gathered volunteers to read the names of people who perished during the Holocaust. The Every Person Has a Name ceremony commemorated the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The event seemed even more important this year because of the dramatic increase in hate crimes in the U.S.

As the pandemic forced many businesses to remain closed, the California Employment Development Department continued having issues not only with applicants unable to get any answers from the department but with a scam that cost millions.

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.

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.



Deputies from the Crescenta Valley Station responded to a call at a local convenience store regarding a male, 52, who was trapped beneath his vehicle. The victim had been working on a mechanical issue underneath his truck; it rolled back and pinned him to the ground. Four deputies and two civilian bystanders helped lift the truck off the man who was transported to the hospital.

February

Merle Norman had a background in medicine and chemistry and used this knowledge to create an innovative skin care line she called the "3 Steps to Beauty": powder base, cleansing cream and Miracol. According to the Merle Norman website, these were the cornerstones of her new business, Merle Norman Cosmetics, which celebrated 90 years in 2021.

That pioneering and women-centric spirit has not been lost on sisters Kim Kelly and Kris Kline, owners of the Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio in Montrose. They have owned the studio in Montrose for 28 years but their connection to the company began long before – thanks to the entrepreneurial background of their mother, Elloise Konrad Huschle. She opened her clothing store, The Band Box, in Montrose on Feb. 1, 1979. The store incorporated Merle Norman Cosmetics and became increasingly popular.

The state announced that in the next several weeks the statewide vaccination effort would be coordinated by third-party administrator Blue Shield of California. Public Health looked forward to working with Blue Shield and the state to ensure that there was an efficient and effective vaccine distribution system that met the needs of LA communities.

LA County allowed outdoor dining, again. Restaurants were closed, along with most other businesses throughout LA County, since March 19, 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic. Then on Nov. 24, 2020 the LA Board of Supervisors voted to discontinue outdoor dining though Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger voted against the motion.

Then in February restaurants were once again allowed to open for outdoor dining.

Parents protested outside Lincoln Elementary School for students to return to in-person classes. Parent Braden Barty said other areas had opened for in-person teaching and the District and teachers should look into those.

"It's safe if you follow the rules," he said.

His frustration was not with the District as much as it was with teachers.

Later in the month parents continued to protest for in-person learning, this time at the Glendale Teacher Association office.



Keith Hobbs, CEO of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, announced his departure and left the facility on March 12. He took a position as executive vice president for Torrance Memorial Medical Center in Torrance.

Glendale PD and Glendale Fire Dept., with assistance from LA County Fire Dept., responded to a fire at the Just Tires location at Foothill Boulevard and Boston Avenue. According to Glendale Fire Chief Chris Stavros, it was an outside fire that spread to the walls. No injuries were reported.

Mars 2020 Perseverance successfully landed on the surface of Mars and the photos coming back from the Red Planet were impressive to say the least. The landing was picture perfect as cameras aboard the lander and the rover documented everything.

Residents voiced concern over a home at 3830 Hillway Drive in Whiting Woods during a Glendale City Council meeting. According to neighbors who came to protest the development there had been a mudslide, "a small landslide," that occurred a few years ago caused by the property.

March

High school sports returned to campus ... at least as much as districts and CIF would allow based on COVID-19 restrictions. Relying on newly lowered Adjusted Case Rates Per 100,000 People as of Feb. 16, CIF commissioner Rob Wigod said CIF would allow teams to accelerate their preparation for abridged seasons.

After working on the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act for almost two decades, Congressman Adam Schiff helped pass the bill through the House. This would add more than 191,000 acres of the Rim of the Valley Corridor to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The bill passed the House on a bipartisan basis as part of the Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act.

California Dept. of Education gave direction for District leaders to move forward with their proposed plan for a phased return of elementary students for on-campus instruction.

CVW got a call from a reader who wanted to highlight a woman, Fran Fletcher, who worked at CVS Pharmacy for over 14 years.

"It's a nice place to work, a good working environment and we are a good team," Fletcher said of her job.

CVS remained open throughout the pandemic and, although many of her customers were stressed due to COVID, Fletcher remained positive and helpful.

Barbara Ferrer, director of the Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health, announced that Los Angeles County had "crossed the threshold [into] the red tier" with the County's COVID-19 positivity rate at 2.5%, reported on March 10. This meant the County could open more businesses and even begin opening schools for grades seven through 12. Public Health worked with the LA County Board of Supervisors to plan additional re-openings.

Suddenly silver boxes appeared along Honolulu Avenue in the Montrose Shopping Park. The boxes, which were definitely not

in tune with the MSP design, housed a barricade system that was to be deployed during street closures for special events like the Harvest Market. This was in response to the 2003 accident at the Santa Monica Farmer's Market where an elderly driver drove through the market at a high rate of speed killing 20 people and injuring numerous others. The problem with the Montrose system was not only were the silver boxes unappealing, but to deploy the barricades one had to crawl into the box to pull the barricade cables out.

Responding to the recent announcement from Gov. Newsom's office regarding LA County moving from the purple tier to the red tier, the YMCA of the Foothills – the La Cañada site – reopened indoor operations at 10% capacity.

The City of Glendale gave its approval for the work done on the Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall parking lot and ramp, which houses American Legion Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614. Local Moose Lodge #641 also meets at the Hall. The \$30,000 plus needed for the project was raised through donations.

Over 3 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered to people across LA County, and more vaccine doses were expected to be received as the roll out continued.

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (VHH) started construction on an Interventional Radiology Catheterization Lab (IR Cath Lab). Cardiac catheterization examines the vessels, valves and chambers of the heart. The new lab would offer immediate help for cardiac patients.

see YIR on page 6

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YIR from page 5

It is possible that the campus of Crescenta Valley High School may be able to host football games within the next three years, according to Glendale Unified School District. The district's facilities and planning development administrator Hagop Kassabian was asked about the timeline for the project during a CV Town Council meeting.

City of Hope in Duarte continued its COVID-19 vaccination studies and was looking for more people to volunteer for the trials. Dr. John Zaia, director of City of Hope's Center for Gene Therapy, specializes in vaccine research. He said the results of the study have been encouraging thus far.

"It's been very safe and that's really all you can hope for," he said.

Glendale City Council reviewed a resolution to strongly condemn hate, hate crimes against members of the Asian American community and "affirm the City of Glendale's commitment to diversity, equity and justice for people of all races, ethnicities and national origins by denouncing xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment against Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community members." The anti-hate resolution passed unanimously.

The City of Glendale joined Los Angeles, Long Beach and more than 20 other California cities that required grocery and drug retailers to pay hourly employees an additional \$5 per hour in "hero pay" for their essential service during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. To help create compliance, the ordinance also created significant penalties for employers who failed to notify their employees of their right to receive the additional pay, provide the pay in a timely manner or keep proper records of compensation.

Congressman Adam Schiff toured Balboa Elementary School in Glendale a few days prior to students returning to class to see the preparations made by school staff to ensure the school was ready for in-person learning. The District had already established student "pods" at the school for a small number of students but more children in grades transitional kindergarten through second grade were expected to return to in-person learning.



April

In response to more than a dozen deaths due to motor vehicle collisions, hit-and-run accidents, and rising pedestrian, bicyclist and motorcyclist deaths in the past few years in Sunland-Tujunga, the Safe Traffic and Transportation (STAT) Committee of the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council recently initiated a "No Speeding" yard sign campaign.



Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) reached a tentative agreement on a Memorandum of Understanding with Glendale Teachers Association for return to in-person instruction in a hybrid model for elementary and secondary students for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year, and included opportunities for additional compensation and professional development as well as health and safety measures already being implemented across the District.

Los Angeles County met the threshold for the less restrictive orange tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

After a year of virtual studies, students began the slow and staggered return back to school. On March 23 elementary teachers and support staff returned to campus. On March 29, GUSD students in TK through second grade who wanted to return to in-person learning returned to campus. On April 5, students in third through sixth grades had the chance to return to in-person learning. About 50% of children in these grades were expected to return to in-person learning.

The Glendale City Council adopted a new ordinance that required disposable foodware, including straws, lids and utensils, at all city events to be marine degradable.

Crescenta Valley Water District and its contractor planned to install a new eight-inch water main on the 4300 block of Rosemont Avenue. The project would replace approximately 800 linear feet of old eight-inch water main installed in the 1930s with a new eight-inch water main. In addition, the project would include the replacements of 15 water services and two fire hydrants.

Out of an abundance of caution, Los Angeles County followed the recommendation of the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to pause the use of Johnson & Johnson vaccine after reports that six women between the ages of 18 and 48 developed unusual types of blood clots six to 13 days after receiving the vaccine.

Glendale Unified School District elementary schools had already reopened the doors for in-person learning and now it was the turn for

secondary schools. On April 26 middle and high school students returned to in-person class for hybrid instruction.



GUSD partnered with local healthcare providers to facilitate COVID-19 vaccination appointments beginning on Friday, April 16 for every high school senior and two eligible household members who want to be vaccinated.

LA County Public Works planned to resume sediment removal at Devil's Gate Reservoir as early as May 3 and continue these operations through November.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices voted to resume use of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine in persons 18 years of age and older in the U.S. population under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Emergency Use Authorization.

The Los Angeles County Health Officer Order was updated to align with the change in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations regarding masking for fully vaccinated people. Additional modifications to the Order also included allowing indoor arcades and indoor playgrounds (bounce centers, ball pits, laser tag) to open at 25% maximum indoor capacity with safety modifications. Hours of operation limitations due to the pandemic were removed from bars, breweries and wineries, and employees who were fully vaccinated at food service facilities had the option of wearing a face shield in addition to a face mask when in close contact with customers; wearing a mask was still required.

The Glendale City Council at its weekly meeting heard but ultimately rejected a request to help fund the Crescenta Valley 2021 fireworks show. Local civic leader and CV Fireworks Association member Steve Pierce stated that due to the pandemic it was not possible to hold an in-person fireworks event. Typically ticket sales finance the show. The City normally donated \$5,000 to the event; Pierce requested a larger donation due to the pandemic shortfall.

Councilmember Ara Najarian offered an alternative motion to fund a city-sponsored fireworks show in the downtown area.

"We do a lot of fireworks downtown," he said. "I like the people in Tujunga and Sunland and La Crescenta and La Cañada."

But in the end all but Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian voted to decline the extra support for the CV Fireworks Association.

"At long last, the truth. Thank God." Those were the words Congressman Adam Schiff shared at an event on Saturday, April 24 celebrating the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by President Joe Biden.

"Each year on this day we remember the lives of all those who died in the Ottoman era Armenian Genocide and recommit ourselves to preventing such an atrocity from ever again occurring."

May

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention endorsed the "safety and effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and its use in 12 through 15-year-old adolescents."

This extended administration of the Pfizer vaccine to those 12 years old and up.

At the April 20 meeting of the Glendale City Council, the Council voted 3-2 in favor to select Glendale Arts as the entity with which to start negotiations for continued management of the Alex Theatre for a 10-year term.

According to Glendale Arts, following a national search only two other proposals were submitted; Mayor Paula Devine attributed the small number of proposals to the challenging financial landscape and extraordinary dedication that are required in managing a historical theatre.

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YIR from page 6

Craig Durst, a historian at the Bolton Hall Historical Museum, took on a project that is rather daunting but something he was very passionate about: the restoration of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery. He worked to create a veterans' memorial as well as paying honor to those who were buried at the cemetery.

The board of education of the Glendale Unified School District unanimously adopted a resolution committing to return all students to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year. The District will resume full on-campus instruction beginning with the first day of school on Aug. 18.

Supervisor Kathryn Barger issued a statement regarding the potential release of a sexually violent predator into the La Crescenta community: "I am disgusted and gravely concerned that the Los Angeles Superior Court is considering the placement of sexually violent predator Calvin Grassmier into La Crescenta."

The proposed placement address for Calvin Grassmier was 5632 Freeman Ave. in La Crescenta, which is one mile from Two Strike Park and two miles from La Crescenta Library.

June

Local residents joined to protest the local placement of sexually violent predator (SVP) Calvin Grassmier into a neighborhood that has one way in and out, inconsistent to non-existent cellphone service and is in an extreme wildfire risk area. In addition, it is only slightly over one mile from schools. Alex Gardner, a local resident, joined with fellow neighbors to begin the fight against the placement of the SVP. He made it clear that this is a concern not just for the Briggs Terrace area but for all of Crescenta Valley.

"It doesn't matter whether you live east or west of Pennsylvania Avenue, east or west of Ocean View [Boulevard], or above or below Foothill [Boulevard]," he said.



Bailey Center food bank in Tujunga continued to see an increase in family and individual need. Organizers sought non-perishable foods like canned goods, cereal, pasta sauce and pasta noodles. Not surprisingly, throughout the pandemic Bailey Center volunteers have seen an increase in those requesting help, and were providing food for over one thousand people every Wednesday.

A procession for fallen Los Angeles County firefighter Tory Carlon traveled eastbound on the Foothill (210) Freeway to Crippen Mortuary on Honolulu Avenue. The 44-year-old firefighter was killed, and a fire captain injured, on Tuesday morning at Fire Station 81 in Agua Dulce. Firefighter Carlon was shot by an off duty firefighter. Authorities said the procession included fire and law enforcement as well as a helicopter fly over. Tory Carlon had previously worked at Station 82.



Crescenta Valley High School Principal Linda Junge announced she would be leaving the District on July 1.

"You deserve to hear from me directly that I have accepted the position of assistant superintendent of Human Resources in the South Pasadena Unified School District," Junge stated in an email she sent out to Falcon families.

Scott Andele, Rosemont Middle School principal, announced his departure as well.

Judge Bianco found the "proposed La Crescenta home as an unsuitable placement for Sexually Violent Predator Calvin Grassmier."

At its monthly meeting members of the Montrose Shopping Park Association discussed discontinuing the al fresco dining arrangements in Montrose. This is the pandemic work-around in which K-rails were set, and decorated, along Honolulu Avenue as a way for restaurants to provide outdoor dining for patrons, helping them survive the financial devastation of the pandemic because interior dining was not allowed per COVID-19 guidelines. On June 1 the Glendale City Council directed its city staff to extend the downtown program.

The Glendale Historical Society filed a public interest lawsuit in June 2021. The case alleged that Glendale violated the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when approving a 12-unit market-rate housing project on the site of a historic 1913 Aeroplane Craftsman at 534 N. Kenwood. The City recognizes the property as a historic resource.

The board of the nonprofit Glendale Arts voted unanimously to promote Nina Crowe to chief executive officer and Maria Sahakian to the role of chief operating officer with a specific focus on the Alex Theatre's operations. The two leaders represent close to 30 years of experience in non-profit theatre management, budgeting, fundraising and business development.

A police pursuit ended at La Crescenta Avenue and Foothill Boulevard with a suspect taken into custody. The male suspect was apprehended by LAPD officers.

The pursuit began when a man allegedly stole a vehicle from a neighborhood in LA. The pursuit wound through various areas; spike strips were unsuccessfully used to try and stop the vehicle. The driver lost control of his vehicle on Foothill near La Crescenta Avenue. The suspect barricaded himself inside the vehicle for over an hour. LAPD shot beanbag rounds into the vehicle that shattered the windows. The suspect was finally taken into custody.



lasted about 25 minutes and was made possible by community donors. The City of Glendale opted to provide its own fireworks display rather than directing its residents to other professional displays. Bursts of fireworks could be seen exploding in the sky above Glendale, launched from the rooftop of the Marketplace Parking Garage across Harvard Street.

The GUSD board of education confirmed new principals for Rosemont and CV. Suzanne Risse was promoted to the position of principal at Rosemont Middle School. She was previously the principal at Monte Vista Elementary School. Christine Benitez has been promoted from associate principal to principal at CV High School.

Despite being the final Glendale Design Review Board agenda item and delaying by four hours the beginning of its preliminary hearing on a proposed 57,000 square foot mixed-use development on Foothill Boulevard, neighbors and nearby residents to the proposed project were not deterred from their chance to voice their opinion. Opponents of the project stayed the course and took advantage of the opportunity to ask questions, express their opposition, and put up important hurdles prior to the project's SB 1818 density-bonus determination. A total of 35 callers waited four-and-a-half hours to express their opinions, with only one caller at the hearing expressing support for the project as a necessary step to solve California's ongoing housing crisis.

A groundbreaking ceremony for a new Armenian American Museum was attended by hundreds of local residents, supporters and dignitaries including CVTC President Harry Leon, State Senator Anthony Portantino, and U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff. The ceremony was a celebration of nearly a decade of work to create the facility. The goal of the museum is to promote understanding and appreciation for the diversity of cultures in the United States, specifically through the telling of the story of Armenian strength, resilience and industriousness.



State Senator Anthony Portantino delivered for Southern California's trademark film and television industry after Gov. Gavin Newsom signed SB 144, legislation by Portantino that authorizes a \$330 million expansion of California's film and television tax incentive program. It's the largest expansion of the 12-year-old program since 2014, when then-Assemblymember Mike Gatto successfully passed an expansion of the program from \$100 million annually to \$330 million annually. Portantino's legislation provides an additional \$90 million

see YIR on page 8

July

After years in limbo Rockhaven's future once again looked bright courtesy of an \$8 million boost by State Senator Anthony Portantino. The fate of the facility had been in question since 2008. Twice developers had planned to build on the location; one option was championed by the Friends of Rockhaven and one would turn the location into a boutique hotel – both of those proposals failed. And so as Rockhaven was left unattended the roofs began to crumble. Under the Portantino proposal, the State will allocate the money to the City of Glendale to renovate and preserve as a museum the historic Rockhaven property for the public to enjoy and appreciate.

Thousands of people throughout the Crescenta Valley and downtown Glendale enjoyed thousands of fireworks that were on display on the evening of Independence Day, July 4. After missing any type of display last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions on social gathering, this year people were eager to celebrate the Fourth of July ... with some new twists. Rather than having its full, open field event at Crescenta Valley High School, on the Fourth of July the Crescenta Valley Fireworks Association held a vibrant fireworks display that was available at no cost to the entire Crescenta Valley. The fireworks show



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YIR from page 7

annually to the current program for the next two years, including \$75 million for recurring TV series and \$15 million for relocating TV series.

August

The Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley was given a glimpse into Gus and Andy's Kitchen and Bar as the owner prepared for the grand opening sometime in September. The site at 2201 Honolulu Ave. has been empty since Rocky Cola Café closed its doors in 2012. Another restaurant owner had attempted to open a restaurant at the location but had to let the lease lapse. Then longtime La Cañada Flintridge resident and restaurateur Tom Christopoulos



acquired the location and started to work.

A planned four-year effort to remove 1.7 million cubic yards of sediment from Devil's Gate Reservoir concluded in mid-August, more than a year ahead of schedule, announced Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Devil's Gate Dam was built in 1920 by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to provide flood protection to communities in the lower Arroyo Seco watershed.

The Glendale City Council implemented Phase II of Glendale Water & Power's Water Conservation Ordinance in response to a lack of expected runoff. Moving into Phase II supported the governor's emergency declaration requesting voluntary conservation for all areas of the state. Phase II of the Mandatory Water Conservation Ordinance will limit outside watering to three days a week: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for no more than 10 minutes at each watering station.

Elementary, middle and high school students returned to school while GUSD students, parents, teachers and administrators continued to face some uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans have students on campus five days a week for a full day of in-person instruction with an independent study option available for students and families who need it. The GUSD board of education and superintendent are focused on four key areas for the 2021-22 academic year: academic acceleration; health and safety; social emotional wellness; and equitable access to resources.

September

Despite scorching heat hundreds visited the 19th Annual Montrose Car Show on Honolulu Avenue. With 300 vehicles on display, there was a century of autos from all over the world ranging from Europe, North America, Oceania and Asia.

"Remember-Honor-Respect" was the motto of the Patriot Day Remembrance Motorcade, which honored the fallen first responders and others who lost their lives due to terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. This year, the motorcade was held on Friday, Sept. 10 so that local schools could take part in the observance. In addition to 13 schools, the motorcade passed by five fire stations, the CV Sheriff's Station, La Crescenta Library, CV Chamber of Commerce, American Legion/Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Hall, the La Crescenta Woman's Club, the Vietnam Memorial, a hospital, three convalescent homes and several grocery stores before ending at the YMCA. Over 8,500 students observed the Patriot Day Remembrance Motorcade.



In a statement released by the Montrose Christmas Parade Association, it was announced that the 2021 Christmas parade was canceled. A statement in part read: "The Montrose Christmas Parade Association takes the safety of our beloved community very seriously. In light of the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, the delta variant, and whether or not we would even be allowed to hold the parade, we felt the best decision was to postpone this year's parade to 2022."



The 15th annual Hometown Country Fair, hosted by the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, returned after being canceled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendance to the event was free and held at CV Park. The one-day event included a dog parade, pie-eating contest, food trucks and plenty of vendor booths.

Public comment regarding proposed rate increases by Crescenta Valley Water District was surprisingly helpful with water district directors and staff taking time to answer every question put forward. In total about a dozen people spoke with an additional 23 sending letters to the CVWD. Speakers in the meeting asked a variety of questions, but many of them echoed concerns about their wastewater rates increasing multiple times in the past several years. In response to questions regarding where CVWD rates stood in comparison to other agencies, staff provided several graphics that showed both the current and proposed rates. These would put CVWD in the middle of the pack when compared to peer water agencies. However, further analysis showed that, while CVWD is in the middle of the distribution, the distribution is heavily skewed to the high end.

The skies above the Crescenta Valley were darkened by drifting winds from the Windy Fire and the KNP Complex Fire near the Sequoia area.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed SB 9 and SB 10 and potentially alienated middle-class homeowners by all but eliminating local single family zoning ordinances. SB 9 effectively guarantees approval of existing single-family lots to be subdivided into smaller lots, with the potential for up to four housing units on each current single-family lot. SB 10 allows cities and developers to bypass CEQA review and build up to 10 units on certain urban lots that have access to high quality transit and other infrastructure. The bills are intended to address California's skyrocketing housing prices, its lack of affordable housing and stubborn homelessness rates.

Mayor Devine cast the deciding vote in favor of SAS taking over management of the historic Alex Theatre, ending the city's relationship with Glendale Arts. Councilmembers Brotman and Kassakhian voted no.

Sixty years after first hearing the promise of permanent bleachers and lighting for Crescenta Valley High School, and another four years after real planning began, the GUSD board of education unanimously voted to accept the environmental impact report (EIR) and approve funding for improvements to the Crescenta Valley High School athletic field complex. The vote

authorized \$8.56 million in funding for a 1,714-person capacity bleacher stand and upgrades to the field lighting and public address system. Approval had been delayed as the board awaited the final EIR, which began back in February 2020, just as the COVID-19 pandemic was sweeping across the United States.

October

The Glendale City Council took steps to temporarily halt the development of new hotels in Glendale's downtown. Assistant director of Community Development Bradley Calvert explained that "the moratorium must be related to

see YIR on page 9

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Garry Marshall Theatre	4252	Riverside Dr, Burbank
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YIR from page 8

potential or studied changes to the land use code” and that the city would study the need for more hotel rooms during the pause.

Glendale Community College (GCC) Superintendent/President Dr. David Viar announced he will be retiring in June 2022, following the completion of the current school year.

Armand Dorian, MD, MMM, was named CEO of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (USC-VHH) and part of Keck Medicine USC. He served as interim CEO since March 2021.

The K-rails that designated outdoor dining in the Montrose Shopping Park were removed in the wee hours of a Thursday morning. Their removal has canceled outdoor dining – but only temporarily. The Glendale City Council will consider more permanent outdoor dining design options. Whatever is decided, the new designs wouldn't be installed prior to the Arts & Crafts Festival that takes place on Honolulu Avenue in the Montrose Shopping Park.



A nationwide strike was averted when the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) reached a tentative three-year agreement with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) for The Basic and Videotape Agreements, which affects 40,000 film and television workers represented by 13 West Coast IATSE local unions.

The mural “The Birds and Trees of Komitas” can be spotted on the east wall of Honest Cardiology at 2525 Honolulu Ave. The artwork is inspired by the music and life of Komitas, an Armenian composer and pioneering ethnomusicologist who is considered the founder of the Armenian national school of music. The mural is composed of birds and trees as emphasized in Komitas’ various music compositions. Mural artist Nicholas Freeman received a Mayor’s Commendation Award after the mural was completed.



All Hallows’ Eve arrived and Crescenta Valley had plenty of fun, with socially-distanced events planned for the community including the popular Fun and Frights in the Foothills driving tour. For those looking for scares rather than candy, Nightmare in Whiting Woods was one of the best-known private haunts in the foothills. 2021 marked 11 years that the haunt has taken over Whiting Woods but nearly two decades since it first began in the area. It was previously held on Vista Court.

November

Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation completed work on an entrance/exit ramp at the far west end of Two Strike Park. Local residents had concerns about the construction of the ramp that was part of a walking path project that extended from Two Strike Park to Eagle Canyon Channel, which included difficulty by wheelchair users to access the entrance/exit.

The Glendale City Council voted to forego competitive bidding and spend \$240,000 to fix the roofs at Rockhaven before seasonal rains caused more damage. “For years we’ve been making temporary fixes to these roofs, using tarps to prevent water from entering the buildings, but that’s not sustainable and we need to move forward in removing and replacing the roof tiles in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s standards for the renovation of historic buildings,” said Public Works Director Yazdan Emrani.

The Welcome to La Crescenta sign just east of Pennsylvania Avenue on Foothill Boulevard was damaged again. The Dept. of Public Works-Los Angeles County, has the information of the damage and Crescenta Valley Town Council was following up with repairs.

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses® named Nadia Chung as the 103rd Rose Queen®. Chung is a senior at La Cañada High School and lives in La Cañada. The announcement was made by 2022 Pasadena Tournament of Roses President Bob Miller and follows a month-long selection process with students from 24 Pasadena area schools participating in interviews.



Veterans Day was recognized throughout the area with long-awaited live events in La Crescenta, Montrose and Burbank. Two Strike Park saw veterans from American Legion Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614 hold their traditional Veterans Day ceremony that included the presentation of colors by Crescenta Valley High School JROTC, a musical presentation of each branch of the military and a flag retirement ceremony led by the Boy Scouts of Troop 288. The keynote speaker was superintendent/president of Glendale Community College and U.S. Army veteran David Viar, who announced his retirement from the college in June 2022.

Montrose Search and Rescue held team tryouts at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. Applicants were tested on their physical ability to complete a timed two-mile hike with a 1,500 feet elevation gain along the Crescenta View Trail. Event organizer MSR member and assistant director of LA County Sheriff’s Dept. Mike Leum said that, with 31 people in attendance, he was “overjoyed” to see a much larger turnout than initially

expected.

A woman was arrested by Los Angeles Police Dept. at the DIY Home Center in Tujunga after ramming her vehicle into the front door of the building then entering the store. DIY Home Center, located in the 6300 block of Foothill Boulevard, was not open for business at the time of the burglary.




Folks looked skyward to catch the partial lunar eclipse, the longest partial moon eclipse in 580 years. The eclipse, which lasted three hours and 28 minutes, occurred when the moon passed through the Earth’s shadow.

The CVTC elections drew controversy prior to a candidates’ forum due to the disqualification of a sitting Town Council alternate, Johnny Brookbank. Brookbank was formally censured by the Council earlier this year and, according to the Council bylaws, the censure disqualified him from candidacy for the next two election cycles. However, a reportedly reduced number of eligible councilmembers voted to disqualify Brookbank. Controversy surrounded actions by the council two months earlier when a majority of the council declined to follow specific provisions of the bylaws related to financial decisions for council events, such as elections, and decisions determining the status of Councilmember Sophal Ear. Council Vice President Aram Ordubegian stated that the election process was not bound by the specifics of the bylaws in an emergency situation such as the COVID-19 pandemic.


Several agencies have prepared for the influx of Afghan refugees coming to the southland. Among them is the satellite office of the International Institute of Los Angeles (IILA) in far north Glendale. The IILA prepared food for refugees being processed through their agency. These families and individuals were resettled in hotels and temporary housing rentals as they try to adjust to a new life in the United States.

see YIR on page 10



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YIR from page 9

December

Newly proposed redistricting maps, which were first presented by the Commission on Nov. 2 and were significantly revised just one week later, would once again divide the Crescenta Valley and surrounding communities and school districts into multiple districts. Burbank, Sunland and Tujunga would join with San Fernando, Sylmar and Sun Valley to form a district that sits roughly between the 210 and 5 freeways. The northwestern portion and the Montrose/Verdugo City portions of Crescenta Valley that are formally part of the City of Glendale would be grouped with the rest of Glendale and a large swath of City of Los Angeles neighborhoods that extends all the way to the borders of West Hollywood. And the southeastern portion of the Crescenta Valley and the City of La Cañada would be grouped with Pasadena, Monrovia, portions of Duarte, Claremont, Upland, Wrightwood, Lytle Creek, Crestline and Lake Arrowhead to form a massive district that stretches more than 80 miles from end-to-end and connects the border of the City of Los Angeles to the border of Big Bear Lake. A similar map with similar concerns was presented for the newly drawn Congressional District.

Thefts of catalytic converters were on the rise but the Glendale Police Dept. offered precautions that can be taken to prevent thefts. These include having license plate numbers etched onto catalytic converters. The GPD partnered with AAA on the "Etch & Catch" program to help

facilitate this.

Dec. 7 marked 80 years since the attack on Pearl Harbor, which ushered the United States into World War II. Local veterans remembered the "date that will live in infamy."

Glendale Parks and Open Space Foundation hosted a special viewing of a new art installation at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. The 26-foot mosaic mural, titled "The Breath of a Deukmejian Day," depicts and celebrates natural elements of the region, including plants and animals found in the local area.



The Glendale City Council decided to conduct more

outreach efforts before making a decision regarding the future of the Verdugo Wash, currently a nine-mile concrete flood water channel that is being considered as a potential green swath of natural habitat and walking and bike paths running from the north side of the Verdugo Mountains down to Griffith Park.

The Crescenta Valley Town Council (CVTC) held its elections for vacant seats on its board. A total of 529 votes recorded, according to Elections Committee Chair Chris Kilpatrick. Of those 529 votes, only 480 were counted as they were for candidates who appeared on the ballot. Ballots with write-in candidates were not counted. Earning regular seats were Elizabeth Ahlers, Dede Mueller and Frida Baghdassarian; Ted Yu, Teri Madsen and Paul Barnes will serve as alternates.

Omicron quickly became the dominant variant of COVID-19 in the U.S. As of Dec. 17, more than 73% of new cases in the nation were caused by omicron, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. President Biden stressed that the best way for Americans to protect themselves from serious illness and hospitalization from COVID-19 and specifically from the delta and omicron variants is by getting vaccinated and for those who are vaccinated to get their booster shots.

Compiled by Robin GOLDSWORTHY and Mary O'KEEFE

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NUMBERS from Cover

more information, call (888) 498-2668 or visit labananda.com.

Marsh Village Pharmacy in La Cañada Flintridge, 2143 Foothill Blvd., has the capability to administer tests, vaccines and boosters.

To find more LA County locations for testing and vaccinations/boosters, visit <https://covid19.lacounty.gov>.

Pharmacies like those at CVS, Walgreens and Vons also administer vaccines and boosters. Not all locations have the vaccines, so it is advised to first visit their individual websites to find the active locations.

CVW found the best way to find a location for tests and/or for vaccinations/boosters is to look for signs locally that advertise test facilities.

LCFTRA from Cover

what's fun and inspiring about seeing these dogs together in a skatepark. They keep learning and don't get discouraged and we remember that we can keep learning, too."

Each element of the float is constructed by hand using a vast variety of materials. Lazo said the "float family" has been putting immense effort into the construction of the float, noting that tens of thousands of beans have been used and each one is individually and carefully placed.

Over 25,000 flowers will be used on the float as well including, among others, roses, carnations and mums, other foliage and even fruits and vegetables to add unique bright pops of color. The dogs are made using additional natural materials, some of which are flax seed, tapioca, buffalo grass and palm fiber.

La Cañada Flintridge is one of only six floats in the entire parade that is self-built and relies entirely on community support in labor and donations. Starting from an idea nurtured by The Kiwanis Club of La Cañada in 1978 and translated into reality by community volunteers, the LCFTRA's first contribution brought – and each progressing year continues to bring – joy and boastful pride to the community.

"It's been a surreal week," Lazo said. "Our design is pretty complicated, but it's looking really cool. It's just been wonderful to all come together to work on this and see familiar faces again."

LCFTRA publicity representative Barbie Eland stressed her excitement to see the completed and long-awaited float make its way down Colorado Boulevard on New Year's Day.

"It's crazy how much goes into it," Eland laughed. "But we're always really, really proud of it. It's such an exciting experience when it leaves La Cañada the night before and goes over to get into its spot for the next morning."

Eland said because it moves so slowly, the sheriff's department must escort it on the roads as it journeys over to Pasadena – a patrol car leading and following the float with lights shining – and the overall spectacle is fun to watch. She urged the community to keep an eye open on the evening of Dec. 31.

"The team really worked hard the past two years on getting the float ready to go and making sure everything will go off without a hitch," Eland said. "Our float is in really good shape, and I couldn't be more excited."

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of the *verdugos*

In 2020, the Community Foundation of the Verdugos (CFV) received a \$60,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation strictly for Covid Disaster Relief. The CFV issued \$40,000 in support in June 2020, and another \$40,000 in March 2021 made possible by donors stepping up to help raise a matching \$20,000.

As 2021 draws to a close, the CFV warmly thanks year-end 2020 donors who responded to the matching grant challenge, making grants possible for nonprofits in Q1 and Q3 of 2021. The pandemic brought unprecedented effects and challenges that resulted in increased needs for nonprofits and those they serve. The CFV, as a 501(c)(3) itself, was put to the test to provide extra funding.

In all, \$80,000 was issued as a result of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation challenge grant. Donor advisors holding funds with the CFV issued approximately \$7,000 in Covid related grants in 2020-2021. Additionally, the CFV issued \$74,250 of its own grants for Covid related mental health needs for the 2020 grant cycle, and \$55,500 in grants for Covid related needs for children and youth in 2021. In total, from 2020-2021, grants totaling over \$215,000 were issued by the CFV to address Covid Disaster Relief in the Verdugos.

2020 Year-end Donors – Matching Grant Challenge



Family Promise

MEND drive-thru distribution



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Cornwell Family Fund

- Marilyn Gunnell Community Benefit Endowment
- Wing and Alice Chung Charitable Fund
- Charles "Bud" R. Alleman Jr.
- David & Julie Burg
- Community Foundation of the Verdugos
- Joyce Huang
- Edna Karinski
- Margaret V. Kaufman
- Lisa Koontz
- Royal Scott LaChasse
- Charles L. LeCroy III
- Cynthia Livingston
- Ruth S. McNevin
- Tom & Susanne Miller Fund
- Seok H. Jo
- Elisa Rosenblatt
- Lori DeLynn Russell
- Spiral Path Yoga Center



Love on 4 Paws hospital visit

Kids Community Dental Clinic



2020 Year-end Donors – Unrestricted (makes grants possible)

- Burger Law Group/Ernest Burger
- Wing and Alice Chung Charitable Fund
- Edna Karinski
- Adel Luzuriaga/Adel-NextBlock Endowment
- Carl Povilaitis
- Isaac & Frieda Vartanian
- Lee Wochner

Matching Grant Recipients 2021 Total Issued: \$40,000

- Ascencia
- Burbank Temporary Aide
- Family Promise of the Verdugos
- Hillsides Education Center
- Kids Community Dental Clinic
- Love on 4 Paws
- Salvation Army - Glendale/Burbank

Matching Grant Recipients 2020 Total Issued: \$40,000

- Ascencia
- Burbank Housing Corporation
- Family Promise of the Verdugos
- Family Service Agency of Burbank
- MEND – Meet Each Need With Dignity
- Salvation Army – Glendale/Burbank
- YWCA of Glendale

CFV Grants – Covid Children & Youth 2021 Total Issued: \$55,500

- Ascencia
- Burbank Noon Lions Club
- Door of Hope
- Family Service Agency of Burbank
- Kids Community Dental Clinic
- Love on 4 Paws
- Penny Lane Centers
- Salvation Army – Glendale/Burbank

CFV Grants – Covid Mental Health 2020 Total Issued: \$74,250

- Ascencia
- Door of Hope
- Extraordinary Families
- Glendale Youth Alliance
- Human Good
- ND Vets
- Pacific Clinics
- Penny Lane Centers
- Salvation Army – Glendale Location
- West Valley Counseling Center

There is still time to make a 2021 year-end gift to help the CFV in its 2022 grant cycle. You can make an online gift at any time to the Unrestricted Fund at www.cfverdugos.org. Gifts to the CFV (Tax ID 95-6068137) are needed throughout the year and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Checks may always be mailed to the address below. Call 818-241-8040 if we can assist with a question.

Community Foundation of the Verdugos
111 East Broadway, Suite 200
Glendale, CA, 91205

Thank you and best wishes for a happy and hopeful 2022!

VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Verdugo Hills Bowl – The Beginning

Longtime local Dennis McNerny has been prompting me for several years to write about one of the most important icons of our valley in the post-war years, the Verdugo Hills Bowl. Dennis was working there when it closed, and its loss has stayed with him all these years.

Verdugo Hills Bowl opened in 1959, expanded in 1977, and closed in 1996. It was located prominently on the north side of Foothill Boulevard just east of Pennsylvania, where the Vons supermarket is located today. Generations of valley residents spent their childhoods there learning the sport, teenagers sparked romances and generally got into trouble, and adults played on competitive bowling (and drinking) teams. In researching the history, I was surprised to find that my usual go-to for info, the old Ledger newspaper, for whatever reason had almost nothing about the bowling alley. Odd.

Rumblings about the 24-lane “La Crescenta Bowl” began in early 1958.

It was to be sited at 3237 Foothill Blvd., next to the Safeway store on Foothill. A concept drawing of it was released in '58, and it looked nothing like what was built a year later. The drawing showed it looking much like an extremely large ranch-style home, single story, molded concrete brick walls and a low-pitched tiled roof.

By the time of the groundbreaking in April 1959, the design had changed radically into the taller, geometric modern design that we all remember. It was split level in the front, built with tilt-up concrete walls, fronted with tapered steel girders holding up a rectangular overhang. Expansive windows gave a beautiful view of the Verdugo Mountains and a “floating ramp” led from the parking lot to the main floor above. Other things had changed as well. It was now 28-lanes and the name was Verdugo Hills Bowl. The 30,000 square foot, \$1 million building featured a coffee shop, cocktail lounge, billiard room,

children’s play area and an outdoor patio court.

This was perfect timing for the housing boom of young families flooding the valley. The bowling alley opened on Friday, Oct. 30, 1959 at 6 p.m. Open bowling was to be on weekends with the weekdays reserved for league competition.

By the next year the bowling alley was in full swing. An advertisement from 1960 advertised: “Sign up now ... Ladies! For free instruction class. Free bowling, shoes, coffee, child care. We still have openings for couples – Saturday mixed fours. Attention Juniors! Opening for more bantams, juniors and seniors starting Saturday.”

Entertaining in the cocktail lounge was “Bob Elliott, recording star... Monday through Friday.” (I looked hard for who this “Bob Elliott, recording star” would have been. The only Bob Elliott I could find from that era was the Bob portion of the comedy team of Bob and Ray. Bob

and Ray were quite famous and had a five-decade career. Is it possible this was that Bob Elliott?)

Here are some memories of one of those early women bowlers: “I moved here in 1965, and a little after joined a bowling league (prior we used to bowl at Grand Central Bowl Glendale, not Jewel City). But back to Verdugo: At the time they advertised babysitting service while bowling for 5 cents. The older lady [who] watched the kids was great with them.

“As my kids got older, they bowled the bantam leagues and I began coaching. The bowling alley teamed up with other bowling centers and several leagues were formed with kids, all ages. They would have tournaments there with other cities.

“At this time, bowling was very popular. Verdugo Hills Bowl had leagues starting with Crescenta Valley High School students in the early morning. There were 9 a.m. leagues (moms were at home at this

time), seniors in the afternoon and evening leagues at 6 and 9 p.m.

“VHB was always pretty strict with the kids, keeping them out during school hours, not allowing swearing, but that was a positive as they learned that if you want to be here you follow the rules, and most did. Many parents just dropped their kids off with some money, probably figured the babysitting was good.”

Next week, more memories of the Verdugo Hills Bowl.



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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rainy Day Reminder

When your windshield wipers are on, your headlights must also be turned on. (Not just the running lights, but also the headlights – which means your taillights are also on, making your vehicle much easier to see.) According to the Dept. of Motor Vehicles’ California Driver Handbook, “You must turn on your headlights if snow, rain, fog, dust or low visibility (1,000 feet or less) requires the use of windshield wipers.” This law, as stated in California Vehicle Code 24400, took effect in January 2008.

*Anne McNeill
La Crescenta*

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE » JULIE BUTCHER

Glendale Works

In our part of La Crescenta, I can annoy my neighbors by reminding them we live in Glendale. No, they say, we live in La Crescenta. Or Montrose. Or Verdugo City. Never Glendale.

Yet, for me, three-ish years reporting on the doings of the Glendale City Council, following years and years representing local workers in dozens of large and small Southern California

cities, it is my professional opinion and humble observation that Glendale works.

It tries. It is a self-aware and self-effacing city, proud to provide basic, competent municipal services. It seeks and strives and aspires.

It recognizes years of bad development decisions. And how it loves to complain about its neighbors, especially the City

of Los Angeles. (The best way to get the Glendale council to act is to tell them how LA is doing it.)

Recently, Glendale made the news for messing up a program to support the locally unhoused (Nov. 26, 2021, LA Times, “Glendale’s homeless community lost access to showers during the pandemic. A nonprofit sees racism.”)

see JULIE BUTCHER on page 23

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1	2229	Crescent	Montrose	91020	
2	2200-2400	Honolulu	Montrose	91020	Montrose Shopping Park
3	3432	Buena Vista	Sparr Heights	91208	
4	3532	Rosemary	Sparr Heights	91208	
5	3601	Angelus	Sparr Heights	91208	
6	1200-1400	Oak Circle	Sparr Heights	91208	
7	1044	Shirleyjean	La Crescenta	91214	
8	2751	Timberlake	La Crescenta	91214	
9	2653	Orange	La Crescenta	91214	
10	2809	Foothill	La Crescenta	91214	La Crescenta Library
11	2812	Alabama	La Crescenta	91214	
12	2848	Alabama	La Crescenta	91214	
13	3032	Alabama	La Crescenta	91214	
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15	3109	Alabama	La Crescenta	91214	
16	3113	Pontiac	La Crescenta	91214	
17	3006	Altura	La Crescenta	91214	
18	3021	Altura	La Crescenta	91214	
19	3037	Altura	La Crescenta	91214	
20	3142	Prospect	La Crescenta	91214	
21	4012	New York	La Crescenta	91214	
22	4116	New York	La Crescenta	91214	
23	4422	New York	La Crescenta	91214	
24	3420	Mary Ann	La Crescenta	91214	
25	3433	Mary Ann	La Crescenta	91214	
26	3437	Mary Ann	La Crescenta	91214	
27	3440	Mary Ann	La Crescenta	91214	
28	3452	Mary Ann	La Crescenta	91214	
29	3500	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
30	3504	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
31	3510	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
32	3514	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
33	3520	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
34	3526	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
35	3540	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
36	3550	Brookhill	La Crescenta	91214	
37	6420	Creemore	Tujunga	91042	
38	6817	Day	Tujunga	91042	
39	7006	Day	Tujunga	91042	



The Oak Circle Wishing Tunnel

The Oak Circle Wishing Tunnel (a 25-year tradition) at 1410 Oak Circle welcomes all to stop on by nightly to walk through and make a wish!

JUDGING CATEGORIES

1. Christmas Story Award

(traditional or nostalgic use of lights and decorations - Leg Lamp use gets extra points)

2. Clark Griswold Award

(excessive use of lights and decoration - more is ALWAYS better, can we see it from space?)

3. Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree Award

(best use of music and technology)

4. Santa's Coming to Town Award

(best use of Santa or Santa's in decor)

5. Most Original Award

(not your usual every-day holiday decor)

6. Best in Show Award

(ya blew the judges minds)

Happy Holidays to you and your families from The CV Weekly and all our Merry & Bright Sponsors!



YOUTH

Eagle Project Benefits Scout and Community

Alexander Choi, who goes by "Sander," is a 16-year-old student attending Clark Magnet High School and a Boy Scout with Troop 502, based out of La Cañada Flintridge. He has been working on his Eagle Scout project that he hopes will protect the planet and help lift people out of poverty. More specifically, he has been engaged in a collection drive that will prevent gently used shoes from going to waste and put them to good use.

According to the Boy Scouts, an Eagle project should benefit the community, either the local community or the world community. Choi, who has been a Scout since fifth grade, looked for a project that could help both the people and the environment. Then he became aware of Soles4Souls, a non-profit organization that collects shoes to divert them from landfills and give them to micro-entrepreneurs around the world to help them create a business.

"I have always been interested in entrepreneurship, so the idea of helping entrepreneurs was really exciting," he said.

It is estimated that more than 700 million people in the world live on less than \$2 a day, according to the World Bank. The Soles4Souls website states that its micro-enterprise program that provides shoes and clothes to nascent

entrepreneurs has lifted people out of poverty while also providing affordable shoes to their communities.

As of Dec. 18, Choi has collected over 600 pairs of shoes and is still collecting more. He has noticed that a large percentage of the shoes are in great condition, some looking like they were hardly worn. He has used social media as an outreach tool to promote his project in several different neighborhoods. He has worked with other Scouts, individuals and representatives from Soles4Souls.

The Eagle Project is designed to be challenging; once the project is found the Scout must make presentations to Boy Scout leaders both in their troop and in the council that oversees their troop.

"I have learned a lot from the project, especially about the importance of discipline and [to] keep on going," Choi said. He also said that he was impressed with the generosity and care of his neighbors. "I am grateful to all the donors. I was excited to learn about how generous people can be."

Submitted by David CHOI

Eagle Scout candidate Alexander "Sander" Choi with some of the 600 pairs of shoes he collected for Soles4Souls.



Dignity Health, LA Galaxy Give for Holidays



From left, Cerritos Elementary Principal Diana Hernández, Santa, Glendale Unified Superintendent Vivian Ekchian, Dignity Health - Glendale Memorial Hospital President Jill Welton, LA Galaxy player Efrain Hernandez, Glendale Unified Board of Education President Shant Sahakian, and Glendale Memorial Director of Mission Integration and Spiritual Care Services Cassie McCarty.

To celebrate the giving spirit of the holidays, employees, physicians, board members, and volunteers at Dignity Health-Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center, along with the LA Galaxy, donated wish list items for close to 500 students from Cerritos Elementary School in the Glendale Unified School District. The LA Galaxy Star Squad was accompanied by LA Galaxy midfielder Efrain Alvarez to help distribute gifts to the students as they joined in the holiday festivities along with representatives from Glendale police and fire departments. Santa made a grand entrance riding in the fire truck and giving high-fives along his way. Presents – including science kits, soccer balls, games, art supplies, and other requested items from the children's wish lists – were distributed to all of the kids by Santa, Alvarez, Glendale Memorial Hospital President Jill Welton and volunteers.



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SPORTS

LOOKING BACK AT SPORTS
YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

By Justin HAGER

If 2020 was remarkable for the absence of sports due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 was remarkable for the myriad ways in which athletes refused to be relegated to the sidelines and instead returned in creative, innovative and remarkable ways.

The year kicked off with a game for the ages as the Rose Bowl in Pasadena hosted a college football playoff match between two blue-blood legends of the sport: the Alabama Crimson Tide and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. While the Tide's dominant victory was a familiar sight to any college football fan, the empty stadium, was a reminder that even "the granddaddy of them all" was not immune to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, the NCAA, MLB, and NBA had all either begun play or announced plans to return. However, with the pandemic far from over (the omicron variant continues to ravage Southern California), 2021 was undeniably set to be among the most chaotic and interesting years in sports history.

Winter/Spring

The California Dept. of Public Health released a highly anticipated youth-sports update on Feb. 19 creating a path for high school sports to resume and for certain fall and winter sports to take place in a truncated spring season. The result was a whirlwind three-month period from late-February to mid-May in which more than a dozen sports held competitions simultaneously. Multi-sport athletes like Crescenta Valley's Brendan Pehar were especially taxed. Pehar found himself pitching five-innings of baseball then throwing touchdowns as the starting football quarterback, all in less than 48 hours.



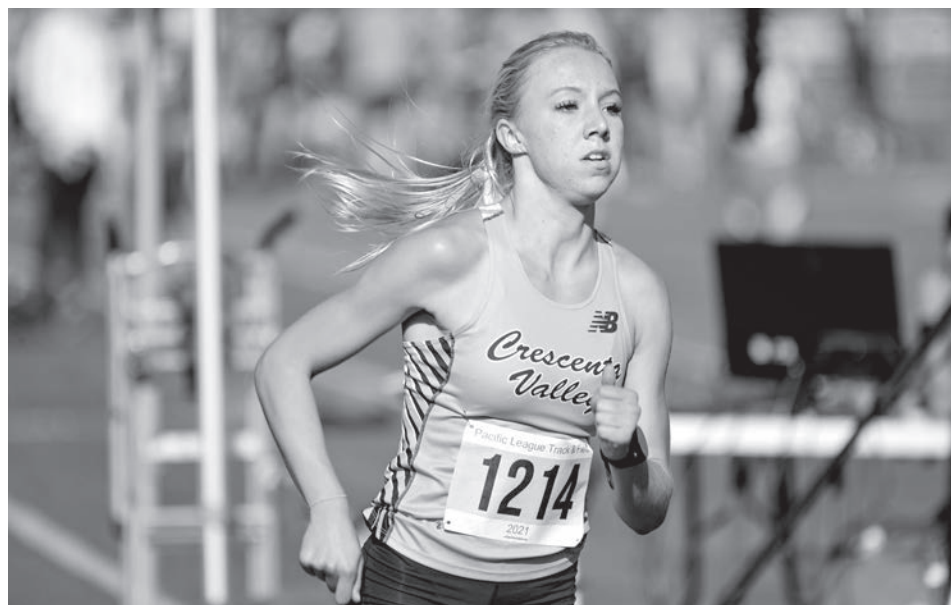
Despite the chaos of scheduling, the Falcons soared during the shortened 2021 spring season. The Falcon boys' baseball team demonstrated both high-flying offense and stout defense, going 17-11 overall and 11-4 in the Pacific League. The boys' 10-game winning streak through the middle of the season gave them the opportunity to compete for the Pacific League title as they found themselves in a three-way tie with Burbank and Arcadia with just two weeks remaining. They would be forced to settle for second place but still qualified for the CIF Southern Section tournament and are well equipped for next season.

Another impressive performance came from the girls' soccer team, which won 11

matches in a row including a 3-0 rout of the U.S. top 500 ranked La Cañada Spartans, leading the girls to their first CIF state tournament berth in 19 years. The girls' play was so strong that it earned the attention of national prep sports writers and a top 350 national ranking and top 100 state ranking.

The boys' lacrosse players finished their season 14-4, earning the highest overall winning percentage in the Gold Coast League and a MaxPreps CIF Southern Section top 50 ranking. The group, which only became a recognized CVHS team in 2019 and then had its 2020 campaign interrupted by COVID, was so dominant that it outscored opponents by more than 120 goals, 232-110.

As successful as CVHS was in team competitions, the most impressive athletic performance came from a single individual. In her senior season, Mia Barnett recorded the nation's fastest prep times in the 1600- (4:37.58) and 3200-meter run (9:52.23), with both ranking among the top 10 performances in U.S. girls prep history. She also ran the nation's second-fastest mile of the year and a top 10 in California history (4:39.41) and in the spring had a state-best finish of 2:07.31 in the 800, the seventh-fastest prep time in the U.S. Her performance in the 3200-meter race at the Laguna Beach Distance Carnival was almost 50 seconds ahead of the next-closest runner that day. Barnett was named the Gatorade Player of the Year, becoming the first CVHS athlete to receive the honor since Michelle Greco in 1998.



Beyond prep sports, the first part of 2021 was also an exciting time for local adult athletes. CVHS alums and cousins Drake Barron and Eric Greco Jr. rose to national prominence in mountain biking and stock car racing, respectively, with impressive performances in several races including first place victories within 24 hours of each other.

And the UCLA Bruins made history when the team entered the NCAA men's basketball tournament as the 44th seed in the country and made it all the way to the Final Four after upsetting No. 5 Alabama and No. 4 Michigan. Unfortunately, the Bruins fell three points short in an exciting overtime matchup to No. 1 Gonzaga that ended in a game winning buzzer beater by Gonzaga's Jalen Suggs. The Bruins' historic run included back-to-back outstanding performances by sophomore Johnny Juzang, who scored 28 points against Michigan and 29 points against Gonzaga. The USC Trojans also made the Elite 8 with an upset over No. 12 Kansas but, like UCLA, could not overcome the Gonzaga juggernaut.

Summer

With the end of prep sports and the arrival of summer, some of the biggest names in professional sports took center stage.

Major League Baseball (MLB) opened with the long-anticipated debut of a healthy Shohei Ohtani, who wowed Southern California audiences as the first successful dual-threat baseball player since Bobby Reis in the 1930s. Unfortunately for fans, Ohtani's ability to throw 100mph and hit 450 feet wasn't enough to save the Angels from having a losing season.

Slightly farther north, the boys in blue were making history of their own, becoming the first team in MLB history to win 105 or more games and still not win their division. The 106-win Dodgers fell one game short of its rivals from the bay, the San Francisco Giants, which won 107 games. The Dodgers did make the playoffs, defeating the Cardinals in the one game wild card race and even got the better of the Giants, taking the Division Series 3-2. But the Dodgers could not repeat its 2020 World Series run when it lost to the Atlanta Braves in the league championship series.

In other professional sports, La Cañada's Collin Morikawa won the 2021 Open Championship on his debut attempt and took the golfing world by storm as he combined his victory at the British Open with wins at the 2020 PGA Championship, 2021 WGC-Workday Championship, 2021 DP World Tour Championship of Dubai, 2021 Ryder Cup and his second place finish at the PGA Memorial Tournament.

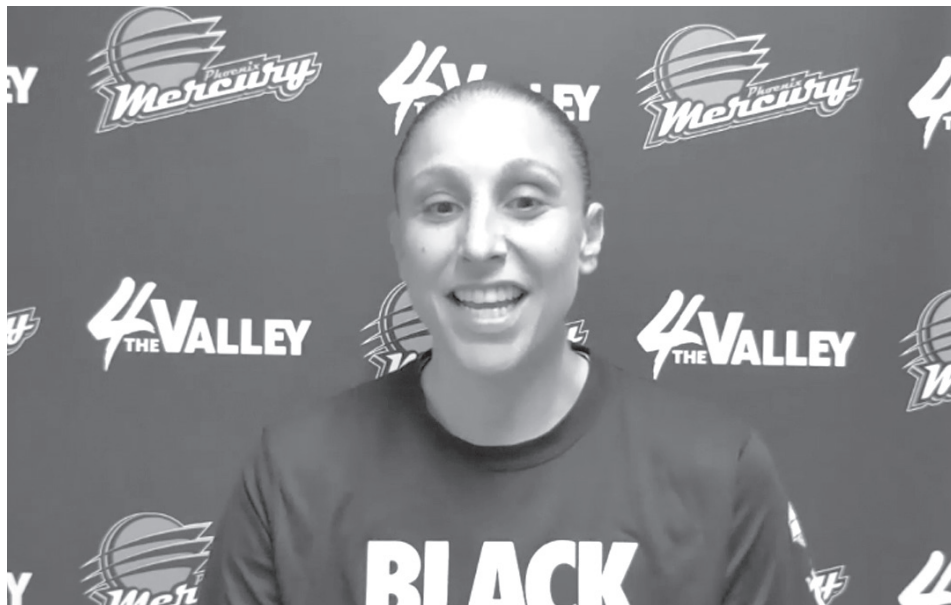
Despite his youth, Morikawa has been so dominant that he has already become the No. 2 ranked golfer in the world, only behind Spain's Jon Rahm.

Joining these well-known professional athletes was local crossing guard John Raddich. An ultramarathoner and advocate for safe streets, Radich ran 67 miles on his 67th birthday and competed in the 135-mile Badwater Ultramarathon, also known as the world's toughest footrace, to raise money and awareness of the need for safer streets in Southern California.

SPORTS from previous page

Despite these many amazing stories, the sports world was undeniably dominated throughout the summer by the much-anticipated 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games. Delayed by a year due to the COVID, the Tokyo Games were fraught with uncertainty as the delta variant left the Olympic Village closed to outsiders and athletes on high alert. Despite the uncertainty, the Games went on and the U.S. unsurprisingly continued its run of Olympic domination. The USA earned 113 medals, 39 of which were gold. The next closest competitor was the Russian Olympic Committee, which earned 71 total medals, Great Britain (65) and host country Japan (58).

One of the gold medals the U.S. took home was won by Glendale native and WNBA legend Diana Taurasi. Once referred to by Kobe Bryant as the “White Mamba,” Taurasi helped lead the women’s team to gold at the Olympics while also leading the Phoenix Mercury to the WNBA finals and herself to a record-breaking 9000 career points.



Fall

With the Olympics over and the COVID-19 pandemic appearing to be on its last legs, athletes at every level of competition entered the fall season with expectations of a return to normalcy. And, for the most part, those expectations were fulfilled.

The CVHS boys’ cross-country team soared to a top 10 finish at the state championship while the girls finished 11th at the CIF Southern Section tournament, falling just four spots short of a state tournament berth. Both teams appear to be headed for even better performances next year as many of their top performers will return as upper classmates with a year of non-COVID interrupted experience under their belts.

The boys’ water polo team competed for a Pacific League championship and qualified for the CIF tournament but fell just short in both.

And the girls’ volleyball team won its CIF wild card play-in, its first CIF playoff victory in 20 years.

Winter sports are currently underway with the boys’ basketball team poised for a run at the state title. The boys are currently 11-2 overall and ranked in the top 20 in the CIF Southern Section, according to MaxPreps.



Boys’ soccer is also flying high. With a 5-0-2 record overall and a 3-0-1 record in the Pacific League, the Falcons are the favorite to win the league, are ranked in the top 20 in the CIF Southern Section and in the top 40 in the State of California.

Although less dominant than its spring performance, girls’ soccer is also well situated for another CIF run. The team currently holds an 11-3 record overall, is 7-0 in the Pacific League and is ranked 33rd in the CIF Southern Section.

Beyond prep sports, Southern Californians are also getting excited about the hiring of Lincoln Riley as the new head coach of the USC Trojans football team. In his first few weeks on the job, Riley has already brought in four ESPN top-300 recruits, including the top player in California – five-star quarterback Malachi Nelson – cornerback Domani Jackson (No. 6), and running back Raleek Brown (No. 60). Whether Riley’s enthusiasm and recruiting prowess will be enough to turn around the now decade-long struggle for USC remains to be seen. But the excitement surrounding the new coach is bringing in not only top recruits, but also top dollar donors, giving the Trojans and the Pac-12 a greater sense of optimism about the future.

Unfortunately, 2021 is ending much as it began. UCLA’s abrupt withdrawal from the Holiday Bowl in San Diego earlier this week resulted in the fifth COVID-19 related bowl game cancellation of the 2021-22 campaign. As of publication time, the 108th playing of the Rose Bowl Game is expected to continue as scheduled, on New Year’s Day, as the Ohio State Buckeyes of the Big-10 Conference take on the Utah Utes of the Pac-12 Conference.

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

PFAR Installs 2022 President Sarah Moore in Installation Ceremony 'Growing Together'



Earlier this month, the Pasadena-Foothills REALTORS® hosted its 115th annual inaugural and awards virtual ceremony at the NOOR. The celebration, themed Growing Together, honored the local REALTOR® community, while installing the 2022 officers and directors.

During the virtual ceremony, PFAR honored incoming 2022 President Sarah Moore, a second-generation REALTOR® and Pasadena native. A graduate from California State University, Northridge with a degree in business and emphasis in real estate, Moore received

scholarships from the San Fernando Board of Realtors, Land Use Institute, as well as the Appraisal Institute. After working briefly in the mortgage industry, Moore changed paths and decided to dedicate her time to raising her two daughters.

During her hiatus from real estate Moore discovered her talent for pottery becoming a nationally recognized potter in the Arts and Crafts style. Her successful pottery business Sassafrass Pottery was heavily inspired by her childhood growing up on the edge of the Arroyo Seco and served as a natural transition back to real estate.

Hosted by 2018 REALTOR® of the Year and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' Matt McIntyre along with PFAR Past President Emilie Broughton (Dilbeck Real Estate), PFAR recognized the work of the REALTOR® community, kicking off the show with a donation to Door of Hope; a non-profit centered on empowering families facing homelessness through holistic programs.

Megan Katerjian, executive director of Door of Hope, delivered the inspiration message and PUSD's Blair Viking's String Quartet served as the musical act for the afternoon.

The 2022 officers and directors

installed were Kay Tolentino (TradeMark Real Estate) as president-elect; Secretary Lynnette West-Cater (Westlyn Realtors), Treasurer Jon Butler (Douglas Elliman Real Estate), Multiple Listing Director Eddie Ramirez (DPP), along with newly added directors Sid Karsh (Sid Karsh Real Estate), Lee Cuellar (Keller Williams Realty), Adam Bray-Ali (Coldwell Banker) and Lauren Kinkade-Wong (Douglas Elliman Real Estate). In addition, affiliate director Nathan Stark (Chicago Title) and now Immediate Past President Barry Storch (Town Square Real Estate). Retired board members honored

were Hazel Perera (Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices), Joyce Kristensson (Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices), Martin Mesa (Rate One Financial), Megan Spargo-Ferrell (COMPASS), and Neha Jespersen (DPP).

Awards were also presented to several individuals for outstanding service as were recognition given for milestone years of service.

Provided by PFAR

LEFT: 2021 President Barry Storch and 2022 President Sarah Moore
MIDDLE: Co-host 2018 Realtor of the Year Matt McIntyre
RIGHT: Entertainment provided by Blair Vikings String Quartet

People Making News

Local students who are part of the University of Utah, Class of 2025 include:

Eric Chambers of Sunland; from La Cañada Flintridge; Thomas Decker, whose major is listed as pre business BS, Andrew Ignatian,

whose major is also listed as pre business BS, and Mason Pirkey, whose major is listed as pre business BS; from La Crescenta: Bada Kim; Henry Taylor, whose major is listed as film and media arts BA.

Overall enrollment increased 4.2% to 34,424-up from 33,047 in fall 2020. The number of new transfer students also increased, up 2.3% to 1,448. The university also saw record highs in undergraduate and graduate

enrollment with graduate students up 2.3% and undergraduates up 4.8%.

The University of Utah, located in Salt Lake City in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, is the flagship institution of higher

learning in Utah. Founded in 1850, it serves over 32,000 students from across the U.S. and the world. With over 100 major subjects at the undergraduate level and more than 90 major fields of study at the graduate level, including law and medicine, the university prepares students to live and compete in the global workplace.

Katie Kim, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2022, has earned the spring 2021 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

Kim, from La Cañada Flintridge, is an economics major and a graduate of Harvard-Westlake School.

Students who receive a term grade point average of 3.3 or higher while completing at least three courses earn the spring 2021 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

Kristen Quinonez, an English major from Glendale/La Crescenta, is a member of the Colgate University Class of 2024, and has earned the spring 2021 Dean's Award with Distinction. Quinonez is a graduate of Harvard-Westlake School.

Students who receive a term grade point average of 3.6 or higher while completing at least three courses during the spring 2021 semester earn the Dean's Award with Distinction.

Colgate offers 56 majors and see PEOPLE on page 18

Veterans Corner December 2021 Sharing Military Christmas Stories, Past and Present

"Historically, as well as today, our troops have stood guarding the gates of freedom, protecting the things we hold dear, and our way of life, no matter the time of year."

— Lt. Col. Jason Nulton, USAF

Backing up in time, here are a few surprising stories of military events that took place on Christmas.

Probably one of the most well known is the Revolutionary War event on Dec. 25, 1776. This is when General George Washington crossed a 300-yard section of the Delaware River at night with his men to march 19 miles to confront a garrison of German mercenaries who were hired by the British to keep a hold on rebelling colonists. Our Continental Army took the Hessians' by complete surprise and garnered a quick surrender at the Battle of Trenton. A week later the Continental Army regained control of the colony with the victory at the Battle of Princeton.

The Eggnog Riot at the United States Military Academy (West Point, New York) began the night of Dec. 24, 1826 and ended on Christmas Day. A drunken Christmas party in the north barracks of the academy caused that riot (also known as the Grog Mutiny). Two days prior to the incident, a large quantity of

whiskey was smuggled into the academy to make eggnog for the party, giving the riot its name. The riot eventually involved more than one third of the cadets by the time it ceased on Christmas morning. A subsequent investigation by academy officials resulted in the implication of 70 cadets and the court martialing of 20 of them, as well as one enlisted soldier. Among the participants in the riot – though he was not court-martialed – was future Confederate States President Jefferson Davis.

In 1868, on Christmas Day, U.S. President Andrew Johnson extended a full pardon and amnesty, "to all and every person who directly or indirectly participated in the late insurrection or rebellion." The Civil War had ended about three years earlier and left a horrible statistic of having taken more American lives than any other conflict in our history. Johnson's amnesty took many by surprise as he was a Tennessee congressman and governor before joining Lincoln's ticket. It was rumored that the sitting attorney general James Speed tempered Johnson's determination to harshly punish all in the Confederacy. Southerners, after Dec. 25, 1868, only then enjoyed freedoms of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In what had been unheard of, German, British and French soldiers agreed on

a temporary peace in order to celebrate Christmas together. It was Dec. 25, 1914 – the first Christmas of World War I – and all of the soldiers left their trenches to observe the Christmas holiday together in peace. They all laid down their arms, sang Christmas carols together, played soccer and drank whatever came their way. They also bartered cigarettes and candy and other food items, and received the care packages unencumbered from the nations they served.

For me, Christmas 1969 found me in Vietnam where I opened a small package from home, silently said "thank you" and that was that.

I sincerely hope that all our men and women serving this great country in all branches of the U.S. military, and all our veterans who have also served our great country, had a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a healthy and happy New Year! May all of your resolutions be fulfilled, and may we continue to pray for peace for all mankind in this world!

Borrowed from Ronald Verini, who writes a veteran-oriented column for the Argus Observer in Ontario, Oregon.

Blake Hyfield is the post service officer for the local VFW and American Legion posts. He can be reached at bhpegleg@yahoo.com.

Holiday Fun Found at Lanterman House



TOP: The 3rd Annual Lanterman House Gingerbread House Contest on Dec. 19 features "Gingerbread Pride." It was entered under the category of "Adult Group, age 13 and up."

ABOVE: Montrose resident Lida Fernsler, 12, looks ready to take a bite out of the Whoville Christmas Village, which vied for the "People's Choice Award," during the Lanterman House open house.

RIGHT: At the Lanterman House holiday open house, Montrose resident JoJo Dressel, 2½ meets a masked Santa for the first time. Bob Moses plays Santa Claus. Residence? The North Pole.

The Lanterman House in La Cañada Flintridge held a holiday open house on Dec. 19. The family-friendly event provided a chance for guests to learn more about the historic property and also enjoy caroling, crafts and treats. A highlight of the afternoon event was a gingerbread house display and contest.

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PEOPLE from page 17

supports 25 Division I athletic teams on a campus of about 3,000 students in central New York.

Biola University welcomed students to the Biola community as they started their journey as an Eagle this fall. The following local residents began their Biola journey: Clara Chung from La Crescenta and Branden Meza from Sunland.

Biola's incoming class represented a group of individuals who hailed from 41 states and U.S. territories and 44 countries around the world. A total of 842 undergraduate and graduate students started classes on Monday, Aug. 30 and finished their first semester on Friday, Dec. 17.

Biola University is a nationally ranked Christian university in the heart of Southern California. It was recently recognized as one of America's best colleges, earning a spot in the top tier of the "best national universities" category of U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges 2021 rankings.

For more information, visit biola.edu or call (562) 777-4061.

Soroptimists Hold 'Shop for a Cause – Holiday Faire'



Photo by Ruth SOWBY

Vice President of Fundraising Carol Ann Burton (left) mans a display table with Soroptimist member Lori Hartwell.

Soroptimist Club of Glendale held its first "Shop for a Cause Holiday Faire," a twist on the group's annual fundraiser "Bras for a Cause." On Sunday, with no decorated bra in

sight, the Soroptimist ladies displayed homemade baked goods, candy, and jams, along with jewelry, art, handbags and books, ready to sell.

LCF Chamber Holds Chameleon Salon Grand Opening and Ribbon-Cutting



Photo courtesy of Trish McRAE

Three members of the 2021 La Cañada Flintridge Royal Court hold the official grand opening ribbon as Paul Arakelian (left) watches his mother, Chameleon Full Services Salon owner Arpi Arakelian, cut the ribbon with his siblings Andrew and Anthony Arakelian.

Amid balloon bouquets and well wishes, the Chameleon Full Services Salon, located at 2039 Montrose Ave. in Montrose, was recently launched with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony held by the La

Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce. During the festivities, salon owner Arpi Arakelian was formally congratulated by La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of

see LCF on page 22

TRAVEL & LEISURE

LOOKING BACK AT LEISURE YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

By Charly SHELTON

After 2020 took so much from us all, we looked forward to the pandemic ending in 2021 and resuming a more regular life. What we got was a mixed bag of partial reopenings, variant virus spread and continued restrictions as we discovered the “new normal” for life. But in the mire of masks and variants and disappointing returns were a slew of new offerings, tearful reunions and many, many firsts for all of us navigating this new world.

Let’s take a look back at some of the best of’s, month-by-month, throughout 2021.

January

Stranger Things COVID Safety Precaution Brings Themed Entertainment Back

With theme parks closed and live events largely canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, themed entertainment was pretty much non-existent. Into this desolate market came the “Stranger Things: Drive-Into Experience” – a live theatre event viewed from the comfort of a car, based on the popular Netflix program, with no interaction between the audience and performers. It received rave reviews from the media and through word of mouth from those who had ventured into the Upside Down. But in the world of COVID, even an event such as this can be met with trepidation when weighing the positives of the fun event with the negatives of the inherent risk of going outside the home during a pandemic.



Digitizing Field Records at The La Brea Tar Pits

Excavation at the La Brea Tar Pits, which began in 1969 and ran every summer up to the pandemic, 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, many from the last 40 years written on index cards or

notebook paper. As such, these were not searchable or able to be incorporated into larger data studies like modern records. This is why the Page Museum opened 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.

February

Drive-Ins Return to a New Audience

Drive-in theaters were making a comeback in a big way. In-person inside movie theaters had been shut down for the last year and it was hard to find somewhere to see a movie with friends where guests could really feel safe. One local musician brought the outdoor silver screen back to the Crescenta Valley in a big way by establishing his own drive-in theater in La Cañada. Empire Lakes Productions was founded by Arsen Tujian and Luke Bonham, both college students who started the business while spending the pandemic at home in La Cañada as college classes went virtual.

March

CV Weekly’s Own Lori Bodnar Releases “Deep Thoughts”

Bodnar has covered a variety of stories for the Crescenta Valley Weekly and with every article has honed her professional talent. What many of our readers may not know is that she recently graduated from Crescenta Valley High School and, in addition to being a journalist, is also a poet. In March, she released her first book of poetry titled “Deep Thoughts.”

Knott’s Taste of Boysenberry Fest on the Eve of Reopening

With a full reopening in sight as early as April, the time for the Boysenberry Festival rolled around again. Knott’s Berry Farm, now old pros at the “pandemic food festival” format after their several successful festivals in 2020, brought a strong showing with the best food festival yet, a festival even better than the ones when the park was open.



April

The Return of the Theme Parks

It had been over a year since anyone had been on a ride at a theme park. The COVID-19 shutdown really hit home for many SoCal residents when Disneyland, Universal Studios Hollywood, Knott’s Berry Farm, SeaWorld, LEGOLand and Six Flags Magic Mountain closed in March 2020 due to the virus. Perhaps the shutdown affected Disneyland the most; it’s a cultural icon that helped set the standard for everything else. But after a year without much public fun, the theme parks reopened. Crowds swarmed as the new “theme park reservation systems” for visiting many of the theme parks were overwhelmed and booked up into the early summer.

May

An Emotional Homecoming to Disneyland

After 440 days, 13 hours and 10 minutes, CV Weekly’s Charly Shelton finally came back to Disneyland. In a personal perspective article, Shelton detailed the emotional resonance of coming back after so much time had passed to a place that he considered a second home. And now with a new member of the family in tow, his 10-month-old son Don, he saw the park through new eyes.

June



Knott’s Berry Farm Celebrates Its Overdue 100th Anniversary

Knott’s Berry Farm was founded in 1920, making 2020 its 100th anniversary. While the theme park remained largely closed except for the food festivals, 2020 was not a year conducive to holding a celebration of such a momentous milestone. But when the theme parks reopened, rides and all, it was time to celebrate in a big way. “The Knott’s Family Reunion,” as the 100th anniversary celebration was subtitled, looked to reunite family and friends in a safe and fun environment. Guests who visited Knott’s Berry Farm from May 21 through Sept. 6 enjoyed special photo ops,

see LEISURE on page 20

THEN & NOW

Verdugo Hills Bowl Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then » From 1959 to 1996 Verdugo Hills Bowl operated on Foothill Boulevard just west of Pennsylvania Avenue. It sat between Gianera Pontiac on the west and Safeway Market on the east. It was a large modern style building featuring 28 lanes, a billiards room, pinball machines and a restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Verdugo Mountains. Here it’s shown at night.

Now » The Verdugo Hills Bowling Alley expanded to 40 lanes in 1977. But interest in bowling waned in the '80s. It closed in 1996 and was torn down in 2003 to make way for a giant Vons supermarket. On the very site we once had bowling lanes we now have checkout lanes.

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LEISURE from previous page

unique food offerings, event merchandise and more, all tailored to showcase the history of Knott's over the last century. In honor of Knott's Berry Farm's 100th anniversary grand celebration, the park hosted a memorable time capsule ceremony on Wednesday, June 30 to commemorate the past and present memories created throughout the last 100 years.

July

Warner Bros. Studio Tour Reopens with Upgrades

Some attractions, like the Warner Bros. Studio Tour, made use of the pandemic downtime to construct new offerings and streamline things, making use of the guest-free days to do all the headache work of building without losing revenue-generating days to do it. A brand new tour complex, complete with massive Warner Bros. gift shop, debuted with the reopening of the tour.

'Secret Life of Pets: Off the Leash' Opens at Universal Studios Hollywood

When the local theme parks reopened to guests, we finally got to experience the best new rides that were to be offered in summer 2020. "Secret Life of Pets: Off the Leash" invited guests, who the other animals saw as puppies, to board alleyway boxes and shuttle across town to get to the adoption fair to find families to love them. It's a pretty standard dark ride (think Mr. Toad's Wild Ride or Peter Pan's Flight) but with several new tech additions.

August

'Knott's Bear-y Tales: Return to the Fair' Opens at Knott's Berry Farm

Knott's also opened its "meant for summer 2020, technologically advanced dark ride with a colon in the name" as well – "Knott's Bear-y Tales: Return to the Fair" took guests on a fun trip down memory lane heading to the county fair to sell some boysenberry pies while flinging pies at foxes that want to steal the goodies along the way.

Van Gogh's Finest JPGs Are Emailed to Hollywood

In likely the biggest disappointment of 2021, the Immersive Van Gogh Experience finally came to LA. One would imagine

that waiting for the arrival of a traveling exhibit of Van Gogh's paintings would afford viewers a chance to see an original painting that has ... traveled with an exhibit. But what viewers experienced instead is a massive floor-to-ceiling projection of a number of his works made animated. The irises bloom, the sunflowers wave in the breeze and the starry night flows from the Seine into the sky. It really is an impressive sight knowing the amount of work it must have taken a graphic designer to isolate all these elements and set them to a motion graphic. Talk about one of the great master artists of our time!

September

Halloween Horror Nights Rises from the Dead

Last year there wasn't a Halloween. The world was actually scary enough and it didn't allow for the fake, fun scary that is found in the annual theme park haunt events. But this year's haunts rose from the grave – with a vengeance. Universal Studios Hollywood opened its Halloween Horror Nights event and, although expectations were high going in, they were surpassed by the quality found at this year's outing.



October

'Carved' Out a Good Time for Halloween at Descanso Gardens

A new haunt came to town for "spooktacular" fall fun this year. "Carved" was a family-friendly event that included

intricately carved pumpkins, autumn decorations and brilliant lights nestled within the beauty of nature outdoors at Descanso Gardens. Hundreds of carved pumpkins lined a one-mile easy walking loop through the Camellia Forest and Oak Grove. Notable pumpkin designs included Charlie Brown and the Great Pumpkin, Shrek, Harry Potter and Voldemort and Lord of the Rings, among others.

November

Family Fun Found at Lanterman House Free Day

The Lanterman Historical Museum Foundation celebrated the native landscape of the Crescenta Cañada Valley with a free outside event at the Lanterman House. The event was highlighted by a land acknowledgment ceremony, which recognized the Gabrielino Tongva people as the traditional stewards of the Crescenta Cañada Valley and affirmed their enduring relationship with the land. Activities at the event included a Native American flute performance, food samples made from native plants and a craft table where visitors could make ornaments out of locally grown white sage.

December

Violins of Hope Played in an Emotional Performance

The Los Angeles Jewish Symphony played the Violins of Hope at The Soraya in Northridge after the concert was postponed for nearly two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The private collection of string instruments remained in safekeeping as it awaited its return to the stage and includes more than 50 rescued and restored violins, violas and cellos that were played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust.

Enchanted: Forest of Light Returns to Descanso Gardens

After not holding the event in 2020 due to the pandemic shutdown, the Descanso Gardens' Enchanted Forest of Light returned for its fifth year. This was a rare opportunity for families and friends to explore the gardens when they are illuminated by brilliant lights and enhanced with art installations. The one-mile walking experience is currently available through Jan. 9, 2022.

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STAR STORIES – VERDUGO HILLS CEMETERY

The Friends of Verdugo Hills Cemetery invites the community to a special viewing of the night sky from high atop a Tujunga hill at the Verdugo Hills Cemetery on Jan. 1 at 7 p.m. Historical stories of the stars will be presented by History Hunter, Craig Durst.

Attendees should wear warm clothes and bring a chair or blankets and pillows to lay on the ground for this tour through star lore.

This event is free and open to the public. Donations are welcomed and 100% of donations are dedicated to the construction of a Veterans' Tribute & Memorial on the Verdugo Hills Cemetery grounds.

Verdugo Hills Cemetery, 7000 Parsons Trail, Tujunga <https://friendsofverdugohillscemetery.com/>

LITTLE LANDERS PRESENTS HISTORY OF THE THEREMIN

On Jan. 8 at 1 p.m. the Little Landers Historical Society invites the community to the first of its 2nd Saturday programs in 2022. Come to Bolton Hall Museum to learn about the history of the Theremin, a mystical musical instrument that doesn't require "hands-on" for sound production.

This program is presented by filmmaker and lecturer Steven M. Martin and features "Theremin-An Electronic Odyssey," Martin's feature length film and winner of the Sundance Film Festival Filmmakers Award and more.

All are invited to experience a once in a lifetime opportunity to play this unique instrument.

This event is free and open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Bolton Hall Museum, home of Little Landers Historical Society,

10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

Additional information is available from Little Landers Historical Society, (818) 352-3420 or BoltonHall.org or email llhs@boltonhall.org.

VHHS PLANS REUNION

"Team 74" is planning a 50th high school reunion in 2024. Friends and graduates of Verdugo Hills High School are invited to attend to trade stories of family, careers, adventures and anything else.

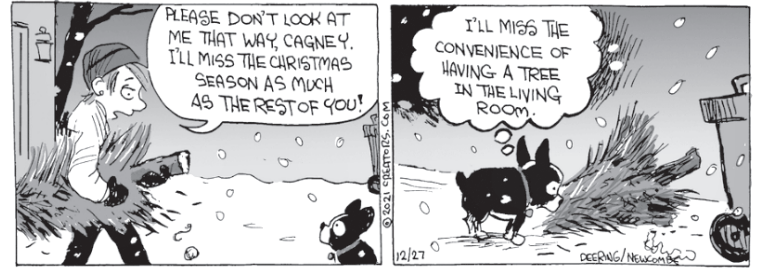
Currently Team 74 is in the planning phase of collecting names and numbers of classmates and putting together a database; emails from classmates can be received at clsof74reunion@yahoo.com. Information should include a mailing address, cell number and graduate's name at graduation (if different than now).

A list of frequently asked questions will be provided to keep everyone updated as the reunion plans move forward. Those who belong to various VHHS groups will see redundant information to ensure all classmates are

notified and have an opportunity to attend.

At this time the FB VHHS groups will be the reunion information outlet until a more focused site is created.

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com December 27, 2021 - January 2, 2022

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

With a packed health zone, you seem to be going out of your way to stay fit and well. If you're suffering from any ongoing symptoms, this is the time to get them checked and healed. Talk to people who can help, and get a second opinion if necessary. There could be a delay in getting test results. You might have to try a few times until you get them.

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Be realistic when it comes to training, exercising, and dieting. Don't bite off more than you can chew, to coin a phrase. The cosmos suggests that you may be punishing yourself, especially if you've felt guilty in the past about your weight or fitness. Take it slowly or you might give up completely. A personal trainer could provide the encouragement you need.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You may be trying to get your food situation sorted out by cooking healthful meals for you and your family. This is certainly something to aim for. It's worth any time spent in planning and preparation. Enlist the help of kids and partner to make the job easier. You'll find that you feel better, have more energy, and enjoy the opportunity to connect with your family at mealtimes.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

Stress over career issues seems to prevent you from feeling relaxed and peaceful. This, in turn, could be having a detrimental effect on your body, which will only increase over time. Look after yourself by balancing work and rest, eating well, sleeping properly, and getting some exercise. Daily workouts are excellent for renewing mind, spirit, and body. Don't be a workaholic. Be a "healthaholic" instead.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

If you want a toned body, it looks as though you're more than willing to pay in order to get it. The desire to look good in and out of your clothes is driving you to some more extreme measures. You might decide to buy some special equipment in order to get key areas of your body into shape. The cosmos indicates that you should check out the product reviews before buying anything.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

You could be taking two steps forward and one step back where your health is concerned. Perhaps you have an impossible ideal that you're working toward, yet you beat yourself up when you don't reach it. This won't give you the results you seek. Instead of aiming too high, set reachable goals. When

you reach those, then gradually raise the bar.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You could be feeling a lot of inner pressure, which can be expressed as physical symptoms. Now might be a good time to let go of any resentment. Find a way to heal the major issues, especially those that have been bugging you for a long time and perhaps eating at your conscience. The sooner you get to work on those, the more peaceful and energized you'll feel.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You could benefit from some hands-on healing or gentle massage. Therapeutic touch would also be good for you. You tend to suffer as a result of the stresses and strains of daily life, but after a healing session you'll feel immediately refreshed and better all over. Another way you can achieve a similar effect is to take a shower, which helps your spirit as it cleans your body.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Health issues don't seem to be too much of a problem right now, especially if you're willing to pace yourself. Your main problem at the present time may be stress. You're committed to getting ahead in your career. If you feel tense, it might help to create a stress-management plan.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You're learning how to deal with stress. You understand how important it is to listen to your body and pay attention to the messages it's trying to send you. You're very practical, so you'll quickly discover that you get rewarded when you look after yourself, and when you don't, well, you know what to expect!

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

The cosmos suggests that for the next week or so you'd benefit from eating simpler foods. If you can follow a cleansing diet of fruits, vegetables, juices, and water for a couple of days, you'll give your system a chance to rest and recuperate. You'll begin to feel much better, too. Try it and see.

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Your health seems to be clicking along just fine, but with aspects in your partnership zone, you might need to chill out and relax more. The cosmos indicates that you'd benefit from some spiritual or energy healing. You might also find that chakra balancing, acupuncture, acupressure, or other such therapies can help ease emotional issues that could be the cause of physical problems.

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Can I get a refund for these NFL tickets from Ticketmaster?

Lynne Larkin wants a refund or credit for tickets to an NFL game she purchased through Ticketmaster. The reason: The stadium changed its health protocols. But is that a valid reason?

Q I'm trying to get a refund or credit for NFL tickets I had to cancel. Earlier this year, I purchased tickets to the New Orleans Saints vs. Green Bay Packers game in Jacksonville, Florida.

The Ticketmaster site said to check each venue website for what safety measures will be in place for each event. The TIAA Stadium site said pod-distanced seating, distanced parking, full masking required and other extensive safety measures. So on that basis, I purchased my tickets. I have screenshots of the TIAA Stadium site.

Someone who works at the stadium told me on Facebook that this is incorrect. All seats are available. There's no distancing and no masking.

I don't feel safe attending a game under those circumstances. I decided to cancel my tickets and request a refund.

I asked for a refund once, but Ticketmaster didn't respond. Please help me get my \$402 back.

— Lynne Larkin, Vero Beach, Florida

A I think you should get a refund for those tickets. It's an unusual football season in several ways. The New Orleans Saints played their home opening game in Jacksonville after being displaced by Hurricane Ida. But COVID was also a factor.

The Ticketmaster site has a refund policy on its site, but it's not entirely clear. Full refunds, it states, will be available if the NFL or the team cancels a game and it can't be rescheduled. You can also get your money back if the game happens "under conditions that prohibit fans from attending."

The Ticketmaster site also notes that the season will be played "with stadiums at full capacity whenever possible."

Yes, that's confusing. How do you define "prohibit fans from attending?" If the stadium goes from full social distancing to "anything goes," does that count?

I imagine others are in your situation — caught between their health concerns and the ambiguities of cancellation rules. There's only one way to get the answer: You have to ask.

I reviewed your paper trail with Ticketmaster. It looks as if it didn't even acknowledge your first refund request. That's highly unusual. Typically, companies send an automated response when you file a complaint through their site. It looks like your first request didn't go through.

I recommended that you try one of the executive customer service contacts for Ticketmaster that I publish on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. That way, you can be sure that someone received your request.

And someone did. Ticketmaster promptly responded to you. It turns out that changing the health protocols at a stadium is grounds for a full refund. You received your money back for the tickets, minus the cost of insurance, and watched the game on TV instead.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer for Elliott Advocacy. Email him at chris@elliott.org or get help with any consumer problem by contacting him at <http://www.elliott.org/help>.

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PET OF THE WEEK

CV Weekly loves to hear about your pets!

Send a pic and small caption 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 1/20/2022 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Emily Rochelle Gossett; Sylvain Williammaximilian Dhabsburg (2 units); Gevorg Arakelyan. 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 December 30, 2021, January 6, 2022

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 1/20/2022 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Michael George Seifert; Keith Berton Ogle; Ean Anthony Loveless. 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 December 30, 2021, January 6, 2022.

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LCJC from page 18

Commerce President and CEO Pat Anderson and was presented with a commemorative certificate by Assemblymember Laura Friedman's Communications Director Blake Dellinger. Other attendees included community leaders, patrons and family

members as well as Chamber ambassadors who enjoyed a wide assortment of tasty treats, wine and champagne. Also attending the event were members of the 2021 La Cañada Flintridge Royal Court including Nadia Chung who was

recently crowned 2022 Rose Queen for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses. After the ribbon-cutting, guests enjoyed the facilities decorated with orchid arrangements while prize drawings were held for gift baskets containing beauty products, sweets and

merchandise surprises. Arakelian was trained in France before honing her craft locally for the past 34 years. For more information about the salon specializing in hair, nail and skin care, call (818) 523-6227 or email hairbyarpi@yahoo.com.

COVID from COVER

parent of a toddler as “one of the scariest colds you will get” because you aren’t certain if it is a cold or COVID-19.

“Yes, [patients] are sick and not feeling well and, of course, the first thing that comes to mind is ‘Oh, my goodness – I have COVID,’” Thomas said.

That uncertainty is why so many patients are coming into the ED for COVID testing, or even asking for treatment regardless whether or not they have COVID. These are called by some the “worried well.”

Those were the majority of patients who came a few weeks ago to the ED; they were either asymptomatic and just worried or had mild symptoms. However, that was then and this is now.

“We were seeing more patients who were concerned about their exposure or concerned about having COVID,” Thomas said.

They were coming in for reassurance.

“But those [numbers] have been rising. Just in the last couple of days we have seen the positivity rates increasing and so we expect, unfortunately, it will get worse,” Thomas said.

Many are coping with family, friends and co-workers who have tested positive for COVID. So when should you get tested and how long should you isolate?

“If you are fully vaccinated and boosted then you want to isolate for the first three to five days and then get tested. That is usually when people get infected,” said Dr. Kimberly Shriner, infectious disease specialist with Huntington Hospital.

There is some data that shows the antigen/rapid test, like the at-home test available for purchase (and very difficult to find at local stores), may not detect the omicron variant as successfully as they did the delta variant. However, they still do have a degree of success and are still useful.

“Rapid tests can be helpful especially if the [individual] is symptomatic,” Shriner said. “What they are not good at is picking up asymptomatic people. So you can have a negative rapid test but are still infecting others.”

The best test is the PCR (polymerase chain reaction) – known by many in the medical industry as the “gold standard” – which is usually administered at a testing site or medical facility but results may take longer to receive.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Monday shortened the amount of time that omicron positive people should isolate and quarantine. People who have tested positive should isolate for five days and, if asymptomatic at that time, need to follow up with wearing a mask around others for five days.

People who have been exposed to COVID-19 and are unvaccinated or it is more than six months since their second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or it is more than two months since the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, should quarantine for five days followed by strict mask use for an additional five days. People who have received their vaccine booster do not need to quarantine following an exposure but should wear a mask for 10 days after exposure.

And wear a more protective facemask, either KN95 or N95 [NIOSH certified], Shriner added, not just a cloth facemask.

JIULIE BUTCHER from page 12

Shower of Hope shut down its program to offer showers to Glendale’s homeless after only five months because the city insisted on verifying that the participants were homeless. (There was no requirement for this.) The organization suggested Glendale’s actions were based in racism.

“There was a misunderstanding on the city’s part,” said Onnig Bulanikian, Glendale’s director of community services and parks.

Me? I don’t believe the City’s actions were racist. I think they erred – true to form – on the side of bureaucratic ridiculousness as it is a city that overthinks. It’s a cautious burg, one that aims diligently to follow the rules, however arcane they might seem, and tries to make the best use of limited public resources.

Glendale has faced its history of racism and exclusion straight on, passing a resolution

acknowledging and apologizing for its history as a Sundown Town, the first California city and third in the U.S. to do so.

“Glendale was a cruel place; I have to tell you that,” Councilmember Ara Najarian said expressing his strong support for the resolution. “I’m shocked to see those redlined neighborhoods on the maps of neighborhoods I know, neighborhoods I drive through.” (Sept. 17, 2020, CV Weekly, “Resolution Passes Council Recognizing Glendale ‘Sundown Town’ History” and NBC Los Angeles “City of Glendale Apologizes for Its History as a ‘Sundown Town.’”)

Notwithstanding bold action adopting this anti-Sundown Town ordinance and publishing a detailed report on the city’s past, pledging organization-wide action to implement an anti-racist, inclusionary future, Glendale’s population as of the

2020 census is 1.6% African American. In 1980 it was 0.3%; in 1990 1.0%; and in 2000 and 2010, 1.3%.

Some other numbers from datacommons.org: Glendale’s population at 196,543 is the fourth largest city in Los Angeles County, 23rd largest in California, 25th among 6,406 U.S. cities in foreign-born residents. At 31 square miles, it has a population density of 6,450 persons per square mile. The average household income is \$66,130 and the poverty rate is 13.49%.

The city and homeless service organizations counted 243 unhoused Glendalians in 2019 according to the 2019 Homeless Count Report from the City of Glendale – and 169 in 2020, a reduction of 30%.

Way back when we could attend council meetings in person, local historian Michael Morgan told me the history of the

building of city hall.

“Delightful historic expert guy told me all about it, to my squealing delight! Glendale CH was built in three parts, an historically more thrifty municipality than its Burbank and Pasadena neighbors,” I shared in December 2018. Glendale City Hall is small and utilitarian, belying its Art Deco façade.

Glendale has done a lot right in the time I’ve been covering it. Last month, on a 3-2 vote, the council voted to harvest Scholl Canyon biogas for electricity rather than flare the gas, a tough but wise move.

Glendale electeds are proud of the roads and their maintenance. (“You notice when you drive into Glendale.”) (See March 28, 2019, CV Weekly, “Full Agenda for City Council,” my first story on the Glendale beat.)

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/VIEWPOINTS

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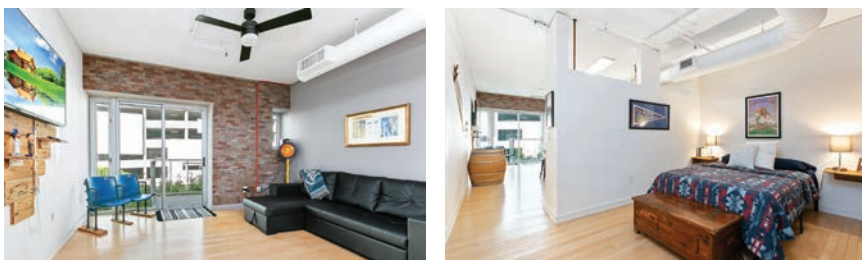


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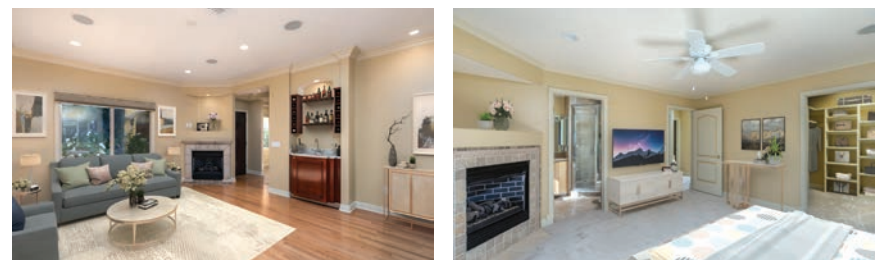
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Don't Miss Next Week's Q&A – Phyllis discusses “How to prepare to sell?”