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## Council Responds at Contentious Meeting

By Mary O'KEEFE

Last week's Glendale City Council meeting was contentious. At one point Mayor Dan Brotman called for a time out to calm the situation.

When the meeting resumed, due to ongoing interruptions by several audience members, City Attorney Michael Garcia suggested that the mayor had been patient and advised it was time to think about clearing the chamber. The mayor gave the audience one more chance to act respectfully; however, the audience did not respond and the chamber was cleared.

Speakers during the public communication portion of the meeting primarily focused on Glendale Unified School District issues; however, the city council did discuss other issues outside of comments.

Discussion was held regarding the awarding of a contract to MV Transportation, Inc. (MVT) for the Beeline fixed-route and Dial-A-Ride Transit Services. The discussion began with a question by councilmembers, mainly Elen Asatryan and Ardy Kassakhian, on why the Council was not given more time to review the contract recommended by staff. The contract, if awarded, would amount not exceed \$76,000,000 for a six-year term. MVT has been the Glendale transit company for about two decades.

The staff recommended awarding a six-year, plus two-year extension, contract to MVT to operate the Beeline fixed-route bus and Dial-A-Ride paratransit services and maintain their fleets.

Asatryan said this issue reminded her of her first meeting on Council when Glendale Water and Power had brought a request for proposal (RFP).

"This contract is due June 30 and we are getting it just weeks before it's up," she said. "I am trying to process, when we knew this was coming to us and we were supposed to vote, why are we getting it a couple of weeks before the contracts is [set] to expire."

She asked again why

see COUNCIL MEETING on page 6

## 'The Rockets' Red Glare' – and More – Found at CV Fireworks Fourth of July Celebration

By Mary O'KEEFE

*For the 16th year, the CV Fireworks Assn. hosts a dynamic event for the Crescenta Valley.*

The Crescenta Valley Fireworks Association (CVFA) will once again fill the night sky over the Crescenta Valley High School track and field with dazzling light on the Fourth of July.

In addition to the fireworks display, ticketholders will find entertainment and games for kids on the school field including several inflatables. (The inflatables charge a separate fee from the entrance fee.)

"Last year we had the Mary Dyer Band," said Steve Goldsworthy, president of the CVFA, of the entertainment. "We booked them early this year as we wanted to make sure they would be at the event. We also have



FILE Photo The night sky above the Crescenta Valley will be filled with fireworks thanks to donors and the Crescenta Valley Fireworks Association.

the [CVHS] jazz band for an hour this year before Mary Dyer comes on."

There will also be nine food trucks and one dessert truck from which people can purchase

food and dessert. The food trucks will be parked along Ramsdell

see COVER on page 19

## GUSD Board Meeting Sees More Protests and Surprise Announcement of Superintendent's Retirement

By Mary O'KEEFE

The Tuesday night Glendale Unified School District board meeting once again was the scene of chaos, anger and concern. Parents shared their opinions; some praised the district for its inclusivity of all students while others chastised the board for its LGBTQ+ policies, although there was nothing on the agenda concerning that issue. But it was the last part of the meeting that will impact the district the most: Superintendent Vivian Ekchian announced her retirement.

Ekchian has been in the field of education for 38 years. She started her journey as GUSD superintendent on July 1, 2019 and one of the first issues she tackled was vaping [the use of electronic cigarettes]. She led the district as it joined Los Angeles Unified in filing a lawsuit against JUUL Labs Inc.,

see GUSD on page 7



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE Glendale police watch over a crowd of protesters at Tuesday's Glendale Unified School District board meeting.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER



# The Longest Day of the Year

I've been married over 42 years (yes, I was robbed from my cradle). Back in the late '70s/early '80s, Steve and I were dating and, though very young, were becoming serious. Like many of us did in high school, I would write Robin Goldsworthy on pads of paper to see how my new name would look. Steve lived on Abella Street in La Crescenta and had a neighbor who was a ring designer. He actually made our rings.

So I knew the time was coming when the question would be popped.

But time stretched on and no popping took place.

On the longest day of the year in June 1980, Steve and I went horseback riding in Shadow Hills with my friend Terri. Afterward, we were going to dinner at (then) Villa Cinzano (now Villa Terraza).

Back then Steve drove a '65 Mustang that wasn't always up to code. In other words, it would often attract the attention of local cops. Back in 1980, we were heading to Villa Cinzano when an LAPD officer eyeballed us. Before he turned on his lights, we pulled into the parking lot of the restaurant to have dinner – but the restaurant was closed! I don't know if we got there too late or what but we ended up sitting in his car in the parking lot, staring across the street at the parked cop who seemed determined to wait us out.

Now and then Steve would ask me to marry him and I would always reply, "Show me a ring and we'll talk." In that parking lot, on the longest day of the year, Steve asked me to marry him. In typical fashion, I replied, "Show me a ring and we'll talk."

To my surprise he did pull out a ring – the ring –

and we indeed started to talk.

Forty-two years later the conversation continues.

This week was the anniversary of the proposal. Villa Terraza, which has undergone several ideations over the years, is still one of our favorite restaurants. The owner is very generous in letting me share that engagement story nearly every time we eat there.

I was talking to my son in North Carolina, telling him of the dramas taking place in town. Between the CVWD proposing a capital charge on property taxes and the craziness at the headquarters of the GUSD (see CV Weekly, June 8), he's probably glad he's not here anymore.

My personal opinions? The capital charge on property taxes by the CVWD affects only property owners – that ticks me off. I understand that the improvements need to be done but I'm not happy with the proposal on how to finance them.

Regarding the GUSD brouhaha, it seems to me the concern is misplaced surrounding the LGBTQ+ curriculum. The agenda item was to approve the recognition by the district of June as Pride Month, which has been done for years; there was no discussion planned regarding the curriculum. Seems those protesting are a bit premature and should fact check before buying into the scare tactics of someone who apparently has political aspirations...

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

» WEATHER WATCH

## Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O'KEEFE

I was going to write about the overabundance of sea urchins and why this is important to sea kelp – and I will next week – but over the weekend I saw a lot of Father's Day posts and shares. We had our traditional Father's Day dinner with my husband and my son, who has been a dad for three years now ... and has thrived. At our table were photos of dads/grandfathers who have passed and, of course, we toasted to their memory.

As I watched my son and husband play a very creative form of baseball my grandson has created, I realized how important fatherhood is. Being a mom I know how instrumental moms are to the lives of our kids – and honestly we do get a lot of love on Mother's Day – but dads are often a second thought. And this thought took me to Kruger National Park and elephants.

I often forget what I did yesterday but this story I read decades ago I still remember as if I had read it today. The article was about a group of elephants that had been separated due to overpopulation at a park in South Africa. Because of logistics officials moved young elephants, male and female, and older females to another park leaving the heavier older male elephants at their original location. What happened next really highlighted the importance of a positive male role model.

Not completely trusting my memory I researched the decades-old story and below is what I found:

The Kruger National Park and game reserve in South Africa found themselves with an overpopulation of the once-endangered

elephants. The solution was to airvac (evacuate via helicopter) elephants to another park, Pilanesberg National Park. They realized that the full adult male elephants were too heavy to actually airvac so they went with the relatively smaller females and young males.

"As a result, there were no older bull elephants to push these youngsters out of musth. The huge rush of testosterone was overwhelming them and driving them to aggressive behavior," according to BBC earth.com.

Musth is a unique state to elephants when young elephants, usually in their 20s, are flooded with reproductive hormones. This is a time when they adopt a definite swagger to make themselves look taller, along with other biological things happening, all in an effort to let females know they aren't just looking for a mate but they are really cool elephants looking for a mate. They become very aggressive and have been known to fight each other to death, stabbing their opponent with their tusks. What normally happens is when these hyped-up hormonal young elephants meet up with a bigger, dad-type bull they immediately drop out of musth as they know their young maleness cannot compete with the older male.

"A young male may only be in musth for a few days. As he ages, the length of his musth periods increase until by the time he's in his 40s he can handle it and his musth period could be weeks," according to BBC earth.com.

The result of these young hormone-driven male elephants at Pilanesberg National Park was frightening. The elephants began attacking

see WEATHER on page 6

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# NEWS

## IN BRIEF

### CVCA to Meet

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its monthly meeting tonight, Thursday, June 22 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 [crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com](mailto:crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com) with questions and for Zoom meeting information. All are welcome.

### Rosemont Preserve Hosts Docent-Led Tour

The community is invited to learn about bats at the Rosemont Preserve on a docent-led tour from 9 a.m. to 10:45 on June 24. Bat aficionado Steve Gustafson will give an informative talk about local bats, tips on how to observe bats and their importance to Crescenta Valley and beyond. Gustafson has been studying and watching bats for many years.

After the bat event, the Preserve will stay open until 10:45 a.m. so attendees can enjoy the trail.

The Preserve is located at the north end of Rosemont Avenue, just past the chain link fence. As street parking is limited, please park at Two Strike Park, 5107 Rosemont Ave. Those with mobility issues who require a closer parking spot should contact the Rosemont Preserve Committee.

Those planning on walking the trails should wear sturdy shoes and bring water to drink.

This event is free to the public and suitable for all ages; no reservations required. Rain cancels. Sorry, no pets please.

For further information, contact the Friends of the Rosemont Preserve at [RosemontFriends@gmail.com](mailto:RosemontFriends@gmail.com).

### Vote Planned Regarding CVWD Proposed Capital Charge on the Property Tax Roll

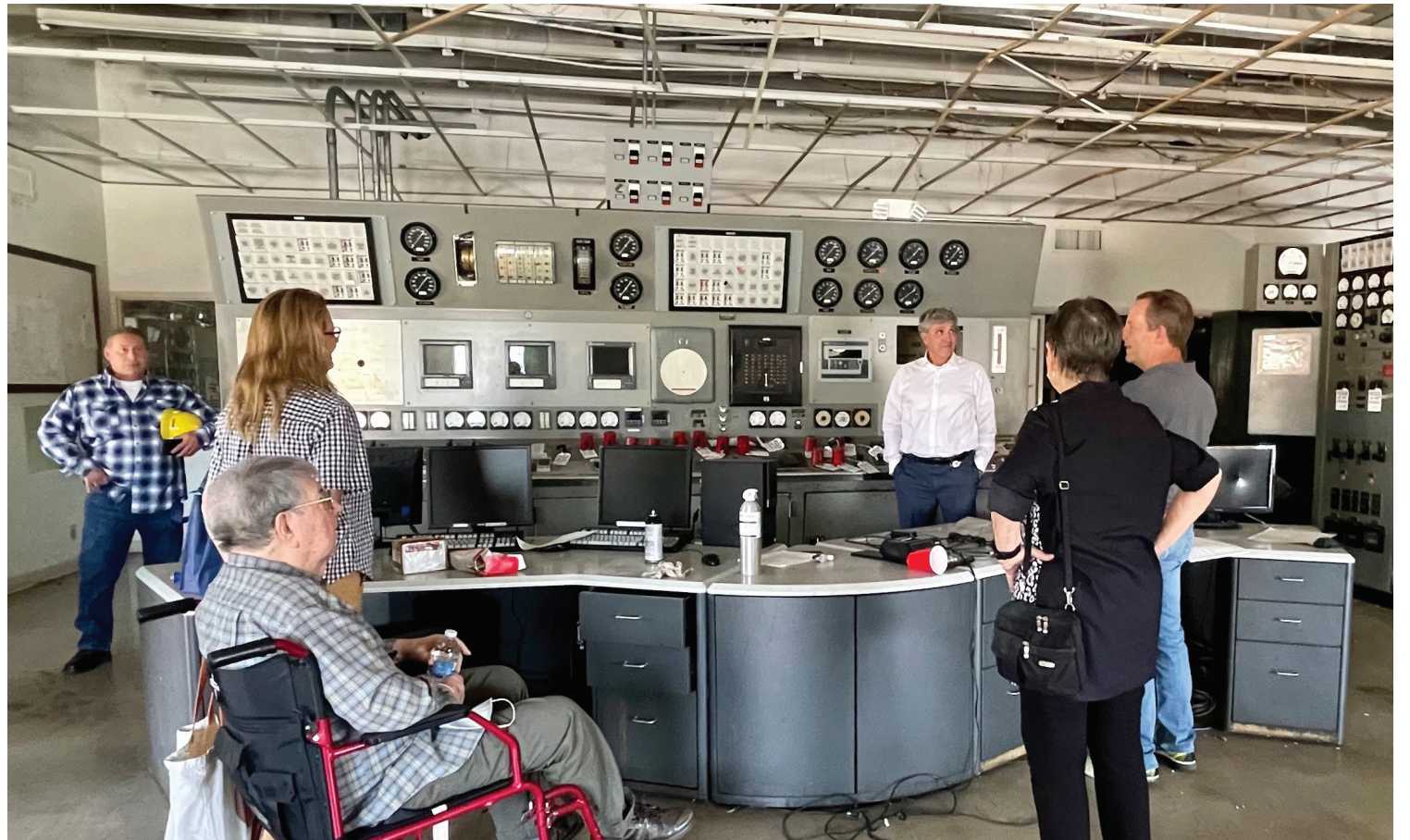
At the general meeting of the CV Water District on June 27 at 7 p.m., a vote is being taken by the board of directors regarding the proposed capital charge on the property tax roll. The meeting is open to the public.

The June 27 agenda and the protest letters received by the cutoff date should be on the CVWD website no later than Friday, June 23 and video of the June 13 meeting and questions posed by CVWD customers should already be on the site, according to CVWD.

### July 4th Fireworks Tickets

Tickets are now available for the Crescenta Valley Fireworks Celebration on July 4th. The event includes live music, inflatables and food trucks culminating with a dynamic fireworks show at dusk. For more information, including locations to pre-purchase tickets, see this week's cover story.

# The Grayson Family Takes Final Tour of Power Plant



Photos by Lynn SHER

The Grayson family started the tour in Control Room Number 2. Mark Young, general manager of Glendale Water and Power, and John Escudero, plant superintendent, gave some history of the plant and their time at GWP.

By Lynn SHER

The extended family of Laurel Grayson visited the Grayson Power Plant (GPP) on Tuesday, June 20 for a final tour of the facilities. Grayson was chief engineer and general manager of the plant that was his namesake. The family present on Tuesday included his son David Grayson and daughter Cynthia Pearson, grandson David Pearson and granddaughter Elisabeth Zahm and great-grandson and great-granddaughter Caden and Lauren Zahm. Mark Young, general manager of Glendale Water and Power (GWP), and John Escudero, plant superintendent, began the tour by saying a little about their personal histories.

Both had started their careers as apprentices in 1989, working their way up over the decades to their current titles. Young's emotional connection to the GPP was obvious as he held back tears.

"I don't like to have my history erased," he said of his feelings regarding the plant's closure. He explained how a couple of weeks ago a lunch was held for previously employed operators and mechanics. He said that many emotions surfaced when he thought about showing the family the GPP one last time.

Glendale has been receiving its power and water from the Grayson Power Plant since the 1940s, but the plant needs modernization. According to [glendaleca.gov](http://glendaleca.gov), "Much of [the GPP's] existing infrastructure and equipment is due for replacement."

It was proposed that the Grayson Repowering Project "would replace aged, unreliable, inefficient and high maintenance equipment at the Grayson Power Plant with a combination of energy storage and new, efficient, faster-starting and more environmentally responsible generation technologies."

On the GWP website it states, "GWP is faced with the imminent retirement of its only local generation resource, the natural gas fired Grayson Power Plant at 800 Air Way in Glendale. GWP is extremely dependent on imported power over constrained electric transmission and must replace the retiring Grayson units with reliable local generation. The retirement of the Grayson Power Plant presents GWP with a unique opportunity to shift to cleaner, more efficient technology to power the City in the future."

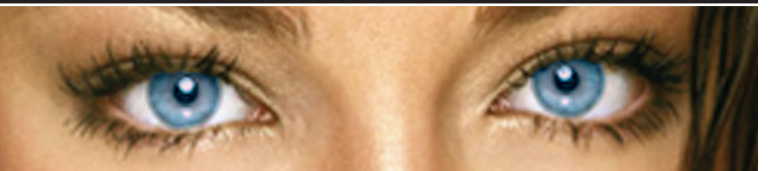
Explaining the transition to a repowering project, the website further states, "Glendale is heavily dependent upon imported power to serve its customers, and the transmission import capacity is less than the peak summer, so GWP needs to have a local source of power to back up the transmission imports and ensure reliable service. ... The Grayson Power Plant is well past its useful life and needs to be repowered in order to meet the current and future energy needs of the City of Glendale. A repowering project would replace the aged, unreliable, inefficient and high maintenance equipment at the Grayson Power Plant with new, efficient, faster-starting and more environmentally-responsible generation technologies."

To learn more about the Grayson Repowering Project, visit <http://graysonrepowering.com/#project-overview>.



Laurel Grayson's daughter Cynthia Pearson, center, with her daughter and her daughter's son.

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# An Overview of Juneteenth

By Mary O'KEEFE

Each year on June 19, we look back to this day in 1865, on which Union General Gordon Granger led troops into Galveston, Texas to announce the end of the Civil War and the insidious institution of slavery. Thousands of enslaved people in Texas, among the last to learn of their independence, were finally freed – more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation,” states a portion of the State of California Juneteenth Proclamation issued by Gov. Gavin Newsom on June 17, 2023. “On ‘Freedom’s Eve,’ or the eve of Jan. 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African Americans gathered in churches and private homes all across the country awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered as all

enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free. Union soldiers, many of whom were Black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation, spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States. Only through the Thirteenth Amendment did emancipation end slavery throughout the United States,” according to the Smithsonian.

However, there were some in the Confederate territory who would not immediately be freed. On Friday, after decades of planning, the International African American Museum will hold its grand opening community celebration in Charleston, South Carolina. On the following Tuesday, June 27, the museum will be open to the public.

“The International African American Museum (IAAM) explores cultures and knowledge systems retained and adapted

by Africans in the Americas and the diverse journeys and achievements of these individuals and their descendants in South Carolina, the United States, and throughout the African Diaspora,” according to <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/international-african-american-museum>.

The creation of the museum was first announced in 2000, an idea from former Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr. In 2002, a steering committee was formed to explore the development of the museum and in 2005 Congressman Jim Clyburn became the museum’s first chair of the board of directors.

For anyone planning a trip to South Carolina or who would like information on the museum go to [iaamuseum.org](http://iaamuseum.org) or call (843) 872-5352.



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# Rockhaven: Update and Fundraiser

By Mary O'KEEFE

Friends of Rockhaven, a 501(c)(3) organization, is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the non-profit organization and fund maintenance of Rockhaven, located in the 2700 block of Honolulu Avenue. A wine tasting event at a La Crescenta residence will be held on Sunday, June 25 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40.

“Join us for a summer afternoon of wine tasting, appetizers and great company in the newly refurbished backyard of [Friends of Rockhaven]

treasurer’s home in La Crescenta. Wine connoisseur Amanda Moe will guide us through five tastings of fine wines you can easily find and buy,” according to Friends of Rockhaven.

The address will be available for ticket buyers closer to the event date. For ticket information or for those with questions call (747) 688-0311.

Recently the Friends of Rockhaven filed a lawsuit against the City of Glendale as a “last resort” to get the City to maintain this historical property.

After 15 years, Friends of

Rockhaven members felt enough time was given to the City to care for and maintain the site’s buildings, which have fallen into disrepair. The lawsuit also asks for an accounting of the funds that had been put aside for Rockhaven’s maintenance, said Joanna Linkchorst, president of Friends of Rockhaven, in a previous interview with CVW.

Prior to the filing members of the Rockhaven organization conducted tours of the former sanitarium and were meeting with City officials concerning maintenance of the property and buildings on it. Since the

see ROCKHAVEN on page 6



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# Pride Celebrated at Area Parks

By Mary O'KEEFE  
and Lynn SHER

Crescenta Valley Park hosted an LA County Dept. of Parks and Recreation sponsored Pride at the Park event on Saturday, June 17. It was one of many in June hosted throughout LA County in honor of Pride Month. Parks and Recreation implemented these two-hour events “to elevate inclusion in Parks and Recreation programs and spaces while celebrating LA County’s diversity.”

Each event had a different schedule of featured activities. For examples, Ted Watkins Park in Watts had a Build-a-Bear table, rainbow flag coloring, food tasting and a vaccine clinic. In Manzanita Park in Hacienda Heights there was a drag story hour. CV Park’s Pride in the Park started at 10 a.m. in the community room by the dog park. There was a complimentary breakfast available for attendees and games were provided like corn hole and a giant checkers board in the outside area and face painting. St. Luke’s of the Mountains Episcopal Church, Center for Spiritual Living-Crescenta Valley, the Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church (CVUMC) and the Chase Taylor Malone Impact Foundation each had tables set up that provided information about their



From left, from St. Luke’s of the Mountains vicar Guy Leemhuis, Vanessa and Gabe Ynda

Photos by Lynn SHER



Della, event coordinator from LA County Parks and Recreation, tries out her face painting skills, on a hand



The community room at CV Park was decorated with pro Pride materials

organizations while showing their love and support for the LGBTQ+ community. Leaders from each group had a chance to give a presentation explaining who they were, what their organization was about and what inspired them to attend the event. Jeanne Lavieri from CVUMC spoke first highlighting the ways her church supports the LGBTQ+ community. She explained how the congregation is part of the Reconciling Ministries Network and has a new ministry called “Around the Rainbow.” According to [rmnetwork.org](http://rmnetwork.org), Reconciling Ministries is “committed to intersectional justice across and beyond the United

Methodist connection, working for the full participation of all LGBTQ+ people throughout the life and leadership of the Church.” CVUMC’s “Around the Rainbow” is a support group for families of LGBTQ+ individuals and is held Tuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Room 24 at the church though people start gathering at 6:30 p.m.

“A friend expressed the need,” Lavieri said of how the ministry was started at CVUMC.

The Chase Malone Impact Foundation was the only non-religious organization at the event. Rebekah DeBoskey, a senior at Crescenta Valley High School and a student ambassador for the Foundation,

said, “The Impact Foundation is a service that seeks to provide mental health services ranging from nutrition services and yoga to substance abuse programs. It’s particularly impactful for LGBTQ+ youth.”

Though attendance at the event was sparse there are plans on holding another Pride at the Park event next year.

In Glendale, a Pride at the Park event – sponsored by glendaleOUT – was a colorful and joyous event at Adams Square Mini Park in Glendale. It was a family-friendly event that featured a food truck, face painting, and arts and crafts.



State Senator Anthony Portantino stopped at the Adams Park event

Photos by Mary O'KEEFE

## One Person Transported to Hospital After Stabbing

An investigation is underway following a late-night stabbing that has left one person hospitalized in stable condition.

On June 20 at about 11p.m., an employee of Wendy’s, located at 1575 N. Victory Place, called the Burbank Police Dept. to report a man standing in the drive-through lane claiming to have been stabbed. The first police officers to arrive found the victim who was suffering from multiple

stab wounds.

The victim told officers he and the suspect were both homeless. The two had an argument that turned physical when the suspect stabbed the victim multiple times.

The victim is a 52-year-old man who was treated at the scene by officers and Burbank Fire Dept. paramedics before being transported to a local hospital. He is listed in stable condition and is expected to survive.

Multiple officers responded to the area and searched for the suspect but did not locate him. Investigators are canvassing the area for evidence and collecting surveillance video.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Burbank Police Dept./ Investigation Division at (818) 238-3210.

## CRIME BLOTTER

### JUNE 16

5100 block of Angeles Crest Highway in La Cañada Flintridge, a home was ransacked and items were stolen between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

### JUNE 15

400 Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, a speaker was stolen from an unlocked vehicle between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

### JUNE 14

5100 block of Oakwood in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident reported seeing suspects walking toward her SUV. Then, via surveillance footage, they were seen opening the rear passenger doors of the SUV and entering. Suspect No. 1 exited the vehicle in possession of the resident’s purse. Suspect No. 1 walked southbound on Oakwood followed by Suspect No. 2. Suspect No. 1 was described as

wearing a black sweater and blue jeans. There was no description of Suspect No. 2.

The theft occurred between 3:54 a.m. and 3:56 a.m.

4700 block of Indianola Way in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident reported receiving a notification from his security camera system there was a motion in the driveway. When he opened the application, he saw an unknown male open the front passenger door of his parked vehicle in the driveway. Another suspect opened the driver’s door and rummaged through the vehicle. Both suspects then left the vehicle and entered a dark colored sedan that was parked on a nearby street and drove away. The resident reported that a pair of sunglasses was missing and the vehicle was rummaged

through.

The vehicle burglary occurred at 3:44 a.m.

500 block in Starlight Crest Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a resident reported a family member heard early in the morning what sounded like a trunk door being opened and then closed. Later when she went to her vehicle she found several items were missing from the interior of her vehicle and from the car’s trunk.

The vehicle burglary occurred at 3 a.m.

### JUNE 13

4300 block of Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, an unlocked vehicle was rummaged through and personal items were stolen overnight.

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WEATHER from page 2

and killing rhinos in the park. The rhinos were badly mutilated, over 50 in all, with wounds to the top of their shoulders and necks. It is apparently common for fights to break out between rhinos and elephants over watering holes but this was something different. The volume of attacks was very unusual. Gus Van Dyk, an ecologist at Pilanesberg National Park, researched the issue and found a group of adolescent male elephants between the ages of 12 and 20 years old were experiencing heightened aggression.

Officials introduced six older male bull elephants from Kruger National Park that towered over the adolescents and literally within hours the teen thugs had dropped out of musth. No more

rhinos had been killed since the older males were introduced.

"This musth story was used in an American academic paper as an example in human adolescence of the importance of a stable society and a father figure to provide boundaries for teen males. ... The result was a happy ending for the elephants in Pilanesberg and one from which maybe we can learn," according to BBC earth.com.

This is also an example of how vital it is for all adults to be positive role models. Children are watching, and guiding them into a positive world is important.

The story is also an example on how fragile our ecological system is. First, due to the overhunting and murdering of elephants almost to extinction then "autocorrecting" by protecting them and then to separate them once again affecting their social structure and acculturation.

Looking ahead, there may be cloudy mornings ahead breaking through, at times, with some sun

shining during the day.

Recently the foggy day predictions have become rainy day realities, which returns us to the heavy marine layer we have been seeing lately. According to Mike Wofford, meteorologist with NOAA, there is not an easy way to predict the rain that could – or could not – follow the heavy marine layer ... and sometimes drizzle can move into measurable rain.

Today's cloudy day may bring some drizzle but rain isn't expected; however, Friday looks like a higher chance of rain.

Also, Wofford pointed out, what we've been expecting in the coming days is more cloudy skies rather than actual fog.

As for the future, meteorologists are looking at an upcoming El Niño event.

"We are looking at how [El Niño] could impact our winter," he said.

Temperatures, according to NOAA, will have highs in the low 70s through Saturday and then slightly warmer Sunday through Tuesday.

ROCKHAVEN from page 4

lawsuit was filed, however, the members of Friends of Rockhaven are no longer allowed on the property and dialogue between the organization and the City has halted.

The City claims it has been working on maintaining the Rockhaven site.

"The tarping of the buildings has been completed, as well as the roof replacement on the Pines Cottage building," stated Bradley Calvert, director of Community Development for the City of Glendale.

But concerns surround the damage that has already been done to the buildings, most of which are on the historical registry, due to weather over the years including the most recent rains. Issues include the condition of the roofs, mold abatement and drainage.

New information on the condition of the property may not be available in the near future, but Friends of Rockhaven is hopeful that its members will soon be able to return to the historic property.

A fundraiser is being held to benefit the non-profit organization Friends of Rockhaven and also to fund maintenance of the historic property.

FILE photo



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COUNCIL MEETING from cover

councilmembers were getting the contract on June 13 when the due date was June 30.

Yazdan Emrani, director of public works, said they knew the contract was going to expire at the end of the fiscal year and that staff began working on the RFP six months ago.

"Any RFP we work on takes about six months from inception to completion," he said.

The RFP was issued in January 2023, the report was released on March 2, 2023, and then staff took a month to evaluate. That was extended to the end of April due to the extensive number of transportation services for staff to review more and now "here we are," Emrani said.

Both Asatryan and Kassakhian had questions about the bidding process and why only two companies applied.

Emrani responded that there were not that many companies that could bid that would meet the city's requirements.

There was more discussion covering several issues from how the companies were ranked to why there were only two that submitted bids.

Mayor Brotman said he was in favor of MVT, citing the company had not "significantly increased" its bid from the last contract submission.

He did, however, share councilmembers' frustration on the timing of the contract being given to them for review.

"We get these at the last possible moment," he said. "There is not time to go back to look at anything different."

City Attorney Michael Garcia noted that the city did go through a legal process with the RFP, and that MVT successfully went through and completed that process.

Councilmember Paula Devine voiced her concern that if this vote is delayed it would cost the city more money as another contract would have to be negotiated.

In the end Asatryan made a motion for staff to negotiate with MVT for extending the contract for a year, allowing councilmembers more time to review the RFP and the transit process. Kassakhian seconded the motion and in a vote of four to one, Devine being the no vote, it was approved. On June 27, staff will bring the information on the one-year extension back to Council.

*Obituary*

**Elizabeth Ann (Smith) Sawatzky**

July 19, 1927 - Sept. 10, 2022

Elizabeth Ann (Smith) Sawatzky was born to Dr. and Mrs. William Sawatzky in Minneapolis, Minnesota on July 19, 1927. She had one sibling, Dorothy, of whom she was very proud. Elizabeth received two degrees from the University of Minnesota: Latin American Studies and an MA in Library Science.

She married Ray Smith in 1951 and moved to Mason City, Iowa in 1955. He accepted the job of head librarian, and she took a supervisory position in the regional library system. While there, Elizabeth developed and implemented an outreach program aimed at providing library services for rural farmland communities in northern Iowa. Elizabeth drove out to these communities and, through her great personal charm and enthusiasm, secured a parlor here and a garage there that would become the community's lending library. She developed the collections of each and restocked the reading materials on a regular basis.

In one memorable instance, to ensure books for the Christmas holidays Elizabeth – nine months pregnant and in the early stages of labor – made a delivery to an outlying town as a blizzard was descending with only one lane of the road opened by the snowplow. Upon her return, she drove straight to the hospital, delivering her baby. Countless lives were enriched by her passionate devotion to ensuring access to books for rural Iowans.

In 1967 she moved her family to Pasadena taking a job at the Research Library at UCLA. After retiring from UCLA, she began another career by accepting a teaching position with LAUSD's Adult Education Dept. at University High School, teaching into her early 80s.

Elizabeth had four children: Weston, Marina, Rowan and Lisa; four grandchildren: Bianca, Joel, Mira and Andriu; and two great-grandchildren: Penelope, and Marcus.

Elizabeth passed away on Sept. 10, 2022 in Montrose due to complications from COVID. She was 95.

Anyone wishing to commemorate her life could best do so by contributing to your local library or by simply reading a book.

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# VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

## Local Bob Statues and Some Bob's Trivia

I just finished a popular run documenting my readers' memories of our local Bob's. But I couldn't resist one last word on the subject. Over and over, readers wondered whatever happened to the Montrose Bob statue. No one seems to know its fate.

But I do know of two Bob statues here in the valley, neither of which are the Montrose Bob.

One belonged to longtime CV Chamber leader Jean Maluccio, who recently passed away. The other belongs to Steve Pierce, also of the CV Chamber, and an all-around "Eveready Bunny" volunteer at most valley events. Steve recently sent me an email about his and Jean's Bob statue. Here what Steve wrote:

"Jean has a 4' version that we haul to various events. In fact, to honor Jean her Bob's Big Boy will be riding along in this year's 9-11 motorcade.

"We have an actual 7' Big Boy in our backyard next to our barbecue. It was originally at the

Calimesa Bob's Big Boy restaurant and during the restaurant's restoration it somehow ended up in an Acton relics and antiques yard sitting on a buckboard. I saw it while driving along the 14 Freeway, pulled over and talked to the yard owner.

"Karen [Steve's wife] had grown up in Glendale and was a frequent patron of Bob's on Colorado Boulevard while attending Glendale High School. Karen's mom knew Bob Wian and also the kid who frequented the original Big Boy stand and became the 'logo.'

"Anyway, the antique yard owner said he rented the Big Boy for parties and it wasn't for sale. As I was walking away, he stopped me and said he would be willing to sell it for \$2500 'only because he liked Karen's connection to the Glendale Big Boy.' That's how we got Big Boy.

"It was trucked to us on a flatbed truck from Acton; the driver said people were honking, waving

and yelling as he drove it to La Crescenta. It was Valentine's Day 1995 so I placed Big Boy in the garage with a bouquet of flowers in his arms. Karen was teaching at Mountain Avenue School. When she came home and opened the garage door, there was Big Boy with flowers to greet her.

"He's been a member of our family for the past 28 years! Probably the best investment I ever made as well."

Thanks, Steve! We'll be looking for Jean's Bob statue in the 9-11 motorcade.

To wrap up this article here's a few items of Bob's trivia. Lots of legend here, so bear with me if this isn't the story you heard.

The original Bob's on Colorado Boulevard in Glendale was built as "The Pantry."

In 1936 Bob's founder Bob Wian sold his car, a DeSoto roadster, to buy the hamburger stand, renaming it "Bob's Pantry."

The Double-Decker burger was inspired by a customer who asked

for "something different" in 1937. One version of the story said it was a group of kids from the Glendale High orchestra. According to the Internet (so it must be true), this was the very first Double-Decker hamburger.

The "Big Boy" name was coined as a tribute to an overweight 6-year-old boy, Richard Woodruff, who helped out at the burger stand, taking his payment in burgers. Wian called him "Big Boy." A Disney animator who was a customer drew a caricature of Big Boy on a napkin, and the icon was born.

Bob Wian was briefly mayor of Glendale from late 1948 to early 1949. He resigned, citing business conflicts and "a desire to make an occasional fishing trip."

The Burbank Bob's is the oldest original Bob's Big Boy restaurant having opened in 1947.

In 1956, the first Big Boy comic book was issued, designed to entertain kids waiting for their orders. Comics superstar Stan

Lee wrote the comic for the first five years, published by Timely Comics, which later became Marvel Comics.

In 1965, the Beatles ate at the Burbank Bob's in a corner booth facing Riverside Drive. An oft-stolen plaque marks the booth and folks come from around the world to sit there.



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

## Ensuring Equality: Protecting and Advancing LGBTQ Rights

Earlier this month, my district was the scene of hatred and violence as anti-LGBTQ protestors fought pro-LGBTQ demonstrators outside a Glendale School Board meeting that was scheduled to vote on recognizing Pride month in the district's schools.

The incident at the Glendale School Board meeting is just one example of hate-filled attacks in recent months. We are seeing a disturbing rise in hate crimes that target LGBTQ people. It is no coincidence that this rise in hatred comes at the same time as anti-LGBTQ policies and bills are being pushed forward in states across the country and in Congress.

Whether it is restricting transgender individuals' participation in sports, attempting to ban transgender people from receiving gender-affirming

healthcare, or erasing LGBTQ-inclusive education from school curricula, these efforts to codify discrimination are unacceptable and un-American.

I have always fought for the rights of the LGBTQ community here in California. I serve as vice-chair of the Equality Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, advocating on behalf of LGBTQ people and introducing legislation that combats discrimination.

Representative Mark Takano and I have led several congressional letters to Twitter urging Elon Musk to address the rising prevalence of hate speech towards LGBTQ communities on the platform.

I introduced the Equal Access to Reproductive Care Act, which would modernize the federal tax code to allow equal treatment to those using

assisted reproductive treatments and surrogacy arrangements regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or ability. This legislation will address the unequal treatment of LGBTQ individuals seeking to start a family.

And I also authored the PrEP Access and Coverage Act, which would guarantee insurance coverage for the lifesaving HIV medication PrEP and PEP for uninsured individuals through a grant program.

I joined Representatives Ilhan Omar (D-MN) and Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (D-FL) to introduce the Privacy in Education Regarding Individuals' Own Data (PERIOD) Act to prohibit schools that receive federal funding from requiring information about students' menstrual cycles after elected

officials in several states proposed regulations that would require students to turn over their private medical data for potential tracking, potentially harming LGBTQ students.

Finally, I've been a staunch advocate for putting an end to discriminatory blood donation policies for gay and bisexual men, which the FDA finally got rid of earlier this year in a big step towards equality. And I am proud to support the Equality Act, the Every Child

Deserves a Family Act, and the LGBTQ Data Inclusion Act, and to have secured funding for local LGBTQ support organizations in my district.

But there is so much more work to be done. We must ensure equality in education, housing and health care. And we must fight against attempts to roll back hard-fought LGBTQ rights. I am proud to be an ally and will always fight on behalf of the LGBTQ community and against discrimination.

GUSD from cover

the manufacturer of the leading three e-cigarettes, for creating an epidemic of youth vaping that impedes student learning, according to the district at the time.

But then COVID-19 hit and the whole world changed. The first indicator this was going to be something no one had dealt with in generations was the extension of spring break 2020. Those who were at the Los Angeles County Office of Education authorized 80 school districts within LA County to close on March 16, 2020. From that moment Ekchian led the district in applying for every bit of pandemic funding offered, and used every bit of the funds received to update classrooms with technology like high-grade air filters and virtual capability.

Once students were back in classes, she held multiple meetings with students, parents and staff concern-

ing masking and vaccines. The schools offered free meals to those in need and also provided additional counseling.

She dealt with negotiating contracts with both the district's classified employees and Glendale teacher unions that became, and at times remain, volatile. Then recently she listened to the protests between those who support GUSD's LGBTQ+ policies and those who are concerned the district has gone too far.

"In GUSD, Dr. Ekchian has left a legacy serving as the first female and first Armenian American superintendent for the district. Much of her success stems from her life experiences, including a multicultural upbringing and journey to Southern California as an immigrant. ... During her tenure, Dr. Ekchian has led the district in implementing the board of

see GUSD on page 17

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# YOUTH

## CVHS JROTC Academic Team Heads to the National Academic Bowl Championship in Washington, D.C.



Pictured are the cadets heading to Washington, D.C. for the 2023 JROTC Academic Bowl Championship. *Provided by Leland WATERS*

Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) JROTC Academic Team is heading to Washington, D.C. to compete in a national championship event. The 2023 JROTC Academic Bowl Championship is held on the campus of The Catholic University of America. This event is sponsored by the U.S. Air Force JROTC and is conducted by the College Options Foundation.

The CVHS JROTC Academic team earned top scores out of the 630

Air Force JROTC academic teams that competed from around the world. The team is one of only 16 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl teams in the nation to advance to the final competition, which includes an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.

During the two fast-paced preliminary rounds and the final competitions, cadets are tested on their knowledge of core curriculum such as math, science and language arts as well as current events, citizenship, leadership skills and financial literacy. The financial literacy videos

are sponsored by the USAA Educational Foundation and provided to all cadets.

Questions from the videos were included in Levels I and II of the online competition.

The JROTC Academic Bowl is a nationally recognized competition created exclusively for JROTC students. By participating, cadets learn the values of citizenship, academic competition, and college opportunity. The competition creates tremendous opportunities for JROTC cadets by allowing them to demonstrate leadership and academic abilities.

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## Pinewood Derby Comes to Cars for Cops & Kids

The inaugural Verdugo Hills Council - Boy Scouts of America Pinewood Derby championship took place on Sunday, June 4 in Verdugo Park in Glendale hosted by the Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon Cars for Cops and Kids fundraiser. Over 30 qualifying Cubs and 10 packs were represented at this race. A design contest was hosted simultaneously and Cubs and interested families from the council made submissions.

The top three racers were Hudson Hopkins-Mason of Pack 212 from Burbank who placed first (shown in the middle of the photo), followed by Dominic Gough of Pack 310 in La Crescenta (left) and, in third place, Bennett Paik from Pack 201 in Burbank (right).

*Provided by Brandon MEJIA*



## ALG Awards Scholarships



At its June luncheon the Assistance League of Glendale awarded seven \$2000 scholarships to students attending local schools.

ALG President Rayma Halloran congratulates recipients (from left)

Andre Numamade, transferring student from Glendale Community College, Brendan Bruyere from Hoover High, Hilda Guzman returning student from Glendale Community College, Thalia Hightower from Verdugo Academy, Ashlyn Burton from Crescenta Valley High, Gabrielle Areglo from Glendale High and Becky Bondy counselor from Clark High (holding Vigen Hakob's certificate).

*Photo provided by ALG*

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# CVHS Students Compete in National and International Science Fairs

By Lori BODNAR

Spring is science fair season and several students from the Academy of Science and Medicine at Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) recently competed in science fairs including the California Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF), Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), and the SkillsUSA state competition. Eleventh grader Mahesh Arunachalam participated in all three competitions and won first place in his category at CSEF. Tenth grader Vela Benedicto placed first at the state level in SkillsUSA and will be representing California at the SkillsUSA National science fair from June 19-23.

Arunachalam explored treatments for brain cancer with his science project.

He explained, "My project is focused on mitigating the ongoing lack of treatments for glioblastoma [a certain type of brain cancer] by identifying repurposable drug candidates utilizing computational and wet-lab resources. I worked on my project for around eight months for about five to 10 hours per week."

Over 60 countries competed in ISEF. Arunachalam said, "ISEF was in-person and I could meet people from 62 other

countries. I made friends that I still text today from across the globe. Last year, I competed in the international BioGENEius competition where 14 of us from around the world met. At ISEF I was able to meet with four of them again! Most other fairs are just the judging and awards. ISEF lasted six days and we attended seminars where people from various professions and institutions taught us. There were highly specific sessions such as how to apply to college as a research student or more broad sessions such as how to apply for a patent with your ISEF project. There was only one day where we were judged. The judges at ISEF were highly qualified and provided very insightful feedback."

Tenth grader Benedicto designed an air quality monitor for her science project that she will present at the upcoming SkillsUSA nationals. Benedicto said, "I focused on creating a product for developing regions who may not be able to afford expensive resources. My project aims to close the gap regarding lack of air quality data in those places. I am part Filipino and was initially inspired to combat these air quality problems after personally witnessing it during my time in the Philippines. I have been researching and working on my project since mid-August, though building started sometime in September."

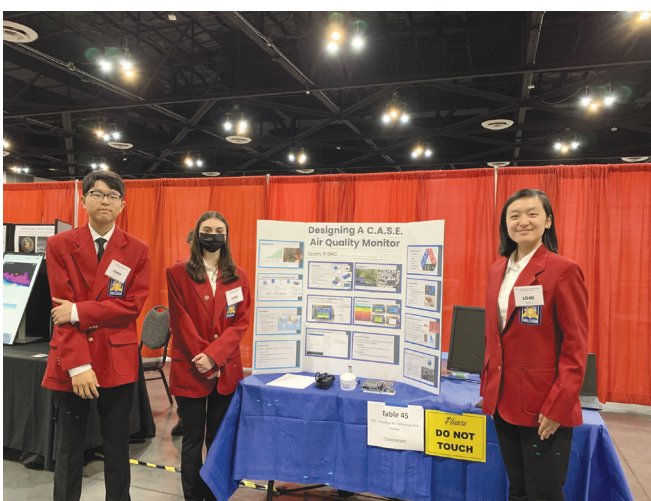
Benedicto will be representing California in Atlanta, Georgia for the SkillsUSA nationals competition June 19-23. Benedicto said, "Regarding SkillsUSA, I am competing in Career Pathways Showcase - Industrial & Engineering Technology. [I am the] first CVHS participant in that category to compete at nationals after placing first in the state of California. I am greatly looking forward to meeting new people to learn about their projects and experiences. I have always loved getting to know people and learning from hearing their stories, advice or thoughts."

The Academy of Science and Medicine provides many opportunities and helped prepare the students for the various science fairs.

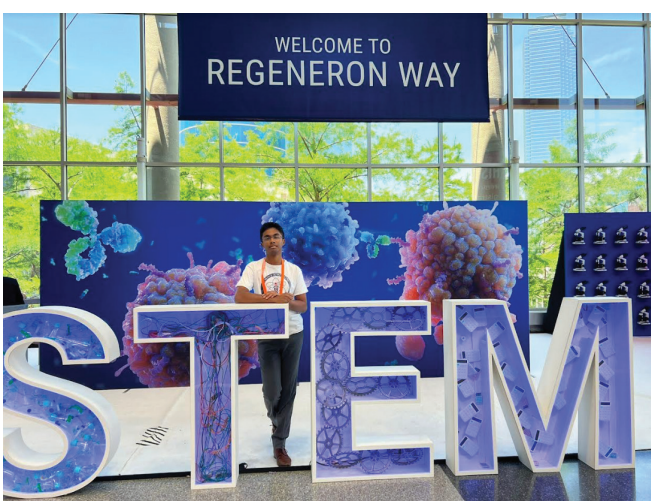
Arunachalam said, "The Academy has provided countless opportunities to explore my current passion of computational biology and the flexibility to try other interests. The Academy also provides connections with specialists, schoolwide science fairs for practice, and much more. I would like to recognize my teacher, Orenda Tuason, for her time and effort she provided from



Mahesh Arunachalam stands next to his science project



Vela Benedicto with her teammates Ethan Lee and Maryam Akelyan by their project



Mahesh Arunachalam by the STEM sign at ISEF Photos provided by Lori BODNAR

see SCIENCE FAIRS on page 19

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# TRAVEL & LEISURE

## Screamfest LA's 'Fears and Beers Screening Under the Stars' Features Local Filmmaker Mike Timm

By Lynn SHER

Expect screams, plenty of popcorn, food trucks, fear and free beer. These are all part of Screamfest LA's "Fears and Beers Screening Under the Stars" that features local filmmaker Mike Timm. Timm is screening his vaunted horror short film "The Eyes" at the event on Saturday, June 24 at the McGroarty Arts Center in Tujunga. The gates open at 7 p.m. giving attendees ample time to peruse the food trucks and, for those over 21, to get their complimentary beer from Angel City Brewery before the screening begins at 8:30 p.m.

In 2022, Timm's "The Eyes" premiered at the Screamfest LA Film Festival to rave reviews.

Screamfest LA is a premier film festival for the horror genre and it hosts a number of film-related events throughout the year. Its website encourages horror lovers to come out, saying "The Eyes" is a "must-see" and that it's "guaranteed to leave you on the edge of your seat." The short film will play before the headlining feature, "Friday the 13th Part IV: The Final Chapter."

"The Eyes," which Timm wrote, directed and produced, is described by Screamfest LA, "A world where nothing goes unseen

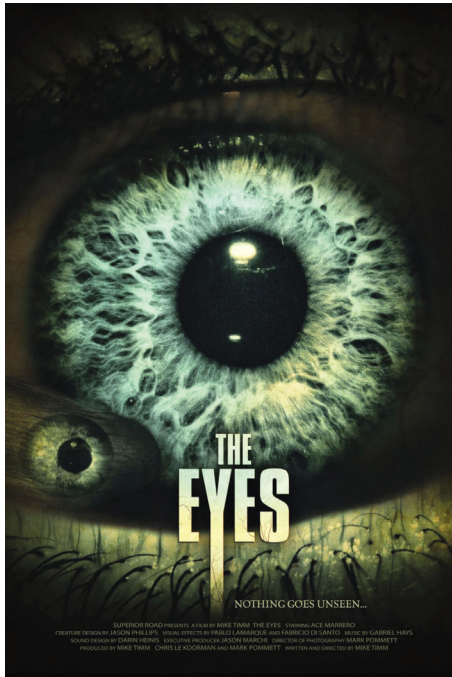
as the eyes of karma haunts one man's wrong choices." The film is described as being a campy, '80s, "creature thriller." Attracting attention, "The Eyes" is currently being developed into a feature film called "Leech."

"[I'm] basically taking the creature from my short film and ... kind of throwing that into a sci-fi horror movie," Timm said.

The protagonists are a group of diamond thieves that encounter a creature, adding elements of the "crime genre" into the story.

Timm fell in love with filmmaking in the sixth grade when he was the only one in his class to finish the assignment of shooting a short movie on Super 8 film.

"I just got hooked," he said, and he's since been pursuing filmmaking and working in various facets of the film



industry.

Excitingly, Timm currently has two additional feature films in development, each partnering with renowned production companies. "Hell Squad," a sci-fi desert survival tale, is being brought to life through a collaboration with Convergent Media, known for its work on "Beast of Burden" featuring Daniel Radcliffe. And "Kiss Of The Scorpion," an action-packed drama, is being produced in Australia by the same company responsible for esteemed films like "Chopper" with Eric Bana and "Wolf Creek."

and beer, movie-watching staples like popcorn and soda will also be available at the June 24 event at McGroarty Arts Center. Adding to the already festive occasion will be trivia with the chance to win prizes and a Q&A after the movie with select cast members.

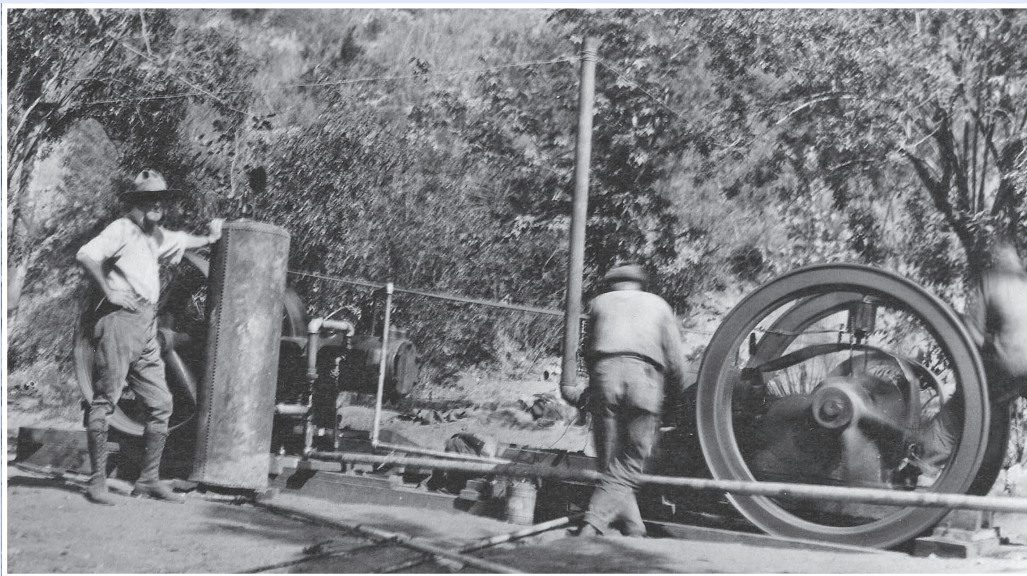
Tickets are \$15 and are available ahead of time through Eventbrite at <https://tinyurl.com/5xtbxs2>. When ticket buyers arrive, they'll check in at the "will-call" table with their email confirmation, e-ticket or printed e-ticket. Seating is first come, first served.

The McGroarty Arts Center is located at 7570 McGroarty Terrace in Tujunga.



### THEN & NOW

### Water Well Pumps Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



**THEN:** Pulling water up out of the ground was nearly impossible until gas engines like this were employed to power well pumps. This shot was from the collection of the Ananda Ashrama at the top of Pennsylvania Avenue, probably taken in the early 1920s. Perhaps it was used to fill the Ashrama's cisterns.



**NOW:** These are the powerful electric pumps housed at the Crescenta Valley Water District's Markridge plant, located on Markridge Road just a block away from the Ananda Ashrama. These whirring modern pumps pull groundwater up and distribute it to the neighborhoods above Foothill and fill giant water tanks.

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# Boys of Summer Return Home



The band Boys of Summer returned to their hometown of Tujunga after touring Arizona, landing at the Tujunga Elks Lodge for a June

9 concert. They opened with "Take it Easy," a famous Eagles song that put Winslow, Arizona on the map as a major tourist spot. They played favorite Eagles songs and had just about everyone on the dance floor, enjoying the music. The Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge provided hamburgers, cheeseburgers and nachos.

Exalted Ruler Mark Siegel presented high honor award plaques to Greg St. George, Amber Ardizone and Diana Slattery-Gomula for their volunteer work for the Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge.

— Submitted by Katie O'Brien.

# 50 years as a Kiwanian Celebrated



Photo courtesy of Roger BRANDT

Trish McRae, president of the Kiwanis Club of La Cañada, presented a commemorative plaque to club member Dr. Al Restivo who celebrated 50 years as a member of the Kiwanis Club. Restivo first became a member of the Eastchester, New York Kiwanis Club on Nov. 15, 1972 and served as the club's president in the years 1981-1982. When he relocated to La Cañada Flintridge in May 1986 he transferred his membership and has since served the local club for the past 37 years.

During his years in the local club, he served in

several leadership roles including chairman of both the Community Services and the Spiritual Aims committees. For many years he was responsible for the club's public relations providing news and photos to the local media covering the many activities of the club.

Restivo and his wife (of almost 60 years) Diane have resided in the city since moving to LCF. Restivo was promoted from his mentoring role in the east to director of training for Avery Dennison Corporation at its then world headquarters in Pasadena. An organizational psychologist and life coach, Restivo spent almost 20 years as an adjunct professor at Azusa Pacific University and California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA).

He has two sons, Kenneth and Andrew, and three granddaughters: Gina, Ashleigh and Marisa.

Active in the city and in his St. Bede Catholic Church parish, Restivo served as an Eucharistic minister at his parish and at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. He also served as public safety commissioner for the City of La Cañada Flintridge from 1990 to 1994. He was chairman of the commission in 1994. He also served the LCF community as executive director of the Ecumenical Ministerial Association whose members were the clergy of seven of the city's local Christian churches.

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# What's Cooking

Your Local guide to good food!

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# BETWEEN FRIENDS

## YMCA of the Foothills Accepts Donations Towards Annual Support Campaign



For five weeks, the Y community united to raise over \$87,400 for its annual support campaign. This year's theme was "CommUNITY Starts Here," and was evident as staff, committed volunteers, Y members and board members came together as one to ensure the Y's enduring impact as this campaign supports its scholarship fund.

"Another great year for our Y community to truly shine and bring us all together to raise funds and make a deep impact," said Joanne Pingry, director, Mission Advancement at YMCA of the Foothills. "We could not be more grateful for the extra creative fundraising events our Y team coordinated to involve our members such as a trike-a-thon, held at our Learning Tree Preschool, and [the recent] Zumbathon. All are welcomed at the Y to participate in our healthy living programs and services regardless of their financial status. Thanks

to our community, we've secured that promise for the remainder of this year."

The YMCA of the Foothills shares its deep gratitude to the community at large for its generous contributions. Donations from the annual support campaign help the Y provide life-saving swim lessons, build teamwork taught in youth sports, create adventures during summer camps, provide leadership skills in its Youth and Government programs and, most importantly, making these opportunities available to the entire community.

The mission of the YMCA of the Foothills is to organize, develop, finance and conduct programs for an association of persons of all ages that will, by putting Christian principles into practice, enrich the quality of their lives spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially. Individuals can continue supporting the cause by visiting [ymcafoothills.org/donate-now](http://ymcafoothills.org/donate-now).

## July 4th Parade Set To Roll Down Foothill and Welcome Summer 2023



Spotlighting the splendor of the local foothills, "Sunland-Tujunga the Beautiful" is the theme for this year's annual July 4th parade.

Sponsored each year by the Sunland-Tujunga Rotary Club, this popular summer event draws thousands of spectators who flock to Foothill Boulevard to see entries that range from drill teams and baton twirlers to high-stepping horses and street performers. Fans can also look forward to Sunland-Tujunga's Oldest Rock, a perennial favorite. As always, the parade is set to begin with an LAPD flyover as well as a synchronized ground performance by the highly-skilled LAPD motorcycle drill team.

Free of charge to both participants and spectators, the parade has historically highlighted the whimsy and character of the charming foothills community. Fun for all, it is the single-best attended public event in Sunland-Tujunga.

This family-friendly parade encourages all entries and signage to be family appropriate and in line with the theme of celebrating the beauty of the scenic foothills.

Starting at 10 a.m. sharp on Tuesday, July 4, the parade will launch from the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and

Summitrose Street, proceeding down Foothill and ending at Sunland Park.

Applications for the parade are now available on the Rotary Club's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Sunlandrotary/>.

The public is encouraged to tap into their community spirit and the Rotary encourages creative entries. Clubs, organizations, sports teams, equestrian groups and more: get your patriotic groove on and join in the July 4 fun!

For everyone's safety, the Rotary Club wishes to discourage the throwing of water balloons and other objects.

To help ensure a safe parade experience for everyone, Foothill Boulevard will be closed from Apperson Street to Fenwick Street. Westbound traffic will be diverted on Plainview Avenue and will be directed to continue on Hillrose Street. Eastbound traffic will be diverted onto Newhome Avenue and will be directed to continue on Apperson Street. All streets intersecting Foothill between Apperson and Fenwick will be barricaded to prevent vehicular access.

For further information, contact Sabrina Godinez at (310) 488-3030.

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## Questions About Today's Real Estate?

### Ask Phyllis!

#### How Many Open House Signs

Dear Phyllis,

I look forward to reading your question and answers and would love your take on open-house signs. My neighbor had their home listed last month, and I noticed that their agent put out more than a dozen signs. They were all over town, many not even near the home. Although their open houses were packed, it took nearly two months before the escrow sign was up. There were so many cars and people coming, going, and parking. It was a bit of a neighborhood nuisance. The traffic congestion was dangerous, considering our neighborhood doesn't have sidewalks. I am curious to learn what you have to say. **Leslie**

Dear Leslie,

Before the internet, signs and print advertising were the primary ways to advertise an open house. Therefore, numerous signs were vital. Prior to GPS, the signs were directional and, again, beneficial. All of that has since changed.

While numerous signs generate lots of traffic (including neighbors), they aren't really

responsible for bringing in prequalified buyers. Most serious buyers attend open houses because they have searched online on sites such as Coldwell Banker, Zillow, and Redfin, while other buyers have been directed by their Realtor to stop by.

Although most cities have ordinances limiting the number of signs, many don't enforce them. However, Burbank has even taken it a step further and requires an annual permit for each sign. Realtors must pay for the permit sticker and attach it to any sign, not on private property. In addition to limiting the number of signs, most cities prohibit them on any street, right-of-way, or public sidewalk. In San Marino, they can only be on private property.

So, why have so many when they no longer serve for directional or informative purposes? The most cost-effective and efficient way for Realtors to meet people is at open houses. And that's why some agents put out so many.

Phyllis

## Village Poets Welcomes Lois P. Jones and William O'Daly



Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga invited poets and friends of poetry to its monthly reading that will be held in-person on Sunday, June 25 at 4:30 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. In June the featured poets will be Lois P. Jones and William O'Daly.

Two segments of open mic will be available and refreshments will be served. Suggested donation of \$5 per person is for the cost of refreshments and to donate to the Little Landers Society that manages the Bolton Hall Museum, a Los Angeles Historical Landmark built in 1913.

Lois P. Jones was recently awarded the 2023 Alpine Fellowship that this year takes place in Fjällnäs, Sweden. She was a finalist in the annual Mslexia Poetry Competition judged by Helen Mort and will be published in spring 2023. In 2022 her work was a finalist for both the Best Spiritual Literature Award in Poetry from Orison Books and the Tom Howard/Margaret Reid Poetry Contest. Other honors include a highly commended and publication in the 2021 Bridport Poetry Prize Anthology. Jones' awards include the Bristol Poetry Prize, the Lascaux Poetry Prize for a single poem, the Tiferet Poetry Prize and winning finalist for the Terrain Poetry contest judged by Jane Hirshfield. In collaboration with filmmaker Jutta Pryor and sound designer Peter Verwimp,

her poem "La Scapigliata" won the 2022 Lyra Bristol Poetry Film Competition.

Since 2007 Jones has hosted KPFK's Poet Café and acted as poetry editor for the Pushcart prize-winning Kyoto Journal. She is a screening judge for Claremont University's Kingsley-Tufts Awards.

William O'Daly has translated eight books of the late-career and posthumous poetry of Chilean Nobel laureate Pablo Neruda and most recently Neruda's first volume, "Book of Twilight," a finalist for the 2018 Northern California Book Award in Translation. The author of four chapbooks of poems, he published his first full-length volume of poems, "The New Gods," with Beltway Editions in September 2022. In March 2023, the Los Angeles Master Chorale included three poems from "The New Gods" and one from his chapbook "Waterways" in the world premiere of Reena Esmail's "Malhaar: A Requiem for Water" at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. A National Endowment for the Arts fellow, he received the American Literary Award from the bilingual Korean American journal "Miju Poetry" and "Poetics" in September 2021. Currently, he is lead writer for the California Water Plan, the state's strategic plan for sustainably and equitably managing water resources.



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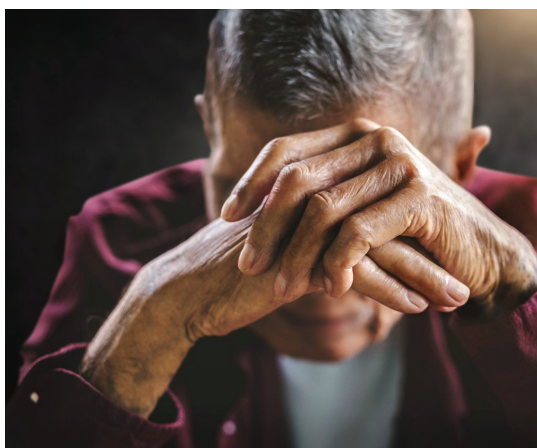


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## USC VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER FOR AGING

» DENISE TRABOULSI, MSW

Recognizing and Preventing Elder Abuse  
 Denise Traboulsi, MSW  
 USC VHH Community Resource Center for Aging



According to researchers and the National Center for Elder Abuse, one in 10 older Americans is currently a victim of a form of elder abuse. Experts believe that these situations are grossly underreported for many reasons including shame, lack of understanding of what constitutes abuse and, above all, ageism. In addition, we at USC-VHH Community Resource Center for Aging (CRCA) recognize that communities lack awareness of the resources designed to assist those who have been victimized. Awareness is necessary for understanding and prevention; therefore the month of June is recognized as Elder Abuse Awareness Month making a designated time to for us to work together to become informed and educated about this public health crisis impacting our communities.

California defines "elder abuse" as an abuse, neglect and/or exploitation of persons over the age of 60 as well as those 18 and older with a disability. Types of abuse perpetrated by others can be physical, emotional, financial and/or sexual. Neglect is the lack of care and/or support for a vulnerable person, often perpetrated by someone in a position of trust, such as a family member or other care provider. Neglect also occurs in care facilities when they do not provide appropriate and/or adequate care.

Self-neglect is an especially complex form of elder abuse as it calls into question people's ability to care for themselves and their right to independently make their own decisions. While self-neglect is not a crime, it is another form of "elder abuse" that mandated reporters in our state must report to authorities. Self-neglect may involve functional impairments related to changes in cognitive and/or physical abilities. Reporting these situations provides an opportunity to assist the person in accessing services and support with the expectation that the person will be better able to meet their needs and have a greater quality of life.

Overt physical signs of elder abuse include unexplained bruises, cuts, burns and/or other bodily

injuries. Less recognized signs may include poor hygiene and/or unclean and unsafe living conditions. Subtle changes in an older adult's behavior –such as increased anxiety, fear, depression and social withdrawal – may be indicators that abuse is occurring. Red flags of financial exploitation may include unpaid bills, and unexpected changes in wills and financial documents along with unusual bank activity.

According to elder abuse legislation, mandated reporters are doctors, nurses law enforcement and financial institutions. While mandated reporters are required by law to report elder abuse, anyone with reasonable suspicion that an elder or disabled adult is in trouble is encouraged to report what they know to the proper authorities.

Call CRCA at (818) 949-4033 if you wish to discuss what you know and the process to alert others.

Adult Protective Services (APS) is a local county program that investigates reports of elder abuse. If a person is residing in a long-term care facility (Assisted Living or Skilled Nursing Facility), reports are filed with the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. If an older adult is in imminent danger and the situation requires immediate attention, call 911 for emergency services. Like any other injustice, if you see something - say something. Alert and provide the facts related to elder abuse in California by calling 833-401-0832.

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# JUST FOR FUN

## CALENDAR this

### GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On June 23, the Club's guest speaker is Corrie Siegel of the Museum of Modern Art.

The cost to attend Friday meetings, which includes lunch and program, is \$20. All are welcome.

The Club meets Friday afternoons at the Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado St. in Glendale.

### GAMELAN MERDU KUMALA

Gamelan Merdu Kumala is an American gamelan which, according to the dictionary, is an Indonesian orchestra consisting of bowed stringed instruments, flutes, and a great variety of percussion instruments. A non-profit grassroots organization has formed in the Tujunga area founded in 2014 by the artistic director Hirota Inuzuka.

Balinese Gamelan Merdu Kumal rehearsals and workshops have resumed. Anyone wishing to view Balinese rehearsals, attend beginning classes, private lessons, dance lessons and workshops or want to come for a studio visit to learn more about this art contact Wendy at [Wendya@ucla.edu](mailto:Wendya@ucla.edu) or call (818) 951-8996 or visit website: <https://merdukumala.wixsite.com/merdukumala>.

### BEVERLEE NELSON

#### PRESENTS AT BURBANK AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

The Burbank African Violet Society will be having its next club meeting today, Thursday morning, July 22 at 10 a.m. at the Little White Chapel Christian Church, 1711 N. Avon St. in Burbank.

The program "Growing African Violet Trailers" will be presented by club member Beverlee Nelson. She will share growing tips and techniques, ingredients in the African violet potting soil, lighting and grooming. A discussion with questions and answers will follow.

There are raffle and silent auction tables. Refreshments are served and friendships are made. Guests are always welcome to attend the meetings to come and learn more about growing the African violet.

For more information phone (661) 940-3990 or reference the website: [www.burbankafrikanviolets.weebly.com](http://www.burbankafrikanviolets.weebly.com).

#### HOLDEN AND DAVIES GUEST SPEAKERS AT DEM CLUB

The Cañada Crescenta Democratic Club is hosting an online Zoom meeting on Sunday

afternoon, June 25, featuring guest speakers Chris Holden, Assemblymember representing La Cañada Flintridge, and Jenny Davies, MD, MPH, JD, Public and Environmental Health director for cafeteria culture who lives in Portland, Oregon.

Chris Holden (AD41) was first elected to the California State Assembly in 2012 and re-elected in 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020. His district now stretches from La Cañada Flintridge to Upland, covering much of the San Gabriel foothills. He has declared his candidacy for Los Angeles County supervisor, District 5. Holden served almost 24 years as a Pasadena City councilmember and mayor. He was the youngest city councilmember at age 28 and only the second African American to serve as mayor. Throughout his years of public service, Holden has been a champion in creating jobs, preserving vital services, strengthening the economic vitality of the San Gabriel Valley and expanding the light rail.

Jenny Davies researches, writes and speaks about the need to think differently about plastic: a chemically and biologically active substance that poses an existential threat to the human species and to all the species on the planet. Her presentation is an entertaining, inspiring, fast-

moving talk about the chemistry and biological activity of plastic, including the latest studies – all in lay person's terms. Her presentation will provide answers to weighty questions such as what is plastic – really? How does it impact our health and the health of our planet? Why is it piling up all around us, and what can we do about it?

The Cañada Crescenta Democratic Club serves the Crescenta Valley and Sunland-Tujunga. The meeting is from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., open to anyone and is free of charge. Log-in information can be found on the Club's website, [ccdclub.org](http://ccdclub.org).

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

June 11, 2023 - June 19, 2023

### ♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

You get a chance to get in touch with your sensitive side this week, Aries, which can make you a little bit uncomfortable. But that's okay — it's all part of the process of learning and growing. Sometimes the pain, awkwardness, and nervousness are just what you have to go through in order to become a better version of yourself.

### ♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

There's room for a lot of growth this week, Taurus. Getting in touch with your feelings isn't always easy, but it's almost always worth it. Your curiosity late in the week leads to some very interesting doors being opened. So, don't hesitate to walk through them. Wait until you see what's on the other side!

### ♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

Your fond memories dominate your thoughts for most of the week, which is such a pleasant experience. Getting the chance to feel like you did back in your glory days has a profoundly emotional effect you aren't used to, which you definitely weren't prepared for. And while you don't necessarily want to go back and live in the past, it sure is a nice place to visit.

### ♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

Your warm, caring sign is responsible for a lot of the gentle, nurturing vibes that everyone is feeling this week, Cancer. Your typical walks down memory lane are often accompanied by a healthy dose of moodiness, but this time the experience is overwhelmingly positive. Hearing a favorite song or smelling a familiar aroma immediately takes you back to somewhere you loved being. Lucky you.

### ♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

You love the rollercoaster of emotions that the week puts you on! You're one of the few signs that can be up one minute and down the next and still want to get back on the ride. What fun would life be if you never knew the difference between happiness and sadness, pleasure and pain, right, Leo?

### ♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

There might be too many emotions swirling around for you to feel totally comfortable this week, Virgo, but getting in touch with your feelings has its benefits. There's a lot of shy energy in your social zone now. So, staying at home and addressing family issues might seem like the lesser of two evils. Sometimes where you end up is exactly where you're supposed to be.

### ♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You have a strong sense of what you need to do to reach your full potential this week, Libra, so you're feeling alive, energetic, and ready to conquer what the world has in store

for you. You're also very protective of your peeps. So, no matter what you have going on personally, you're ready to put it on hold if someone needs you. And that's what makes you stand out from everybody else!

### ♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You can get stuck in the past if you aren't careful this week, Scorpio. If you're not currently loving your life, it's tempting to want to go back to a time when you were. Hindsight distorts things, though. If you had a time machine, you'd find out that few things weren't as great as you think. #Facts

### ♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You might spend more time in your head than out and about this week, but that's okay, Sagittarius. You're probably mentally and emotionally ready for a break from all that wandering you've been doing lately, anyway. Plus, you probably have more vacay/travel photos than any other sign, so if you miss being out in the world, looking at them should help.

### ♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Unlike outwardly emotional signs, you're able to look back at moments from the past without getting stuck there this week, Capricorn. Of course, you feel a certain amount of sentimentality when you think about friends, relatives, and even pets who are no longer with you, but you don't dwell on the sadness. Being able to focus on the positive is truly one of your more enviable traits right now.

### ♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Emotions can hit you like a ten-ton truck if you aren't ready for them this week. You kind of like to pride yourself on not getting overly attached to people but remembering someone you've lost can put you in a funk. Luckily, there's plenty to take your mind off your melancholy mood as the week progresses, but that doesn't stop you from experiencing a certain underlying wistfulness. Maybe your emotions run a lot deeper than you think they do, eh, Aquarius?

### ♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Your vivid memories can reduce you to a puddle of tears or have you grinning from ear to ear this week, Pisces. Your waking and dreaming hours are filled with images of the past getting tangled up with the present and future, producing varying results. Take time late in the week to explore a unique topic of interest that will help prevent you from getting lost in darker subconscious thoughts.

## FreeDailyCrosswords.com

June 22

FREEDAILYCROSSWORDS.COM

### ACROSS

- 1) Gives kudos to
- 6) Haggard who sang country
- 11) Without an umbrella on a rainy day, perhaps
- 14) Prefix with "structure"
- 15) Hunter in the night sky
- 16) "How was \_\_\_ know?"
- 17) Removing ice cream from its carton, e.g.
- 19) Convent resident
- 20) Sly tricks
- 21) Leave the country?
- 23) One way to follow behind
- 26) Saber rattlers
- 27) Certain NFLers
- 28) Quaint eatery
- 29) Solitary figure?
- 30) Card for a fortune-teller
- 32) Classical lyric poem
- 35) Get bent out of shape?
- 37) More maneuverable at sea
- 39) Czech or Croat
- 40) Comparatively friendly
- 42) Hairy bovine
- 44) One of the Gabor sisters
- 45) Animals with striped legs
- 47) Prado Museum home
- 49) Crouched
- 51) French painter Henri
- 52) Like instantly
- 53) Widespread fear
- 54) Japanese cummerbund
- 55) Three-part treats
- 60) Noun-forming suffix
- 61) Ransacking weapon?
- 62) Less desirable turkey parts
- 63) Hardly a big wheel
- 64) Completely appeases one's hunger
- 65) Wanda of "Curb Your Enthusiasm"

### DOWN

- 1) Fleur de \_\_\_
- 2) Mandela's org.
- 3) Enigma in the sky
- 4) Be partially asleep
- 5) Possessing wisdom
- 6) It can get you stuff
- 7) Tiny bits of work
- 8) Brazil metropolis, familiarly
- 9) Dirty rats
- 10) Agreement among countries
- 11) Some alcoholic beverages
- 12) Musical composition
- 13) Utilizes a gym
- 18) "Amen!"
- 22) Is a fault-finder
- 23) Top of the head
- 24) Hawaiian veranda
- 25) Keeping on the stove too long
- 26) Tiny pests
- 28) Karloff of old horror films
- 31) Foaming at the mouth
- 33) Confederate President Jefferson
- 34) Avoid, as responsibility
- 36) Tea offering
- 38) Sharp Italian cheese
- 41) NBA team welcome in Jurassic Park?
- 43) Olympic teams
- 46) Illinois city
- 48) Detachable shirt collar
- 49) Displaying no emotion
- 50) Forbidden in polite society
- 51) Clublike weapons of old
- 53) North or South end
- 56) Developing newt
- 57) "Yuck!" relative
- 58) \_\_\_ out (just manage)
- 59) Sound of deflation?

### PIGEON SAY WHAT?

By Timothy E. Parker

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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63				64						65		

ANSWERS on page 15



# Las Candelas Celebrates 70 Years of Service to the Community



Rosina Maize, left, and Karen Swan.  
Photos provided by James Jonson Photography

Oakmont Country Club was the venue for the Las Candelas installation of the 2023-24 officers and the celebration of the club's 70 years of service to the community. The Glendale-based group of women provide volunteer service and financial assistance to children and youth in vulnerable situations and support awareness of their mental health needs.

Special guests attending the celebration were City Councilmembers Paula

Devine and Ardy Kassakhian and Mayor Dan Brotman. Guests from the facilities Las Candelas serves were Heather Sardella of Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services, Tara Peterson of the YWCA Glendale Pasadena, Andy Sica and Gina Peck-Sobolewski of Sycamores, Laura Kelso of Hillside, and Laura Duncan of Ascencia. Page Whyte, a major benefactor of Las Candelas and husband of the late Karen Whyte, was also on hand to participate in the event.



ABOVE: Las Candelas 2023-24 Officers and Chairs.

Right: City of Glendale councilman Ardy Kassakhian (left) and Mayor Dan Brotman.

Photos provided by James Jonson Photography



**PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT**

## His Silver Eagles never landed. Can PayPal get him a refund?

*Mark Sund orders commemorative coins and uses PayPal to pay for them. But the seller never delivers them. Can he get his money back?*

**Q:** I recently ordered 10 Silver Eagle coins for \$232 and used PayPal to pay for them. I never received them. I contacted the seller multiple times with no result.

Once I disputed the transaction through PayPal, the seller responded to them with tracking information. According to the seller he shipped with UPS, which states on the tracking information that the package was left on my deck. I don't have a deck. The only accessible delivery location is the front door.

I feel this is a fraudulent transaction. The seller gave a fake UPS tracking form to PayPal. I would hope that PayPal would investigate further. The seller never responded to my requests for tracking information or order status.

PayPal's website is difficult to navigate once they have closed a dispute. You can't talk to a person. Can you help me get my money back? ~ Mark Sund, Las Vegas

**A:** The Silver Eagles should have landed on your front door as promised. I would have been suspicious of a UPS "document" that said the package was delivered to a nonexistent deck, too. And PayPal shouldn't have arbitrarily closed your case and made it difficult for you to appeal the decision.

PayPal offers a guarantee that when you use the payment system, and you don't receive what you ordered, you are protected. It should have fully investigated your claim, found the tracking number and verified the delivery. Instead, it appears PayPal dismissed your complaint. My advocacy organization receives a lot of questions about PayPal's complaint system. As far as we can tell, the system is almost completely automated and arbitrary. Maybe your delivery problem got handled – or should I say mishandled – by an AI.

There actually is a way to appeal

your case. You can send a brief, polite email to one of the PayPal executives I list on my consumer advocacy site.org. PayPal has a responsiveness rating of three out of five, which is just okay. If we get many more complaints like yours, it might get downgraded.

I contacted PayPal on your behalf. A few weeks later, I heard back from you.

"I just had communications from PayPal, and they have reversed their original decision and resolved the issue in my favor," you said. "Thank you."

Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (<https://elliottadvocacy.org>), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems. Email him at [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org) or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>.

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CALENDAR THIS from previous page

**CCLCF ANNOUNCES WEEK 4 CAMPS**

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is hosting a variety of camps at the Center June 26 – June 30.

ARTventure Island, Robotics Camp, Professor Egghead Engineering Camp and Flag Football Blitz Camp are just four of the camp experiences offered.

Camp Runamuk's Week 4 theme is Under the Sea!

On June 25 is the Raku Ceramics Firing Workshop (limited spots available) and don't forget that on Wednesday nights there's belly dancing.

**COMMUNITY TREE CARE DAY**

The Sierra Club is hosting Community Tree Care Day on Saturday, June 24 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers can enjoy the sunshine and outdoors while weeding and watering trees along the main corridor of

Foothill Boulevard in Sunland-Tujunga. Participants will each get a free organic waste pail from LA Sanitation & Environment that can be used to compost food scraps to improve home gardening.

Volunteers are asked to bring their own work gloves and water containers.

No reservations are required – just show up at 9 a.m. at DIY Home Center parking lot, 6300 Foothill Blvd. in Tujunga.

**CASINO NIGHT CCLCF FUNDRAISER**

The 10th Annual Casino Night Fundraiser, hosted by Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge, has been rescheduled to July 29.

**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 [cls0f74reunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cls0f74reunion@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.

The history of Las Candelas was displayed for viewing with the many press books that have been kept over the years. Longtime members Ann Ways (1975), Marilyn Butler (1978) and Fran Buchanan (1968) shared their memories of the early days of Las Candelas and their years of service to help the most vulnerable children.

The installation of the 2023-24 officers and chairs also took place. Outgoing President Rosina Maize of La Cañada passed the gavel to incoming President Karen Swan of Glendale. Swan taught kindergarten in the Glendale schools for 35 years and is also an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale.

Other incoming officers include First Vice-President Cathy Keen, Second Vice-Presidents JC Byer, Third Vice-President Nancy Stone, Fourth Vice-President Jeri Clark, Fifth Vice-President Margaret Cline and Sixth Vice-President Nancy Stone.

The group will reconvene in September at its annual summer party and its members look forward to a productive year of providing educational programs and hands-on help to the philanthropies served.

To learn more about Las Candelas, visit the website [www.lascandelas.org](http://www.lascandelas.org) or the Facebook page at Las Candelas.

Submitted by Cathy KEEN

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ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD ON PAGE 14

PIGEON SAY WHAT?

By Timothy E. Parker

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# RELIGION

**Question:** Our daughter and her husband just had their first baby. We're delighted to be first-time grandparents but weren't prepared for what came next. We were told – not asked – that they would like us to care for the baby every Friday night so they can have date night. Even before the baby was born, we had talked about how we could help out. Every week seems a bit much although once or twice a month would work for us.

We don't want to upset our daughter and son-in-law. Is there a way to talk to them so we're not feeling used? We sometimes go out with friends to dinner on Friday nights. ~ Befuddled Grandparents

Dear Befuddled Grandparents, Congratulations on your first grandchild. I pray God blesses you with several! And I affirm your desire to set healthy boundaries with your daughter and son-in-law. It really is about communicating in such a way that everyone sets healthy expectations.

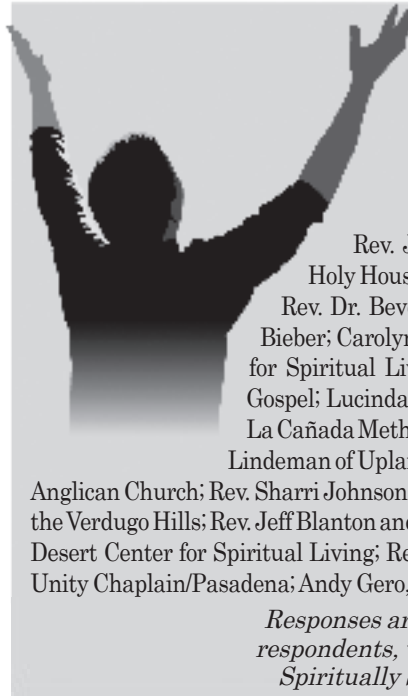
From what I can gather in your letter, it seems you may need a little help in practicing "assertiveness" with your daughter. The example I will share is my own mother. If I had told her she would be on babysitting duty every Friday night she would have immediately laughed and, with a smile on her face and humor in her voice, said something like, "My dear son, we love you and can't wait to help out and babysit our new grand baby. But I'm not going to agree to that! We can talk about what we can and can't do. Let's just take things one step at a time and see how things go for now. We'll help out but we need a little flexibility

too." Granted, it is always easier to think what to say after the fact, especially when someone surprises you. So given where you are, I would recommend that you, Grandma, go and see your daughter privately. Take a moment to affirm and bless her as a mom. Tell her how happy you are for them. Then gently set your boundaries. Honesty is always the best policy. Admit you were befuddled by the "announcement" that the grandparents would babysit every Friday night. Tell her you don't want to upset her and hubby, but let her know you feel more comfortable in agreeing to once or twice a month for now and you would like to take things one step at a time. And don't forget to mention that you will likely have social plans on some Friday nights that you will want to keep.

If that sounds difficult for you, take some time to ask for God's help in speaking lovingly and clearly to your daughter about what is on your heart and listening to her in return. God loves to bless our efforts to foster healthy relationships.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Rob Holman  
rob@stlukeanglican.org

Dear Befuddled Grandparents, Congratulations on becoming grandparents; that is a huge milestone in one's life. Your surprise at being told you're designated regular babysitters is understandable, especially if they expect the care to be uncompensated. While grandparents often care for grandchildren it is definitely not something that should be taken for granted. You may need to establish boundaries with your daughter and son-in-law. Frequent, candid



## 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 Highlands 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.

communications facilitate good multi-generational family relations.

Since expectations differed about exactly what helping out with childcare meant to you and the young couple, I recommend setting up a four-way conversation as soon as possible. If your son-in-law has parents who are local they might wish to share babysitting duties and, ideally, should participate in the conversation.

Popsugar reports in a 2017 article, "The latest AARP data shows that 38% of grandparents play the role of babysitter or daycare provider. More specifically, one in 10 lives in the same household as their grandchild with 5% being the primary caregiver."

Key points to consider are whether both parents will work outside the home or if one is stay-at-home. A stay-at-home parent might need a date night more than one who gets adult interaction at work. If parental leave policies didn't allow for adequate bonding time with their infant, working parents might

want to spend maximum time with their new little one and defer date nights for a while.

If you are still working, your date nights are important, too. On the other hand, regular contact with your grandchild might form a lasting bond that benefits you in your old age. The baby you care for now could be your caregiver in 30 years or so.

Another factor is whether the child was planned. I'd be more receptive to providing free childcare if the little one was a birth control failure. Part of deciding to have children should be realistic plans for the "village" expected to help raise them, but circumstances beyond one's control can dictate flexibility.

If your daughter and son-in-law have a circle of friends with children perhaps they can set up a reciprocal babysitting system, trading off childcare for date nights. That could be augmented with your support as emergency caregivers – when their baby is ill, for example.

Balancing the needs of the five of you is complicated. Whatever plan you come up with is likely to need updates as the baby grows up and the situation evolves. What works for a while may not work in a few weeks. I hope you are able to find solutions that work well for all concerned.

Sharon Weisman  
sharon@jetcafe.org

difficult for you to hear that your mom feels she is ready to be with your dad in heaven. I feel that you believe each of us has our time to go and that only God should decide when, and how, that happens and it is not up to us to decide those things. That being said, I would ask you why is it hard for you to accept that your mom feels ready to be with your dad in heaven? Jesus talked about the Kingdom of Heaven as being the most beautiful and glorious place, enfolded in the arms of God. I am feeling that you want to keep her here with you believing that God has not decided to take her yet, and also believing that she does not have the right to decide for herself when she can choose to go. In recent years, people all over the world are choosing their "exit point," especially when they have been diagnosed with terminal illnesses. They choose when, and how, they make their transition, with love and dignity.

I know this may not fit with your religious beliefs. I wonder if you feel responsible for knowing when and how God says your mom is supposed to pass? But I question – are any of us really capable of knowing God's full vision for how and when those we love (or ourselves) are to pass on? No matter how much we love someone, in my experience we do not have that level of power or vision.

Please consider that if your mom really wants to be with your dad, it is actually okay. If you truly believe in eternal life, you should make her feel encouraged, and relieved, about the fact that your dad will be there to greet her when she crosses over.

Please don't fight against her natural instinct to be with her beloved. God does not want any of us to suffer. Our trust and faith in eternal life tells us that it is our job to encourage and support each other on our life's journey, whatever form that takes, knowing that those loved ones we have lost

see SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING on next page

**Question:** Our dad died three years ago and now our mom was diagnosed with stage 4 stomach cancer and has been in hospice for a month. She really misses Dad and keeps saying she wants to join him in heaven. We tell her that God takes us to heaven when he is ready, but that doesn't work for her. The hospice nurses have been great about keeping Mom comfortable and, for the most part, pain-free. When we were growing up, we regularly attended church. Is there something else we can tell Mom to help her understand that her dying is God's decision? ~ Four Siblings

Dear Four Siblings, My mom passed away in April having been in hospice, just like your mom is now. She had the best care and I know that her faith in God carried her, without fear, to the other side. I understand that it is

## RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY

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"Where it is our dream to help you build and manifest your dreams!"  
  
4845 Dunsmore Ave.  
La Crescenta, CA 91214  
(818) 249-1045  
Celebration Service Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.

 **Church of Scientology Mission of the Foothills**  
2254 Honolulu Ave. Montrose  
Mondays-Thursdays 4:00-9:30 pm  
Saturdays 10 am to 6 pm  
  
**OUR HELP IS YOURS**  
scientology-montrose.org  
818-957-1500  
email: foothills@scientology.net

**Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church**  
  
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Childcare and Sunday School offered at 10am.  
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Montrose, CA 91020  
[www.cvumc.org](http://www.cvumc.org)

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818-248-3738  
[www.glcmslc.org](http://www.glcmslc.org)  
Sunday Adult Bible Study: 9AM  
Sunday service: 10AM  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7PM

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**Light on the Corner Church**  
  
Pastor Jon Karn  
1911 Waltonia Drive  
Montrose  
(818) 249-4806  
**SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 a.m.**  
[www.lightonthecorner.org](http://www.lightonthecorner.org)

**Lutheran Church in the Foothills**  
1700 Foothill Blvd.  
La Cañada Flintridge  
  
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## NOTES &amp; NODS

## LCIF News

Lutheran Church in the Foothills looks a bit like a zoo this week with “VBS: Weird Animals” underway for children ages 4 through sixth grade. The program runs from 9 a.m. to noon. It began Monday and runs through Friday, June 23. According to a church spokesperson, this year’s vacation Bible school theme centers on what makes all beings unique and reminds children that nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.

VBS is an annual tradition at LCIF. A VBS barbecue celebration will be held on Sunday, June 25 following the 10 a.m. worship service with Pastor Rick Hall.

Last Sunday, Hall delivered his first sermon as LCIF’s new full time pastor. It was a service filled with the baptism of four children, a celebration of Father’s Day and the presentation of a homemade quilt to a recent high school graduate and LCIF member. It is a long-standing tradition at LCIF for graduating church members to receive a homemade quilt to take with them to college or wherever their next chapter in life takes them. This year’s quilt was

lovingly stitched by member Lee Clarke and presented to Joanna Gropper who will attend American University this fall.

For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lciffoothills.org or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### ‘Twists and Turns’ – a Vacation Bible School at La Crescenta Presbyterian

Join La Crescenta Presbyterian Church for a week of “Twists and Turns,” a Vacation Bible School taking place Monday through Friday, July 10-14, from 9 a.m. to noon.

All children from age 4 to incoming sixth graders are welcome at this week of games, crafts and singing, all focused on the message that “Following Jesus Changes the Game!”

The cost of this weeklong adventure is per family unit: \$50 for 1 child; \$85 for two children; \$120 for three or more children. T-shirts are included.

“Twists and Turns” will take place at the La Crescenta

Presbyterian campus at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, contact Jesiah@lcpc.net or call 818-249-6137. To register, visit lcpc.net/vbs.

### 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 June 18 & 25. Participants 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

Continued from page 16

are always there to greet us in the splendor of heaven. After all, in the words of philosopher Ram Dass, “We are all just walking each other home.”

Rev. Karen Mitchell  
revkarenmitchell@gmail.com

Dear Siblings,

First let me offer my condolences on the loss of your father and now the diagnosis of your mother. These are tough times for families. Thank God for the bedrock certainty of Christ’s victory over death and the promise of life eternal with Jesus for all who believe.

Perhaps you could remind your mom that just as she had nothing to do with when she was born, since it was God’s decision, she also doesn’t decide when she will die. That is God’s decision. We are here on this earth for his good pleasure. And when that momentous day finally comes when our labors on earth are complete, God calls us home. Believe it or not, from God’s heavenly perspective, there are still things for your mom to accomplish. She is here for a reason.

It is good that she longs to see her husband again. And it’s good that she has an abiding faith in the reality of heaven. There she will be healthy, happy and at peace with her savior. Who wouldn’t choose that over stomach cancer? Her departure is coming soon enough! Say everything you need to say. Pray everything you need to pray. And it might be good to remember that even while dying the Lord Jesus reached out to someone who believed in him. Hanging from a cruel Roman cross, Jesus reminded the thief next to him: “Today you shall be with me in paradise.” This means that what we seek to outrun our whole lives, our final enemy, will ultimately catch up to us and overcome us. This is the nature of death. But in his victory over death, Christ has made our worst enemy our best friend. And he has turned our saddest day, our final day, into a commencement ceremony of graduation into a new forever kind of life. Until that day, your mom still belongs to God but he is loaning her to us for a little while longer. Make sure her last days are comfortable, precious, full of smiles and full of hope. Paradise awaits.

Rev. Jon T. Karn  
pastorjon@lightonthecorner.org

GUSD from page 7

education’s priorities to maximize achievement for all students, foster a positive culture of learning on every campus and protect the health and safety of students and employees. She is well known for her integrity, exceptional work values and resourcefulness. She has been instrumental in elevating student voices, building partnerships with outside organizations to close the digital divide, providing dual college enrollment and internship opportunities for students, opening health and wellness centers at every high school, and expanding the district’s before and after school childcare program. In 2022, Dr. Ekchian was named Los Angeles County Superintendent of the year,” according to a GUSD statement.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the students, families and employees of Glendale Unified School District for the past four years. Together we successfully navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, improved health and wellness for students and employees, and expanded dynamic learning opportunities for every child,” said Dr. Ekchian. “I know that our board of education, school and district leadership, educators and staff will continue the transformative work being done throughout the district and maintain a steadfast focus on preparing all students for success in college, career, and life.”

“Dr. Ekchian will be greatly missed in Glendale Unified. Her focus on equity and student success has significantly impacted how we meet student needs. She has served as a powerful role model for our students and adults. On behalf of the board, we wish her the best in retirement and look forward to her continued presence in the community,” said Board of Education President Nayiri Nahabedian.

Dr. Darneika Watson, Human Re-

sources and Operations chief officer, will serve as interim superintendent while the board of education determines next steps.

Tuesday was the last school board meeting of the academic year. According to the Sgt. Victor Jackson of the Glendale Police Dept. there were no arrests made during the protests. Inside the meeting, the atmosphere was much more volatile than the prior meeting. There was more heckling from both sides of the issues when people were at the podium. One of the lowest points was when a mom wanted to thank GUSD for its support after she received “life changing” medical news about her child. She began sobbing as she tried to talk about her situation but, at the end, was heckled by a few in the audience.

There were other issues beyond the controversy of LGBTQ+ including a parent who was concerned about the lack of shade on school campuses. She worried about students on playgrounds who would have no place to avoid the sun when school begins next August.

Another parent brought up concerns about a proposed class. She was concerned about students being “peer counseled” and felt that students were not emotionally or academically equipped to actually counsel students. She was very concerned about the examples of what students could possibly be dealing with. The proposed new course is titled Peer Counseling II and, as the board pointed out at the meeting later in the evening, the information on the class was submitted for review for content and evaluation. It was not to be approved on Tuesday.

During the later discussion, board member Shant Sahakian said he too had some issues with the proposed class and specific description. The board will continue to review the proposal.

## LCPC Parent Ed Offers Books and Support to Local Non-Profits

La Cañada Presbyterian’s Parent Education program donated to Elizabeth House and Harambee Ministries, both located in Pasadena, resources for spiritual and personal development. Books included devotionals in both English and Spanish, children’s Bibles, books for marriage/relationships and books to support personal growth. In addition to providing these resources, Parent Ed is currently collaborating with both non-profit organizations to create parent education courses for their specific programs. Parent Ed staff is excited to work with both groups to support even more families.

Book donations are funded through the Erskine Compassion Memorial, which was created in 2018 in honor of Cathy and Christopher Erskine with the aim of providing support to individuals and families in need. Contributions can be made to this ongoing fund online at <https://bit.ly/PARENTEDGALA23> or by check made out to LCPC Parent Ed with designation “Erskine Compassion Memorial” in memo. Checks can be dropped off or mailed to LCPC Parent Ed, 626 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada, CA 91011.

Elizabeth House provides



EH Church Outreach Manager Shawna Diehl, Parent Ed Director Anne Bierling, LCPC Pastor Cindy Frost and Harambee Executive Director Angela Lee

Photo by Valerie WILLIAMS

shelter and services for pregnant women and their children experiencing homelessness. In its mission, it states that through shelter and lifelong support, Elizabeth House empowers pregnant and parenting women in need to reclaim their lives and build successful family legacies.

Harambee has a mission to nurture and equip leadership that will holistically minister to the community by sharing biblical truths in order to achieve the rebuilding of urban neighborhoods through relocation, reconciliation, and redistribution.

Entering its 45th year of

helping families thrive, Parent Ed offers classes for parents and grandparents of babies to young adults. The program provides quality education, friendships and community. The program attracts over 500 participants from a 30-mile radius. Go to [www.lacanadapc.org/parented](http://www.lacanadapc.org/parented) for class listings, staff bios, and online registration. Scholarships and payment plans are available online. Affordable childcare is offered during most class times. La Cañada Presbyterian Church is located at 626 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.



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**LEGALS**  
 NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME: GARNIK BIDROSIANGHORHONI. Case number 23GDPC00108. Superior Court of California, County of Glendale, Superior Court North Central District 600 East Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206. To all interested persons: 1. Petitioner GARNIK BIDROSIANGHORHONI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: a. Present Name: GARNIK BIDROSIANGHORHONI to Proposed Name: GARNIK PETROSIAN. 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 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: AUGUST 16, 2023 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 Crescena Valley Weekly June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

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# CV WEEKLY IS ONLINE!



# CV Fireworks Extravaganza

Continued from COVER

Avenue. A seating area will be set up in the food court on Ramsdell Avenue. It will be in the parking lot next to the field accessible gate.

CVFA is a locally sponsored and operated organization with roots deep in the community. For years, the CV Chamber of Commerce sponsored the event; however, in 2006 the organization could no longer lead the event and it looked like that would be its end. But then a group of residents in the area met at a local restaurant and came up with a way to keep the annual show going. Residents started making phone calls to friends and local leaders to get the initial financing to continue the show. From this CVFA was born. The event continues to be sponsored by local organizations and financed through donations.

The fireworks show has adjusted over the years. The show began on the CVHS track and field then once the artificial field was in place the audience was moved to La Crescenta Elementary School, which is adjacent to the high school. Then the show

and audience were moved back to the CVHS field.

In the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 the fireworks show was canceled but in 2021 it returned, adjusting to COVID-19 protocols. Though the field was not open to the public the pyrotechnics crew was able to shoot the fireworks very high in the sky allowing people to see them from their homes or by parking along nearby streets.

The show returned to CVHS in 2022 and remains there. The Association continues to work to keep the fireworks show a local event for the foothills community including Montrose and Glendale.

"We only advertise the event locally thru Facebook, local posters and banners and in newspapers. We try to keep the event very family-friendly, especially the entry price. We have not raised the price in years. It's still just \$10, with kids 7 and under free. That's a great value when you compare to other shows that charge up to \$75 just for entry. We couldn't do that if it weren't for the great

support we get from Los Angeles County, City of Glendale and our local residents," Goldsworthy said.

Instead of the traditional fireworks show at the Rose Bowl, this year the stadium will be hosting the LA Galaxy vs. LA Football Club, according to rosebowlstadium.com and visitpasadena.com. There have been reports that there will be fireworks after the game but the traditional show has been "replaced," according to visitpasadena.com.

"I'm not sure what the impact will be with the [Rose] Bowl event being canceled but we do expect a larger crowd," Goldsworthy added. "I would recommend people arrive early. Gates open at 4 p.m. [on July 4]. Throw down a blanket and enjoy some great music."

There is parking on the street and parking spots will be sold for \$5 in the school's parking lot with fees dedicated as a fundraiser for the Prom Plus organization. (Visit promplus.org for more information.)

Tickets for the CV Fireworks Show

can be purchased at Bob Smith Toyota, 3333 Foothill Blvd.; J's Maintenance, 3550 Foothill Blvd.; CV Weekly, 3800 La Crescenta Ave. Ste. 206; and CV Chamber of Commerce, 3131 Foothill Blvd. Ste. D. Tickets will also go on sale in front of the CVHS track and field at Ramsdell Avenue on July 4 beginning at noon. The gate opens at 4 p.m.

There is no alcohol allowed. Bags will be checked at the entrance at the event.

Due to the artificial turf at the school, no food or drink other than water will be allowed on the field and no chairs with pointed or pole-style legs will be allowed on the field. Beach chairs with flat bottoms are allowed.

To donate to the event, send a check in the envelope included in this week's CV Weekly or visit <https://www.cvfireworks.com> and click on Donations..

## SCIENCE FAIRS from page 9

explaining the basic concepts in AP biology and biotechnology all the way to the nuanced specifics such as how to convey the importance and reality of my project."

Benedicto said, "Being in the research class within the Academy of Science and Medicine has helped me grow by participating in more professional venues. Through this, I further developed skills such as time management and pushed myself technically by working with Arduino [open-source electronic prototyping platform enabling users to create interactive electronic objects] and other technologies involved in my project. I am especially appreciative of the upperclassmen who were able to share their experiences and advice.

"I would like to sincerely thank my family for their flexibility and support regarding my research schedule, and Orenda Tuason and Alamelu Arunachalam for their patience and time dedication towards the research class."

Both Arunachalam and Benedicto plan on science as their career path.

Arunachalam said, "As of now, due to the connections I have been able to make in the biotechnology sphere in Los Angeles, I am currently hoping to pursue computational biology in LA for my undergrad."

Benedicto added, "I am currently thinking of majoring in an engineering field. I hope to continue my current dream of being able to make the world a better place through STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) now and in the future as well as actively seek to work with mentoring the next generation or engage in research opportunities."

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