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First of Seven City Budget Studies Held

By Julie BUTCHER

On Tuesday morning, the Glendale City Council held the first of seven budget study sessions, heard a third-quarter financial report, and previewed the budget for FY 2022-23 as well as five-year general fund projections.

According to the financial update for the third quarter of the current fiscal year, property, sales and the city's transient occupancy taxes are all trending upward – better than forecasted, city staff told the Council.

"And there have been some budget savings, thanks to every department stepping up," City Manager Roubik Golanian noted. "Our priorities remain housing, infrastructure, mobility, connectivity, safety and environmental stewardship."

Glendale Chief Information Officer Jason Bradford presented the financial report. The city continues to rebound from the pandemic, he said. Sales tax is up 17%; licenses and building permits are ticking up and the city expects to reduce the amount of federal recovery funds needed to balance the coming year's budget from \$14 to \$5 million, allowing the city to save the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) money for coming years. ARPA funds can be used for any COVID-related municipal costs including public safety and equipment.

The city will show a reserve of 32.5% at the end of this fiscal year in July.

"It's a pretty hefty reserve due to the Council's conservative approach, far higher than our neighbors," Golanian said. Pasadena and Burbank have reserves of 20%; Long Beach and Huntington Beach maintain reserves of two months of operational expenses, currently 16.7%; Santa Monica's reserve is 15%; Torrance's is 10%.

For FY 2022-23, the city is expecting revenue to increase by 3.7% and for expenditures to

see BUDGET on page 27

Local Non-Profits Offer Plenty of Weekend Fun

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

Whether in the mood for art, hometown fun, flamboyant fowl or a tasty bite, this weekend has something for everyone.

While most of us can quickly identify how the pandemic affected us personally – limited interaction and extensive face covering, for example – some may not realize how the pandemic affected not-for-profit organizations. Locally, organizations like Friends of Rockhaven, Prom Plus and the chambers of commerce weren't able to hold fundraisers or events that brought folks together.

But this weekend that changes with several events taking place that will benefit local non-profits.

This is the 16th year of the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce's Hometown Country Fair, an event taking place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Crescenta Valley Park, 3901 Dunsmore Ave. According to chamber president Mike Riley, the Fair was canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19.

"It is our largest fundraiser," he said.

Over the years, the Fair has become a highly-anticipated event for the entire community –



File photo

Classic cars on display will be one of the highlights of the 2022 Hometown Country Fair taking place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at CV Park.

though it has had its ups and downs.

"We had one year when we had to stop and evacuate in the middle of the event due to a tremendous downpour of rain and wind," recalled chamber executive director Steve Pierce. "The CV Sheriff [Station] ordered everyone to evacu-

ate the Park."

That was when the Fair was held in September; it typically is now held in April. Pierce said that in April there are lower temperatures and more involvement from school groups.

see HCF on page 9

Extreme Tree Trimming Questioned

By Mary O'KEEFE

Crescenta Valley is known for its abundance of rocks, as any gardener knows, and for its trees. Many residents have said they moved here because of the tree-lined streets.

In fact, over the years residents fought to maintain their forest-like atmosphere. The Los Angeles Tree Protection Ordinance that was originally established in 1980 has been amended along the way and was put in place to protect trees from overzealous developers. Most cities and the County of Los Angeles followed their their own ordinances. In La Crescenta, there was a spontaneous protest against a Foothill business that attempted to remove a Moreton Bay fig tree.

This mamma/papa bear protective attitude has often run into direct conflict with the state standards that Southern California Edison is required to follow.

SCE has been responsible for years for clearing limbs and removing trees from power lines but in 2017 the state standards for clearing tree limbs

see TREES on page 8



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Residents are questioning SCE and its policy regarding tree trimming, which many residents feel is excessive.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER



Resigned to the Way Things Are

The nation seems to be in the grip of the Great Resignation – that is the high number of employees either quitting their jobs or not returning to the employment they had prior to the pandemic.

The reasons for this are quite varied: among them are complaints of low pay, lack of opportunity and growth, and an overall feeling of being disrespected. The infusion of money by California and national government probably also fueled this exodus out of the job market. According to the Pew Research Center in a March 2022 article, the nation’s “quit rate” hit a 20-year high in November.

The effects of this are widespread. Small businesses (like CV Weekly) can’t compete with businesses that are able to offer enticements like higher wages to attract workers. Thankfully, our staff here has chosen to remain dedicated to the newspaper that is the community’s favorite though some of our best writers are finding greener pastures.

For us this has always been the case. Basically we train our writers and photographers, give them a byline (and little money) and before long they’re picked up by bigger publications. I’ve accepted that is just the case with a small town newspaper. I’m grateful for the time they’ve been with us; their writing and photography skills have helped CV Weekly become the reliable, trusted source of local news for nearly (gulp!) 13 years. But it still is hard to see them go.

The Great Resignation has also resulted in a shortfall of help that has touched non-profits. For example,

this Sunday is the Taste of Montrose benefiting Prom Plus. I initially thought restaurants would embrace the chance to welcome back diners and would want to show off their fare. But what I’ve found is, due to staffing challenges, I haven’t gotten the high number of restaurants to participate that I expected. When asked why that is, I typically get, “I have no one to work it.” (Note that Prom Plus has volunteers who will gladly serve their samples whether at their brick-and-mortar or in our food court.)

I don’t know if you’ve noticed the high number of Help Wanted signs around town, too. Whether in supermarkets, restaurants or retail shops, signals of the Great Resignation can be found at nearly every outlet. But I wonder: with inflation on the rise, how are these people going to earn the money it takes to pay for rent, food and other necessities? Is it going to turn out that the decisions to quit their jobs will backfire, causing workers to reconsider and actually return to their former employer to see if they can get back their old job?

I for one don’t know the answer to that prickly question. However, what I do know is how grateful I am for the folks who have stood firm next to me at CV Weekly. The Great Resignation is a roller-coaster ride that I don’t want to get on.

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

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Weather in the Foothills

“As one dies so dies the other; indeed, they all have the same breath and there is no advantage for man over beast” (or butterfly).

New American Standard Bible, Ecclesiastes 3:19

About a decade ago, my husband gave up the arduous task of mowing the grass that runs the length at the back of our property. The drought was the deciding factor in such a bold move. The constant sprinkler management was daunting. The lush green had slowly turned into an intermingled variety of grasses marked by brown patches (we wouldn’t point any paws here!) so was ripped out. Now in its place is a garden, mostly native and somewhat non-thirsty perennial plants have overtaken the yard ... bye-bye fescue! Since then, other flowers and plants have blown in on the wind or were brought in by pollinators ... or were ones given as nice-husband gifts. One of those is milkweed – the staple food of monarch caterpillars.

Every year, as spring weather dominates the leftover winter, I watch eagerly for caterpillars to inhabit our milkweed. This year, I decided to take the matter out of Mother Nature’s hands and raise the caterpillars into butterflies myself. I had no idea what a passion it would become! The miraculous metamorphosis that plays out within their netted enclosure!

Monarchs are in dire need of human intervention. Their numbers have been dramatically decreasing – declining 80% in the past 20 years. The population is now far too low for comfort – meaning an early winter storm during their migration has the potential to wipe out the entire species.

The plight of the honeybee is one with which you may be more familiar and the monarch, as a fellow pollinator, has also suffered harm as a result of environmental change, pesticide use and habitat loss. So what can you do to help ensure monarchs are around for future generations? Obsessed with these flying miniature stained-glass windows, I have spoken to groups (especially children). Next week, I’ll continue with more butterfly information.

Good news ... the monarch population is rebounding. The winter before last, the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation recorded in California fewer than 2,000 monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*). That’s a fraction of the tens of thousands that gathered in recent years. In the 1980s, monarchs wintering in California numbered in the millions. During the winter of 2021-22 monarch butterflies migrating to California made a promising rebound from the edge of extinction. Numbers went over 100,000 for this season!

No rain on the radar for the upcoming week. Warm days and cool nights. Temperatures are expected to be warm in the valleys and cooler along the coast. Just about perfect weather for both man and butterfly alike!

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

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

CVCA TO MEET APRIL 28

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its monthly meeting tonight, April 28 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting will include discussion on local issues as well as an opportunity for foothill area residents to bring their own concerns. Contact the CVCA at crescentavallecommunityassn@gmail.com with questions and for Zoom meeting information.

All are welcome.

BETTY PORTO HONORED

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, with the Commission for Women, will hold its 37th Annual Women of the Year Commemorative Celebration Luncheon on Monday, May 9.

This year, 12 exceptional women will be recognized at the themed event "A Time of Reverence, Hope and Action" for their work to bring about social and economic change. The luncheon will be held at the Sheraton Grand Los Angeles in Downtown Los Angeles. Among those being recognized is Betty Porto, vice president and director of Community Relations for Porto's Bakery and Café.

Registration and check-in will open at 10:30 a.m. and the event will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. For more information to become a sponsor or for those who have questions about this event, please contact Commission staff at laccw@bos.lacounty.gov or (213) 974-1431.

ARMENIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM LAUNCHES YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

The Armenian American Museum and Cultural Center of California has launched a new Young Professionals Committee to promote the mission of the museum, connect young professionals throughout the community and empower the next generation of leaders. The inaugural members of the Young Professionals Committee include Eric Davidian, Sarine Hajjar, Maria Kevorkian, Lana Minassian, Sera Najarian, Ani Nalbandian, Deanna Nazarian, Aleen Ohanian, Arman Ohanian, Natalie Orphali, Katia Orphali and Orzhen Rushanyan.

For more information, visit <https://www.ArmenianAmericanMuseum.org/YP>.

PORTANTINO BILL PASSES SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senate Bill 1255, a measure introduced by Senator Anthony J. Portantino and inspired by the Glendale Environmental Coalition that seeks to reduce waste in K-12 schools and community colleges, passed the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday. SB 1255 would establish a dishwasher grant program to address the state's single-use trash and waste crisis.

Commercial dishwashers use little water, heat to high temperatures for complete sanitation, dry quickly and are fast and energy efficient, lowering the number of single used products.

see BRIEFS on page 8

A Grand Centennial for Verdugo Hills Cemetery

By Mary O'KEEFE

After many, many hours of weed pulling, organizing, fundraising, sweeping, raking and backbreaking boots-on-the-ground volunteering, the Verdugo Hills Cemetery celebrated its grand centennial event on Saturday.

Craig Durst took the lead in not only developing a vision to restore and repair the historical cemetery but he also organized volunteers in addition to performing a lot of outreach to bring respect to this neglected cemetery high on a hill in Tujunga.

The centennial event included walking tours and video presentations of the cemetery's past including the 1978 flood that devastated the cemetery. The "Hills of Peace" cemetery, as it was known, was established in 1922 when local pioneer Marshall Hartranft donated a four-acre parcel of land in Tujunga for his friend Parson James Wornum, who had died that year. Wornum and his wife, known as "Aunt" Jenny, were laid to rest at the cemetery.

The cemetery has struggled for years with mismanagement by caretakers, some who lived on the cemetery grounds, but it was the flood that most remember.

In 1978 the area received a lot of rain, which caused a flood. The cemetery overall was affected but the southwest area gave way causing caskets and, in some cases, human remains to float down the hillside, mixed in mud and rainwater.

The remains were found in local neighborhood yards and as far away as Foothill Boulevard businesses. No one wanted to take responsibility for this tragedy as jurisdiction lines were discussed and debated but Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas Noguchi wanted to do something to help. He arrived with some volunteers and began finding and categorizing the remains. A video of what he witnessed and why he responded the way he did was shared at the centennial event.

The flood's aftermath is a gruesome tale but, for families of loved ones whose final resting place was disturbed, it was painful and frustrating. Many came after the flood in an attempt to try to find their loved one's headstone and hoped the remains were still in place.

In 1966 Jay Johnson was 6 years old when his mother, Earline, passed away. She was buried in the south area of the cemetery but when the flood occurred no one knew where their loved ones were – including Earline's family.

Johnson came to the cemetery with his dad immediately to make sure his mom's grave was still there. He described the scene as a chaotic "mess."

"My dad brought me here," Johnson said. "There used to be an A-frame building here." He referred to a building that once stood at the location and was used for funerals in the 1960s.

"The hills were gone," he said. "The [building] was full of head plates [markers]. We were [finally] able to find hers."

They placed the marker on her gravesite and, throughout the years, Johnson has tried to keep an eye on the grave.

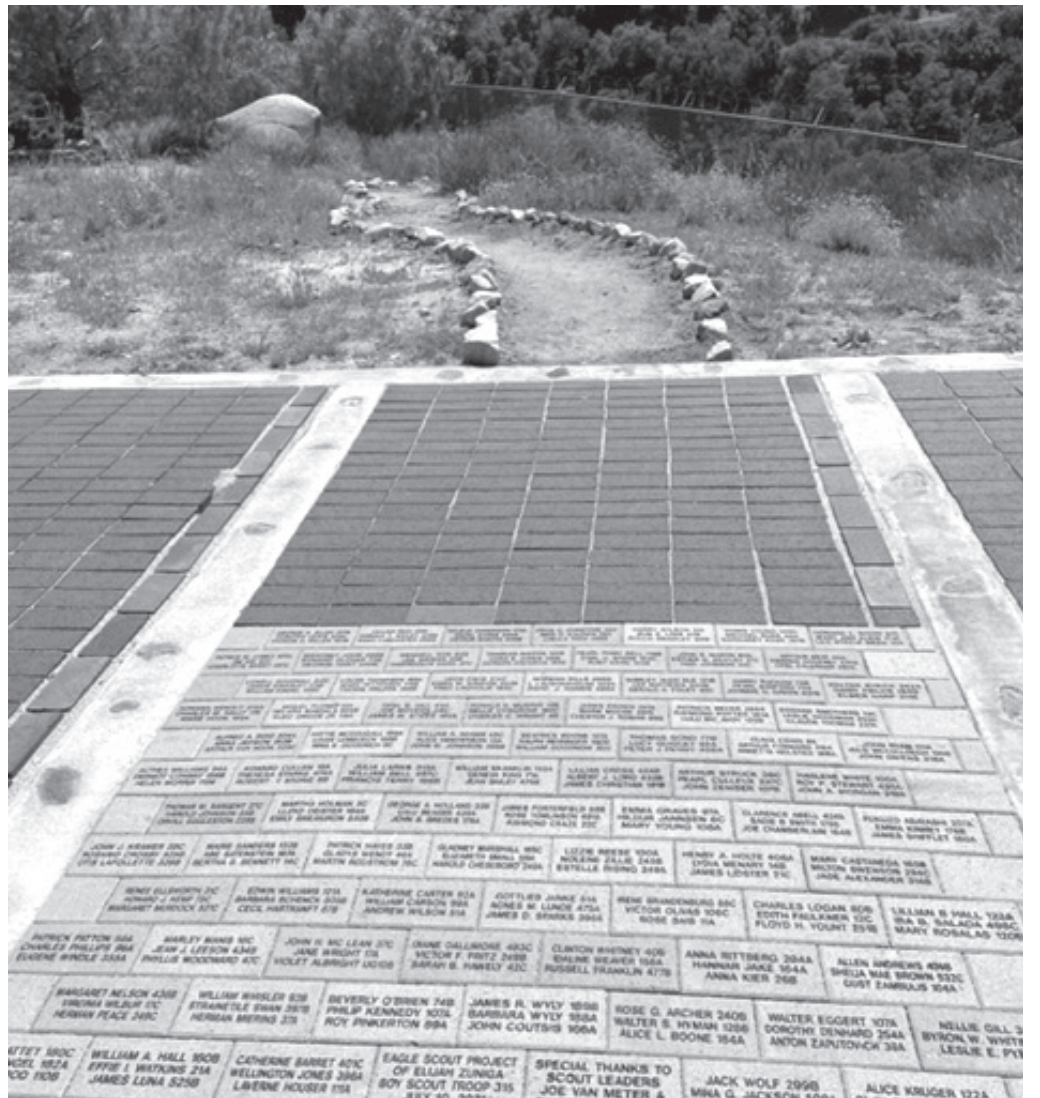
"About two or three years later, there was a family living here in a motorhome," he said.

He said many times he could not get onto the property because those in charge of it changed; he said it was really a hit and miss if he was able to get into the cemetery. There were times when caring people would let him in, and then other times the gates were just closed.

Now he feels the cemetery has gained respect, thanks to Durst and the Friends of Verdugo Hills Cemetery.

"I am so glad at what they have done," he said. "I brought flowers and [placed] them on her grave."

Dennis and Debbie Cant found a cousin's name



while searching the website findagrave.com.

"It was [Dennis'] cousin twice removed," Debbie said.

Dennis' cousin Raymond Craze was buried on the far southwest side of the cemetery that is now beyond the fenced area and where the hillside is located that was most affected by the flooding.

"We think [his remains] probably went down the hill," she said. "He died in 1967."

Durst had some problems finding the records of people like Raymond. He said oftentimes the way records were attained was by asking people who lived in the area if they had anyone buried at Verdugo Hills Cemetery. The disorganization and bad management over time had not left much information to go on. The remains that were found after the flood were placed in an area but were not organized and, consequently, many not identified.

With the information Durst found he and members of the Friends of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery created some gravestones and bricks with the name and date of death, when known, engraved on the bricks. These were then placed throughout the cemetery, including by the now reconstituted mausoleum. The bricks are a fundraiser that will raise money for continued projects at the cemetery.

It was one of these bricks the Cants found on the website. Dennis said this meant so much to him that his cousin is respected.

"It feels like [Raymond] is home,"

Debbie added.

That is at the center of Durst's work – not only to give a name to those who were ignored and lost for so long, but also to give those whose final resting place was at the cemetery the respect that both they and their families deserve.

There are still bricks available for purchase and still work that needs to be done as Friends of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery have many more projects they would like to complete. To find how to help visit <https://friendsofverdugohillscemetery.com>.

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Bricks engraved with the name and date of death have been installed throughout the cemetery. Purchasing bricks is an ongoing fundraiser that raises money to pay for improvements on the property.

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Full Agenda Greet In-Person CVTC Meeting

By Justin HAGER

The Crescenta Valley Town Council welcomed the public back to the La Crescenta Library last week for its first regular in-person meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic eliminated large in-person gatherings more than two years ago.

The meeting began with a solemn ceremony as Councilmember Frida Baghdassarian presented the

Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) –Crescenta Valley Chapter with a Resolution of Solidarity and remembrance of the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The resolution, signed by Council President Harry Leon on behalf of the entire council, recognized both the historic and ongoing impact of the Genocide committed against the people of Armenia and the Armenian diaspora around the world and proclaimed a day of remembrance thereof.

Following the ceremony, a more celebratory note took hold of the meeting as the council congratulated the newly named captain of the Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station, Robert Hahnlein. Hahnlein provided an update on crime in the area including an elder abuse case that led to an arrest for assault, and several catalytic converter thefts. With the success of the department's catalytic converter stamping/etching event earlier this year, Hahnlein said he is working to arrange a similar event in the future to help prevent catalytic converter thieves from stealing and then selling the converters.

Continuing the theme of law enforcement, Mike Baldwin shared the success of the American Legion and VFW in distributing more than

600 Operation Gratitude care packages to first responders throughout the region. And Paul Dutton announced exciting new opportunities for additional emergency preparedness training as part of his ongoing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

Jason Hauser of LA County Parks and Recreation also reported rare criminal activity at Two Strike Park after maintenance crews were forced to clean graffiti from the bathroom doors and walls. He reminded the public to lock their car doors and keep valuables out of sight to avoid rewarding opportunistic criminals.

The bulk of the meeting's time was spent on a presentation and discussion with Shirley Lai of LA County Public Works. Lai provided a second presentation on the partnership between Los Angeles County and cities of Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge to gather community input on possible active transportation upgrades to Foothill Boulevard. No plans or proposals have been made yet as the county and its local government partners are currently in the process of gathering public input, but ideas submitted thus far include the installation of new bike lanes, high visibility crosswalks and raised medians. In order to gather input from a variety of community sources, the county



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Robin Goldsworthy Publisher and Editor-in-Chief robin@cvweekly.com		
Mary O'Keefe Lead Reporter mary@cvweekly.com		
Designers Steve Hernandez Senior Artist steve@cvweekly.com	Columnists Mike Lawler lawlerdad@yahoo.com	
Matthew Barger matt@cvweekly.com	Sue Kilpatrick suekilpatrick@gmail.com	
Contributors		
Bethany Brown • Julie Butcher • Rev. Beverly Craig Lori Bodnar • Justin Hager • Brandon Hensley Susan James • Charly Shelton Anne McNeill, proofreader		
Advertising		
Chuck Holler (818) 468-2956 chuck@cvweekly.com	Jon K. (818) 248-2740 jon@cvweekly.com	Sonya Marquez (818) 381-2000 sonya@cvweekly.com
		Lisa Stanners (818) 523-1234 lisa@cvweekly.com
Office Manager/Inside Sales Rachelle Miller rachelle@cvweekly.com		
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is providing multiple opportunities for interaction with project planners and managers including an online survey, waking and biking audits, and outreach events like their presentation to the town council. More can be learned about the project, including viewing the existing conditions report, and sign up for updates about the project by visiting: pw.lacounty.gov/tpp/foothillsblvdattp/. The Foothill ATP project is a separate project from the bike lanes currently being installed on Foothill near Highway 2. That project was approved and funded several years ago by the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

Following the presentation, the council discussed the project at length and asked LA County Public Works to return to a future CVTC meeting for future presentations, informational updates and input from the council and public. Public comment also focused on the issue of street and traffic safety after two members of the public spoke about the prevalence of speeding cars in the community and the loss of a beloved pet due to a hit-and-run driver.



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ELECTIONS 2022

The Candidates Respond

In our ongoing efforts to better acquaint our readers with the candidates they'll be voting on in June, CV Weekly posed three questions to each of the candidates running for Assembly District 44, State Senate District 20 and Assembly District 52. Note that we may have had to limit their responses due to space limitations. Candidates' responses are listed alphabetically by first name.

To learn more about each candidate consider visiting their websites.

1. Briefly how long have you lived in Assembly District 44/ State Senate District 20/Assembly District 52?

2. What is the most pressing issue facing the specific district you will represent if elected?

3. What is the single most important experience you will bring to your office if elected?

Candidates for Assembly District 44

Barry Jacobsen

1. I was born in the 44th, in North Hollywood, and raised in the Valley. I moved back in 2017, having lived in other parts of the country and the state.

2. Homelessness and rising crime have made our streets and parks unsafe for our mothers and children. Our property values (the largest investment most Californians make) and quality of life are threatened by bad zoning policies that allow high-density, low-income housing into our neighborhoods. Small businesses are fighting to stay viable with rising taxes and cost of materials in an inflationary economy, while bad state policies drive jobs out of state.

3. My decades of experience as a businessman and small business owner has taught me how the private sector works: how jobs are created and what it takes to build a business. And, just as importantly, how to balance a budget: we must stop spending money we don't have! My years of military service have given me the leadership skills to fight and win the battles ahead for the people of the 44th District.

Laura Friedman

1. I've lived in Los Angeles since 1992, and in the 44th Assembly District since 2000.

2. Housing affordability and homelessness are huge and growing crises. While we are adding some units, rents and home prices continue to skyrocket, forcing many of our seniors, young people, and workers to leave the area, face long commutes or be financially overburdened.

We need to find a way to make housing, both rental and ownership, more affordable. But we also need to be careful to put forward solutions that are compatible with the neighborhoods we cherish. Since being elected, I've worked to increase our affordable housing stock, voted to invest billions of dollars in funds towards homelessness services and fought hard to make sure those living on

our streets have access to the care and services they need.

Our district also prioritizes our environment, slowing climate change; combatting air, water and plastic pollution, and preventing the destruction of open space and wildlife habitats. Many of our neighborhoods are at extreme wildfire risk. As an Assemblymember, I've proven to be an environmental champion. I've taken on tough fights around plastic waste, fossil-fuel use and the protection of our fragile ecosystems. I've authored key wildfire prevention measures, and secured millions of dollars to give communities and firefighters the resources they need to keep us safe.

3. I have years of proven experience working effectively as a community volunteer and an elected official who knows how to build consensus and respond to the needs of constituents.

<https://www.votelaorafriedman.com/>

Candidates for State Senate District 20

Caroline Menjivar

1. I have lived in the San Fernando Valley my entire life, except for when I was on active duty serving in the Marine Corps. I spent my youth in Reseda and attended Reseda High School, then went on to earn my bachelor's degree from Cal State Northridge.

2. This area has been affected by wildfires, drought, terrible air pollution, a natural gas leak and record-breaking hot summers. We have one of the highest rates of children with asthma caused by poor air quality, inequitable access to park space and an urgent need to shut down local gas storage facilities.

I will hold corporations that do the most polluting accountable. I will focus on ensuring communities most affected get the resources needed for cleanup efforts and work to bring public health dollars to combat this crisis. I will work with our state parks department to identify areas in park-poor communities for potential open-space opportunities.

3. It is my lived experiences both personally and professionally. I have been involved with this community in various ways for close to 15 years and have seen firsthand the gaps in resources for certain communities compared to others. I believe this area needs a state senator who has lived experience of the crises our residents face every day. I know what it's like to overcome difficult odds and adversity and recognize the variables that played a role in getting me to the place I am today, like quality public education, access to green spaces, and supportive community resources.

<https://www.carolinemenjivar.com>

Daniel Hertzberg

1. I am a product of the San Fernando Valley. As is my mother and most of my family. I was born and raised in the district, and I have called it my home ever since. My parents' generation are all products

of local valley schools. I'm running for the state senate to fight day and night on behalf of working families and local neighborhoods across the Valley.

2. As the homelessness crisis worsens, it's clear we need a proactive approach to homelessness and housing insecurity in our district. I'll fight to expand home loans to those in lower income brackets so working families can start accumulating generational wealth and push to invest in comprehensive preventative care like mental health, addiction and emergency services, as well as relaxing rules in shelters to eradicate barriers for unhoused people.

3. What distinguishes me is my wide-ranging lived experience, from my background in government to my past as a minimum wage worker. I know what it's like to live paycheck to paycheck while struggling to pay student loans and rising rents. I started out cleaning hotel rooms and scrubbing toilets, quickly forcing me to learn the dignity of work outside of government. I worked my way up in hospitality and became a manager. My experience working outside of government has given me a unique perspective on working people in the modern age that many in this position do not have. I am committed to bringing this millennial, policy focused perspective to the state senate.

www.hertzbergforsenate.com

Seydi Morales

1. I have lived in the San Fernando Valley my entire life and bought my first home nearly 10 years ago in Reseda, where I continue to live. The redistricting commission finalized district lines in December 2021 and Reseda was included in the newly renumbered Senate District 20.

2. The most pressing issue for our communities today is addressing homelessness. Since the start of the pandemic, the numbers of homeless individuals, families and students has increased by more than 14%. I plan to bring resources directly to our homeless members, by first addressing the root issues that make homelessness chronic.

Access to mental and physical health resources is imperative. We must get trained people on the ground (i.e., social workers, counselors, psychologists, nurses) to address the growing health and financial needs of these communities. Once these needs are addressed, I will work closely with the Department of Housing and affordable housing entities to connect our homeless community with access to permanent housing options that are affordable and sustainable.

3. The most important experience I will bring as a state senator is that of being a single mother with a career of nearly 20 years as a social worker, marriage and family therapist, and now attorney. Throughout my career, I have learned the value of active listening, constructive

communication and problem solving. As a state senator, I will utilize these experiences to ensure that I represent my district and bring needed resources and policy to tackle issues throughout each individual community.

<https://www.seydiforsenate.com>

Candidates for Assembly District 52

Gia D'Amato

1. I have lived in CA Assembly District 52 all of my life except for one year – that would be 59 years.

2. There are various issues that must be addressed in our district but none of them can be properly dealt with if our current leadership remains in office. With that said, eradicating the majority of the self-serving, unConstitutional, unAmerican and unGodly leadership is top priority.

3. The single most important experience that I will bring to my office if elected is the 100% application of the U.S. Constitution. www.giafor2022.com

Mia Livas Porter

1. My family and I have lived in Elysian Valley for 16 years and love our warm, multi-generational, diverse community where neighbors look out for one another.

2. After speaking with countless residents and attending neighborhood council meetings across the district, the issue that has resoundingly come up most

has been affordable housing/our unhoused community. The cost of living in California is too high. We have the highest housing wage in the country. Housing should ideally comprise no more than 1/3 of your annual income, yet low-income workers must hold two-three jobs to afford a place to live. These are failures of policy. Our government must intervene with a multi-pronged solution of increasing housing density, requiring a percentage of affordable units in new builds and investing in community and transition services.

3. Through volunteering with Moms Demand Action, I saw the power of grassroots activism. By collaborating together, there was space for self-care and balance – which made it easier for people to commit to this movement. It's not only many hands making light work, but seeing how each act mattered – and that our voices united can make change. I want to bring that mentality to my role when elected.

One reason I ran for office was because I felt that our incumbent was ignoring her constituents. I want to work with my constituents and empower them to use their voices at town halls or monthly meetings with local activists leaders to collaborate and find solutions together for issues impacting our district.

www.MiaForAssembly.com

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Veterans Thank Local First Responders through Operation Gratitude

By Bethany BROWN

Veterans from the American Legion Post 288 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1614 in La Crescenta, along with the Los Angeles Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), partnered with Operation Gratitude to package and deliver gift bags to local first responders throughout the month of April.

The Glendale Police Dept., Glendale Fire Dept., Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, and all other LA County fire stations in the Crescenta Valley were included in this round of deliveries with a total of 768 packages being distributed.

Operation Gratitude is a non-profit organization that provides care packages filled with items

donated by Americans across the country who want to express their support and gratitude for heroes whether overseas or here at home. This includes deployed troops, first responders, military families, recruit graduates, veterans, wounded heroes and caregivers.

"While we recognize the sacrifice those serving in our armed forces make, we also know there are millions of first responders serving here at home that help to keep our people safe," the organization emphasized.

With that, The First Responder Care Pouch Program was added to their agenda in 2017 and, since then, more than 500,000 pouches have been delivered to over 700 departments throughout the country.

The first responder pouches



are specially designed to fit in a squad car or locker and are filled with a variety of high-quality items for the recipients who are always on the move. Items include, among other things, energy shots, protein bars, cleaning wipes specifically designed for firefighters, lip balm, sunscreen, sweet treats and handmade quick-deploy paracord bracelets.

Lt. Colonel David Worley, Los Angeles Chapter Commander of MOWW, said they have a great appreciation for first responders and law enforcement.

"We're a big proponent of law and order and our fire and paramedic [departments] and so forth," Worley said. "Most veteran organizations are immensely appreciative of these individuals and have programs in place to show that. We're grateful to partner with Operation Gratitude to extend our appreciation."

Worley stressed the motto that MOWW members ("companions") have lived by since its establishment in 1919: "It is nobler to serve than to be served."

"This is our opportunity to

thank them for their excellence because they reflect the same values that we do as military members in putting public service first and giving back to the community," Worley said. "We're very proud to be able to recognize these individuals and organizations that continue to put their communities first every day."

Photos courtesy of Dick CLUBB Lynn McGinnis, (right), judge advocate, and Mike Baldwin, (left), adjutant, both with American Legion Post 288, hands Operation Gratitude packages to members of the Glendale Police Dept.

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Drowning Deemed an Accident

On April 6, emergency responders were called to the Verdugo Hills YMCA concerning a possible drowning. According to the LA County Coroner's Office, the victim was a 77-year-old woman. They have determined the death an accident caused by drowning.

Vince Iuculano, chief executive officer of the YMCA of the Foothills, released the following statement.

"Over the last 64 years, the YMCA of the Foothills has taught hundreds of thousands of people to swim and enjoy the water

safely. Ensuring all children and adults are safe in the pool is a top priority for our YMCA. The safety and security of all members, employees, families, visitors and volunteers is the highest priority for the YMCA of the Foothills. We place great attention and energy on providing communities with a safe environment, and we will continue to do our utmost to protect everyone who visits the Y.

"The YMCA of the Foothills continues to mourn the loss of our member Geghetsik Avdalyan, 77, of Tujunga. Geghetsik was a member for seven years and

enjoyed using the Y with her husband and daughter.

Geghetsik died on April 6, 2022, while using the pool at the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA in the presence of her family. To date, our internal review shows that our staff acted immediately and appropriately. The lifeguard, along with other staff, immediately began life-saving efforts until the Los Angeles Fire Dept. paramedics arrived and took over the life-saving procedures. During and after the medical emergency, YMCA staff was with the family members."

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Obituary

Robert J. Wells



1939 - 2022

Robert James Wells, 82, passed away suddenly but peacefully following a four-month illness. The only child of Clarence and Sophie Wells, Bob grew up in New Hampshire. Enlisting in the U.S. Army after high school, he was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas until early 1962 when he came to California.

Bob enrolled in Western State College of Engineering in Inglewood and earned his degree in 1967. In his early years, his interests were hiking, photography and tennis.

A longtime resident of La Crescenta, Bob worked as a technical writer in the aero space industry throughout the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s including at General Electric, Telos and

Jet Propulsion Lab. One career highlight was at Daytona Beach, Florida where he worked as a download specialist for the Apollo Program.

In his middle years, Bob started collecting books, beads, tools and corks – often hosting cork parties.

Bob had a lifetime passion for wine education. It was the heyday for wine and food knowledge in the 1980s and 1990s in California. For Bob, it was wine classes, tastings, festivals, winemaker dinners and, often with his girlfriend, visiting wineries and tasting rooms. For decades, he was a member of The Society of Wine Educators and other wine groups.

In 2007, he joined Person & Covey, a Glendale dermatology company, as a technical writer, customer service and documentarian specialist. In his later years he enjoyed NASCAR, golf charity fundraisers and doing research on the Internet.

Bob was a warm, generous person, a people person who valued attention to detail; he led a multi-faceted life.

He is survived by cousins in New Hampshire, his girlfriend Marvel Simbach, associates and friends in California. A celebration of a life is planned for summer.

Obituary

Sylvia Gene Fogle Simson



Aug. 2, 1923 - April 1, 2022

Sylvia Gene Fogle Simson passed away on April 1 in her beloved La Cañada home that she and her late husband, architect Jack H. Simson, built in 1947.

She was born on Aug. 2, 1923 in Cincinnati, Ohio to Samuel and Crystal Fogle, the oldest of two girls. After finishing high school, she attended the University of Cincinnati, graduating with degrees in accounting and engineering. While working to help with the war effort at the university, she met her husband-to-be Jack. They were married a year later in April 1947. She and Jack moved to Pasadena and soon after bought a lot in La Cañada where they started to build their forever home and where she lived until her passing.

Sylvia was a past member of Shakespeare Juniors, past president of Women's Architectural League of Pasadena and Architectural League California. She volunteered in the La Cañada schools and also served as PTA president and Girl Scout leader.

During her children's high school years Sylvia worked at Parson's Engineering in Pasadena

as well as in Jack's office. She was a Sunday school teacher at the Church of the Lighted Window as well as a member of the Assistance League of La Cañada since 1969.

She and Jack with partners developed and built the receiving towers on Mount Wilson (Comfac, Inc.) working as treasurer and part time secretary. She also worked as treasurer of Southern California Adding Machine Co. and served many years as secretary of the La Taza Corporation in her neighborhood. Sylvia and Jack worked side by side for decades in their architectural office on Foothill Boulevard that also served as headquarters for Comfac, Inc.

Sylvia had incomparable joy for life, her faith, her family and friends and she lived to the fullest. She loved traveling, hosting family parties, tennis and her dogs. She and Jack were married 62 years until his passing in 2009.

Her faith in God and her garden were also her passions and her house and garden were always the gathering place for family and friends.

She leaves behind three children: Dayl (Simison) Kiesendahl and husband Jeff of La Cañada, Eric Simison and wife Jennifer of La Verne, Brett Simison and wife Ingrid of Maui; eight grandchildren: Rion Zimmerman, Kori Icardo, Brittany Aspey, Jason Simison, Jolyn Thompson, Travis Simison, Erin Rose and Crystal Judd and 22 great grandchildren. A public memorial service will be held on July 9 at 2 p.m. at the Congregational Church in La Cañada. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Hansi Ministries, P.O. Box 5471, Kailu Kona, Hawaii, 96745 or to the Pasadena Humane Society.

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TREES from Cover

from power lines changed from four feet to a recommendation of 12 feet. This prompted SCE to create its Grid Safety and Resiliency Plan in order to meet this new standard.

More attention has turned to utility companies and their practices after PG&E pled guilty on charges of involuntary manslaughter and unlawfully starting the 2018 Camp Fire.

Two residents of the Briggs Terrace area recently reached out to CVW concerned about the aggressive tree trimming that has been occurring at their homes in the 5800 block of Irving Avenue. While they support the need to clear trees and debris from electrical wires and action to prevent wildfires, they questioned the methodology of how tree removal for fire protection is evaluated and processed.

Steve Toley said he has been patient as crews contracted with SCE have trimmed many of his trees in the front and side of his property but, as the trimming became more extreme, he began to question whether the company's goal was to trim or destroy his trees.

"This tree is not near the power lines," Toley said as he pointed to the top of a tree. "My trees have been trimmed 10 times in the last two years."

His neighbor said one of his trees that is at the edge of his front yard had been deeply cut back about six times just this year.

"I have contacted five different people at [SCE]. They keep rotating those [contacts]," Toley added.

His neighbor estimates that about 40% of his 100-year-old oak tree has now been trimmed.

Both residents said they have been in contact with the management of the SCE contracted tree trimming company and each time it was not explained why SCE needed to trim so aggressively. They were only told that, by law, SCE has the right.

In 2012, AB 2556 was introduced to help residents with

their issues on extreme trimming; this was prior to the extended 12-foot recommendation. The bill would have required each "electrical corporation and local publicly owned electric utility to avoid excessive tree trimming that threatens the health of a tree, to make a good faith effort to implement good forestry practices and vegetation management practices and to preserve the health of the mountainous lands, forest-covered lands and brush covered lands," according to the bill.

It would have also required the utility company to obtain the written confirmation by an arborist of the need to remove a tree. The bill died in committee.

SCE does have an arborist who has in the past answered some of the questions of Toley and his neighbor; however, it is often contradictory to that of the private arborist they have reached out to.

Toley added a few years ago they were complaining about the aggressive trimming and SCE held a community meeting.

"That seemed to help," Toley said. "Things got better."

But then what many residents considered extreme trimming returned, as did communication issues, including residents not being told when crews were showing up. SCE stated it sent notices far in advance of the trimming but Toley said there have been several occasions when he or his neighbor have come home to find their trees were cut or crews were in the process.

"When you call [Los Angeles] County Board of Supervisors with a tree issue they forward you to a vegetation management [person]," Toley said.

He added he has attempted to get a response from that vegetation management person and left several messages but has yet to hear back.

CVW has been with SCE crews that included an arborist, and where notifications had been received by residents. The trimming was to the recommended levels and SCE officials were

on-site to answer concerns from residents; however, SCE contractors are not all created the same and some, as is alleged by Toley, are not as accommodating.

"At Southern California Edison, the safety of our customers, employees and communities is our number one priority, and managing vegetation around our equipment is one of the ways we help mitigate the potential risk of a significant wildfire. We take the health and well-being of each tree seriously when considering the best way to keep them a safe distance from high voltage power lines and other electrical equipment," said Reggie Kumar, SCE spokesman. "Recently, SCE contractors were performing tree maintenance with overhanging branches that posed a significant risk to power lines. It is our practice to communicate with property owners regularly when we perform vegetation work on their property. We understand some customers have concerns about this type of work but it is important to maintaining the safety and reliability of our system. We encourage all our customers to schedule an inspection by calling SCE at 800-655-4555 if they have concerns about vegetation near power lines."

The question as to why it would take six or more trimming trips by the tree service was not answered and is still an issue with Toley.

Toley was quick to say that he is not questioning the need to keep debris and trees limbs from power lines as a means to protect against wildfires, but the aggressive trimming can lead to possibly damaging the health of the tree and that is at the center of the concern.

If the trees are removed either by SCE crews or, due to the trimming, cause the tree's health to decline there is the question of what problems the lack of trees could cause especially after a history of mudslides in the area. The environmental impact will be looked at in upcoming CVW articles.

Voting Dates to Note

By Mary O'KEEFE

The primaries are quickly approaching. June 7 is Election Day but there are important dates to remember prior to that.

Some residents may have already received the State Voter Information Guide; if you haven't received it yet it is coming. Vote-by-mail ballots will be sent out beginning on May 9. Every registered voter will be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot; however, residents who do not receive a vote-by-mail ballot can apply in writing for a late vote-by-mail ballot.

Between May 9 and June 7: Between these dates, anyone may request a vote-by-mail ballot. The voter may designate an authorized representative to pick up and return the ballot, according to the Los Angeles County Registrar's Office.

The official sample ballot booklets will be mailed out on May 17. The last day to transfer or register to vote in the June 7 primary is May 23, unless the person registering is a new citizen.

Between May 24 and June 7: "A new citizen is eligible to register and vote at the office of, or at another location designated by, the

county elections official at any time beginning on the 14th day before an election and ending at the close of polls on the election day following the date on which that person became a citizen," according to LA County Registrar's Office.

Voting centers will open on May 28.

Election Day is June 7. Vote-by-mail ballots that are mailed must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by the county election officials' office no later than seven days after Election Day. June 7 is the last day that a mail-in ballot can be turned in personally by the voter to the election officials' office or to any polling place in LA County. According to LA County registrar-recorder/county clerk, vote-by-mail ballot drop boxes are available to voters beginning 29 days before and on Election Day. Drop boxes close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots are picked up regularly by two election workers.

Redistricting has been a bit confusing as representatives for some areas have changed while representatives for other areas remain the same. A voter can find out what district their address is in by visiting <https://lavote.gov/apps/precinctsmaps>.

IN BRIEF from page 3

Machines can last 15 years, providing significant savings over time and offsetting waste management costs that are expected to rise in the near future.

SB 1255 would establish the Dishwasher Grant Program for Waste Reduction in K-12 schools and community colleges and would be administered by the Dept. of Resources Recycling and Recovery. The

Department would provide grants to school districts, charter schools and community college districts for the purchase and installation of commercial dishwashers at the school sites and campuses. SB 1255 would require the Dept. of Resources Recycling

and Recovery to award grants of up to \$40,000 per kitchen of a school or campus and to develop administrative guidelines for implementation of the program. The bill would require the Department to develop materials and conduct outreach to those local educational agencies about the program and authorize them to work with the State Dept. of Education, the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, or other relevant state agencies for purposes of the program. Finally, SB 1255 would make the implementation of these provisions contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or another statute.

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CRESCENTA VALLEY

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HFC from Cover

This year's Fair will bring back the many components that the community has grown to love including food trucks, entertainment and information booths.

Pierce said that this year one of the Fair sponsors is handing out one thousand Krispy Kreme donuts to Fair goers – though it's up to Fair goers to find out which vendor that is.

In addition to the donuts, Pasadena Humane will be on-site with its Wiggle Wagon Pet Adoption as will Virginia Ashley's Petting Zoo, CVHS robotics and other school robotic teams, Non-Stop Fun bounce rides, 35 or more classic cars, various first responders including CHP, Montrose Search & Rescue, Glendale Police, CV Sheriff Station, the ever-popular dog parade, classic cars and hot rods and the pie-eating contest for kids 12 and under.

And what is a Fair without dignitaries? Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Senator

Anthony Portantino, Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian, Glendale Council Member Paula Devine, Glendale Chief of Police Carl Povilaitis and CV Sheriff Station Captain Robert Hahnlein are among those expected.

A day's worth of entertainment is planned, too, including music from the CV High School jazz band and the Rosemont jazz band.

There is no cost to attend.

Friends of Rockhaven is also hosting a fundraiser on Saturday. According to Friends of Rockhaven president Joanna Linkhorst, Art on the Rocks hopes to raise awareness about the historic property while supporting women artists and raising funds for the museum at Rockhaven.

"Founder Agnes Richards had statuary and art, pots and rugs all over Rockhaven Sanitarium," Linkhorst said. "I want art to be a part of Rockhaven Historic Park – displays as well as classes! And I hope to have fairs

of all types, including arts & crafts. And, really, I just love art & craft fairs!"

Art on the Rocks will take place at another local iconic property – St. Luke's of the Mountains at the corner of Rosemont Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. Linkhorst said more than 20 women artisans will be inside the auditorium and outside on the patio.

"We have several fine artists of watercolor and acrylics, but also prints and notecards, jewelry of various types, ceramics, mixed media and gelli-prints, clever crochet, candles, clothing, and Friends of Rockhaven souvenirs – even wind chimes made of tea and silverware!. One artist has a Victorian flair for decorating china and antique bottles."

She added the some of the members of St. Luke's will be offering baked goods, coffee and treats as well.

"And from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., the dear Katherine Terrien will be playing music before her gig at Alissa's Ocean View that night!"

she said.

Art on the Rocks takes place on Saturday, April 30 at St Luke's of the Mountains from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Finally, the Kiwanis Club of Glendale is hosting its duck splash on Saturday. From 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., folks can stop at Verdugo Park, 1621 Cañada Blvd. in Glendale to see the manmade "lake" that will be populated by thousands of rubber ducks. The ducks are available for "adoption" and those who adopt them will be eligible for cash prizes ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 (winners don't need to be present). To adopt, visit ducks4kids.org.

According to Kiwanis Club of Glendale president Mike Swan, the money raised will be dedicated to the work of the Kiwanis Club – helping children. Since 1915, Kiwanis has served the children of the world; locally, the Kiwanis Club of Glendale has financially supported Home Again (formerly Family Promise of

the Verdugos), the Glendale Education Foundation, Holy Family High School and Prom Plus, among others.

On Sunday, Prom Plus is hosting its popular Taste of Montrose. Held in conjunction with the Montrose Shopping Park Kids & Kritters event, Taste of Montrose will showcase some of local restaurants and food service places. Among the participating eateries as of press time are Alissa's Ocean View Bar & Grill, Gus & Andy's, Froyo Life, New Moon, Big Mama's & Papa's Pizza, Seasoning Alley and Sake Sushi Bar. In the Tasters Paradise food court, located at the corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue, ticket buyers will find samples from Thee Elbow Room and Papua Coffee and information from the Stonebarn Conservancy. Tickets are \$25 and available at outlets around town and the day of the event at the food court.

CRIME BLOTTER

April 25

5100 block of Princess Anne Road in La Cañada Flintridge, numerous items were stolen from a home. Surveillance footage showed three suspects running from the home at about 8:30 p.m.

April 23

4400 block of Rockland Place in La Cañada Flintridge, the driver and passenger side windows of a vehicle were smashed. Nothing was reported stolen. The vehicle burglary occurred overnight.

April 21

2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, the plastic steering wheel cover was removed from a vehicle and personal items were stolen between 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

3000 block of El Caminito Street in La Crescenta, the catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle overnight.

4500 block of Rinetti Lane in La Cañada Flintridge, a business owner received a burglary alarm notification at his business. Several motion sensors throughout the building had

been activated. Surveillance footage revealed two suspects. Suspect one was described as a Hispanic female wearing a striped dress, a jean jacket and sandals. Suspect two was described as a white female wearing a dark, long sleeve shirt and dark leggings. The two suspects entered the location; the suspects' vehicle, a silver four-door sedan, was parked in the rear parking lot. The suspects had opened all of the drawers at the location and entered the office but did not appear to take anything.

The burglary occurred at 5:41 p.m.

2300 block of Florencita Avenue in Montrose, property was vandalized by graffiti with a marker between April 21 at 6 p.m. and April 22 at 3 p.m.

April 20

4700 block of Daleridge Road in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident discovered that a check he had written to a specific payee had been "washed out" and a new payee and larger amount was re-written on the check. The check was originally mailed from the La Cañada Post Office a few weeks ago. The discovery of forgery was made at 6 a.m.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

The Memories of Norma Potter – Part 1

Now that I'm retired, I have more time to devote to my second favorite passion, local history. (My first favorite passion is, of course, my wife.) Something that I have wanted to do for many years is to record oral histories with our longtime residents. I have over the years done a few, but it is time consuming. I've vowed to increase my efforts, though.

I was recently contacted by the family of Norma Potter and I arranged to sit down with her. Norma, now very close to 100 years old, had been in the valley since 1932. When I went to Norma's house, I was surprised to find her a woman who looked 30 years younger than "nearly 100" as advertised. She stood strong and upright, walked quickly and with confidence. And she had had the brightest blue eyes! I wish I knew her secret of eternal youth.

After I recorded an interview

with Norma, I took her and her family over to look at the ruins of the old Crystal Plunge swimming pool in the abandoned Mountain Oaks resort. Norma swam in that pool back in the '30s, and she had no idea it still existed. Again, Norma's youthful exuberance; when we arrived at the overgrown pool ruins, she charged up the hillside ahead of us. She filled me in on details about the pool that are lost to time.

But getting back to the interview and Norma's memories; I was pleased to find that she had already written down her memories in a small booklet charmingly called "It's All About Me." And I was doubly pleased to discover that she is a darn good writer. So rather than paraphrase what Norma told me verbally, for the next few weeks I'll reprint excerpts from her memoirs. I'll insert my comments in [brackets]. Her

story begins in 1931:

"In 1931 we moved to a house on Glendale Avenue where we hardly got settled and enrolled in Marshall Elementary School when Pop was advised by the family doctor to move Mother and me up to the valley area because of our severe asthma. He found a place to stay for us to stay for two nights while they went house hunting. We moved into 3300 Montrose Ave. on the third day. Mother and I felt better right away and continued to improve over time. We were in this house long enough for Pop to put in a fishpond with goldfish in the front yard. I can still remember checking the ice in the winter and wondering why the fish didn't freeze also. Mother, Mama [grandmother], Jeanne [sister] and I went to a large garden and pond shop of some kind on San Fernando Road to get plants for Pop's new pond. I promptly fell in one of

the larger ponds and came up with moss hanging from my hair and a big grin on my face and said, 'I've still got my gum!'

"So off we went to Lincoln (1932). Jeanne and I both loved this school. It was our fourth and favorite grammar school. It was small, countryfied and I couldn't possibly get lost. The monkey bars were at the rear of the playground and a special challenge that had to be met, even if my underpants did show. I remember learning 'The Sailor's Hornpipe' [a traditional British dance] for one Mayday celebration. I can still hear the music in my head, and even remember a couple of the steps.

"We moved just as I was ready to start junior high. I hated to leave this neighborhood and all my friends [who] were so much fun. All of the kids used to gather in front of our house under the streetlight in the evenings to play 'kick the can.' The sound

of 'Myrt and Marge' music [a popular radio soap opera] coming from the radio in most of the houses was our signal to call it quits for the night."

Next week Norma recounts the events of 1933: the Long Beach Earthquake, the San Gabriel Mountains aflame and the New Year's Flood.



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

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON » REP. ADAM SCHIFF

Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day: Recognition is Just the Beginning

Last year, newly-elected President Joe Biden commemorated Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day by laying down a historic marker. After decades of shameful silence and broken promises, he offered a simple but solemn truth: 107 years ago, the Ottoman Empire undertook a systematic effort to destroy the Armenian people and ultimately murdered 1.5 million innocent men, women and children in what became the first genocide of the 20th century.

It was a moment of recognition that tens of thousands of my constituents have been fighting for their entire lives. And it was deeply personal for me, too.

Over the years, I have met many survivors of the Genocide. I have been welcomed into their homes. I have listened to the stories of how their parents and siblings were murdered and of how their property and the lives their families built were destroyed. I have watched them relive the pain over and over again, tears streaming down their faces, all in their brave pursuit of justice.

It is because of their bravery, and the resolve of their descendants and loved ones, that in 2019, for the first time in history, the House and Senate passed resolutions by near-unanimous margins affirming the facts of the Armenian Genocide. And it is because of them that President Biden chose to become the first sitting U.S. president to recognize the Genocide for what it was – genocide.

To this very day, despite the overwhelming evidence of this methodical

mass killing, Turkey continues to deny the Genocide ever happened. And for years, fear kept our own leaders from speaking out against one of the gravest violations of human rights the world has ever known.

And the consequences of being cowed into silence were severe. Because when acts of hatred and violence – whether they occurred one year or a hundred years ago – are allowed to go unrecognized, it makes it easier for future perpetrators to terrorize others with impunity.

Tragically, that is exactly what we are witnessing today in Nagorno-Karabakh – also known as Artsakh. A year and a half ago, over the course of 44 days, Azerbaijani forces targeted and murdered innocent Armenians. Thousands were killed and many others forced to flee this unprovoked war of aggression by Azerbaijan and Turkey. Still others were illegally detained, subject to torture and remain prisoners of war, and thousands more live in fear of another attack and invasion. Religious and cultural Armenian sites that have fallen under Azerbaijani control are under constant threat of desecration or destruction.

Despite a ceasefire agreement, aggression against the Armenian people continues today. And, as defenders of democracy and peace around the world, the United States must offer more than just words of solidarity.

We must do everything we can to secure more funding for Armenia and Artsakh. We must continue to call for the

immediate, safe and unconditional release of the remaining Armenian prisoners of war, and captured civilians. And under no circumstances should the United States be sending a single dollar in military aid or security assistance to the Aliyev regime.

We cannot rest until peace and justice are achieved.

The words of Congress and our President are powerful. But our actions must be

more powerful still. Today, let us pause to honor the martyred saints of the Armenian Genocide, and recommit ourselves and our nation to doing everything we can, today, to bring liberation to our Armenian brothers and sisters abroad, once and for all.

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

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YOUTH

CVHS Winter Guard 2022 Takes First

By Leila BELL and Mary O'KEEFE

After a successful season, Crescenta Valley winter guard team competed on Saturday in the Winter Guard Association of Southern California (WGASC) championship finals at Huntington Beach High School.

Two days before heading to Huntington Beach the team had to cope with the loss

of two members, one due to an injury and the other who tested positive for COVID-19. The team, which was already short one member, met this challenge head-on.

This would be a setback for any team but for a group composed of only nine members it was a huge dilemma. The team is a tight group and practices so often they can anticipate each other's moves. With two regular members



missing and already down one member, they not only had to find replacements and rehearse but also had to modify their routine. In addition they needed to find people to assist with props during the show.

With help from Mathew Schick, CV's Instrumental Music director, three individuals stepped up to help. The students who came forward were all involved in CV's Instrumental Music Dept. They had to rehearse and learn the intricacies of the program the night before they were to perform at the championship. They also had to learn while looking the part, wearing the correct costumes and requiring show-quality makeup and hair design.

Adding to the pressure, the remaining seven regular winter guard members had to re-work and learn a new show, which was designed by winter guard director Joey Leon. Determined, they

learned the new choreography, rehearsed enthusiastically with the new members, and pulled off what many might call a "Hollywood ending" to their season. CV's winter guard was the best high school competing this year in High School Level A, scoring first out of 55 teams that competed. In addition, CV winter guard was the only team to break a score of 90. It earned first place and received gold medals; no instrumental group has earned medals for the entire team at a competition.

In addition, team captain senior Thalia Miller received a scholarship from the WGASC for excellence in academics. Miller is headed to Wellesley College in the fall.

Photo provided by Leila BELL
Crescenta Valley winter guard team, which earned first place in WGASC, included three members who stepped in with little notice to help the team.

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CANCER AWARENESS: Living, Healing and Recovering

Two Portantino Cancer Care Bills Pass Senate Health Committee

Senate Bills 974 and 987, authored by Senator Anthony J. Portantino, which address the delay and absence of live-saving treatments for cancer patients, passed the Senate Health Committee. SB 974 expands health care coverage for diagnostic breast imaging following an abnormal mammography and SB 987 aims to address significant disparities in cancer patient access by expanding Medi-Cal patient eligibility for necessary clinical expertise and resources.

"SB 974 recognizes the importance of follow up diagnostic testing for breast cancer screenings," said Senator Portantino. "Health insurance only covers the initial screening mammogram and does not extend to these crucial follow up diagnostics, which may save lives and significantly impact health outcomes for women. I am thankful to Gayaneh Pezeshkian Avanes for suggesting this bill idea. Her activism will help thousands of women."

"I am very excited to co-sponsor this bill because I know firsthand the difficulty women must go through to get the necessary tests approved year after year. I either have to fight with my provider to approve the test that could save my life or I need to pay out-of-pocket to get follow up imaging after the regular mammograms don't work because of my dense breast tissue," said Assem-

blymember Cristina Garcia, who is a principal co-author of the SB 974. "Many women in California, especially women of color, cannot afford any out-of-pocket expenses for diagnostic testing. And they definitely can't afford the expense for treatment. By removing barriers and giving California women the coverage for breast cancer imaging that they deserve, we are saving the lives of thousands of women and giving them an opportunity to live a long and healthy life."

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death among women of all races. Early detecting of breast cancer can reduce the risk of dying from the disease by 25-30%. Health insurance coverage extends to mammography screening, which detects 80-90% of breast cancers in women who have not yet manifested physical symptoms. Women who receive abnormal results on a breast cancer screening can be instructed to undergo follow up testing to ensure that the abnormality is not cancerous, and they are often required to pay out-of-pocket for follow up testing. This can cause thousands of dollars and cause many women to delay or avoid these appointments and thus delay treatment that can save their life.

SB 974 would require that a health insurance policy, which is issued, amended, or renewed on or after Jan. 1, 2023, must provide coverage for a medically necessary diagnostic breast imaging, including diagnostic breast imaging following an abnormal mammography result. Diagnostic breast imaging includes breast magnetic resonance imaging and breast ultrasound.

"I am grateful to Senator Portantino who listened to my concerns about health care coverage of mammograms and introduced SB 974," said Pezeshkian Avanes. "It's unacceptable that so many women do not go for further testing because of the affiliated costs. When I received a bill from my insurance company for a follow up mammogram, I was surprised to learn it was not covered as part of a preventative visit. SB 974 can make a positive impact on comprehensive preventative care access and allow women receive their preventative (including follow up) exams without the burden paying for it."

The CDC lists cancer as the second-leading cause of death in California. More than 187,000 Californians are diagnosed with cancer every year, and thousands of them will be misdiagnosed or placed on inappropriate or ineffective treatment.

SB 987, the California Cancer Care Equity Act, which also passed the Senate Health Committee, aims to improve cancer care access, cancer care outcomes (i.e., survival), and patient experience by enhancing Medi-Cal patient access to necessary clinical expertise and resources at NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers. The bill parallels the current Medi-Cal coverage model that allows Medi-Cal beneficiaries to have access to certain life-saving care services at a Center of Excellence, even if that center is not included in the member's provider network. Specifically, SB 987 expands the existing set of care diagnoses for which such enhanced access is provided and includes clinically necessary cancer care services such as genomic/genetic/transcriptomic/proteomic testing, clinical trials participation, and all necessary cancer-related outpatient and inpatient clinical care, defined episode of care.

"Sadly, there are serious inequalities in access to care for cancer patients. The impact of these care disparities is greater for patients who are Medi-Cal beneficiaries, especially those who come from underserved communities," said Senator Portantino. "Health insurance doesn't guarantee access to experts specializing in complex cancer types, promising clinical trials, and advances in personalized, precision cancer treatments. With advances in cancer science and more effective treatments, it is critical that we ensure all cancer patients have access to new science and technology that can improve health outcomes for patients and their families. SB 987 provides a more equitable model of health care for cancer patients."

SB 987 would also require Medi-Cal managed care providers to inform enrollees of their eligibility to receive enhanced care and ensures primary care doctors in contract with those managed care providers inform enrollees with any information they need to decide between relevant treatment options. The bill also requires that decisions to approve, deny, or modify a patient's request for optimal care are made within a 72-hour time window to shorten the window between diagnosis and treatment.

"City of Hope strongly supports the passage of the California Cancer Care Equity Act (SB 987)," said Harlan Levine, president of Strategy and Business Ventures at City of Hope. "Optimal cancer care requires access to the right expertise at the right time to deliver better survival outcomes. The California Cancer Care Equity Act would help Medi-Cal cancer patients access the most highly specialized cancer treatments, clinical trials and care from subspecialists, removing barriers that prevent Californians in underserved communities from accessing optimal cancer care. We applaud the members of the California Senate Health Committee for advancing cancer care equity in California with their support for SB 987."

The Power of Acupuncture.

I would like to share what Dr. Anthony Komaroff, a professor at Harvard Medical School, contributed in his column.

The question as to whether or not acupuncture really works was asked in 1971 by New York Times columnist James Reston. He always had pain that occurred after surgery and treatment in the United States did not solve it. He said that the pain completely disappeared through the use of acupuncture in China, where he had visited for business, and many Americans who believed in his status and credibility came to trust the use of acupuncture treatment from then on.

In fact, until now, there was no strong scientific evidence for the efficacy of acupuncture. But two large scientific reviews changed that.

One review found that acupuncture could treat acute or chronic pain, while another found that it had a similar or better pain prevention effect than drug treatment.

In the case of conventional pain treatment available from western medicine, the result of complete treatment was only 16%. On the other hand, Oriental medicine was found to be three times more effective and had fewer side effects.

Mr. Reston also wrote that he believes that acupuncture is a treatment worth trying.

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Cancer Support Community Pasadena – Empowering People Challenged with Cancer.

An estimated 189,220 Californians will be diagnosed with cancer in 2022 – an increase of 2,080 over 2021 estimates (Cancer Statistics 2022, Siegel et al., American Cancer Society, Jan. 12, 2022). The Institute of Medicine's 2007 groundbreaking report "Cancer Care for the Whole Patient: Meeting Psychosocial Health Needs" emphasized the importance of addressing the social and emotional needs of people facing cancer, in addition to their physical needs.

Psychosocial interventions have been related to reduced risk of dying of cancer among people with non-metastatic cancer in the U.S. (Oh, Shin, Ahn, and Kim, 2016). A review of research literature from 2010-16 on family caregiving in oncology noted "growing evidence of the need for caregiver support" including psychoeducational support, skills training and counseling ("A review of family caregiving intervention trials in oncology," Betty Fernell, RN, PhD, MA, FAAN, FPCN, CHPN, and Elaine Wittenberg PhD, in "CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians," March 20, 2017, American Cancer Society).

Over the past 32 years, Cancer Support Community Pasadena has served tens of thousands of people challenged with cancer in the greater San Gabriel Valley, East Los Angeles and downtown L.A. The mission of CSCSP is to ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action and sustained by community. All services are free of charge to participants and are offered in Spanish and Armenian, as well as English.

CSCSP currently provides:

- 13 weekly support groups for patients, friends and family, and those who lost a loved one to cancer, as well as a monthly survivorship support group
- All support groups are facilitated by licensed mental health professionals;
- 15-18 healthy lifestyle classes each week (yoga, watercolor painting and others), led by certified instructors;
- Approximately 80 educational workshops each year led by oncologists and other medical experts;
- One-on-one counseling;
- Social activities like PG-rated comedy nights.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programs have been offered virtually since March 2020, and now CSCSP offers a few in-person and hybrid programs. Hybrid programs allow in-person and online participation at the same time.

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SPORTS

Falcon Lacrosse Closes Season with Top Honors and a Pacific League Championship

By Justin HAGER

The players and coaches on the CVHS girls' lacrosse team have earned the title of Pacific League champions. With a 14-5 overall record and an undefeated record in League play, the girls are now ranked in the top 200 in the United States and No. 27 in California, according to MaxPreps. And the latest CIF-SS coaches poll put them just outside the top 10 in Division 1/2 receiving the 12th highest number of votes and earning them an almost certain opportunity to play in the CIF-SS playoffs.

The girls have played the entire season as a cohesive and team-

oriented squad, which led them to victories over higher ranked opponents including Mira Costa, the No. 4-ranked team in California and the 26th best in the United States. Their cohesiveness and ability to play at a high level across the roster also led them to victories in multi-

day tournaments like the Gold Coast Invitational, which they won despite having several standout players unavailable due to injuries and prior commitments.

But their team motto of TOGETHER did not prevent several

see SPORTS on page 27



Photo by Christian HOFFMAN
TOP: The CVHS Falcons girls' lacrosse team secured the Pacific League championship last week, just weeks after they won this trophy at the Santa Barbara Gold Coast Tournament.

Photo by Jaleen LUNT
BOTTOM: Seniors on the CVHS boys' lacrosse team will end their high school careers ranked in the top-10 in their division and with an opportunity to compete in the CIF tournament.

Sports Round-Up

The spring 2022 regular season is wrapping up and many teams are now awaiting the release of CIF selections and brackets.

The CVHS boys' volleyball team is the first CVHS team to officially receive an invitation to the Spring 2022 CIF Tournament. They'll travel to Los Angeles today (Thursday, April 28) to take on Gold Coast League champion Windward High School in the first round of the CIF-SS tournament. Other area teams earning bids to the CIF-SS boys' volleyball tournament include St. Francis traveling to Downey to play San Gabriel League champion

Warren High School and Pacific League champion Burroughs High School (Burbank), which earned a bye to the second round of the tournament.

The CVHS girls' softball team has one game remaining in its regular season, with a final showdown with Arcadia set for today (Thursday, April 28) at 3:30 p.m. at CVHS – its senior night for a group of outstanding athletes that have seen a lot of adversity and have stayed in contention. The winner of that game will be the Pacific League champion and the coaches and players are

encouraging the community to come out and support the Falcon girls.

The CVHS boys' baseball team also has one game remaining. But while the boys have locked up fourth place in the Pacific League, Friday night's regular season closer at Arcadia is still extremely important for both squads. A win for the Falcons would significantly strengthen their case for a CIF at-large or wild card bid while putting Arcadia at risk of being leapfrogged for the Pacific League title while a win for Arcadia would guarantee them the League championship.



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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Spring Wine Walk Returns to Montrose



Photos provided by Cindy CHARLES

Patty Inboden, Cindy Charles and Kathy Hannon: Taking a break from their official duties were La Crescenta Woman's Club members (from left) Patty Inboden, Cindy Charles and Kathy Hannon.

By Bethany BROWN

The Montrose Shopping Park hosted its 4th Annual Spring Wine Walk on April 9 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Community residents who purchased their tickets in advance were given wristbands upon arrival that allowed them to sample a variety of wines from the many pour stations hosted by participating MSP merchants and businesses.

Tickets were limited in quantity and available to purchase for \$45 leading up to the sold-out event. Every "wine walker" received a

tote bag, Montrose logo wine glass to be used at all tasting locations and \$10 in MSP scrip that never expires and can be used to pay for goods and services throughout the shopping park.

The event – sponsored in part by the La Crescenta Woman's Club – has been on hold since 2019 due to the 2020 onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. It served to encourage residents in the community to shop small at MSP and raise funds for both the shopping park and the Woman's Club. Each pouring station served red and white wines and offered complimentary snacks

and bottled water to participating walkers.

Kim Kelly of Merle Norman Cosmetics said they were overjoyed to see such a tremendous turnout and connect with familiar faces again. The storefront served homemade bagel bites and salami squares infused with cream cheese and other treats, and Turley wine from Paso Robles and Prisoner wine from Napa were poured. She noted that, while it is a lot of work for the merchants, it's an equally rewarding and enjoyable experience.

see WINE WALK on page 18

Veterans Corner April 2022 Navy Offers Incentives to Recruits Who Ship Before June

The Navy recently announced that it is offering a \$25,000 signing bonus to recruits for any rate as long as they are willing to ship off to boot camp before summer. The sea service, in a press release, said the bonus applies to "anyone who enlists active duty" and is willing to start boot camp between April and June of this year.

"The Navy is the only U.S. military branch currently offering this high of an enlistment bonus for any new enlistee," the service boasted. The press release added that the bonus will stack with other recruitment incentives that target specific specialties. As a result, "the enlistment bonus could be as high as \$50,000," the service said.

Navy recruits who have recently signed up but aren't shipping out until the July to September time frame can opt to move up their departure and cash in as well.

A recent Rand Corp. study showed that, while the pandemic

made it harder for the military services to recruit new personnel, the Army, Navy and Air Force managed to increase the number of troops in their ranks in 2020 compared to the year before. In 2021, the Air Force said it hit its recruiting targets for the first time in five years. Despite that data, the Navy is joining the Army in offering eye-widening sums of money to get new recruits. Its offer comes just days after the Navy said in its latest budget request to Congress that it expects to see a decrease in active-duty personnel over the next five years.

According to documents released at the end of March, the Navy, which currently has just under 347,000 sailors, anticipates having 340,900 by fiscal 2026. In last year's budget, the service told Congress it expected to have 345,700 sailors by that time. Those same documents also predicted a significant dip in reserve numbers over the next several years. The Navy told lawmakers it expects to

have about 10,000 fewer sailors in the reserves over the next three years, compared with last year's estimates. In the Army's case, it started offering up to \$50,000 in January, though its website notes that a recruit would need to combine several bonuses on offer for "shipping out quickly, having in-demand skills or following certain career paths" to hit that top figure. Still, that is more than double what was allotted at the peak of the post-9/11 wars.

Military.com | By Konstantin Toropin

Konstantin Toropin can be reached at konstantin.toropin@military.com. Follow him on Twitter @ktoropin.

Note: Thank you to fellow Legion member Mary Martinez for this article.

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

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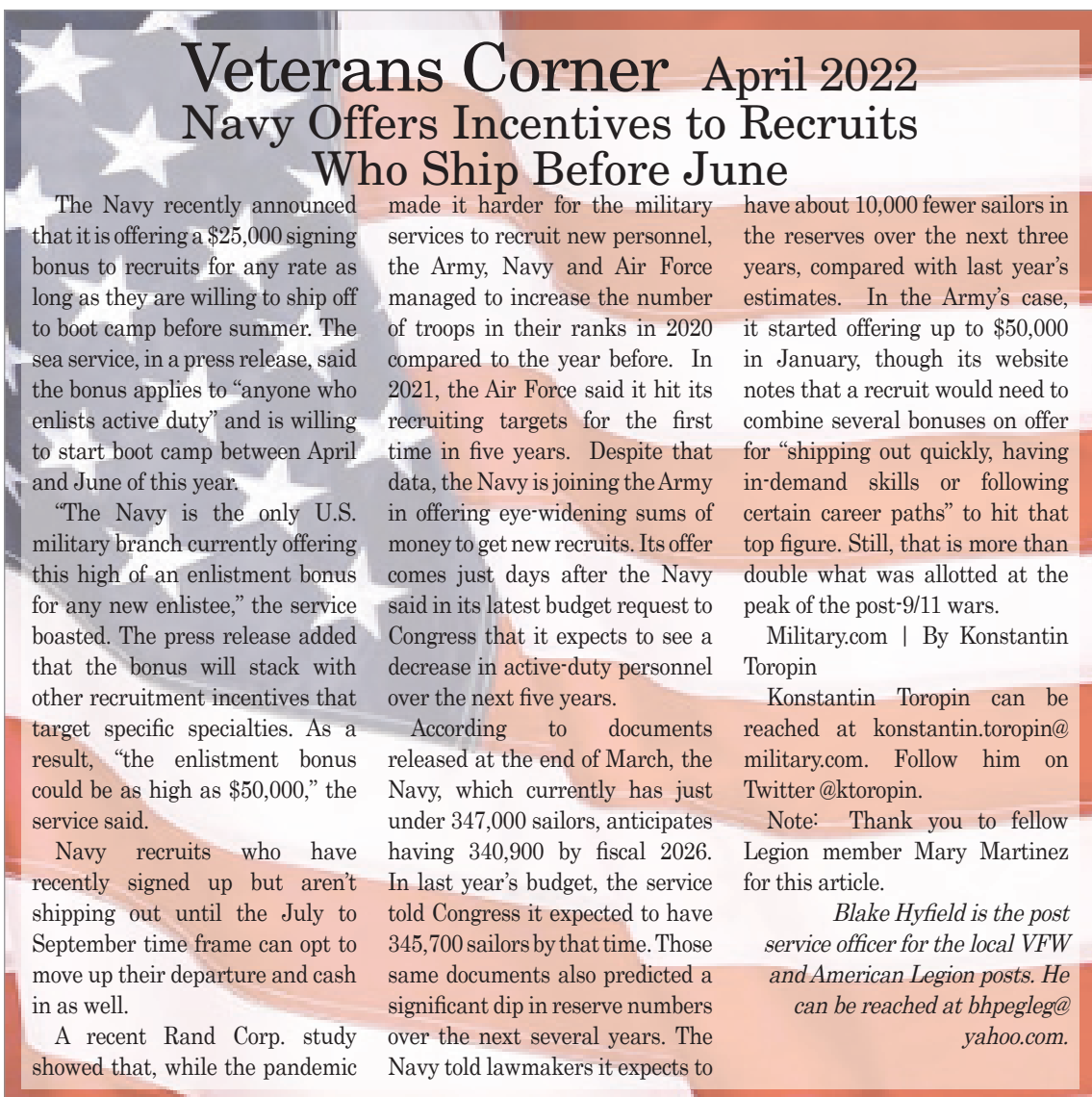
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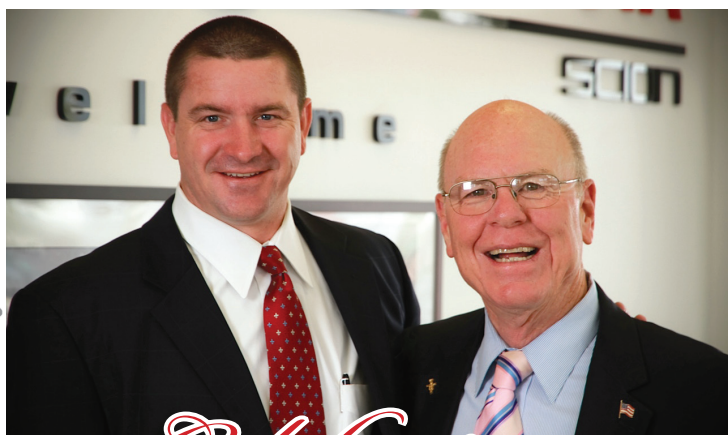
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Prom Plus is the SAFE post-prom event held at the Crescenta-Cañada YMCA for CVHS seniors and their guests.

WINE WALK from previous page

"We did about 300 pours, so we were very busy," Kelly said. "We've participated every year and it's a really fun event. We just hope that people will come back and visit us before the next Walk happens."

MSP Event Coordinator Dale Dawson said he believes it's one of the events the merchants like the most because the streets aren't closed and there's a vast opportunity to meet new people.

"Some of our newer businesses were over the moon because they met a lot of people who said they never even knew that they were there," Dawson said. "It was just a huge success and it's always great working with the Woman's Club; they really keep it moving. I could not have been happier with how it all went."

Dawson said over 500 wine walkers participated, which is only slightly fewer than the record-high of the 2019 holiday season. In previous years, a significantly larger turnout was seen for the Holiday Wine Walk than for the springtime event, so MSP staff and merchants were thrilled that tickets sold out so



Handing out tote bags, scrip and wine glasses were members of the La Crescenta Woman's Club.

quickly.

Dawson urges residents in the community to purchase their tickets ahead of time for all future walks because they are limited in quantity. The 2022 Holiday Wine Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 12.

Additional upcoming MSP events include the 10th Annual Kids & Kritters Day that will be held on Sunday, May 1, the Montrose Arts & Crafts Festival

on Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and 5 and the Montrose 20th Annual Car Show on Sunday, July 3 – all of which are free to attend.

"All of our events are designed to bring people to town and connect the merchants with the community," Dawson said. "We have a lot coming up yet and I hope the community will come out and experience the many fun days we have planned ahead."

Community Center Spring Ceramic Sale is Back

Twice a year, the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge hosts a sale showcasing artists within its ceramic program and from the community. Proceeds from the Ceramic Sale not only benefit local artists but also the ceramic program at the Center. Each sale brings hundreds of visitors to browse the handmade

works of art made by the students in the ceramics program. Join the community for this event on Friday, May 6 from 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 7 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the parking lot of the Community Center, 4469 Chevy

Chase Drive.

For questions, more information, or to see photos of previous sales, visit the Center's website at www.CCLCF.org or contact the main office via phone or email at (818) 790-4353 or office@cclcf.org.



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Fun Found at ‘Springtacular’ Casino Night



ABOVE: A Las Caritas supporter tries his hand at one of the table games during the fundraising event.
BELOW: Blackjack was a popular game at the Las Caritas fundraiser.

Las Caritas held its “Springtacular” Casino Night on Saturday night, April 2, at the De Bell Golf Course in Burbank. Doors opened at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. and casino-type games.

The “Springtacular” Casino Night event, the first in-person fundraiser the organization has held since the pandemic lockdown in March 2020, is the only fundraising event that Las Caritas holds during the year that supports its philanthropies. These include providing meals for the Ascencia Homeless

Shelter in Glendale and giving Christmas gifts to Ascencia’s children, providing staples for the GUSD pantry, and health kits for Operation School Bell.

“Springtacular” Casino Night organizers recognized the many supporters that helped raise between \$7,000 and \$8,000 above any expenses. This money will help Las Caritas continue to support these worthy programs.

*Submitted by
Barbara BARNARD and
Cathy HARDYMENT*



Questions About Today’s Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

What Is The Best Way To Sell A Home?

Dear Phyllis,

For more than twenty years, I have been living in the La Crescenta home I inherited from my parents. As a struggling single mom, I am afraid no one will want to buy my home because it needs so much work. I have three children and my home reflects a lot of wear and tear. I was thinking about calling one of those companies which buy homes for cash. What are your thoughts on the best way to sell a home?

Donna

Dear Donna,

Each home seller has different needs and goals, therefore there is no cookie cutter best way to sell. However, you couldn’t pick a better time to sell a home which needs sprucing up. La Crescenta listings are at a premium, no matter the condition. Before you commit to selling to anyone who will pay cash for your home, meet with a local Realtor. When I meet with potential home sellers, I provide

them with two values, one selling AS IS and one selling with minimal repairs. You may find that by making minimal repairs you will greatly increase your bottom line. I and many other Realtors offer programs where we can upfront the costs of desired repairs and be reimbursed at the time escrow closes.

Keep in mind the cash buyer intends to purchase your home below market in order to resell at a higher price. They expect to earn a profit. Typically, you will sell for a substantially higher amount when hiring a local Realtor. A Realtor should create a custom marketing plan to attract the most offers and a bidding frenzy. Although you will pay a commission to the buying and selling agents, it will be money well spent as you will sell for a higher amount. After you meet with a local Realtor, call a company who purchases homes for cash. Once you learn how much they pay, you can then determine which selling method makes the most sense for you.

Whatever option you decide, I wish you the best of luck on your sale.



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Age My Way



From left are Denise Traboulsi, May Ma Ross and Adria Navarro.

Spring is a time of growth and new opportunities. This is reflected at the Community Resource Center for Aging (CRCA) as well as we welcome two resource specialists to our team: May Ross and Denise Traboulsi. Both May and Denise hold graduate degrees in social work and have a wealth of experience serving the needs of older adults. With these new additions the community now has greater access to a neutral source of information and referrals about critical resources that support older adults and their own growth and opportunities.

As national Older Americans Month approaches this May, the 2022 theme is “Age My Way.” Recollecting how Sinatra sang about doing it my way, the theme suggests an opportunity for all of us to explore the many ways older

adults are, and can be, involved with our communities. The Administration for Community Living (www.acl.gov) leads by focusing on how planning, participation, accessibility and making connections all play a role in aging in place – emphasizing that what each person needs and prefers is unique. There is no “one size fits all” when it comes to how we age.

CRCA continues to meet up with older adults in the community. The first Wednesday of the month, you can Meet Us at the Library – Glendale Central Library, 222 E. Harvard St., Glendale — from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. In May we will focus on home safety, discussing the myriad of ways one can decrease household risks involving common factors such as what might literally trip up us. A home safety list will be

available to each patron.

On the first Thursdays of the month, Caregivers Night Off takes place at the Crescenta-Cañada Family YMCA in collaboration with our community partners. This two-hour program is offered in the afternoon for caregivers and those they care about. To attend on May 5 please call in to register so we know you are coming. We can be reached by calling (818) 949-4033 or emailing Aging-Resources@med.usc.edu.

We will also have a booth at the Crescenta Valley Hometown Country Fair on Saturday, April 30 at Crescenta Valley Park from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. so please stop by and see us!

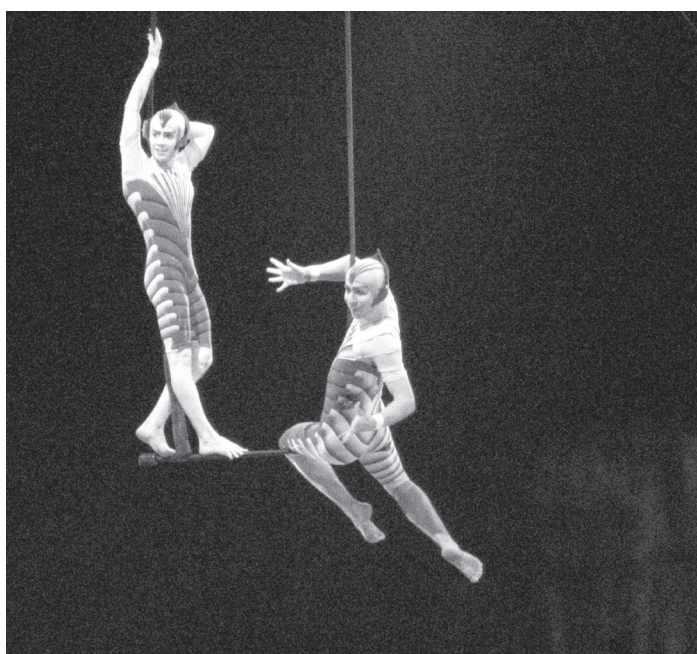
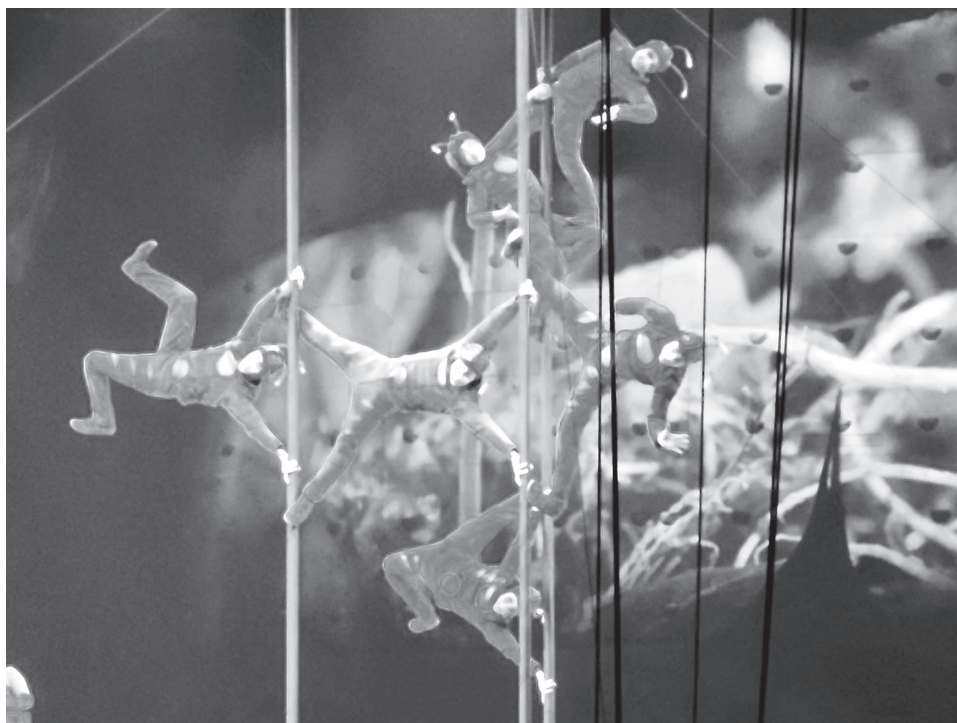
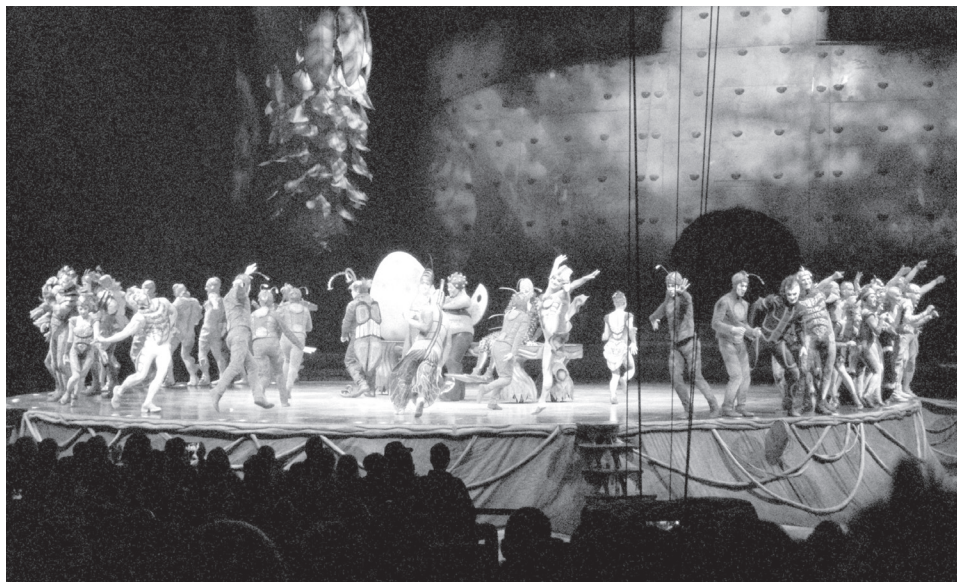
We look forward to hearing from you and assisting in your aging journey.

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Cirque du Soleil 'OVO' Amazes



Photos by Charly SHELTON
 TOP LEFT: The dynamic cast of "OVO" takes its bows at the end of the show.
 ABOVE: A spider winds her arms and legs up around her head and balances using only a stick in her teeth.
 FAR LEFT: A troop of ants climbs a set of poles only to spin themselves off and plummet back to the stage.
 LEFT: Dazzling costumes and astounding acrobatics highlight "OVO," currently at the Microsoft Theatre.

By Charly SHELTON

Cirque de Soleil has come to Los Angeles once again bringing the new show "Ovo" to Microsoft Theater audiences. Cirque du Soleil is known for the death defying stunts of acrobatics and various circus-like performances set to beautiful music, all with a specialized theme per show. This show is themed to the world of insects, with grasshoppers, ants,

spiders and other bugs doing their routines on a larger than life set.

From a troop of ants climbing a set of poles only to spin themselves off and plummet back to the stage to grasshoppers throwing themselves down a 20-foot drop to bounce off of trampolines and return to the rock climbing wall they jumped from to a spider who winds her arms and legs up around her head and balances using only

a stick in her teeth – these are some of the most amazing acts of physical exertion seen anywhere in the world.

While we in the audience are sitting comfortably in our seats, these amazing performers jump and spin and twirl their way through a story that is based loosely around an egg. OVO. The story follows a wanderer bug that carries a giant egg on his back. When another group of bugs sees that the egg might be valuable,

they swindle him out of his egg. Various acts follow, taking place between vignettes of the story of the wanderer bug trying to win back his egg. In the process, he falls in love with a beautiful ladybug that plays hard to get at first but eventually succumbs to his charms. The acrobatic acts don't necessarily have anything to do with the story, but do provide a nice narrative to track while the stagehands and acrobats set up the transitions

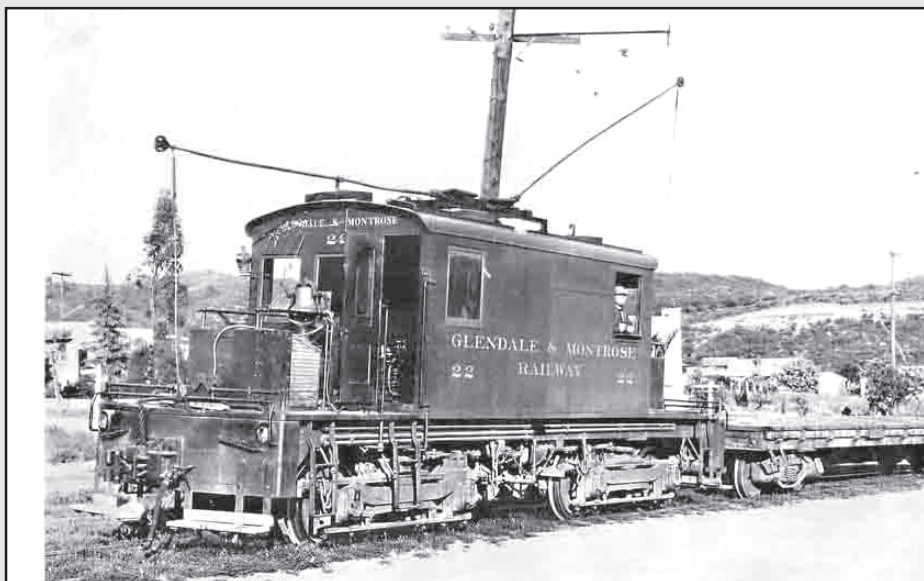
from one set to another.

Unfortunately, the show packs up its egg and wanders along as of May 1, so time is limited for any who are interested in seeing it. It is definitely worth going to as it's a very fun night at the theater to see something you've never seen before.

OVO is currently playing at the Microsoft Theater through May 1; more information can be found at microsofttheater.com/events/detail/cirquedusoleilovo22.

THEN & NOW

Locomotive, Glendale & Montrose Railway Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Then » Here we see a Glendale and Montrose Railway electric locomotive pulling a flatbed freight car going up the hill and rounding the curve of Montrose Avenue just past Honolulu Avenue in the late '20s. Although we think of electric trolleys in terms of their passenger carrying operations, a good part of the G&M's business was made up of freight, bringing building supplies to CV and taking produce from the orchards back down the hill.



Now » This locomotive stayed in service in Glendale until 1936 when it was sold to Yakima Valley in Washington to haul apples. It served reliably until 1985 when it was donated to the Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris, California, near Riverside. This is how it looks today, wearing the colors of the Yakima Valley Transportation Co., but in just the right light the faint impressions of the words "Glendale & Montrose Railway" can still be barely made out under the layers of paint.

Violinist Ken Aiso and Pianist Valeria Morgovskaya to Perform for Glendale Noon Concerts

On Wednesday, May 4 at 12:10 p.m., the Free Admission Glendale Noon Concerts program will be streamed.

Violinist Ken Aiso and pianist Valeria Morgovskaya will perform works by Vivaldi, Davitashvili, Barvinsky and Saint-Saens on a Facebook stream and YouTube.

Upcoming concerts will be updated at <http://glendalenoonconcerts.blogspot.com>.

Streaming will be the duo recital of Ken Aiso on violin and Valeria Morgovskaya playing piano. The program includes Antonio Vivaldi, "Spring from The Four Seasons," Allegro, Largo and Allegro; Meri Davitashvili "Poema;" Vassily Barvinsky "Humoresque" and Camille Saint-Saens "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso."

Internationally acclaimed violinist/violist Ken Aiso has performed worldwide as soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. Aiso graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London studying with Erich Gruenberg. His other teachers include Eduard Schmieder and Chikashi Tanaka. Equally at home with modern and period instruments, Aiso has appeared as principal violin with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the London



Pianist Valeria Morgovskaya and violinist Ken Aiso

Philharmonic, the Hallé and the Scottish Chamber Orchestras.

He has been invited to renowned music festivals in UK, France, Sweden, Switzerland, India, Georgia, Bolivia and Kazakhstan, and has taught at Montecito Summer Music Festival since 2008. Aiso is a laureate of Long-Thibaud International Competition in Paris and International Music Competition of Japan, and was elected Associate of Royal Academy of Music in London. He received Shimousa Kan-ichi Music Award in his native Japan in 2018. Since moving to Los Angeles in 2015, Aiso has been serving as faculty at Loyola Marymount and La Sierra

universities, and performs with Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Valeria Morgovskaya, pianist, graduated from the Kiev State Conservatory. Since her immigration to the U.S. in 1990, Morgovskaya has been in high demand as accompanist for singers and all orchestral instrumentalists. She has been an official accompanist to festivals and courses such as Piatigorsky Cello Seminar and Beverly Hills Music Festival, and has performed throughout the U.S., Germany and Japan, as well as on numerous radio broadcast. She has provided accompaniment for many national and international competitions, and was an official accompanist at Schoenfeld International String Competition in Hong Kong (2013) and Harbin (2014). Morgovskaya is currently staff accompanist at Loyola Marymount University and UCLA, and is often engaged in that capacity at USC, Cal State Long Beach, Colburn School, Montecito International Music Festival, Academy of the West and Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts.



Photo by Ruth SOWBY

La Crescenta resident Suzette Van Sleuwen eyes a poster of actress-writer Holland Taylor as "Ann" at the Pasadena Playhouse. The play follows the life of the late Texas governor Ann Richards.

Taylor was given a standing ovation at the Saturday, April 23 matinee. The popular play had audience members asking for an extension of the production.

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The community is invited to hear The Glendale Historical Society board member Ani Mnatsakanyan tonight, Thursday, April 28 at 7 p.m. as she shares stories of resilience and strength in the Armenian American community. She'll recount how Armenians reconstruct their lives in a foreign land while attempting to preserve their identity and memories of the homeland they were forced to leave behind.

This online event is free and open to all; however, advance reservations are required. To register, visit <https://glendalehistorical.org/yettem>.

20TH ANNUAL CALTECH JAZZ FESTIVAL

The Caltech Jazz Band will present its 20th Annual Caltech Jazz Festival on Saturday, April

30 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event will take place at Hameetman Patio on the Caltech campus, close to the Red Door Café. It is open to the public and performers will include the Caltech Jazz Band directed by Barb Catlin featuring guest artist Gordon Goodwin, the Iban Lee Quartet and the Caltech Jazz Guitar Ensemble with guest Riner Scivally.

Goodwin is a prominent American pianist, saxophonist, composer, arranger and conductor. He is the leader of Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band. He has won four Grammy Awards, three Daytime Emmy Awards, and has received over 20 Grammy nominations for his compositions and arrangements.

Admission is free. No tickets are required, but limited seating is available. Audience members are welcome to bring food and blankets for a picnic on

the lawn. Food and beverages will also be sold at the Brown and Red Door Cafés on campus. For more information, visit pva.caltech.edu or call (626) 395-3295.

CELEBRATING INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE DAY

Independent Bookstore Day is Saturday, April 30. The date coincides with Flintridge Bookstore's 15th anniversary, and it is celebrating with giveaways, a drawing for various genres of books, a store scavenger hunt and more. Activities are outside, inside and in back of the store.

Flintridge Bookstore has invited local authors for meet and greets and signings. The designers of Little Muse Jewelry and Purses by Lucia are also coming, and there is an afternoon reading by two poets.

More than ever, local bookstores need the support of their communities. Independent Bookstore Day is a way to show appreciation for the contributions made by these small businesses. It also provides an opportunity for bookstores to say thank you to their neighbors and all their customers with special programs for all ages.

Flintridge Bookstore is located at 858 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada Flintridge at the intersection of Beulah Drive. There is street parking as well as a lot in the rear of the store

off of Beulah Drive.

To learn more, visit <https://www.flintridgebooks.com>.

ART ON THE ROCK ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

Friends of Rockhaven is hosting Art on the Rock, an arts & crafts fair that focuses on women's art. It is being held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 30 at St. Luke's of the Mountains, 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. It's free to attend.

LANTERMAN HOUSE SPONSORS LECTURE

The Lanterman House will sponsor a free lecture by historic house expert Tim Gregory on Sunday, May 1 at 2 p.m. The talk, titled "Paul Revere Williams in La Cañada Flintridge," will explore the life and career of celebrated architect Paul Revere Williams (1894-1980) and his work in the local community.

The Lanterman House has also invited any current resident of a Paul Revere Williams home in La Cañada Flintridge to participate in the discussion and share personal stories about living in a Williams-designed home.

Reservations are encouraged via Eventbrite: <https://paulwilliamslecture.eventbrite.com>.

The lecture is free and will be held on the grounds of the historic Lanterman House at 4420 Encinas Drive, La Cañada Flintridge. For more information, please visit lantermanhouse.org.

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



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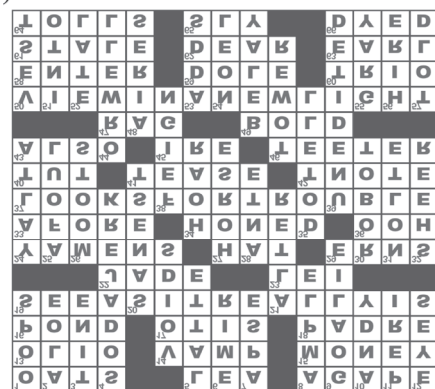
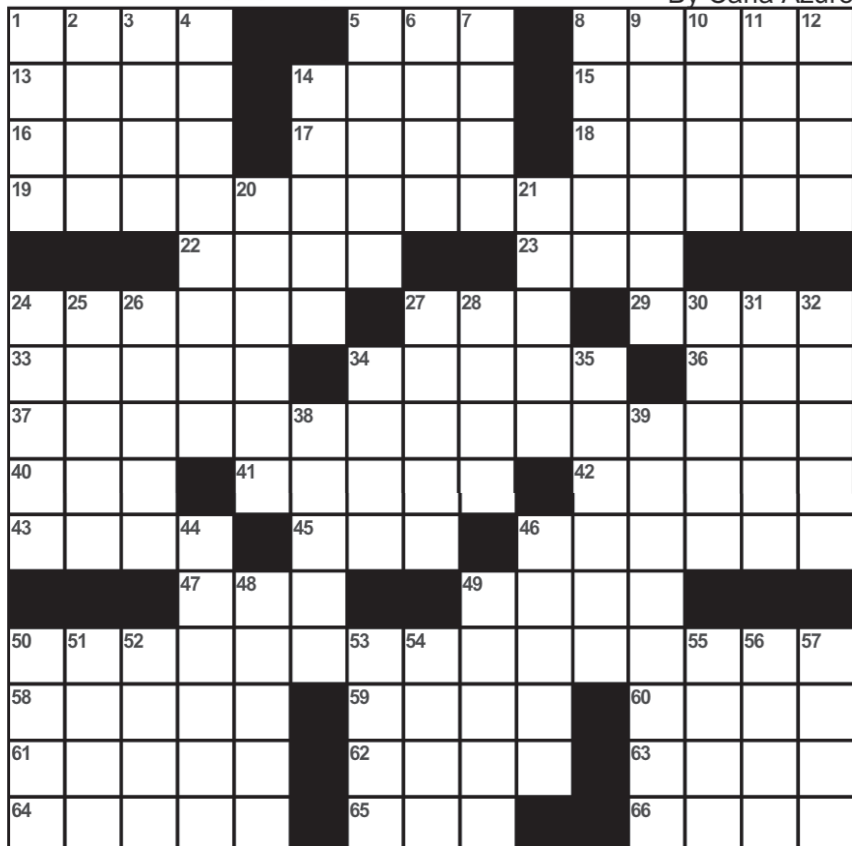
- 1) Cereal grains
- 5) Grazing ground
- 8) Noticeably shocked
- 13) Mingle-mangle
- 14) Improvise musically
- 15) Something to work for
- 16) Duck's home
- 17) Mayberry drunkard
- 18) Man with a mission?
- 19) Not be taken in
- 22) Green gem
- 23) Hawaiian gift
- 24) Chinese government offices
- 27) Monopoly token
- 29) Birds that sound deserving?
- 33) Prefix with "mentioned"
- 34) Bettered, as skills
- 36) Awed answer
- 37) Is hardly angelic
- 40) Noise of disapproval
- 41) Make fun of
- 42) Gov't interest bearer
- 43) ___-ran
- 45) Feeling of anger
- 46) Move unsteadily
- 47) Dust remover
- 49) Adventurous
- 50) Have a different opinion of
- 58) Keyboard key
- 59) 1996 presidential candidate
- 60) Small combo
- 61) Past its prime
- 62) Costly
- 63) Not yet a marquis
- 64) Trucker's expenses
- 65) Done with a wink
- 66) Not the original color

DOWN

- 1) "My bad"
- 2) Soothing succulent
- 3) Fork feature
- 4) Fountain worker of old
- 5) Cafe concoction
- 6) Arabian chieftain
- 7) It abuts the bema
- 8) Copious
- 9) Water polo position
- 10) Sheriff Taylor of Mayberry
- 11) "Scope" prefix
- 12) Storm centers
- 14) Annuls
- 20) Most together mentally
- 21) Make changes to
- 24) Big Three conference site
- 25) Run ___ of the law (commit crimes)
- 26) Makes irrelevant, as a debating point
- 27) It may be taken for a ride
- 28) Poker starter
- 30) Mechanical being
- 31) Nick of Hollywood
- 32) Complete and utter
- 34) Wintry frost
- 35) "This I gotta hear!"
- 38) Pretend to have, as an illness
- 39) Like a first draft
- 44) "1984" author George
- 46) Babel had one
- 48) Buenos ___
- 49) Secure, as a sailor's rope
- 50) Optional part of a suit
- 51) "What's gotten ___ you?"
- 52) And others, for short
- 53) Does simple arithmetic
- 54) Holiday song
- 55) Not black or white
- 56) Engage for work
- 57) Gave an account

TAKE IN THE SIGHTS

By Carla Azure



TACOS, TEQUILA AND PAINT

The USC Verdugo Hills Women's Council is hosting a paint night to raise funds for the IRA Cath Lab scheduled to open this month. This added service will provide the community with a fast response in identifying life threatening heart issues.

Tacos, Tequila and Paint is on May 5 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the patio of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital. Tickets are \$50. RSVP to Barbara Jordan at Barbara.Jordan@med.usc.edu or call (818) 952-2226.

BREAKING BARRIERS: GLENDALE'S PIONEERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS.

All are invited to take part in a festive evening with wine and refreshments in the Brand Park gazebo on May 14 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. to celebrate the reopening of the Doctors House. Be among the first to tour The Glendale Historical Society's special exhibit in the Doctors House Museum: Breaking Barriers: Glendale's Pioneering Women Entrepreneurs.

Each room in the Museum will be dedicated to one of five extraordinary women of Glendale: world-renowned Mid-century glassware designer Dorothy Thorpe; groundbreaking filmmaker Nell Shipman; pioneering cosmetics manufacturer Fanny Briggs Carr; prolific California art pottery owner A. Lois Modglin; and famed restaurateur Piedad Yorba Sowl. Explore their life and work on a docent-led tour featuring archival photos, historic artifacts and fascinating insider stories of these legendary Glendale women.

Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in advance. To RSVP and register, visit <https://glendalehistorical.org/breaking-barriers>.

Please note: Proof of COVID vaccination is required for entrance to the Museum and will be checked at the door. Masks must be worn inside the Museum.

IMPORTANT ARCHEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SITES IN AND AROUND THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

In spite of the growth of the San Fernando Valley, it still hosts some Native American rock and village sites as well as many sites dating from the Spanish, Mexican and early American periods.

The speaker for the May 14 program is Al Knight. He will take attendees on a "tour" of his selections of the most interesting of these sites. Knight has over 40 years of experience in archeological, anthropological and historic fieldwork, research and writing and is the author of numerous published and unpublished

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

She won a sweepstakes from Extended Stay America in 2019. Where's her prize?

When Michelle Fiorelli wins a battery-powered toy car in a hotel sweepstakes, she looks forward to receiving her prize. But almost four years later, she's still waiting. Will she ever get it?

Q: In 2019, I won a back to school sweepstakes from Extended Stay America. The prize was a Kid Trax battery-powered car. I still have not received any information on the shipping of this prize.

I wanted to surprise my twin nieces with this for Christmas 2019, but the car never arrived. Then I thought it would get here in time for their birthdays. I didn't hear back from Extended Stay for months.

About a month ago I was asked about the color for the prize and thought I would have it for this Christmas. But they never responded. Can you help me?

-- Michelle Fiorelli, Erie, Pennsylvania

A: Congratulations on winning the Kid Trax car, which looks like a lot of fun. Of course, Extended Stay America should have delivered the toy to you as promised. It looks like you followed up numerous times with the hotel chain and, to your credit, kept your correspondence polite and professional. I'm not sure if I would have been so patient.

As the founder of two nonprofit organizations, I've run many contests. They are more complicated than they look. Normally, there are three or more parties involved, including the company giving the merchandise away, a third-party fulfillment company, the

organization and the recipient. It can get confusing.

I would have appealed to Extended Stay America at a higher level and in writing. I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the company executives on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org.

You've waited a long time for your Kid Trax. It's been almost four years since you won that sweepstakes. In fact, this may be a new record. Are the kids still interested in playing with a toy car or have they outgrown it?

Most people would have given up on Extended Wait America by now. But not you. I admire your persistence. Often, companies keep people waiting in the hopes that they will give up and go

away. I'm not saying that's what happened here, but if that was what Extended Stay America had in mind, they were messing with the wrong customer. Good for you!

I contacted Extended Stay America on your behalf. It investigated your missing prize and found that the fulfillment company hadn't processed it for some reason. It followed up with the company and you received your Kid Trax – at last.

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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CALENDAR THIS previous page

reports. He has participated in over 250 projects in Southern California, including work leading to the creation of local Stonehurst community HPOZ.

This event begins at 1 p.m. and is free and open to the public (\$3 donation appreciated) and everyone is welcome.

Bolton Hall Museum, home of Little Landers Historical Society, is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

For additional information or to schedule a group visit, see BoltonHall.org or call (818) 352-3420 or email llhs@boltonhall.org.

DINE-OUT BENEFITS LCFQG

A dine-out fundraiser is being held on Wednesday, May 18 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Los Gringos Locos, 631 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada benefiting La Cañada Flintridge Orthopaedic Guild.

A copy of the flyer is at www.cvweekly.com/JUST FOR FUN.

CANDIDATE FORUM PLANNED FOR GUSD

A candidate forum for candidates for the Board of Education Areas B & C will be held on Wednesday, May 18 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

To register for the virtual webinar, visit www.gusd.net/May18.

This event is co-hosted by the Glendale Council PTA and the League of Women Voters of Greater Los Angeles. The public is invited to submit questions for consideration at tinyurl.com/y3eh2bx5 no later than May 1.

TGHS PRESENTS 'WE WERE AMERICANS'

On Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m. The Glendale Historical Society members Katherine and Glenn Yamada will provide a guided viewing of the film "We Were Americans" followed by a discussion with filmmakers Ara Oshagan and Avo Kambourian.

A few months after the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941,

President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 to 120,000 Japanese Americans living on the West Coast. The order directed them to report to local authorities for further instructions.

"We Were Americans" traces the Yamada family story before, during and after their internment. Commissioned in 2018 by ReflectSpace Gallery under the direction of Ara Oshagan, the documentary was filmed on location at the relocation center ruins in Poston and was directed, produced and edited by filmmaker Avo Kambourian.

This online event is free and open to all; however, advance reservations are required. To RSVP, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2s3z7sa7>.

'MAPPING THE SUBLIME' AT BRAND LIBRARY & ART CENTER

"Mapping the Sublime: Reframing Landscape in the 21st Century" is at the Brand Library & Art Center through June 11.

Los Angeles-based artists Lawrence Gipe and Beth Davila Waldman organized this survey of a diverse group of 19 artists that challenge the culture's conceptions regarding landscape, re-examining the genre as a mediated view of nature and a construction of centuries of aesthetic processing, demarcation and colonial expansion. The works persuade the viewer to consider the landscape genre anew, with traditional notions of the Sublime reevaluated to reflect contemporary issues of climate change and the Anthropocene.

Brand Library & Art Center, 1601 W. Mountain St. in Glendale

JBHS PLANS REUNION

Calling all graduates from John Burroughs High School class of 1962!

The 60th year class reunion celebration will be held at the Burbank Elks Lodge at 2232 N. Hollywood Way in Burbank on Saturday, June 25 from 5 p.m. to

10 p.m.

Come and renew old friendships, share memories and catch up on what's new. The Reunion Committee has planned an evening of fine dining, music enjoyed "back in the day" in addition to video and photo opportunities to capture the moments of this grand event. We want everyone to attend so if you know of classmates who haven't heard of this event, please let them know. The reunion committee strives to contact as many grads as possible.

JBHS Class of 1962 only: Have a fav song from our era? Submit the song title and song artist(s) as a reunion celebration playlist is being created. Send your selection to cchavoor@gmail.com and thank you in advance. This is going to be so much fun so don't miss out!!

For more information, please contact Chuck Chavoor at cchavoor@gmail.com.

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 cls74reunion@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.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES Provided by horoscope.com April 25, 2022 - May 1, 2022

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

This is the perfect time for changing your life. Think about starting with your health and well-being, as this is a major resource. Without your health, you can accomplish nothing. So if you don't already have a diet or exercise routine, start one now. Make it fun and interesting so you'll stick to it. Once you get into the swing of it, you'll find it worthwhile!

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

It would help to take extra care this week while out and about. You're more likely to take a risk this week. If you're going to be doing anything like parachute jumping or any other dangerous sport, check your equipment and listen to your intuition. If you feel angry, don't drive. Wait until you've calmed down. Be good to yourself.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You may be tempted to indulge in all those things that aren't really good for you. The stars' dominant powers make it hard to resist, especially if you've been feeling the need for comfort foods lately. Be careful that you don't fall prey to minor accidents, especially on Friday when you may be feeling quite reckless. Whatever you're doing, take your time.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

Don't let the pressure and stress of daily life get to you. You may be very busy at work, where problems are causing you to feel more tense than usual. Add to this some powerful influences that could cause you to take unnecessary risks and you can see why it's better to remain calm and not do anything potentially dangerous if you're in a hurry or feeling emotional.

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

Become your own authority concerning the level of fitness it's possible for you to reach. Don't think too much. Instead, leap on the bandwagon and get moving. This is the perfect time to jettison old patterns of thought that tell you that you can't and adopt new ways of being that are encouraging you to see that you can. You can be more fit than you previously dared think.

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

You're in a daredevil mood and ready for anything. Due to the power of the newest planetary transits, you may find that certain emotions rise to the surface and encourage you to take action and more risks than usual. Don't do anything dangerous, especially if you're angry or overreacting to events. Be especially careful on Friday. You may suffer a minor accident if you aren't careful.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

It's time to think about taking supplements on a more regular basis. It's especially important this week as you may be prone to picking up colds or other infections. Try zinc, vitamin C, or Echinacea to keep problems at bay. You tend to have a very hit-and-miss approach to staying well. This time, determine to develop regular health habits so that you can reap the rewards further down the line.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

If you feel out of sorts and are wondering why, try taking a break and doing something different. You may be prone to infections or to the moods and illnesses of others. Yes, it's a fact. A big dollop of star power can give you someone else's headache, since you're more open to other people's vibes. This overwhelming sensitivity should pass in a day or so, so just bear with it.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

There seems to be a lot happening in your health zone, which is great because it means progress is now possible. The stars are helping you clear out blockages and toxins that are keeping your energies from flowing as harmoniously as they might. If you're just starting an exercise plan, begin slowly and give your body a chance to adjust. This way you won't end up damaging muscles.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You're still in the process of changing your beliefs about your health and about how fit it's possible to be. Sometimes the watery nature of your being may put out the fire inside you and cause you to feel unenthusiastic about exercise and health issues. This is the time to balance both elements and allow the fire in you to revitalize your desire to exercise and reach a state of good health.

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Be extra careful if doing any DIY projects at home. You may be tempted to take a risk and could suffer a slight accident as a result. If you're working on plumbing or wiring, make sure you know what you're doing. If not, it may be best to call in the experts. Apart from this, your health looks pretty good. Keep up the good work.

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

The only problem you seem to be facing at this time is a possibility of mental strain. Your thinking processes are especially intense right now. This makes it even more important for you to relax on a regular basis. Make time each day to walk in nature or exercise in any way that suits you best. Any of these measures will help you settle down and give your brain a rest.

RELIGION

Q My husband's mother is 83, is very independent and still drives. She hasn't had a ticket for close to 40 years. We stay in close touch with her, but she seldom asks us for anything.

Two weeks ago, her purse was stolen out of her shopping cart even though she only turned her back to the cart for a couple of minutes. She was very upset and called us right away. Thank God for cellphones! We helped her cancel everything – credit cards, etc. – and now we'd like to gently insist we go shopping with her. We alluded to that when we were helping her contact DMV, and credit card/bank card agencies. She said, "Absolutely not! You are too busy with your jobs and family to take time for me!"

She has health issues that we know causes stress when things like this happen. Our question is: Should we insist or is there a better way of letting her know we care about her health and safety?

~ Love My Mother-in-Law

Dear Love My Mother-In-Law,

I totally relate to your question as my own mother lived alone in her big house for many years and I was her only caregiver. I was constantly leaving my phone on all night just in case she needed something, and I worried about her ability to care for herself dreading the phone call that she had fallen down the stairs she

slowly climbed each day.

Thankfully, it sounds like you aren't in a critical situation at this point. Your active mom-in-law uses her cellphone, shops for herself and seems to be dealing very well with being in her 80s. Even the youngest woman can have her purse stolen in a supermarket so I don't feel that is any cause for alarm, or a signal that she needs more help with basic functioning.

Even more good news here is that the first thing she did was to call you. She seems to have no problem reaching out to you when it's necessary. I invite you to consider that with our average life span extending many years beyond what it was when we were younger, 83 is the new 73 (and for some, the new 63!) It is important that your mom-in-law feels that she is a vital and independent person with purpose and value. When we jump in to help someone else, no matter what age, when they don't really need our help we are robbing them of the dignity to live their own life in their own God-given unique way. Our job is not to save people from life's challenges, but to love them through those challenges.

In answer to your question, definitely don't insist on helping unless there is a true health or safety issue. I will never forget the night I called my mom one last time before going to bed and she had just had a stroke. Everything changed

NOTES & NODS

LCIF News

Lutheran Church in the Foothills will hold an important congregational meeting on Sunday, May 1 following the 10 a.m. worship service. Among the items to be discussed is the call process for a new pastor. Pastor Chuck Bunnell is currently serving as interim pastor. The congregation of LCIF is grateful that Pastor Bunnell came out of retirement to help the church after the departure of Rev. Scott Peterson, but it is a temporary assignment. The meeting will be held in LCIF's Fellowship Hall. A Zoom link will be provided to those unable to attend. The church is seeking input from its members on the call process, as well as future goals for LCIF.

Efforts to help the people of Ukraine continue. After a successful clothing drive, the church is now collecting desperately needed medical supplies, including specific types of bandages and antibiotic ointments. Please check LCIF's website for a detailed list. A clothing drive for local people in need continues as well. Shoes are especially appreciated at this time. All items can be dropped off at the church.

Bible School has resumed for children ages 5-10. Families should meet in the sanctuary at 10 a.m. After the children's sermon, the kids head off to the youth room for a Bible lesson, craft and games. The children return to the sanctuary in time to receive Communion or a blessing from the pastor.

Sunday services begin at 10 a.m. in-person and are also live streamed on the church's YouTube channel. The services can be

viewed anytime on LCIF's website.

Pastor Bunnell's lecture series continues on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the church's conference room. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary.

Visit lcifoothills.org for event details, including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve. For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lcifoothills.org, or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

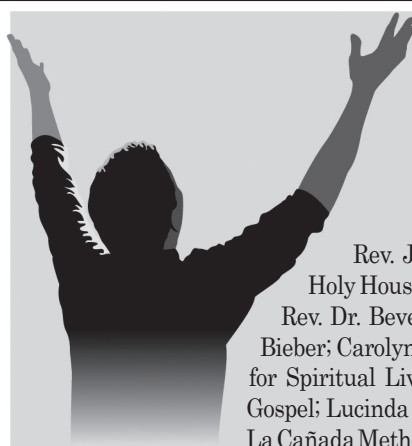
Walk and Word

In May, 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. on May 8, 15, 22 & 29. 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.



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church; Rev. Kimberlie Zakarian of Holy House Ministries; Anthony Kelson, RScP, Laney Clevenger-White, RScP, and Rev. Dr. Beverly Craig of Center for Spiritual Living – La Crescenta; Rabbi Janet Bieber; Carolyn Young; Sharon Weisman; Rev. Mary Morgan of Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living; Rev. Dabney Beck of International Church of the Four Square Gospel; Lucinda Guarino; Pastor Randy Foster of Christian Life Church; Karin Ellis of La Cañada Methodist Church; Rev. Rev. Sharri James of UP Church; The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman of Upland Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Rev. Rob Holman of St. Luke's Anglican Church; Rev. Sharri Johnson of One Heart Retreat Center; Rev. KC Slack of Unitarian Universalist of the Verdugo Hills; Rev. Jeff Blanton and Rev. Emanuel David of Community Life Church; Rev. Karen Mitchell of High Desert Center for Spiritual Living; Rev. Kyle Sears of La Cañada Congregational Church; Michelle Gillette, Unity Chaplain/Pasadena; Andy Gero, VFW Chaplain; Katie O'Brien, runningstream48@yahoo.com

Responses are offered from the perspective of individual Spiritually Speaking respondents, which may or may not be in agreement with other respondents of Spiritually Speaking nor the editor and staff of the Crescenta Valley Weekly.

that night and now she is active, and happier than ever, in a thriving assisted living community. If you notice that your mom-in-law's health is being compromised by undue stress, take her out for a nice lunch or a drive. Keep the lines of communication open, listen to her feelings about her life and let her know that you truly are there for her when she eventually does need more help. Most importantly, don't expect the worst at every turn. Dr. Ernest Holmes teaches us, "Prepare your mind to receive the best that life has to offer" and I am glad to say that there is no age limit in that wise statement.



Rev. Karen Mitchell
revkarenmitchell@gmail.com

Dear Lady Who Loves Her Mother-in-Law,

First of all, thanks for caring. Not every daughter-in-law loves her mother-in-law. Nor does every son-in-law love his mother-in-law. (I won't tell any mother-in-law joke here!) But this is a serious situation and I understand your concern. However, I'm not really sure you can "insist" on anything yet. Also – full disclosure – I just turned 80 and my wife is "somewhat" older and we both are still good drivers. We are blessed with good health and we both still work.

So, since I'm almost your mother-in-law's age, you may take what I say with a grain of salt. However, even though you may worry about your mother-in-law's capabilities, the law doesn't care about your worries! If I were you, I would suggest again that you go shopping with her but, if she declines your offer, I think you have to back off. Remind her from time to time that you are "available" if she needs you. And keep on reminding her. But I don't think you can "force" her to do anything.

By the way, in my Upland congregation, we have a woman who just turned 92 and she drives a big ol' SUV ... and not everybody is happy about the idea!

Thanks for caring and keeping

watch. But I'm afraid you'll just have to keep worrying. Do you really want to try to get her declared incompetent? I'm sure the answer is no. Worrying about her and checking up on her from time to time is – in my humble opinion – a much better solution. Have you noticed? We are all living longer these days. Something else for you to worry about!



The Rev. C. L. "Skip"
Lindeman
lindemanskip@yahoo.com

Q From the time our children were very young we taught them to be kind to everyone and everything, including people, animals and plant life. They also learn this at the children's church they attend. Our son, Will, who is in kindergarten, came home very upset because some of his classmates were being unkind toward another classmate. He told them that we're supposed to be kind to everyone and one of the kids slapped him. At this point, the teacher intervened and told all of them that they must be kind to one another. The kid who slapped Will was taken aside and was told never, ever, to hit anyone again.

Our concern is our son is dismayed at this behavior. We know as he grows older he will experience inconsiderate people. We'd like suggestions to help Will remain strong and not allow these negative behaviors to affect him. We also have told him it's wrong to retaliate.

We're grateful for your help.
~ Devoted Parents

Dear Devoted Parents,

My heart is grieved by the behavior of some young people these days. Some are not learning decent and respectful norms of society while others suffer disruption from the past few years of instability. The circumstances, in both instances, cause us to reflect on the state of our world. Yet, on the other hand, I'm grateful

for those who deem it necessary to raise their children with integrity and virtues, despite others' habits. Scripture encourages us to: "Train a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not turn away from it." Proverbs 22:6 (GW)

And that verse sounds precisely like what you're gifting to your son. Kudos to you both!

We've just experienced Holy Week, the Passion, and the resurrection, and we're now nearing Pentecost. This season would be a rich time to discuss the path that Jesus elected to take, modeling strength amid adversity. You and your church team might walk through what sacrifices look like and why we choose to pray for instead of curse people who have wronged us.

You might remind Will that even though Jesus didn't do anything wrong, others made fun of Him, ridiculed and were mean to Him, and all the while, He remained steadfast in His convictions and promises to His Father and us. Since your son is only 5 years old, keep the discussion age-appropriate and straightforward. Children are exceptional at grasping the essence of what we say to them when we don't complicate the information.

From a practical point of view, you may consider meeting with your son's teacher with Will in attendance. Perhaps have a brief discussion about what happened and make some agreements between the four of you that will give Will some options should a similar situation arise. This way, he will feel loved and protected and be empowered to make some positive choices for himself.

Open a line of communication that assists him in knowing that he can come to you with any question and you'll take the time to help him understand. Sometimes that answer will be elusive and you can research some possibilities together. This practice will be the foundation for more complex questions as he gets older.

"Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to resentment], but rear them [tenderly] in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4 (AMPC)

see RELIGION on next page

RELIGION from previous page

I remember a story about a young child who asked his father about sex. The father awkwardly launched into a conversation about the birds and the bees. Then, after some time, he paused and asked his child if he understood. The child nodded but quizzically asked, "Dad, am I male or female? What sex am I?"

The story is an example of too much information. Remember: age-appropriate is the key. First, discern the true nature of the question and then answer in ways that speak directly to the issue at hand. Children are satisfied with direct answers, for the most part, and will return with additional

questions if there's a need.

As you pray for guidance and direction, the Lord will provide ways for you to address this and other complicated matters of faith with your son. I'm warmed by the intentionality of your question and beseech Holy Spirit to come alongside you with wisdom and discernment. Jesus shared the importance of our children's questions with us in Matthew 19:14: "Then some little children were brought to him so that he could put his hands on them and pray for them. The disciples frowned on the parents' action but Jesus said, 'You must let little children come to me, and

you must never stop them. The kingdom of Heaven belongs to little children like these!' Then he laid his hands on them and went on his way. (DARBY)

Be well & be blessed!



Lucinda Guarino
lucindaguarino1@gmail.com

Dear Devoted Parents,
As someone with a 2-month-old baby girl, I feel the weight of your question a bit heavier now. Raising children to be courageously kind is a difficult, yet vital, task. I think that you are right to see that there will be more instances of inconsiderate people who will try to tear down your son's kindness, but Jesus demonstrates that one act of kindness can change someone's world. Jesus was kind towards a tax collector named Zacchaeus (Luke 19.) Tax collectors in the first century weren't any more popular then. This is mostly because they made their wealth from collecting extra money on top of the taxes.

But Jesus actually was kind towards him, and Zacchaeus changed his entire life in response to his kindness. He went from stealing from others to being generous and kind. One moment of Jesus' kindness changed the world not just for Zacchaeus, but all the people around him. Your son will (far too) quickly learn that kindness isn't always rewarded by others. But character is a better reward. The kindness he shows will have a lasting impact on those around him. One of the best things you can do for your son is to remind him that, in the long run, being kind to others can change lives in a way that cruelty and inconsiderate people cannot.

RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.



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Pastor Jeff Blanton
JeffB@madeforcommunity.com

Light on the Corner Church



Pastor Jon Karn
1911 Waltonia Drive
Montrose
(818) 249-4806

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 a.m.
www.lightonthecorner.org

Lutheran Church in the Foothills



1700 Foothill Blvd.
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CHUCK BUNNELL, INTERIM PASTOR
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COME MEET US!
St. Luke's of-the-Mountains Episcopal Church



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Worship 10:00AM
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LEGALS

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME: MARY LOU MARTINEZ-MATHEU. Case number 22GD00052. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 600 East Broadway Room 279, Glendale, CA 91206. To all interested persons: 1. Petitioner MARY LOU MARTINEZ-MATHEU, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: a. Present Name: MARY LOU MARTINEZ-MATHEU to Proposed Name: MARY LOU MARTINEZ RAMOS. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING a. Date: JUNE 8, 2022 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: D Room: 279 b. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Published Crescenta Valley Weekly April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2022.

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME: MARIAN CATHERINE RADCLIFFE. Case number 22GD00058. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 600 East Broadway Room 279, Glendale, CA 91206. To all interested persons: 1. Petitioner MARIAN CATHERINE RADCLIFFE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: a. Present Name MARIAN CATHERINE RADCLIFFE to Proposed Name: MARIAN CATHERINE OREM. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING a. Date: JUNE 8, 2022 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: D Room: n/a b. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Published Crescenta Valley Weekly April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 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.storage treasures.com on 5/19/2022 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Michael George Seifert; 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, April 28, May 5, 2022.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE
 Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta Cloud Ave located at 4441 Cloud 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.storage treasures.com on 5/19/2022 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Stephanie Louise Campbell; Alexander Mahony; Steven Miller. 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, April 28, May 5, 2022.

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.storage treasures.com on 5/19/2022 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Teresta Dejesus Navarro; Sylvain William Maximilian Dhabsburg; Henry Runge. 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, April 28, May 5, 2022.

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MOVING SALE!
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BRIGGS TERRACE COMMUNITY YARD SALE
 Saturday, April 30, 8 am 'till stuff is gone! Several families participating. Tools, toolboxes: SnapOn, Craftsman, Dewalt. Furniture, antiques, rugs, dishes, craft supplies, clothing, jewelry, books, home goods and much more! Follow the signs! Grab a map at any participating home!

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BUDGET from COVER

go up 5.9% necessitating the use of \$17.9 million in ARPA funds to balance the budget (the city has received approximately \$43 million in these funds and has \$38 million left).

Approved by the voters in 2018 to protect essential services, Measure S added three-quarters of a cent in tax revenue to the city coffers. So far, the city has spent \$52 million on affordable housing and land acquisition, low income and housing subsidies, bike lanes and year-round aquatics, street art, crossing guards and fire safety apparatus.

“The foresight to shepherd through this Measure passed by the voters is unprecedented and has enabled us to help businesses and residents in this economic recovery,” City Manager Golanian boasted. “Fifty-two million is a lot of money used to improve the life of every single resident in the city.”

Councilmember Vrej Agajanian argued that more of the Measure S funds should be used for housing.

“I went on TV to promote Measure S and we talked about affordable housing,” he said. “That’s what we focused on.”

Councilmember Ara Najarian recalled the history of the measure: Measure S passed in 2018 with 55% of the vote; the campaign to pass it highlighted public safety and community services along with housing.

“There was a list of eight things and housing wasn’t even the first – I’m proud of spending for affordable housing but we have to balance it out and provide improvements to the quality of life for all parts of the city,” Najarian responded.

Financial projections for the next five years are not as rosy. According to Bradford, “We think the landfill may close in 2024-25 so we needed to lower those revenue projections by \$4.5 million.”

The city’s financial staff predicts future growth in revenue at around 2% while they estimate increases in appropriations increasing at 2.5%. ARPA funds “are gone in 24-25,” Bradford added. The five-year forecasts show budgets balanced for the next three years but not beyond that.

“What’s coming down the pipeline is a very concerning picture,” Mayor Ardy Kassakhian offered.

Councilmember Najarian pointed out that indications are that reserves will decrease steeply over the next five years.

“The chart shows our reserve going from 32% and dropping by half to 16% at the end of five years because our expenditures are exceeding our revenue – and that is not a sustainable model,” he said. “If we were a company on the stock exchange, they’d be selling off our stock. We can deal with it on the expenditure side or on the revenue side and either one is painful. Cutting expenditures is tough – I mean, we’re a service organization.”

“I am confident in the Council coming together and with our fully capable staff figuring out how to keep the city running smoothly, but it won’t be easy, and it will require some give and take,” Mayor Kassakhian said, wrapping up the first budget study session.

Here is the schedule of upcoming budget hearings:

May 3 at 9 a.m. Quality of Life * community services and parks; library, arts, and culture; community development

May 5 at 9 a.m. Infrastructure * public works and GWP

May 10 at 9 a.m. Public Safety * fire; police

May 19 at 9 a.m. Central Support * city attorney; clerk; treasurer; manager; HR; IT; finance

May 24 at 11 a.m. Follow-up items

June 14 at 6 p.m. Budget hearing and adoption of the budget by Council

SPORTS from page 16

individual players from also having outstanding seasons. Early in the season a play known simply as “The Catch” saw Brianne Ballard feed younger sister Camden Ballard the ball for a thrilling overtime goal that this reporter is honored to say he saw in person. Brianne Ballard has gone on to have an outstanding season and is in the top-25 players in the United States in assists. Meanwhile, teammate Haylen Molina, an Under Armour All-American, was recently selected to the Under Armour 2023 Top Players in the United States Watchlist.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/SPORTS

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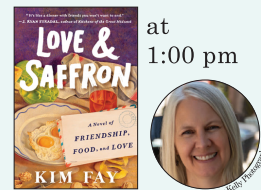
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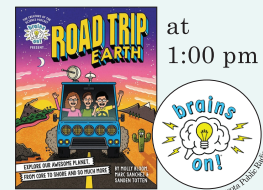
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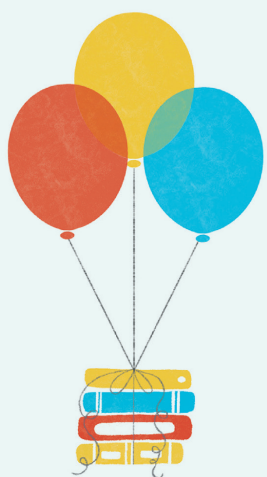
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