

Unpermitted Work at Faye's

By Mary O'KEEFE

During Montrose's Harvest Market on Sunday, construction was being done at the former Faye's building at the northeast corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue. The construction was unpermitted. This issue was presented by Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian at Glendale City Council on Tuesday.

"This weekend a lot of us were informed about some work being done in Montrose at one of the marquee storefronts at the intersection of Ocean View and Honolulu. I would like to know what transpired and what is happening with that so the public is aware of it as well," Kassakhian said.

"There was some illegal construction and work that was going on at the former Faye's store and as soon as I was informed we sent the police officers out there to issue a stop work notice order," said Roubik Golanian, Glendale city manager.

There was work being done on the exterior of the building in addition to what appeared to be work on the interior as well. They had applied for a permit but it had yet to be approved, Golanian added. They did not have approval to move forward.

"Code enforcement has been notified. They are aware of it [and] will go out on a daily basis just to be sure," he said.

"I want to make sure they are following all of our rules and guidelines," Kassakhian said.

He added the building does not appear to have had work done on it for many years and he was concerned toxic materials, like asbestos, might be present.

Mayor Dan Brotman said he was not there during the incident; however, did see a video of what occurred.

"What are the consequences for someone who does something see GCC on page 8

New Hydroponic Garden at CVHS

By Mary O'KEEFE and Charly SHELTON

Last week community supporter and activist Steve Pierce was treated to a walkthrough of the new hydroponics garden at Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS). The garden started with one hydroponic tower, located in the cafeteria, made possible through the generosity of Pierce and his wife Karen. There is a second one due to arrive shortly thanks to a donation by another community member.

The idea for the garden began with CVHS junior Kristyn Roh.

"My mom introduced me to hydroponic towers, which is just a more sustainable way of growing plants and vegetables – anything really – and the nice thing about it is that it grows anywhere. So with drought and our lack of land, these towers are really good because you can put them anywhere and they'll flourish anywhere," Roh said.

Hydroponics is the technique of growing plants using a water-based nutrient solution rather than soil, according to National Agricultural Library.

Hydroponics growing has been around for centuries. According to



Photos by Charly SHELTON

CVHS Principal Christine Benitez (left) and junior Kristyn Roh show donor Steve Pierce how the hydroponic garden works.

an article, "Hydroponics: The power of water to grow food" by Harvard University, it is believed the famed Hanging Gardens of Babylon, 600 BCE, survived through a pulley system of water from the river, an agricultural technique that today is known as hydroponics. Growing through the use of hydroponics has

become more common in commercial and personal use.

School administrators and students would like to see their hydroponic garden expand in the future. Roh explained the plants can be cut and then continue to grow.

She noted the plants would have to be replaced annually.

"It actually recycles water, which is really cool, so you never have to change it out; you just have to add water to it [every so often]," Roh said.

"Why don't more people do this?" Pierce asked. "Is it because they don't know about it?"

see STEVE PIERCE on page 8

Rally Held to Increase Wages for GUSD Teachers

By Eliza PARTIKA

The Glendale Teachers Association (GTA) held a gathering called "Rally for Respect" before the Glendale Unified School District meeting on Tuesday where they demanded a living wage from the district. Wages for GUSD teachers are 49% lower for the amount of effort and education than for comparable districts, said Talin Partikian, GTA president.

Hundreds of parents and teachers, dressed in red to represent bargaining, gathered around the front entrance of the District office chanting "Fair wages now!" Parents and teachers spoke about their struggles with pay and encouraged attending supporters to sign their petition, which was on a clipboard and passed among the crowd.

By the end of the program, several had signed the petition.

GUSD teachers are concerned about their ability to afford to live in Glendale and are afraid students are paying the price. Over the last two years of bargaining, Partikian said the District has only offered a pay increase of 8%, which is not in line with inflation. Out of a budget of approximately \$49 million for this academic year, Partikian said it's within the District's budget to allot more to teachers' salaries.

see GTA on page 8



Photo by Eliza PARTIKA

Talin Partikian, GTA president, urged GUSD to increase teachers' wages during a rally held Tuesday prior to the GUSD board of education meeting.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Threats, Screaming ... and the American Flag

Last week I told you I'd share my opinions on various candidates running for a variety of offices.

Let me preface this by saying that CV Weekly takes pride in "writing down the middle;" in other words, most readers don't know if a writer leans to the left or right, is Black or White, Christian or Jew. Our goal is to give our readers the facts; we believe they're smart enough to make up their own minds regarding the content they consume.

The exceptions to those rules can be found here in my column, in Mary O'Keefe's weather column and on our Viewpoints page. These are the places where you might be able to discern an opinion. That's because those sections are not news.

Which leads me to some of my opinions.

My kids went to Glendale Unified schools as did my husband and his siblings. Though I might not agree with every decision the GUSD makes, I felt confident in its decisions. I never felt my children were in danger or were being "indoctrinated." Of late, I've had emails and phone calls from people accusing the district of indoctrinating our kids, of teaching them an LGBTQ+ curriculum and explaining to them homosexual acts. When I've asked for proof—the name of a teacher or a classroom that we could monitor or book/s in libraries that promote this, for example—I'm met with crickets. (Former teacher Ray Shelton is not a reliable source after his attendance at a school board meeting holding a swastika.)

One candidate is particularly vocal about promoting these falsehoods. Jordan Henry contacted the CV Weekly

back in 2021, eager for us to publish his accusations that critical race theory (CRT) was being taught in local schools through the implementation of Learning for Justice. Despite digging into the GUSD curriculum, I could find no proof of this accusation and I refused to print his claims.

Apparently he did not find traction regarding CRT and turned his attention to the proposition that an LGBTQ+ curriculum is being taught in local classrooms. As was evident by the discord at the June 6, 2023 school board meeting (that ended in a "massive brawl" and included people who weren't even from the area), Henry has found a niche audience of people interested in supporting his views—and his candidacy for school board.

Scary times were especially evident when social media posted that a Jordan Henry supporter refused to leave a local mom-and-pop business until he was threatened with a phone call to the police. Why did this business get targeted? Apparently it displayed a sign endorsing a Jordan Henry opponent.

And Jordan Henry wants a seat at the GUSD board of education? To me, that's a dangerous proposition.

I hope voters will take the time to get to know the candidates before casting their all-important ballots.

To learn more, consider visiting <https://www.therealjordanhenry.com/>.

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

For the last several days I have been in Arizona. I was there to support my brother who was having prostate surgery due to cancer. I asked him if I could share his story, and he said yes. In fact, as is his nature, he wanted to share his story to help others.

My brother, 61, went to a normally scheduled appointment for his prostate screening. He was told by his doctor that he needed a core needle biopsy. They found cancer but he was told it was low grade and at first he was told it barely registered as cancer. He was told to go home and come back in a couple of months. He called me and said he was having a difficult time knowing there was cancer in his body. He went back, and this time my son and I were able to be on the phone with the doctor when my brother received updated results. The cancer had grown and although still a low grade it was growing. He was told he could wait or have the surgery. While on the phone we all decided surgery was the best option.

On Friday he had that surgery in Tucson and on Wednesday his doctor called him to let him know there was much more cancer than they had originally thought. Luckily it was contained within the prostate, and he is now cancer-free. The doctor also said the decision to have surgery and not to wait was absolutely the right thing to do. But even more important is that my brother had regular screenings for prostate cancer. If he didn't have these tests it would have certainly spread and we would be facing a completely different future.

My brother, and his partner, wanted me to encourage men not to miss their regular prostate screening and in fact everyone should have any cancer screenings that are suggested. Do not wait; do not think if you let it go a couple of months or a year that it will be fine. And don't let work or anything in your schedule get in your way of getting screenings and following up with your doctor.

Because of his proactive decision, my brother

will be around to drive me crazy for many years to come and (please don't tell him) but I now look forward to his phone calls sharing Iowa small town news about people I have never heard of or giving me an update on the latest reality show characters.

This story had a very happy ending but the journey to his surgery was not easy. Living with the "what ifs" was not easy and has consumed my every thought for several months since we first heard the word "cancer." My family is very close and what happens to one happens to all. I am so grateful that my brother acted quickly, despite being afraid of the results and that he wants to share his story in hopes of saving the life of someone who needs to get a prostate screening.

The day he was released from the hospital, it snowed in his Arizona small town located about an hour outside of Tucson. And when I say snow, I mean real snow. The saguaros had snow covering them. The streets were slick and at one point as I drove to the hospital I was in a white-out, not able to see any vehicles around me. The drivers on the small highways were great. They drove slowly, but once on the interstate to Tucson drivers were either traveling at 10 mph or 80 mph. I grew up driving in snow but it has been awhile since I have. It came back to me but holy cats! Those big rigs that continued to drive at 80 mph or 85 mph were a lot to deal with.

As I was driving to the hospital, an hour drive that lasted almost four hours due to the snow, my family went to Tombstone—the town too tough to die. They walked the wooden sidewalks that were covered in snow and my grandson got to have a short but exciting snowball fight.

My brother and his partner live in the Chihuahuan Desert. It is the largest desert in North America. This high desert is above 3,500 feet so its cacti, agave and creosote get a bit of frost in the winter months though wildflowers grow in warmer parts of the year, according to Visit Arizona.

The snow stuck on the ground for most of the morning then quickly melted as the temperatures

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

CVCA TO MEET FEB. 22

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its meeting on Thursday, Feb. 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 with questions and for Zoom meeting information.

All are welcome.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

Home Again LA is hosting a community resource fair on Saturday, Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to noon at Glendale First Baptist Church, 209 N. Louise St. in Glendale. Exhibitors include Unite LA, Home Again LA, Comprehension Community Health Clinics, Leeza's Care Connection, the Armenian Relief Society and more.

This is an opportunity to connect with local partners that are offering resources for community members.

Free to attend.

ROSEMONT PRESERVE OPEN GATE MORNING

An "open gate" event is taking place at the Rosemont Preserve on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 18. This is a chance for residents to visit the Preserve and wander the trail at their own pace and enjoy the tranquil setting, the wildlife and the natural beauty. Photographers: bring your camera to capture the morning light and citizen scientists, bring your iNaturalist and Merlin apps to identify birds and add wildlife sightings!

The gate will be open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Friends of the Rosemont Preserve Committee members will be available to answer questions and present this community resource.

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., and not in front of neighbors' homes. 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.

BURRTEC ANNUAL CLEANUP EVENT

Burrtec is hosting its annual cleanup event on several dates in February depending on regular trash pickup day. During this event, customers can dispose of unlimited items at no additional cost. Place items at the curb by 6 a.m. of the scheduled event date. Household hazardous waste (such as paint, household cleaners, motor oil, etc.) will not be collected.

Those who have a regular trash pickup day of Monday or Wednesday should have placed items on the curb by 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3; those who have a regular trash pickup day of Tuesday should have placed items on the curb by 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10; those who have a regular trash pickup day of Thursday can place items on the curb by 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17; those who have a regular trash pickup day of Friday can place items on the curb by 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Community Kicks Up Its Heels

By Scarlett Saltzman, intern

On Feb. 9, Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) hosted its annual Jazz Night, a cherished tradition within the CVHS community. This event serves as a platform for the students of the jazz band to showcase their musical talent to the Crescenta Valley community. Jazz Night is an invitation to Crescenta Valley High School students and community members who want to immerse themselves in an evening of jazz music.

The venue for Jazz Night was meticulously prepared within CVHS' cafeteria, featuring elegant lighting and ample space for dancing and socializing. Each table was decorated with tastefully crafted centerpieces that were available for purchase by attendees as keepsakes of the evening's festivities. Adjacent to the dance floor, a designated area allowed guests to accessorize with props and pose for photographs against a backdrop, providing an interactive and memorable experience. A CVHS student photographer ensured that the event was captured in its entirety, preserving the night.

"We've done this event for so many years that we're confident about the set up," said Leila Bell, secretary of the Crescenta Valley Instrumental (CVIM) board. "We also have good volunteers and a supportive administration."

A highlight of the evening was the dessert table, a compelling display featuring donated delicacies from Berolina Bakery and Portos as well as some treats from CVHS parents. The dessert table added an extra layer of indulgence to an already delightful evening, becoming a popular topic of conversation among guests. Overall, Jazz Night at CVHS proved to be a harmonious blend of music, community engagement and culinary delight, exemplifying the school's commitment to fostering musical enrichment for students and community members.

However, the highlight of Jazz Night was the inclusion of swing dancing lessons, offering guests a 30-minute instructional session on mastering the art of swing dancing.

Bell shared insights on the origins of this popular event. "The idea for the swing dancing lessons came from a CV alumni family who were avid swing dancers. They thought it would be cool if we decided to offer some dance lessons and it was a hit."

Since its inception, CVHS has continued to provide swing dancing lessons, enriching the overall experience for attendees. In recent years, oversight of this tradition transitioned to another family that has strong ties to CVHS.

While the success of Jazz Night relies on the volunteers it also depends on the dedicated musicians of the CVHS jazz band. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts resulted in a captivating performance. Participation in the jazz band entails a significant dedication from CVHS students, necessitating auditions and daily practice sessions. Darcy Ireland, a second alto saxophone player for jazz band, attests to the enriching program.

"It is an amazing experience especially during festival season because you get to be rated by judges and hang out with classmates," Ireland said. She has been playing the saxophone for eight years and is currently in her second year of jazz band. She added, "I joined jazz band because jazz isn't appreciated enough and at the time there weren't enough girls represented in jazz."

The evening's festivities concluded with a rendition of the fan favorite, "Sing, Sing, Sing," eliciting fervent acclaim from the audience.

Junior Nicole Stephan echoed the sentiments of many: "Jazz Night was super entertaining this year. The jazz band played songs that were lively and easy to dance to including my favorite - 'Sing, Sing, Sing.' It was one of the best Jazz Nights I've ever been to."



Photos by Leila BELL

ABOVE: Lucy Bell and Nathan Schick take a spin on the dance floor during Jazz Night at CVHS. BELOW: The dessert table featured all types of sweets donated by Portos, Berolina Bakery and Crescenta Valley High School parents and supporters.



From the music to the lively swing dancing and tasty desserts, the collective efforts of the Jazz Night volunteers and performers ensured a successful event.

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Glendale School Board Candidates Discuss Education Policy, Budget, Priorities in Candidate Forum

By Eliza PARTIKA

Glendale Unified School District board of education hopefuls addressed the public at a candidate forum hosted by the League of Women's Voters and the Glendale PTA on Feb. 7.

Three candidates are vying for one seat in trustee area A. They are Jordan Henry, a father and landscape architect; Telly Tse, special education teacher, soccer coach and former California Teachers Association (CTA) and National Education Association board member; Shant Kevorkian, recently graduated GUSD student chair of the GUSD Alumni Association, commissioner for Parks, Recs, and Community Services at the City of Glendale, and current administrative coordinator for Kaiser Permanente. Two candidates are vying for one seat in trustee area E. They are Neda Farid, executive vice president of the Glendale Parent Teacher Association and GUSD parent; and Aneta Krpekyan, GUSD parent of two.

All 11 questions posed at the forum to all candidates were based on questions submitted by the public.

None of the candidates viewed their current positions as a conflict of interest.

When asked how they would maintain board priorities to maximize student achievement, foster a positive culture of learning, ensure the health and safety of students and employees and maintain district financial responsibility, candidates agreed that maintaining priorities of learning, health and safety of students and ensuring the district has means to obtain those goals is a must; however, candidates disagreed on how they would continue those standards.

Telly Tse said that, in line with his platform, prioritizing mental health and social achievement is as important as encouraging high academic achievement among students.

"And in order to feel safe, they have to have educators [who] support them and they have to have a community and administrators and leaders [who] see them for who they are and support them for who they are," he said.

Jordan Henry disagreed, saying that while mental and social health is important, academics should be prioritized before other aspects of schooling. He expressed concerns over dropping test scores and low funding of gifted programs for high-achieving students.

"Maximizing student achievement requires a total commitment to academic excellence. There are [many] parents in this district who do not feel like they can trust the district. I will represent those parents and make sure that lines of communication are completely open. Mental health is very important; however, it cannot come at the expense of academic achievement and preparing students for the technical knowledge that they need for the 21st century," he said.

Aneta Krpekyan said she would change the way the school budgets and prioritizes the resources given to teachers and students.

"Education and academic excellence is one of my top priorities because after the pandemic many students fell behind drastically, and they need to be given the proper resources in the classrooms in order to have a chance to catch up on the massive education loss that they have experienced. In order to do

so, we need to make sure that our classrooms are well resourced. Teachers shouldn't rely on parents to be donating supplies," she said.

Farid said her platform and experience as a parent and PTA leader prepares her to handle both the social-emotional health and the high academic achievement of students.

"The very best way to support students is to ensure that our schools are fully funded, special education is fully funded, that our students have access to mental health services as needed," she said adding she also thought the wide availability of an arts education was a "great equalizer" in education and she would strive to provide more of that for students.

She agreed with other candidates that teachers should be able to afford to live where they work and be able to provide their students with adequate resources and themselves with the necessities to teach effectively.

All candidates agreed it is the responsibility of the district to budget for more resources and adequate wages for teachers.

On district collaboration with students, parents and teachers, candidates agreed additional transparency is needed and that the support of parents is vital to a child's education.

Shant Kevorkian said he fully supports leveling the playing field for all regardless of race, gender, religion or socioeconomic status, and also understands that he would not have succeeded in GUSD without the support of his parents.

"I also want to add that without the advocacy of my parents in times [when] I wasn't able to advocate for myself, it was them I went to," he said. Kevorkian said he would ensure parent voice panels were instituted, along with curriculum nights and strengthening student voice panels, so everyone in the district had their concerns heard. He emphasized the necessity of translating into multiple languages information coming from the district so parents whose first language is not English can still participate and advocate for their students.

Krpekyan and Henry stated that parents whose religious or personal values do not align with curriculum or social learning should be allowed to exempt their child from those activities and receive transparency about what is going on in their child's classroom.

Kevorkian agreed board members should spend more time attending classes and sitting with teachers, parents and students to see what their needs are.

In regard to increasing student safety and preventing



A division of Crescenta Valley Publishing, LLC

Robin Goldsworthy
 Publisher and Editor-in-Chief
 robin@cvweekly.com

Mary O'Keefe
 Lead Reporter
 mary@cvweekly.com

Designers
 Steve Hernandez
 Senior Artist
 steve@cvweekly.com

Matthew Barger
 matt@cvweekly.com

Columnist
 Mike Lawler
 lawlerdad@yahoo.com

Contributing Writers

Lori Bodnar • Rev. Beverly Craig
 Charly Shelton • Ruth Sowby • Mikaela Stone
 Anne McNeill, proofreader

Advertising

Jon K
 (818) 248-2740
 jon@cvweekly.com

Sonya Marquez
 (818) 381-2000
 sonya@cvweekly.com

Lisa Stanners
 (818) 523-1234
 lisa@cvweekly.com

Office Manager/Inside Sales

Rachelle Miller
 rachelle@cvweekly.com

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To contact us, call (818) 248-2740, fax (818) 248-2444

E-mail info@cvweekly.com. Visit the web at www.cvweekly.com

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CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
 Robin@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
 Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
 Lisa@CVWeekly.com
 818.523.1234
 La Cañada
 Montrose

Sonya Marquez
 Sonya@CVWeekly.com
 818.381.2000
 La Crescenta
 Sunland-Tujunga

Jon K
 Jon@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740

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» ELECTIONS 2024

Introducing the Candidates for City Council – Part 1

By Eliza PARTIKA

Each week CV Weekly will examine the candidates running for a variety of offices. This week we present a partial list of the candidates running for Glendale City Council. The remaining candidates will be profiled next week.

James Clarke

James Clarke moved to North Glendale, where he has lived for eight years, after working in London as a marketing and communications expert. His desire to run for City Council stemmed from a need to offer his local and international experience, as well as his skills in strategic thinking and innovative outreach, to the Glendale community.

To Clarke, the role of a City Council representative is to engage the community.

“I want to listen to [the community’s] concerns, and I want to defer to them when it comes to making huge decisions,” he said. “I’m doing this because I’m passionate, I’m doing this because I feel like I have good ideas and I can make a difference.”

Transparency

Clarke believes the City Council should put public hearings back at the beginning of meetings so people can attend after work and not have to sit for five hours.

Housing and Utilities

“There are plenty of empty houses and vacant units the city owns that could be turned into affordable housing,” Clarke said. He said that while housing quantity might not be an immediate issue in Glendale, housing affordability is, especially due to Glendale Water and Power rate increases.

“[Glendale] does have an affordability problem. Glendale is getting more and more expensive to live in, which is going to push [out] people who can’t afford [to live here]. One of the primary reasons that’s happening is because Glendale City Council gets a huge chunk of the income from Glendale Water and Power that goes into the general fund. And Glendale City Council this summer voted to increase the Glendale Water and Power rates by 50% plus 50% over the next five years. So it’s gonna get more and more expensive to be here.”

Jobs

For Clarke, finding talent willing to step into roles in tech and advertising Glendale opportunities will be key to his campaign.

“What is the city doing to bring in talent, to bring in innovation? We’ve had Glendale Tech Week – that’s been going on for a while. It used to be bigger. We need to make Glendale Tech Week an event like South by Southwest that people from all around the world want to come to. And people [should] want to bring their technology, people [should] want to bring [their] talent and invest, like in London,” Clarke said.

Transportation and Safety

Clarke said that, if elected, he would support and expand efforts to curb rising crime in the city, including partnering Glendale PD with the Los Angeles Police Dept. to catch retail thieves like those who ransacked stores at the Americana. Clarke said the “catch and release” methods popularized by the current Los Angeles District Attorney encourages large scale retail theft, as well as residential thefts.

“For communities to feel safe, and for people to trust one another, we have to know there are people [who] are just recklessly committing crime repeatedly on the streets. [LAPD] has more resources. We have to use the resources available to us. We need to make sure we can catch criminals and not have them go back to targeting our neighborhoods,” he said.

As far as transportation and mobility plans, Clarke wants to work with the city to make Glendale a much more mobile city and decrease traffic incidents. However, he doesn’t believe the current speed camera initiative will stop people from speeding in high traffic areas because of the low fines and warnings required before punishment is implemented. He thinks more oversight and visibility of consequences could be a deterrent.

“Even when they see a cop, that doesn’t stop them. Because of the way people drive even on the streets where I live, which is pretty quiet compared to Brand, I would not feel safe riding a bike. So that’s also an issue – we need to address road safety because people ... are too scared to cycle because they think they’re gonna get killed,” he said.

He would plan to work with community members and City Council to find a feasible solution.

Vartan Gharpetian

Vartan Gharpetian is a former employee of the City of Glendale and was part of the City Council in 2015. He is the current CEO of Glendale Commercial Inc., a Glendale-based real estate company. He is running to be re-elected to City Council because he is concerned about rising housing and electricity prices in Glendale, as well as Council transparency and safety on the streets.

He wants to keep his door open for residents to come speak with him in person about changes they want to see made.

“You have to be accessible,” he said.

Transparency

Gharpetian is concerned about the transparency of budget funds because he said much of the city’s budget is being used for projects that have no set completion date. He said if elected, he will rebalance the budget to reflect community interests and ensure projects allocated in the budget will be completed.

“It takes the staff away,” he said. “They’re on this treadmill running

100 miles an hour all the time to bring all these reports back and many of them do not get to a point to vote [on them].”

He said that in order to find the issues he should budget for the first step is going to the community.

“Going to community members is always the key,” he said. “You have to always meet with them, listen to them and really take into consideration their desires. There has to be a desirability to not only have a plan but a real plan that can be implemented, that can be budgeted for. But if you cannot achieve it, you cannot implement it, you cannot budget for it to be built – what’s the cost?”

Housing and Utilities

Gharpetian said raising trash fees and property taxes for residents and small businesses in Glendale is not the correct way to manage the budget.

“Trash fees and sewer fees have gone up by 250%. That is putting a lot of pressure on residents, especially for low income people,” he said.

During Gharpetian’s time on Council, from 2015-2020, 43 units were completed for veterans in Veterans Village, 72 units for artists on Louise next to the YMCA, affordable housing was created for seniors on Broadway, and on Fifth and Sonora, there are 520 units of affordable housing. He wants to dedicate more of the budget to turning empty units into affordable housing, and adjusting the budget to do so.

Transportation, Mobility and Safety

One of the projects he would work on, which he sees as increasing mobility and beatification of the city, is to allocate \$8 million to rehabilitating the Rockhaven Sanitarium Historic District in Glendale. He also wants to work with the Glendale Police Dept. to advertise and fill police jobs so the force has enough manpower to address crime. He wants to work with them to ensure they receive funding to decrease vacancies in the department.

“If they need funding they should have funding. Our message as a Council member [is] that you’re welcoming [to] police officers, welcoming to public safety and all the other City of Glendale employees who make the city run,” he said.

He expressed frustration with the Bike Transportation plan process, and the way Council delayed implementation.

“You have to have a short and long term plan for connectivity,” he said, “and not something that takes so long to implement.”

Denise Miller

Denise Miller was born in Glendale and has lived there her entire life. She was appointed to the Commission on the Status of Women in Glendale, and worked for Glendale Adventist Medical Center before moving to other parts of the health care sector.

Miller believes her role in City

Council, if elected, would align with her mission as a health care professional – to help people navigate complex systems and feel listened to.

“We have to partner with them so it’s meaningful to them – that we’ve got the right treatment, the right doctor, the right diagnosis to move them forward to the right place. And it’s that kind of very specific focused and practiced approach that I’m going to bring to all the greater issues within Glendale,” she said.

Housing and Utilities

Miller has a long history of regulatory leadership and budgeting that she would draw off of to address rising costs of utilities and housing, she said. She will meet with City Council and residents to see what is best for them.

“[We will need] to go into a budget session and will have to look at these essential services of gas and electricity and waste management. And we are going to have to be hearing from the residents of the rising costs and they’re going to have to weigh that with other services that are within the budget to see what, in fact, can be done. So I’m actually looking forward to rolling up my sleeves and getting into that budget with the other Council members,” she said.

She also plans to look to small businesses for innovation and job creation in order to stave off rising costs. Miller said she would also look to community members and small businesses to direct innovation that will bring jobs.

“I want to see the reality of our small businesses and to look at avenues to help them thrive, look at avenues of job creation, and look at how we can foster innovation. And next ... is that we have residents in Glendale – in entertainment, arts [and] culture sectors – that are looking at innovation, that they are well versed in. There are opportunities to really look at the expertise that we have in

Glendale, and for the voters to help us see what that process looks like,” she said.

Transportation and Safety

Miller, who was on the Glendale Police Foundation for many years, would use her connections to address traffic and safety concerns. When Laura Friedman’s speed cameras are implemented, she would sit down with Chief Manny Cid to discuss which areas were most affected by speeding then target them.

“We know that in Glendale we live in one of the best places, but we also know that we have a speeding issue and we also know that pedestrian safety is at stake,” she said. “That would be something that would rely on the leadership of our police chief...”

She would work with Walk Bike LA and Walk Bike Glendale to find where bike paths work, where they don’t and where improvements need to be made.

“This is another example where you have the subject matter experts who live in these communities, in these organizations, [ready to help] guide.”

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ANSWERS for page 16

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CRIME BLOTTER

FEB. 3

2300 block of Del Mar Road in Montrose, a man received a call from his credit card company that some unauthorized transactions were on his account. He advised his creditor that he did not make the charges and then went to his unlocked vehicle where he had left his wallet and discovered it missing at 2:48 a.m.

checking on a friend's home while he was away reported finding the front door open. The owner had been notified that his security cameras were unable to connect to the power within his residence. When deputies arrived they found several rooms had been ransacked and the main electricity breaker had been turned off.

The burglary occurred between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

JAN. 31

4500 block of Alcorn Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a man who was

JAN. 30

2400 block of Foothill Boulevard

in La Crescenta, deputies responded to a call concerning incidents of lewd and threatening phone calls. Deputies met with the informant; an employee at the location stated that he had received a phone call and the caller identification came up as "unknown." The person on the other end of the phone call began speaking in Armenian and made extremely lewd statements. The employee was confused by the call and did not know who the caller was. The suspect/caller hung up the phone shortly after the initial call. The employee stated he thought the suspect spoke with a Russian-Armenian accent and that his voice may have been electronically masked. The owner of the business stated that he too had received several calls from apparently the same suspect who made the same type of extremely lewd comments but also threatened to kill the owner and added, "You are not good people."

The incidents occurred from 8:50 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

4300 block of Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that a man, later identified as a suspect who was wearing a white T-shirt, brandished a firearm and while she was driving pointed it at her in a threatening manner. The victim was driving westbound on Foothill Boulevard from Angeles Crest Highway in the number two lane.

The suspect exited the 76 gas station in the 1000 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada and cut the woman off. This caused her to almost collide into the suspect's vehicle. The victim merged over to the number one lane and honked her horn. The suspect pulled his vehicle alongside hers and stopped. She avoided making eye contact with him and once the signal light turned green, she continued westbound on Foothill Boulevard. She turned southbound on a street; the suspect followed. She cut through a school parking lot and drove back to Foothill Boulevard. The suspect continued to follow her and, as he drove past her, she saw he was holding the steering wheel with his left hand while he raised his right hand up and over his left forearm. He was holding a black revolver and pointed it at her. Fearing for her life she was able to maneuver onto the 210 Freeway and away from the suspect.

The incident began at 1 p.m.

JAN. 26

500 block of La Cañada Flintridge, an informant reported that when she arrived at the location she noticed the front door was slightly ajar and the interior rooms had been ransacked. Because she was not the resident of the home she was unable to report anything missing.

The burglary occurred between Jan. 26-29.

Obituary

Gail Graham Douglass

Dec. 9, 1933 – Jan. 23, 2024

Gail was born in New York, the sixth child of Frances Henry Graham. There is an 18-year span between the oldest and Gail.

Gail lived in Woodmere, Long Island, New York until the age of 10. In 1943, she and her mother and brother Howard moved to El Monte. Her oldest sister Frances Downing and husband lived in Hawaii; sister Mary and family in Venice; sister Kitty Feather and husband in Santa Monica. Her sister Joan was engaged to be married and stayed in New York.

Gail graduated from El Monte Union High School in 1952. She then attended Mt. San Antonio Junior College and graduated with an AA degree. Upon completing that degree, she entered the Bishop College of Nursing at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan in Los Angeles. This was a three-year nursing educational program with affiliation with Cal State University. Therefore, she graduated with a BA in nursing.

Gail entered the job market while in high school making 35 cents an hour at a 5 and 10 Cent store. She worked her way through college at Currie's Ice Cream stores. She was made assistant manager shortly after being employed and held that position until she entered nursing training. Yes, she made those mile-high ice cream cones!

Upon graduating from Bishop Johnson College of Nursing, she stayed and worked at "Good Sam" hospital for three years.

Gail met Dick at Lake Avenue Congregational Church in Pasadena in 1959. They were married on June 18, 1960. After a honeymoon in the northwest, they settled in La Crescenta. Dick was teaching at Lincoln Elementary School here in La Crescenta. Gail continued to work at Good Sam for three years. Her professional career was interrupted by the birth of their first son Daniel Scott in 1963. This was followed by the birth of Robert Bruce in 1965.

Dick had been attending First Baptist Church for many years, so shortly after getting settled they became members. Through the years Gail served in many areas: choir and on Women's Missionary Fellowship, both on the board and as a member of a circle deacon, offering counter and chairman of Primetimers, planning the monthly luncheons and day trips. She also was an active member of the PTA at Monte Vista Elementary School and PTA president for two years.

Gail reentered the work force as the boys grew up and worked at Verdugo Hills Hospital a total of 38 years in many positions: relief evening charge nurse, relief evening nursing supervisor, day relief nursing supervisor and the last 12 years as a discharge coordinator.

As a teenager Gail accepted Christ as her savior and her prayer each morning was that she might say something or do something to show others His love.

Her celebration of life will be held at Highlands Church La Crescenta, 4441 La Crescenta Ave. in La Crescenta on Feb. 17 at 1 p.m.

Obituary

Rudolph (Rudy) Philip Maurovich

May 19, 1938 – Jan. 31, 2024

Rudolph (Rudy) Philip Maurovich was born May 19, 1938. He went to his heavenly home on Jan. 31. He is survived by his loving nieces, nephew and extended family: Christine Lieshman, Kathleen Knurr (Kurt), Sean McLaughlin (Susan), Heather Joseph (Jeff), and Cousin Juliano (Yano) Ghersi as well as a multitude of grandnieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years Geraldine and both parents and parent in-laws.

Rudy was born and raised in New York City. A first generation American, his father came from Croatia. He was a hard worker who helped his parents with his mentally challenged sister Vera Jean. He met the love of his life Geraldine in New York City. His patriotic duty led him to enlist in the Navy, but he was soon honorably discharged due to various reasons. In 1965 he moved with his wife to California and lived out the remainder of his life at his home in Saugus.

Rudy was a skilled carpenter who worked for many years in construction and created many personal wood projects to provide a warm and inviting home. He was a loving and passionate man who cared for his family deeply and whose final thoughts were how to better care for his nieces and nephew. He was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church in Santa Clarita.

The viewing is at Santa Clarita Crippen Chapel on Friday, Feb. 16 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the church service is at Calvary Church Santa Clarita on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. with a resurrection cemetery burial at 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Calvary Lutheran Church, 19554 Calla Way, Santa Clarita, CA 91351.

When I go, don't cry for me, in my Father's arms I'll be. The wounds this world left on my soul will all be healed and I'll be whole. Sun and moon will be replaced with the light of Jesus' face. And I will not be ashamed for my Savior knows my name.

It don't matter where you bury me. I'll be home and I'll be free. It don't matter, anywhere I lay. All my tears be washed away.


Gold and silver blind the eye. Temporary riches lie. Come and eat from Heaven's store. Come and drink and thirst no more. So weep not for me, my friend, when my time below does end. For my life belongs to Him, who will raise the dead again.

It don't matter where you bury me. I'll be home and I'll be free. It don't matter, anywhere I lay. All my tears be washed away.

All my tears be washed away.
Songwriter Julie Miller

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Police Attempt to Communicate with Local Suspect



Several streets around the 3300 block of Reta Street were blocked off by police on Wednesday afternoon.

By Mary O'KEEFE

Glendale police received a call around 2:14 p.m. on Wednesday regarding an assault with a deadly weapon in the 3300 block of Reta Street in La Crescenta. When they arrived they saw a person down but did not see the suspect. There was no gun fire but there was an assault with a deadly weapon.

The "critical incident" resulted

in a shelter-in-place/lockdown at Dunsmore Elementary School, Valley View Elementary School and Clark Magnet High School. Once the police determined the male suspect was in the house the shelter-in-place was released at 3:23 p.m.

The weapon has not been identified. As of press time, Glendale police officers called into the house to see if the suspect would come out;

however, police were unable to establish contact with him. Glendale police continued to attempt to communicate with the suspect.

Nearby streets were cordoned off.

Neighbors who had left their homes were not allowed back in until the incident was resolved, which is an unknown amount of time.

Lions Club Event Discusses Fentanyl Use

By Mary O'KEEFE

The Crescenta Valley Lions Club is presenting "The Fentanyl Crisis: When Great Kids, Caring Parents and Model Schools Aren't Enough to Prevent Tragedy." The presentation will be made at St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church's Sadler Hall at 2563 Foothill Blvd. from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"As we all know, fentanyl poisoning and substance abuse have reached crisis levels nationally – and are

fast becoming serious threats to Crescenta Valley kids. It touches all families. Fighting it begins with information. The Crescenta Valley Lions Club hopes to help by presenting two speakers who know this problem from painful experience: Arick Gevorkian and Victoria Malone," said Stephen Mack, president of the CV Lions Club.

Gevorkian's son died due to a fentanyl overdose. He has channeled his pain, and the pain of his family, by helping spread the word of this dangerous drug through

his program "Chronicles of a Parent." He speaks at different organizations, churches and clubs.

Malone has had a similar calling after the overdose death of her son to fentanyl. She, along with her son's friends, founded The Chace Taylor Malone Impact Foundation-LA. The organization creates a bridge between individuals who need help to end their abuse and families and friends who want to help.

The free event is open to the public and all are invited.

WEATHER from page 2

rose. I am basically allergic to everything that grows in Arizona so I am not a big fan of the desert; however, when it snowed those allergies seemed to subside. So though the roads were a little dicey, for the first time in the desert I could

breathe.

No snow is in the forecast for us but there is more rain predicted. According to NOAA, after a warm up on Friday up to 71 degrees, there is a chance of showers beginning on Saturday night and continuing

through Sunday. Monday there is a higher chance of rain that continues into Tuesday.

For more information on prostate cancer and screening, visit <http://tinyurl.com/2rph6h7k>

BINGO NIGHT
Presented by the La Crescenta Woman's Club

COMMUNITY BINGO NIGHT

FOOD AND CHECK-IN 5:00 P.M.
Saturday, Feb. 17
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM-1ST GAME 6:00 PM
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CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
Robin@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
Lisa@CVWeekly.com
818.523.1234
La Cañada Montrose

Sonya Marquez
Sonya@CVWeekly.com
818.381.2000
La Crescenta Sunland-Tujunga

Jon K
Jon@CVWeekly.com
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GTA from Cover

“They have offered us, over two years, something lower than what most school districts have received just last year. That’s not good enough. That is not competitive,” she said. “We don’t want all of it, we just want to be

able to make a living wage.”

One parent, Angie, came to the podium to praise teachers for their work with her daughter.

“Like so many in our District, I know firsthand the essential service of our teachers and staff.

We were welcomed into GUSD and my child has thrived each year. My child is a kid who will tell you she hates school but if you get her talking, you will hear stories about teachers who grab her attention, inspire her and

motivate her to excel with their humor, passion and expertise,” she said.

Partikian reiterated Angie’s sentiments that the majority of parents are pleased with their experiences at GUSD.

“Everybody on campus [who] has a connection with a student is working to help that student on their educational growth and knowledge. We are grateful for all you do for our students,” she said.

STEVE PIERCE from Cover

“It’s definitely a newer thing, but it’s also a little bit expensive so it’s not super easy for everyone to access,” Roh said.

The initial start up is a little over \$1,000; after that it there is an annual fee of \$500. Principal Christine Benitez said

she is hoping to reach out to community members to help fund the annual fee.

Roh toured the company where they bought the tower and found there was a large variety of sizes and containers.

“Kristyn is really the one [who]

brought this [garden project] to us,” Benitez said. “We have a gardening club on campus.”

She added food would be grown for the cafeteria. Right now some herbs, butter lettuce and cauliflower are grown and they will expand to other vegetables as the garden is expanded.

Benitez said the school’s

photography class set up time-lapse photography so the students can watch the progress of the garden.

For his part, Pierce continued to say how amazed he was with the hydroponics garden program and happy there was a garden in the cafeteria that one day will offer fresh food for

students.

There will be a framed certificate thanking the Pierce Family for its donation.

Anyone who would like to donate to the hydroponics program can contact the school at (818) 249-5871 or email the principal at cbenitez@gusd.net.

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, in partnership with YMCA of the Foothills, presents:

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Detective Andrew Hanson
Glendale Police Department

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To Register: Call (818) 952-2228 or visit uscvh.org/doc-talks
Reservations for lunch are required 48 hours in advance.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 am - noon. Talk begins at noon.

The Glendale Police Department’s Assaults Unit is tasked with investigating a wide variety of crimes such as sexual assaults, injury to an elderly or disabled individual, disorderly conduct, aggravated battery, attempted murder, hate crimes and arson.

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital
Keck Medicine of USC




Steve Pierce with Kristyn Roh (center) and CVHS Principal Christine Benitez.

ART SHOW

ENCORE SHOW!!

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GCC from Cover

that is this egregious?” he asked. “[It was] an extremely dangerous situation with people and their families walking right next to this site.”

He added that materials were seen being thrown from the roof down to the ground where people were present.

“It is unbelievable that someone would do that. There should be consequences,” Brotman said.

Golanian added it was extremely dangerous for people and for workers.

“[The owners of building] will be dealt with accordingly, I assure you,” Golanian added.

Golanian then introduced the appointment of Gregory Fish to the position of Glendale fire chief. Fish is returning to the department where he not only started his career but where

he served as fire chief from 2015 to 2018. Fish had been the acting fire chief since Nov. 1, 2023 after then-Glendale Fire Chief Tim Ernst was placed on administrative leave on Oct. 27, 2023 due to a confidential personnel matter.

Fish started with GFD in 1987 and, after his departure in 2018, served as fire chief of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District until his retirement in September 2023.

Golanian presented a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that had been reached between the City of Glendale and the Glendale Firefighters’ Association (GFFA) then asked the Council for approval of its adoption and implementation.

GFFA and the City had been in negotiations since June 27, 2023. During the negotiations

they compared Glendale to fire departments in other cities. At the time the City was ranked 10th out of 10 cities.

Kassakhian said the 10 cities looked at for comparison were not random but areas where those cities were looking at “Glendale’s talent pool.”

The cost of living increase negotiated included a 5% increase in July 2024, a 5% in July 2025 and another 5% increase in July 2026. This moves the Glendale Fire Dept. to rank fifth in those comparable cities.

“We believe [this agreement] strikes a fair balance between offering competitive compensation and upholding fiscal responsibility,” Golanian said.

The Council approved the agreement.

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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Memories of Early Montrose/La Crescenta – Part 2

I continue with a wonderful set of memories penned by Bob Potts in 1953. Bob was the son of T.O. Potts, who in 1915 opened the very first store in Montrose at the intersection of Honolulu and Verdugo. That's the building that recently housed the closed restaurant Benitoite. The memories have some fascinating details of the beginnings of Montrose and life in early La Crescenta. I'll continue my plagiaristic ways by printing the words Bob wrote with my notes in [brackets].

"Travelling was a little arduous in those days. Nothing at first was paved, although Verdugo Road got a meager treatment before long. [Dirt roads often had a layer of oil sprayed on the surface to keep the dust down. That could be what he means here.] Michigan Avenue, now called Foothill, was paved with

concrete in about 1917 and was just wide enough for two Model-Ts to pass. Ocean View extended from Honolulu to Foothill. Honolulu was about as it is today, it and Foothill being the only roads traversing the valley. Montrose Avenue barely crept by Ocean View. [Montrose Avenue petered out when it reached Pickens Creek.]

"There were three perennial streams in the valley then. One came down through the present site of Indian Springs [that's now the Vons/ CVS Pharmacy shopping center], wandered alongside Verdugo Road and emptied into the general basin of Verdugo Woodlands. A second came down just west of where Rosemont Avenue is [Pickens Creek], and emptied into a third stream running along the mountains past Whiting Woods, Onondarka and Oakmont

[that would be Verdugo Creek at the southern base of the valley]. Thus it was that there was plenty of swimming and water playing for us as kids. That second stream was what caused the destruction of the Legion Hall during the flood of 1934 when it came bursting out of Pickens Canyon.

"Except for a few slight areas, the valley was covered with its native brush, which averaged a good six feet in height. There had never been a fire to my knowledge and the Verdugo Hills were almost impenetrable.

"What is now Oakmont [Country Club] and Montecito Park was what we assumed to be the largest grape vineyard in the world [owned by the local Le Mesnager family]. Dwarfing that however was the Sparr Ranch. From the San Rafael Hills to what

is now Ocean View, from almost the bottom of Sparr Heights to Honolulu, was solid with peach and apricot trees with a little plum added here and there. From Ocean View to La Crescenta Avenue was nothing but citrus. The navel oranges had a hide a half an inch thick, and the navel was actually as large as a golf ball.

"We had moved into the house atop the hill at the entrance to the Baldrige Ranch, now called Onondarka [today's Oakmont Woods neighborhood]. The place had just been vacated by Lawrence Tibbitt [famous opera star] so we felt a little proud. Now and then my parents were unable to attend the cinema and I was obliged to walk if I wanted to go. And of course I went. Yet between my home and Montrose there were but two houses. The rest was sagebrush and no streetlights. I

was the scariest 8-year-old you ever saw.

"In 1917 my father moved his store into a new building that occupied the northeast corner of Montrose and La Crescenta. A year later we moved to Arizona for a year, then returned to Montrose where T.O. built and ran the Union Oil station at Verdugo, Montrose and Honolulu [where the Montrose Verizon store is today].

"I must add that our grocery store was not the first in La Crescenta. One was already located just east of La Crescenta Avenue and it contained the post office. After WWI, the southland and the valley enjoyed a real estate boom."

More memories next week.

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 SACRAMENTO ASSEMBLYMEMBER » LAURA FRIEDMAN

California Needs Affordable Rooftop Solar

We all know our climate stands on the brink of disaster. Fixing that will be no easy feat, but it's clear where the challenge ends and begins. We must reduce our consumption of fossil fuels and we must stop setting our own planet on fire. That's so much harder than it sounds. But there are two obvious steps that eco-conscious consumers can make, especially as the price comes down on both: making the transition to an electric vehicle and installing solar electricity systems. Both of these are wonderful transitions to make and are

good for our environment.

The problem, however, is that recent policy decisions at the state level have cut solar off at its knees. Solar currently produces 27% of all electricity in California. And as consumers make the transition to electric vehicles and all-electric homes, our electricity use is expected to rise 80% in the next 20 years. We cannot meet that demand if we are not expanding rapidly the use of solar. And until 2022, we were doing that. Solar was the fastest-growing source of electricity in California.

Then the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), after intense and heavy lobbying by corporate electricity providers, decided to revisit the state's solar policies. The end result disregards guidance provided by the legislature and slashes incentives that had made solar affordable for many consumers.

Since the inception of rooftop solar, homeowners have functionally been their own utility companies. So long as the sun is shining, solar creates electricity throughout the day. The excess amount not used by the homeowner is added to the grid. That excess energy is then able to be sold by the local utility company. Since that excess energy was not created by the utility company, but rather by the homeowner, the homeowner is given a credit for that energy they produced. Those excess credits do two things: they reduce the electricity bill that the homeowner is expected to pay

and, most importantly, those credits help subsidize the large upfront cost of the solar panels making installing solar panels affordable.

It is those credits that have enabled homeowners to afford solar. It is also those credits that the CPUC reduced by 75%. The CPUC also added a requirement that residential solar owners install a battery to store the excess energy they produce rather than put the excess energy into the grid, which does make sense. However, those batteries cost \$30,000 on average. After the CPUC passed both of these changes, solar installation in California fell by 80%. And solar companies began mass layoffs.

The CPUC tries to be thoughtful. Balancing industry and homeowner concerns is hard. Policy is complicated but we cannot meet our climate goals without solar energy. We must make solar affordable for homeowners again.

I introduced AB 2256 to do just that. This bill will require the CPUC to revisit its solar policies and take into account affordability, the environment and other social benefits to rooftop solar. Making these small tweaks is essential and will result in greater affordability and accessibility for consumers. A healthy and affordable solar market also means the solar industry can bring back the jobs already lost. AB 2256 is an essential, must-pass bill. Our consumers deserve the protection and our economy and climate deserve the green energy and jobs that come with it.

What are your thoughts on AB 2256? As always, I'd like to hear your thoughts on our budget, legislation or any general comments or concerns.

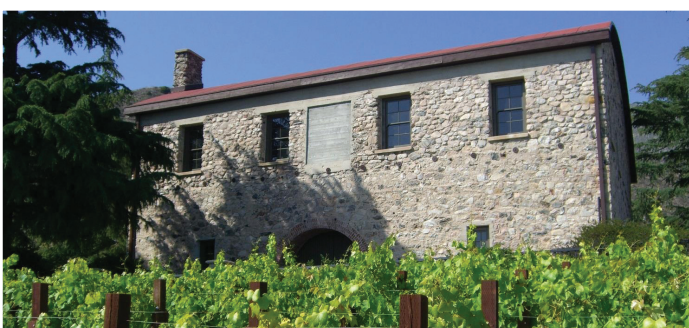
You can reach my District Office at (818) 558-3043, or by email at: Assemblymember.Friedman@Assembly.ca.gov.

Los Angeles Wine

Join us on Monday, February 19th, 7:00 p.m.

At the La Crescenta Center For Spiritual Living

Located on the corner of Dunsmore and Santa Carlotta



Before Northern California became known for wine production, Los Angeles was the center of the California wine industry. Starting with the missions and following on with French immigrants in the 1800s, wine was a major product of Los Angeles. La Crescenta was covered in vineyards, and contributed greatly to LA's wine dominance.

The presenter for this program is local vintner and author Stuart Byles. Stuart takes care of the vineyard at Deukmejian Park. He produces wine from those grapes, and we'll have a chance to review that wine.

cvhistory.org



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Legend Lost in Glendale

On New Year's Day, the world lost renowned film scholar David J. Skal in an automobile accident in Glendale.

Authorities believe that the head-on collision at Glenoaks Boulevard and Elm Street – captured by a surveillance camera – was caused by another driver who was subsequently arrested on charges of reckless driving and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

In an instant, I lost a kindred spirit who I had the pleasure of interviewing for a book on German director F.W. Murnau, best known for the silent film classic "Nosferatu."

Though David and I grew up a world apart – he in Cleveland and I in Glendale and Montrose – we shared an affinity for Gothic horror, nurtured by the fan magazine Famous Monsters of Filmland and the syndicated television series Shock Theatre that showcased Universal horror films like "Dracula" and "Frankenstein." On Saturday afternoons, we spent our respective allowances at the local cinema (remember the Capitol and Glendale theatres on Brand Boulevard?) screening low-budget thrillers like "The Pit and the Pendulum" with Vincent Price and "The Terror" with Boris Karloff.

A graduate of Ohio University,

Skal lent his engaging, erudite and witty prose style to books like Hollywood Gothic (1990), The Monster Show (1993), Dark Carnival (1995) and his masterpiece Something in the Blood: The Untold Story of Bram Stoker, The Man Who Wrote "Dracula" (2016).

Oddly, David Skal and I never met. But we began our respective journeys in the blood-drenched pages of Dracula, in a land beyond the forest, past the barren trees, rocky crags and winding river of the Borgo Pass, where the river is deep and its waters are red.

*Les Hammer
Pasadena*

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Village Poets Welcomes James Ragan and Amy Gerstler

Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga invites poets and friends of poetry to its monthly reading held in person on the fourth Sunday of the month (Feb. 25) at 4:30 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum, 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga.

In February Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga welcomes internationally celebrated poet James Ragan and widely acknowledged poet Amy Gerstler. Two segments of open mic will be available and refreshments will be served. Suggested donation of \$5 per person covers the cost of refreshments and donates to the Little Landers Society that manages the Bolton Hall Museum, a Los Angeles Historical Landmark built in 1913.

Appearing in 36 anthologies and 15 languages, James Ragan is an internationally recognized

author of 10 books of poetry, including "The Hunger Wall" and "The Chanter's Reed," and three plays staged in the U.S., Moscow, Beijing and Athens. With poems in Poetry, The Nation, World Lit Today, etc., he has read at the U.N. and Carnegie Hall, for CNN, NPR, PBS, BBC and seven heads of state including Vaclav Havel and Mikhail Gorbachev. Honors include two Doctor of Literature, two Fulbright professorships, an NEA Grant, Emerson Poetry Prize, nine Pushcart Prize nominations, Swan Foundation Humanitarian Award, a Poetry Society of America citation, finalist for the Walt Whitman Book Award, London's Troubadour Int. Poetry Prize, among others. He's the subject of the Arina Films documentary "Flowers and Roots," which received 17 International Film Festival recognitions and platinum

prize at Houston's International Film Festival.

Ragan directed USC's Professional Writing Program (25 years), served as poet-in-residence at Cal Tech (three years) and spent 26 summers as distinguished professor of poetry at Prague's Charles University. Czech President Vaclav Havel honored him as Ambassador of the Arts at the 1994 World PEN Congress. Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney praised his poems for "sparing no passion in believing they sing," and Nobel nominee Miroslav Holub lauded his "domination of the art of poetic narration with insight that marks major poets."

Amy Gerstler's most recent book of poems is Index of Women (Penguin Random House, 2021). Her work has appeared in a variety of magazines and anthologies, including the New Yorker and Paris Review. She is currently collaborating with composer, actor and arranger Steve Gunderson on a musical. Her previous books of poems include "Scattered at Sea," "Dearest Creature," "Ghost Girl," "Medicine" and "Crown of Weeds" among others. In 2019, she received a Foundation for Contemporary Arts CD Wright Grant. In 2018, she was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her book "Dearest Creature" (Penguin, 2009) was named a New York Times notable book, and was short listed for the Los Angeles Times book prize in poetry. Her book of poems "Bitter Angel" won a National Book Critics Circle Award. In addition to poetry she also writes fiction, nonfiction, plays, journalism and art criticism.

Upcoming Village Poets features Crystal Fire Anthology on March 24

Mandy Kahn & William Archila on April 28.



Amy Gerstler



James Ragan

HELP! LOST DOG



Merle is a large yellow Labrador Retriever, approximately 100 lbs, with a brown nose and hazel eyes. He is not neutered and very friendly. He was last seen on 02/01/2024 on Hermosa Avenue in La Crescenta, CA. If you any information, please call **Kirsten (818) 720-7303** or **Le Anne (818) 749-3241**.

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Rewarding experiences await volunteers at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital Area hospital hopes to recruit more volunteers

Walk through the front doors of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (USC-VHH) and a volunteer concierge is likely to greet you with a smile and direct you to your destination. It is the volunteers' role to help people feel welcome and immediately cared for.

USC-VHH has long prided itself for being a warm, friendly place that promotes healing. The 100-plus volunteers who work alongside the hospital's staff are a part of what makes USC-VHH special. Volunteers, who range in age from 16 to 80-plus, contribute to the hospital's friendliness.

Some volunteers bring patients their meals and join them at mealtime. Others accompany patients and visitors from one location to another within the hospital. They often also

are the last person patients encounter as volunteers get the distinct pleasure of escorting patients to the exit who are leaving the hospital.

The number of hospital volunteers declined at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic – particularly senior volunteers – and has not yet reached pre-pandemic numbers, according to John Nelson-Laudun, USC-VHH volunteer coordinator.

"We would love senior members of our community to return as volunteers. Volunteer and staff safety is paramount," said Nelson-Laudun. "With the increased understanding of COVID-19 and safety protocols, we are confident this is a safe environment for volunteers."

USC-VHH is bringing on new volunteers to support our patients and

help fill new roles in the department. The team is recruiting new volunteers to serve as drivers for its new on-campus concierge shuttle escort program.

Many volunteers share rewarding experiences they have during their service. Some enjoy providing comfort and companionship to patients and their families while they are healing. People contemplating careers in health care get a taste of what it is like to work in a hospital. Many individuals have made lifelong friendships with other hospital volunteers.

Bridget Berg, director of volunteer services and patient experience for USC-VHH, is proud that many of the volunteers have been at the hospital for more than a decade. One volunteer, Dottie Longo, started the day the



hospital opened its doors in 1972. She "retired" from her volunteer service in 2020, after 48 years of service when COVID-19 hit California.

"Many of our volunteers have been here for years," said Berg. "They share that it is a very rewarding

experience because they contribute in a positive way to the patients during their stay and because they create great friendships here."

For volunteer opportunities, please call (818) 952-2215 or email vhhvolunteer@med.usc.edu.

Affordable Health Screenings Coming to Montrose

Residents living in and around the Montrose can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Knights of Columbus will host this community event on Feb. 23. The site is located at 2657 Honolulu

Ave. in Montrose.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health
- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Diabetes risk

• Kidney and thyroid function, and more
Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with participants to create a package that is right for them based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-

237-1287 or visit the Life Line website at www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.



Free Art Show at Paseo Pasadena

LA-based artist/author Nimrod Johnson returns to the Paseo Pasadena on Saturday, Feb. 24 for a new exhibition of original paintings.

A lifelong Angeleno, Johnson hosted his first show last July and from that successful event ensued much positive feedback. His works span from

abstracts to landscapes to portraits.

"As an artist the objective is to create an imaginary bridge between the intangible and the visible, providing a space for contemplation and introspection. Through these creations, the intent is to invite you to question, to feel, and to seek a deeper

understanding of ourselves and the world we inhabit," he explained.

The exhibition is on Feb. 24 at the Paseo Pasadena, 300 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 131, from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, go to <https://njartnbooks.com>.



Artist/author Nimrod Johnson (right) poses with Jovonne Mabrie who purchased Johnson's original portrait of guitarist Carlos Santana at a recent exhibit.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

How To Buy Out Co-Trustees

Dear Phyllis,

I faithfully read your real estate advice and appreciate your insight. My father had a trust and recently passed. My two brothers and I are co-trustees. The home was appraised at \$1,550,000 and I want to buy out my brothers at the appraised value. One of my sisters-in-law is friends with a local Realtor who told her the home would sell for more than the appraiser noted. Her Realtor said it would sell for at least \$1,700,000. This sister-in-law has now talked both of my brothers into listing. I have never had a good relationship with this sister-in-law and resent her interference. I am now outvoted. This home has much sentimental value to me. I really want it, and it is perfect for my family. Have you come across this situation in the past? How do I buy out my co-trustees at a fair price?

NB

Dear NB,

Thanks for being a loyal reader. I often work with many trustees in various scenarios. In the past, when in this situation, we listed the home subject to the potential trustee buyer having the option to match the highest offer. Thus, a Realtor will list the home,

and you will have the opportunity to match the terms of the highest offer. The "fair price" is what a buyer is willing to pay in today's market. By the Realtor listing the home in the multiple listing service and obtaining competing offers, your brothers and their wives should be satisfied that you matching the best offer is fair to all parties.

You should discuss with the listing Realtor if there will be a negotiation on the commission charged if you opt to purchase the home. Remember that the Listing Realtor has done all the prep work in readying the home for sale and then fielding the offers. This agent will also handle all the paperwork required in all Los Angeles County real estate sales. In my instance, my broker agreed to reduce the commission to 4%.

I understand your frustration and see your point that if your \$1,550,000 offer is the best offer, you should not be required to pay any portion of the Realtor's compensation. You can try getting your brothers to agree to share that cost between themselves.

Best of luck to you and your family!

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

New Exhibit Honors Black History Month

By Mikaela STONE

Converted from the former Max Factor Cosmetics Building into an ode to classic Hollywood, the Hollywood Hotel presents a new exhibit in honor of Black History Month: This Joint is Jumpin'. The exhibit is titled to honor the 1937 blues song by Fats Waller and contains memorabilia representing Eddie Murphy, Queen Latifah, Whoopi Goldberg, Samuel L. Jackson, Wayne Brady and many others. To cut the metaphorical ribbon, a selection of Black actors gave speeches about what Black History Month and the actors presented in the exhibit meant to them, including the award winning Chrystee Pharris from "Monogamy," former child actor and philanthropist Rodney Allen Rippy, Emmy nominated Cassandra Creech of "The Bold and the Beautiful," "Mission Impossible Legacy" actor Phil Morris, Rico E. Anderson from "Star Trek" and Marvel's Diamond White.

A score of Hollywood celebrities arrived to celebrate the exhibit's opening and cheer on their peers. Among those walking the carpet with the speakers were Hollywood Museum President Donelle Dadigan, often dubbed "Hollywood's most influential woman," Ro Brooks from Tyler Perry's "The Haves and the Have Nots," Rachel Kylian from "Magnum P.I.," Shola Adewusi of "Bob Hearts Abishola," Emmy winner Kim Estes, Elaine Ballace from "The Rich and The Ruthless," Don Fullilove from "Back to the Future" and Diana Lansleen of "Days of Our Lives" –one of the TV shows featured in the exhibit, which first faced criticism for its depiction of Black actress Tina Andrews in an interracial relationship. "Days of Our Lives" made history again in 2020 by featuring the first onscreen marriage between two Black characters.

The exhibit itself featured an array of costumes from award winning Black actors and



musicians including an outfit from Whitney Houston World Tour to dresses performed in by Natalie Cole and Eartha Kitt as well as a set of flowered jumpsuits worn by the Pointer Sisters. The TV and movie costume section, arranged by costume designer Sean LeBlanc, contained outfits from TV shows such as "The Jeffersons" designed by Betsey Potter, and a bubblegum pink RuPaul outfit from the movie "Zombie Prom" designed by LeBlanc.

Accessories were not forgotten. An array of jewelry from Young Queen Charlotte and "Bridgerton" were also featured. Many of the costumes on display were personal favorites brought in by the actors. Lansleen noted the importance of the display saying, "Costumes make so much of the character" and that seeing the costumes from "Days of Our Lives" in the Hollywood museum reminded Hollywood "who we have been and where we have been."

Senator Maria Elena Durazo set the tone for the night as an activist and the mentee of James Lawson, who worked side-by-side with Martin Luther King. She acknowledged "all our predecessors who came here before, when it was even more difficult." However, she was not the only politician who arrived to support the exhibit.

Dom Jones, the first Black candidate to run for state assembly in Orange County who is running

on a platform of "unity and reason" and "humans not colorsm" was also in attendance.

Also honored was Adela Farmer, the first Black costume designer in Hollywood. Betsey Potter regaled those present with the story of how, when faced with opposition from International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, the stars of the sitcom "Good Times" refused to do the show with producer Norman Lear without a complete Black crew. This theme of opening opportunities for others who then paid that kindness forward was seen repeatedly in the stories the speakers shared about their own lives. Chrystee Pharris pointed this out, calling others to "trust and believe [marginalized communities] are talented. All we need is an extra step." She acknowledged how the representation that had come before her "really [did] matter" to her success as well as the actors who built one another up in an industry "tearing [her community] down." Pharris instructed her own generation to "make sure [they] pass it on to the next [generation]."

Growing up as a little boy who watched Nichelle Nichols in "Star Trek" to becoming an actor in "Star Trek" himself, Rico E. Anderson echoed Pharris' emphasis on not only representation but varied representation, not just stories of slavery and the 'hood, saying "while [those stories are] important, [Black people are] so much more."

Quoting Malcom X, he reminded those present that "[Black] history did not begin in chains." Anderson recognized that while a lot of work is needed in Hollywood, the progress represented in the Hollywood Museum and on screen could not be denied. Like the other speakers, he acknowledged the actors who came before him, namely Robert Guillome, who proved to Anderson that meeting one's heroes does not disappoint.

A familiar face to many, Rodney Allen Rippy pulled Jack in the Box out of foreclosure at the age of 3½ and went on to be the youngest person ever to chart on Billboard with his album "Take Life A Little Easier." Now Rippy is the executive producer of the Country Soul Award and is launching a nonprofit called The Rippy Foundation for at-risk youth. He has helped pave the way for what he would call "plenty of room and plenty of stories." He is excited "to see what is to come." Rodney Allen Rippy has his own shelf in the This Joint Is Jumping exhibit.

Cassandra Creech grew up in Clayton, North Carolina listening to Rodney Allen Rippy's record. Standing in the Hollywood Museum, recounting her "Herstory," Creech recognized the poster for "The Color Purple" on the opposite wall honoring Whoopi Goldberg and pointed out that the movie had been filmed in North Carolina on her English teacher's

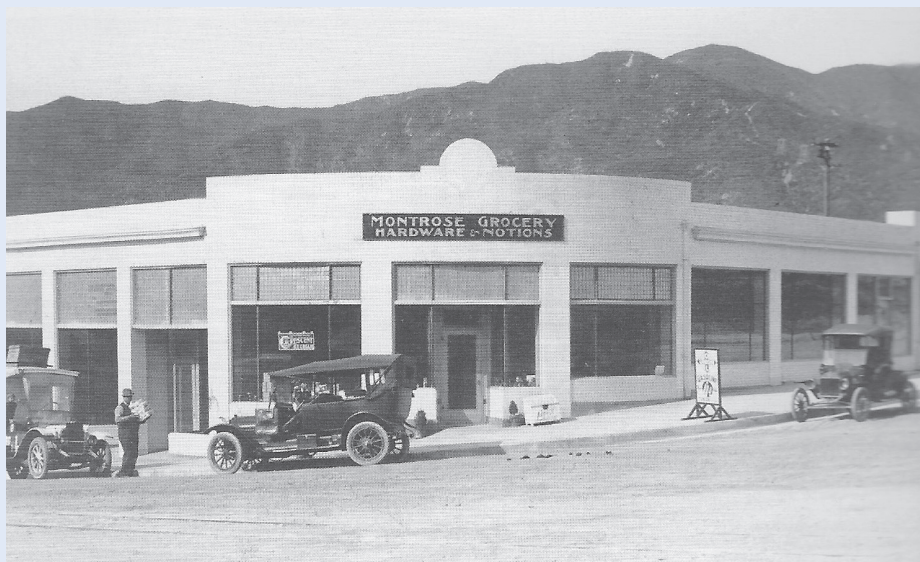
Photos by Mikaela STONE
 RIGHT: Actress Chrystee Pharris of 'Monogamy'.
 MIDDLE: RuPaul's outfit from 'Zombie Prom'.
 RIGHT: Shola Adewusi of 'Bob Hearts Abishola'.

farm. She delivered her speech alongside Rippy whose album was not only the first album she had but was also the first person she met in LA (he helped her get a quarter into the parking meter). These full circle moments demonstrate the "synchronicity" of Creech's life as she went from a girl idolizing Lola Falana to an Emmy nominee.

Creech's mentee, Diamond White, recognized she had become the representation she needed as a child. For Marvel, she plays Moon Girl, a dark skinned 13-year-old genius with Afro pigtails – something White and many others would have loved to see when they were young.

To Phil Morris, "Black history is [his] father." Greg Morris starred in "Mission Impossible" and was featured on "The Dick Van Dyke Show," spurring the longest laugh hold in history. Making such history is what allowed others to follow in his footsteps. Phil Morris recognized the progress made in Hollywood has "come with a cost, but people like [his] father paid it." He, like the other speakers, intended to keep "passing the torch" to the next generation and making life easier for those who come after.

THEN & NOW



THEN » This beautiful storefront was the first commercial building built in Montrose on the corner of Verdugo and Honolulu. It was built of gleaming white bricks and featured art glass blocks above tall wraparound windows. It opened in 1914 with the Montrose Grocery, owned and operated by T.O. Potts.

First Store in Montrose Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



NOW » At 110 years old, the building still looks good, although the white bricks and art glass have been covered with a layer of stucco. It has been home to many businesses over the years – Slender Sweet Shoppe, a cupcake store and most recently a restaurant, which closed a few years ago. It has remained mysteriously empty since then.

What's Cooking

Your Local guide
to good food!

February 15TH Specials!



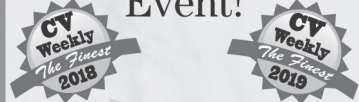
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Dunn Singers Celebrate Black History Month at St. Luke's of the Mountains

By Mary O'KEEFE

St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church is celebrating Black History Month featuring the talents of composer singer/songwriter Adrian Dunn and the Adrian Dunn Singers.

Adrian Dunn and his singers will be "sharing spirituals and gospel music that reflects current themes and issues facing the African American community," according to St. Luke's.

Dunn and his singers are well known at St. Luke's and were originally invited by Vicar Guy Leemhuis to perform at the church.

"I serve as a member on the Program Group for Black Ministry for the Episcopal

diocese of Los Angeles and after coordinating the event for MLK (Martin Luther King Jr.) [Day] with Bishop Curry a clergy colleague connected me with Adrian who wanted to have the group sing at a church service the morning after their concert at Colburn School of Music and the morning after [their] album drops," said Leemhuis in a previous CVW interview.

Dunn is an accomplished singer, songwriter and producer who holds a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degree in voice from The Music Conservatory at Roosevelt University with additional musical studies in opera at The Sibelius Academy of Music in Finland. He has sung with the Chicago Symphony Chorus

and the Grant Park Symphony Chorus and is a frequent soloist in Handel's "Messiah."

His most recent composition, "Emancipation," a PBS special, was nominated for two Emmy Awards in 2023 and featured The Adrian Dunn Singers & Dunn's Rize Orchestra.

Adrian Dunn Singers will be at St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church on Feb. 18. They will be joining the choir at the 10 a.m. service and will have a concert at 3 p.m. Tickets to the afternoon performance are \$20.

St. Luke's, 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Any donations will help with the continued maintenance and upkeep of the historic church.

Katherine Marsh and Brendan White to Perform Piccolo Program

On Feb. 21 from 12:10 p.m. to 12:40 p.m., the Glendale Noon Concerts will feature flutist Katherine Marsh and pianist Brendan White performing an all-piccolo program of works by Gary Schocker, Georg Philipp Telemann, Herman Beeftink and Béla Bartók.

The piccolo recital will be at the sanctuary of Glendale City Church, 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

Works include Gary Schocker's "Diary of a Songbird," Georg Philipp Telemann's "Sonata in F Major," Herman Beeftink's "Fireflies" and Béla Bartók's "Romanian Folk Dances."

Flutist Katherine Marsh is an active professional musician and teacher. She is currently the solo piccolo player of the Santa Barbara Symphony, principal flute of the San Fernando Valley Symphony Orchestra and has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Santa Barbara Grand Opera and Master Choral, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, as well as other symphony and chamber ensembles throughout Southern California.

Originally from Bowling Green, Ohio, she received a Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California. This past November, Marsh premiered James Domine's "Flute Concerto" with the San Fernando Valley Symphony. Her piccolo and flute playing can be heard in many Star Wars video games performing with the Skywalker Orchestra. In addition to orchestral work, Marsh is a member of the California Music Teacher's Association and is a coach for Junior Chamber Music. She recently served as a board member for the Arts High Foundation.

<https://www.kathymarshflute.net/bio>

Born in Jackson, Tennessee, and now based in Los Angeles, pianist Brendan White appears frequently in solo recitals and chamber ensembles and as a soloist with orchestra. As soloist, White has performed with Musica Nova (Eastman School of Music), Vicente Chamber Orchestra, Symphony of the Verdugos, and Jackson Symphony Orchestra, among others.

As a recording artist, White was featured on Danaë Vlasse's Grammy Award-winning album Mythologies. White's collaborations in Southern California have included the Mühlfeld Trio, which won the prestigious Beverly Hills



Katherine Marsh



Brendan White

Auditions, the Speakeasy Society, and Eighteen Squared. He is an original member of the Sunset ChamberFest in Los Angeles. White's repertoire spans many centuries and genres and he has worked with well-known composers such as Thomas Adès, Stephen Cohn, Donald Crockett and Danaë Vlasse.

White is also a composer of original music. Local recital appearances include: Piano Spheres Emerging Artist Series, Soundwaves in Santa Monica and Silicon Beach CO Recital Series, among others. He attended the Eastman School of Music and the Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California.

For information on upcoming GNC events, visit <http://glendalenoonconcerts.blogspot.com>.

JUST FOR FUN

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. On Friday, Feb. 16, Holy Family Builders Club will be taking over the meeting!

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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THE CANDIDATES

The Montrose/Verdugo City/Sparr Heights Neighborhood Association invites Glendale voters to attend the candidate forums held by the neighborhood associations.

Today, Thursday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m., the Rossmoyn Mountain Homeowners Association is hosting a candidate forum at the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road in Glendale.

All residents are encouraged to learn about the candidates and vote.

BURBANK AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

The Burbank African Violet Society will be having its next club meeting this morning, Thursday, Feb. 15 at 10 a.m. at The Little White Chapel Christian Church, 1711 N. Avon St. in Burbank.

The program will feature guest speakers Jay Kapac and Aprille Curtis, members of the Geranium Society of Los Angeles, who will give a presentation on geraniums. A discussion will follow including questions and answers.

There are raffle and silent auction tables, refreshments are served, and friends are made. There will be a learning lab about African violets and show and tell.

Guests are always welcome to attend the meetings. For more information, telephone (661) 940-3990 or reference the website:

www.burbankafrikanviolets.weebly.com.

CCLCF HOSTS UPCOMING EVENTS

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is having the following classes and programs:

Summer Camp registration is now open!

Registration for spring I and ceramics opened on Feb. 6 at 9 a.m.

Bingo & Brunch is on Feb. 16. Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is located at 4469 Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge.

FREE CONCERTS AT CALTECH

The Caltech Wind Orchestra, directed by Dr. Glenn D. Price, presents its winter concerts, titled "The British Heritage."

There will be two concerts: one on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. and one on Sunday, Feb. 18 at 3 p.m., both in Ramo Auditorium. The same program of music will be featured by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Martin Ellerby, Guy Wolfenden, Edward Gregson and

more. The Los Angeles Symphonic Winds, directed by Stephen Piazza, will join as guests.

Admission is free and no tickets are required.

For more information, visit pva.caltech.edu or call (626) 808-2641.

AAUW HOSTS IANCULESCU

The Glendale and Pasadena branches of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will meet for lunch on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 11:30 a.m. at the Oakmont Country Club, 3100 Country Club Drive, Glendale. Make a reservation by emailing Marilyn_Robinson@hotmail.com.

The cost is \$60, payable at the door by cash or check.

The program, "Women and Science," will be presented by Dr. Irna Ianculescu, a lead clinical scientist in product development at Oncology Group at Genentech. She received

her Ph.D. in genetic, molecular and cellular biology from USC and a BS in molecular biology from Occidental College.

She has helped develop immunoncology clinical and molecular biology trials. Her writings address solid tumor indicators in breast, lung, pancreatic and bladder cancers. She also spent several years doing research at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

BAG HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

An open house event is being held at the BAG loft space (bagsandgrace.com) in the Arts District on Saturday, Feb. 17 between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The community is invited come by and see the new space as BAG ramps up giving for 2024.

There will be light refreshments. BAG is located at 652 Mateo Street in LA.

ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



FreeDailyCrosswords.com

2.15.24

ACROSS

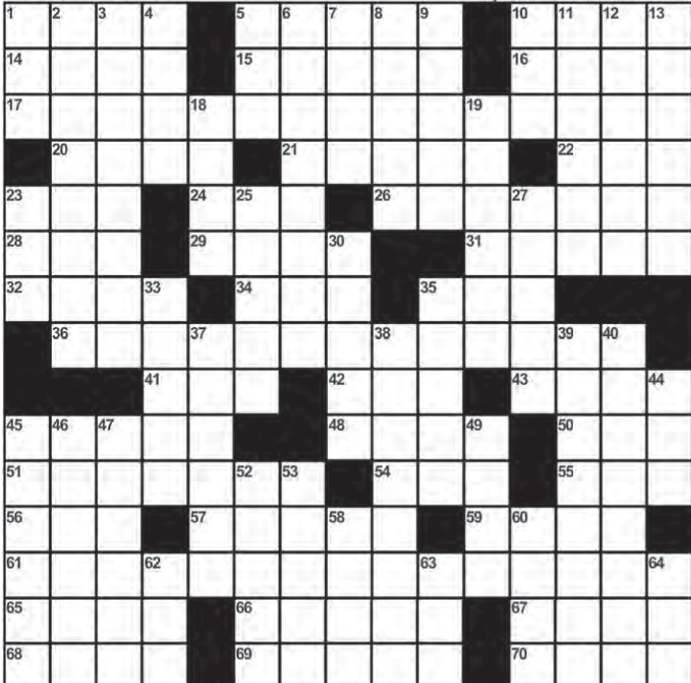
- 1) Certain term of respect
- 5) Caliph's faith
- 10) Dishonestly acquired booty
- 14) "The Princess Diaries" star Hathaway
- 15) Diving gear
- 16) Succulent plant
- 17) Picnic item, sometimes
- 20) Wound from a boxer?
- 21) Elbow conspiratorially
- 22) Short, straight punch
- 23) Homer's "Heck!"
- 24) "Caught in the act!"
- 26) Ophthalmologist's concern
- 28) Schooner's cargo, often
- 29) Shopping outlet
- 31) Little laugh
- 32) "Dog Barking at the Moon" painter Joan
- 34) "Christ the Redeemer" city
- 35) That lass
- 36) Picnic items, sometimes
- 41) Sound of pleasure
- 42) Big Band or Victorian
- 43) "Listen!" old-style
- 45) Hollywood's Eastwood
- 48) Lancelot and others
- 50) Wing-tip tip
- 51) Stumbling blocks
- 54) Busy pro in Apr.
- 55) Give a pink slip to
- 56) Possessive pronoun
- 57) Satisfy, as a debt
- 59) Enjoy a mystery
- 61) Picnic items, sometimes
- 65) Look ___ (explore)
- 66) Syllables sung while skipping
- 67) City near Lake Tahoe
- 68) Too inquisitive
- 69) Sprinkle all about
- 70) Former Soviet initials.

DOWN

- 1) "Gaping" gullet
- 2) Like some steroids
- 3) Unlikely protagonist
- 4) High school sports event
- 5) Suffix for "Marx" or "capital"
- 6) Screenwriter's creation
- 7) Humdinger
- 8) Home
- 9) Rundown and filthy
- 10) Close friend
- 11) Wood of Hollywood
- 12) Vicinity
- 13) Debilitated
- 18) Photocopier tray filler, perhaps
- 19) Be hot under the collar
- 23) Hoover construction
- 25) Draconian
- 27) Tree with edible nuts
- 30) Firms up, as muscles
- 33) Ape of Borneo
- 35) Mentally acute
- 37) Word with "second" or "laws of"
- 38) First wheels, for many
- 39) Scones
- 40) Widens
- 44) Baseball's Griffey
- 45) Pay one's share
- 46) Spanglish speaker, often
- 47) Map parts
- 49) Kolkata dress
- 52) Creatures with six or more legs, typically
- 53) Baseball or tennis
- 58) At some distance
- 60) Stocking shade
- 62) Flirtatious
- 63) Bit of hesitation?
- 64) Word in the Postal Service creed

PICNIC BASKET

By JOEL D. MEYERS



see ANSWERS on page 5

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

February 12, 2024 - February 18, 2024

♈ ARIES March 21 - April 19

A focus on your partnership zone gives you plenty to look forward to now. Your health is great but for a possible sensitivity to certain foods or chemicals. Make sure that what you're eating doesn't cause breakouts or digestive upset. Otherwise, dig in! A good book could be a real inspiration to you over the coming days.

♉ TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Despite being a romantic sign, you could feel too overworked and rundown to be bothered with love. However, there's hope. Eat plenty of protein, fresh vegetables, and fruits and give your system a chance to build up strength. A workout or two to tone your muscles wouldn't be a bad idea, either. The better you feel physically, the more fun you'll have with your partner.

♊ GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You're going to get a lot of exercise now. Fun and games lie in store for you. Grab your significant other, use your imagination, and get a fabulously enjoyable workout. Come up with some exercise that beats going to a gym or sweating through your usual boring routine. You'll both have a great time.

♋ CANCER June 21 - July 22

Make this a time when home cooking enjoys a revival. Not only is it cheaper and more healthful than eating out but it's also the best way to ensure that you control your intake of calories, fat, sugar, and additives. However, the cosmos will forgive you for going overboard. Everyone deserves a little treat now and then. If you're going to eat that yummy dessert, at least enjoy it!

♌ LEO July 23 - August 22

This might be good time to give your partner a new exercise machine that will help keep him or her in shape and ready for anything. It's better to do that than it would be to bring home boxes of chocolates or go out for high-calorie meals. If your partner insists on the indulgences, you can always work off the calories later - together!

♍ VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

The end of this week is the perfect time to commit to a new eating plan, exercise routine, or spa treatment. You have a two-week window of opportunity, but the sooner you start, the better. You'll also be more likely to keep it up. It looks like you're going to have a lot of fun. Get in shape and impress your loved one.

♎ LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

This is a good period for positive, productive action that will catapult you to the next level of wellness. If things aren't going according to plan, take steps to make sure they do. Decide to accept responsibility for your health. Plan ahead in detail exactly how you'd like to look and feel a month from now, six months from now, and a year from now. Knowing your destination is the key to success.

♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You might feel a bit under the weather, but you'll be fine as long as you eat the foods that give you strength. Junk food isn't a good idea right now because it can leave you feeling even weaker and more depleted. Aspects in your social zone indicate this is a good time to team up with others in order to get fit or perhaps join a weight-loss program.

♐ SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

This is going to be an active time in which you could be particularly busy. Try to pace yourself so you have enough energy for everything you need to do. There should be some fun in there, too. There's nothing more alluring than a lover with a healthy body and glowing skin. Get yourself primed and ready to go. Fresh fruits, vegetables, and water will help you feel great.

♑ CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

This promises to be a great time in many ways. You might completely forget about your diet and exercise routines if you're anticipating a big date. But don't forget that healthy eating and working out help you feel fantastic inside and out. Covering your blemishes or trying to disguise a lack of health won't quite cut it.

♒ AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

The cosmos is encouraging you to feast on exotic foods and gourmet delicacies right now. The more your imagination tickles your palate, the happier you'll be. Oysters and asparagus can be combined to make a dish that has special aphrodisiacal qualities. But do spare a thought for your diet even if the passion is running high!

♓ PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

You'll need to be good if you're going to enjoy some spurges occasionally. Get in shape by eating well, exercising, and taking your supplements. Most important of all, design an eating plan that helps you lose weight while allowing you to still enjoy a few treats on special occasions. Go for it!

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

My HP laptop never got returned to me. How do I get it back?

The touchscreen on Satoaki Omori's new HP laptop computer doesn't work and the computer has been discontinued. Can he get a full refund – or at least a repair?

Question: I recently had a very, very painful experience when I bought an HP Envy x360 2-in-1 laptop. I received it a few months ago and the product was defective.

The touch screen did not work. I wasted 40 hours on the phone with HP tech support but could not get a replacement screen. I finally sent it back to HP for a repair.

HP recently told me that it couldn't get a replacement screen because it discontinued the laptop. I asked the company to send me a similar product, the HP Spectre x360 2-in-1 laptop, or refund the \$1,434 I

spent. But HP denied the exchange and refused me a full refund (it said I could not get the sales taxes back).

I'd like HP to replace my broken laptop with one of equal or better value or send me a full \$1,434 refund. Can you help?

– Satoaki Omori, Anaheim, California

Answer: Your new HP laptop should have worked and if it didn't the company should have repaired it promptly. But this goes back to the old "repair, replace or refund" question. Companies always start with repair, even when they're wrong. And in this

case, HP was very wrong.

Here are the red flags: Your computer never worked. HP couldn't fix it for three months. HP couldn't repair it remotely and asked you to send it back. Then they couldn't find the parts for it because your Envy model had been discontinued. To me, that suggests the model may have been a little buggy to begin with.

Careful documentation is the key to resolving a problem like this. Keep a record of all your chats and emails with HP. Take pictures of the defect if necessary. If you had purchased this computer through a retailer like Best Buy, you could have also leaned

on the company for help. But in this case, you bought the laptop directly from HP.

You did a great job of keeping a paper trail. You have to give the system a chance to work, but once you are stuck in a holding pattern it's time to escalate your complaint to the next level. You can appeal in writing to one of the HP customer service executives I publish on my consumer advocacy website, Elliott.org. I also have some tips on how to resolve your own customer service problem, which may help you fix the problem yourself.

It's unclear why HP couldn't refund the sales tax after you

requested your money back. But I didn't think you should be on the hook for the tax, so the refund offer wouldn't have worked for me, either.

I contacted HP on your behalf. The company agreed to send you a new HP Spectre x360 2-in-1 Laptop as a replacement, which you accepted.

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 or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>. © 2023 Christopher Elliott



FINEST PROFESSIONALS

Name of Individual

Cardiologist _____

Chiropractor _____

Dentist _____

Eye Care Specialist _____

Family Doctor _____

Medical Group _____

OB/GYN _____

Orthodontist _____

Orthopedist _____

Pediatrician _____

Pharmacist _____

Physical Therapist _____

Veterinarian _____

Caterer _____

First Responder _____

Hair Stylist _____

Massage Therapist _____

Personal Trainer _____

Pet Groomer _____

Real Estate Agent _____

Real Estate Team _____

Title Agent _____

Yoga Instructor _____

Other _____

FINEST SERVICES

Appliance Repair/Sales _____

Art Framing _____

Art Gallery _____

Auto Dealer _____

Auto Detail/Repair _____

Barber Shop _____

Book Store _____

Boutique _____

Children's Clothing _____

Community _____

College/University _____

Cosmetic Store/Make Up Studio _____

Credit Union/Bank _____

Fire Station _____

Flower Shop _____

Hair Salon _____

CRESCENTA VALLEY

WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Massage Studio _____

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Mortuary _____

Moving/Storage Service _____

Nursery/Garden Store _____

Park _____

Party Rentals _____

Pet Hospital/Clinic _____

Pet Store _____

Pharmacy _____

Preschool/Nursery/Day Care _____

Real Estate Company _____

Senior Care Living _____

Shopping Venue _____

Skin Care _____

Yoga Studio _____

Other _____

FINEST FOOD AND DRINK

Bakery _____

Breakfast _____

Brunch _____

Chinese Cuisine _____

Family Dining _____

Fine Dining _____

Happy Hour _____

Indian Restaurant _____

Italian Restaurant _____

Mexican Restaurant _____

Sports Bar _____

Other _____

Name

Address

Email

**Please mail ballots to
Crescenta Valley Weekly
or
Drop your ballot off at
3800 La Crescenta Ave., #206,
La Crescenta, CA 91214
Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Rules: One ballot per person and must be mailed or walked in. Verified by name and/or email address. Minimum of 10 choices must be made. All ballots must be received in our office by March 7. Businesses/individuals can only win in one category. Voting is by ballot only. Nominees will be given access to the tally sheets but not the individual ballots to protect confidentiality. CVW will supervise any review of results. *CVW employees not eligible (but already considered the finest). Minimum 5 votes necessary to qualify "Other" category.

RELIGION

RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY

Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta
"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.

CVCHURCH
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4001 La Crescenta Avenue | La Crescenta 91214
 Scott & Kathe Wood, Pastors **818-249-5805**

Sunday Services
 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
Celebrate Recovery
 Fridays 7:00 PM

Visit us at www.cvchurch.com
 @cvchurchla.com

Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church



WORSHIP Sunday 10am
 Childcare and Sunday School offered at 10am.

REV. LOUISE FAIRWEATHRE-BAXTER
 2700 Montrose Ave
 Montrose, CA 91020
www.cvvmc.org

GETHSEMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
 (Missouri Synod)

COME JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY
Pastor Jim Edwards
 2723 Orange Avenue,
 La Crescenta, CA 91214
 818-248-3738
www.glcmslc.org

Sunday Adult Bible Study: 9AM
Sunday service: 10AM
 Wednesday Bible Study: 7PM

HC

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAYS @ 10AM

4441 LA CRESCENTA AVE
818-249-5832
WWW.HIGHLANDSLA.COM

Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

LA CAÑADA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 CHURCH OF THE LIGHTED WINDOW
 AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

La Cañada Congregational Church is the oldest church in the Crescenta Valley. For over 125 years, we have been shaped by the stories of our community and the story of God. We invite you to join us in writing the future of our community!

1200 Foothill Blvd, La Cañada Flintridge
 (parking lots on Foothill or Verdugo)
www.lacanadachurch.org

Light on the Corner Church



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

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

Lutheran Church in the Foothills



1700 Foothill Blvd.
 La Cañada Flintridge

WORSHIP WITH US!
 In Person and on YouTube
Sundays at 10 AM
 Services available on our website during the week.
PASTOR RICK HALL
www.lcifoohills.org / 818-790-1951

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
 3561 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta
 office@molc.org • (818) 248-4253

Sunday Worship Service
 (with Sunday School for kids) 9:30 AM
Thursday Bible Study
 6:45 PM

Check out our Website!
www.molc.org
 See us on Facebook!

COME MEET US!
St. Luke's of-the-Mountains Episcopal Church



Sundays
 Gathering 9:30AM
 Worship 10:00AM
Domingo Misa en Español a las 12:00PM
 Sunday School and Child Care
 All are Welcome
 2563 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta
818-248-3639
<http://stlukeslarescenta.org/>
www.facebook.com:stlukeslarescenta
 St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church

Join us for
Sunday Services at 11:30 am
Led by Rev. Jeri Linn
 in the **Sanctuary of Center for Spiritual Living**
 4845 Dunsmore Ave, La Crescenta



unity (818) 249-4396
 A positive path for spiritual living
 Church of the Valley

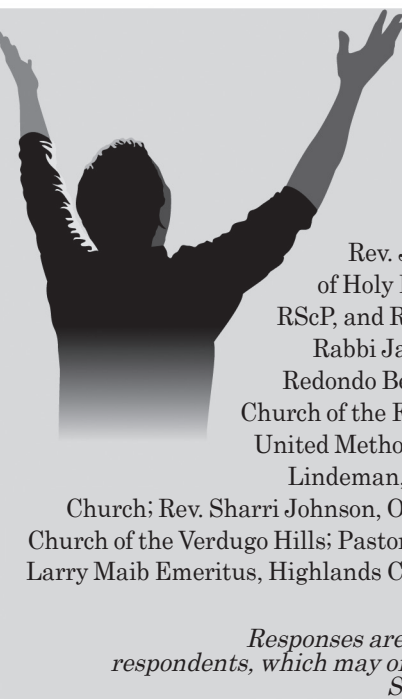
NOTES & NODS

Lutheran Church in the Foothills
 Lutheran Church in the Foothills invites the community to attend its soup supper Wednesday services during this season of Lent. Lent is a 40-day period during which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ. Lent is a time of reflection and of asking for forgiveness. Ultimately, it is a preparation to celebrate Jesus's resurrection at the feast of Easter. LCIF will have a soup supper each Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Lenten worship with Pastor Rick Hall will follow at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The

Wednesday evening suppers and worship will take place through March 20.
 Children's church is offered during 10 a.m. worship. Families should meet in the church's sanctuary. After a message for the children from Pastor Hall, the kids head to the Youth Room for games, crafts and study.
 Visit lcifoohills.org for event details, including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve. For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lcifoohills.org or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are from

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.
Mt. Olive Offers Community Luncheon, Breakfast Bible Study
 Mt. Olive Lutheran Church reminds the public that it hosts a community luncheon on the second Wednesday of each month through May. There is "wonderful food and amazing entertainment." Cost is just \$5. All are invited.
 Mt. Olive is located at 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta.
All Invited to Support Group
 Around the Rainbow, a support group for families of LGBTQIA

individuals, meets monthly on the first and third Tuesday nights (note the new days) at Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church, 2700 Montrose Ave. in Montrose in room 24; church narthex. Gathering is at 6:30 p.m. and meeting is from 7-8 p.m.
 For more information, contact Jo Ann Stupakis at jostupakis@yahoo.com.
Walk and Word
 Walk and Word participants will meet in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in La Crescenta/see NOTES & NODS on page 19



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, Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living; Rev. Dabney Beck, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; Lucinda Guarino; Rev. Karin Ellis, La Cañada United Methodist Church; Rev. Sherri James, UP Church; The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman, Upland Christian Church; Rev. Rob Holman, St. Luke's Anglican Church; Rev. Sharri Johnson, One Heart Retreat Center; Martin Barrett, Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills; Pastor Bill Flanders Emeritus, Steve Johnson, Pastor Emeritus, Pastor Larry Maib Emeritus, Highlands Church La Crescenta; Rev. Valerie Reeves, Staff Minister, Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living

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.

Reprinted from July 17, 2018

Question: My husband and I are from large families and every 4th of July we host a huge celebration at our home, which is a large property at the edge of town. In past years, because there have been arguments among and between individuals who drank too much, we decided just to serve non-alcoholic drinks this year. We had ice tea, lemonade, colas and water. A couple of families decided to leave because they were looking forward to "cold beers." These individuals were from my side of the family and they are the ones who have stirred up trouble before.

My husband came to me when they complained and asked if perhaps he should go buy some beer, but I told him not to; that's not what we agreed upon. Everyone else seemed quite happy with our decision and many thanked us because they had brought younger children.
 I think I'm okay with our decision, but my husband is not and wishes we had had some alcoholic drinks - just not as much as we've had in other years. We'd like to know what you think because we're already thinking about what to do next year.
 ~ Indecisive Couple

Dear Indecisive Couple,
 There are two approaches to your problem. The first is practical, the second is spiritual.
 While I appreciate, admire and respect your husband's desire to be a good host by providing

alcohol to those who desire it, I would encourage him not to do it in light of the behavior problems of the past that resulted in you both looking at keeping your party "dry." I think you both made the best choice so your other guests could enjoy themselves at your party and feel safe. Clearly, based on the feedback you received, they appreciated the "dry" event.

But primarily I would encourage your husband not to feel guilty over this. Clearly he likes those people and wanted them to enjoy themselves and felt bad when he saw how disappointed they were that no liquor was offered. He shouldn't. He did nothing wrong. People with alcohol and drug addiction problems are master manipulators and prey upon the feelings of others (especially guilt) in order to get their way. Sadly, even the smallest amount of alcohol will fuel bad behavior in those who have a drinking problem. In other words, you cannot hope to control alcoholic behavior by controlling portions.

The last thing you need at your party next year is someone fighting over the last beer. I would encourage you to let it be widely known among the families that, based on the success and good time everyone had at your "dry" event, next year will be the same. That way there will be no unpleasant or disappointed surprises. Everyone will know the ground rules going forward. Those who come will come for the good time and camaraderie you intended.

The other approach is spiritual. The question is what has to be healed

here. Well, there are several issues but let's focus on the feelings and concerns of your husband. He was clearly upset by this.

Ernest Holmes, founder of Science of Mind, pointed out that what occurs outside of us is a reflection of what is inside of us. We get what we expect. It's that simple. To change the outer we need only to change the inner. That is, change our expectations. We need not even trouble ourselves trying to change anyone else. It all begins, and is changed, within us. One of the ways we change that is with affirmative prayer. It is not a begging prayer. The Universe has a poor track record when it comes to begging prayers. It is a commanding prayer. You state the reality desired, believe it is yours, and it is. Here is a prayer for your husband to say whenever he feels bad about this issue. I encourage him to memorize it and repeat it until it "feels" real. That's when the miracles happen. "I am the perfect child of God. I work for the good; to heal, bless and uplift all. God is always on my side. My choices for the good of all are always respected and honored by all parties, especially by those I care about. They recognize and appreciate my good will and caring for them. They can never hold anything against me. My life with them is filled with and reflects a mutual harmony, affection and healthy respect for the limits I chose to set. And so it is."

Anthony Kelson
anthony@apkelson.com
 see SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING on page 19

YOUR RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY AD HERE!
 Call (818) 248-2740

LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

RECORDING REQUESTED BY
Premium Title of California
AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:
Western Progressive, LLC
7730 Market Center Ave, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79912

SPACE ABOVE THIS LINE FOR RECORDER'S USE
T.S. No.: 2023-01098-CA
A.P.N.: 5601-021-009

Property Address: 5140 FINEHILL AVENUE,
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214

PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE
SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW
IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS
DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO
THE TRUSTOR.

NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED

注: 本文件包含一个信息摘要

참고사항: 본 첨부 문서에 정보 요약서가 있습니다

NOTA: SE ADJUNTA UN RESUMEN DE LA
INFORMACION DE ESTE DOCUMENTO

TALA: MAYROONG BUOD NG IMPORMASYON SA
DOKUMENTONG ITO NA NAKALAKIPLUY Y. KEM
THEO DAY LA BAN TRINH BAY TOM LUOC VE
THONG TIN TRONG TAI LIEU NAY

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST
DATED 10/13/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO
PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A
PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE
NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU
SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

Trustor: Jason L. Johnson, A Single Man. Duly Appointed
Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC

Deed of Trust Recorded 10/23/2006 as Instrument No.
06 2341979 in book ---, page--- further modified by that
certain Modification Agreement recorded on 3/2/2011,
as Instrument Number 20110323565, and of Official
Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles
County, California.

Date of Sale: 03/27/2024 at 11:00 AM

Place of Sale:
BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER
PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA
91766

Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably
estimated costs and other charges: \$850,573.94

THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO
HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK
DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK
DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR
A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS
AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF
THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO
BUSINESS IN THIS STATE

All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by
the trustee in the hereinafter described property under
and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as: More fully
described in said Deed of Trust.

Street Address or other common designation of real
property: 5140 FINEHILL AVENUE, LA CRESCENTA, CA
91214

A.P.N.: 5601-021-009

The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any
inaccuracy of the street address or other common
designation, if any, shown above.

LEGALS

The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty,
expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or
encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of
the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest
thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the
terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses
of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed
of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of
the obligation secured by the property to be sold and
reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at
the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale
is: \$850,573.94.

Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid
less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the
time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the
total debt.

If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason,
the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall
be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the
successful bidder shall have no further recourse.

The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed
and delivered to the undersigned a written request to
commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a
Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in
the county where the real property is located.

NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are
considering bidding on this property lien, you should
understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a
trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on
the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee
auction does not automatically entitle you to free and
clear ownership of the property. You should also be
aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior
lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are
or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the
lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title
to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the
existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may
exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's
office or a title insurance company, either of which may
charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either
of these resources, you should be aware that the same
lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust
on this property.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown
on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more
times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court,
pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code.
The law requires that information about trustee sale
postponements be made available to you and to the
public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale.
If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been
postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and
date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-
960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site: <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx> using the file number
assigned to this case 2023-01098-CA. Information about
postponements that are very short in duration or that
occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not
immediately be reflected in the telephone information
or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify
postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.

NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase
this property after the trustee auction, if conducted
after January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 2924m of
the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant
buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the
last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you
are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the
property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at
the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising
this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of
the trustee sale, you can call (866)-960-8299, or visit this
internet website: <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx>, using the file number assigned to this case 2023-
01098-CA, to find the date on which the trustee's sale
was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and
the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a
written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee
receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale.
Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and
affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code,
so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days
after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as
an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should
consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real
estate professional immediately for advice regarding this
potential right to purchase.

LEGALS

Date: February 8, 2024
Western Progressive, LLC,
as Trustee for beneficiary
c/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 238
Ventura, CA 93003

Sal Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx>

WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS
A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A
DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED
FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly February 15,
22, 29, 2024.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME:
SERJIK GHAREH PETIAN SARAYE MALEKI. Case
number 24GDPC00009. Superior Court of California,
Glendale Superior Court, North Central District, 600
East Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206. To all interested
persons: 1. Petitioner SERJIK GHAREH PETIAN SARAYE
MALEKI filed a petition with this court for a decree
changing names as follows: a. Present Name: SERJIK
GHAREH PETIAN SARAYE MALEKI to Proposed Name:
SERJ KARAPET. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons
interested in this matter appear before this court at the
hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the
petition for name should not be granted. Any person
objecting to the name changes described above must
file a written objection that includes the reasons for
objection at least two court days before the matter is
scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing
to show cause why the petition should not be granted.
If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant
the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING a.
Date: MARCH 28, 2024 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: E Room:
N/A b. The address of the court is same as noted above.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published
at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to
the date set for hearing on the petition in the following
newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
Published Crescenta Valley Weekly January 25, February
1, 8, 15, 2024.

CRESCENTA
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DBA'S

PROBATE NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENT

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NAME CHANGES

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CALENDAR THIS from page 15
Feb. 17 between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
The community is invited come by and see the new space as BAG ramps up giving for 2024.

There will be light refreshments.
BAG helps the largest unhoused community in the United States.
BAG is located at 652 Mateo Street in LA.

EMBLEM CLUB HOSTS BINGO

Emblem Club #104 of Glendale will hold a bingo night fundraiser on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at the Elks Lodge, 120 E. Colorado St. in Glendale. Check-in is at 5 p.m. Food will be available for purchase. Bingo starts at 6 p.m. Ten-game packs are \$25 and sold at the door.

All proceeds are earmarked for the Emblem Club scholarship fund. Questions? Contact Margie at (818) 404-3257.

FRIEND AND FUND RAISER HOSTED BY USC-VHH WOMEN'S COUNCIL

The USC-VHH is hosting a "Grease" sing along on Friday, Feb. 23 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Verdugo Hills Hospital council rooms.

The Women's Council has been dedicated to supporting the hospital for over 50 years and has donated well over \$3 million for much-needed services, the nursery and OB

renovation, NICU and the Cath Lab.
All funds will be dedicated to the USC-VHH for nursing education to increase the quality of care for those living in the foothill area.

The cost is \$50 general admission, \$25 for teens. Food and beverages provided. Sponsorships available. Prizes given for best costumes! RSVP by Feb. 15 to Barbara.Jordan@med.usc.edu or call (818) 952-2226.

LIBRARY HOSTS SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

The Dept. of Economic Opportunity will provide adult entrepreneurs with helpful information on the start-up process in Los Angeles County, including the steps to open a business, commonly required permits, licenses, and other free resources. This session will be held at the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta on Saturday, Feb. 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This is a free event.

FRITZ COLEMAN RETURNS TO SOLO COMEDY

Legendary comic Fritz Coleman is performing a series of shows at the El Portal Theatre from his latest solo comedy show "Unassisted Living," now airing on Tubi.

Coleman will be at the El Portal Theater, 5269 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood, on Feb. 25, March 24, April 28 and May 26 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and \$45.

https://www.elportaltheatre.com/fritzcoleman.html

GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY (GAB) FOR OLDER ADULTS

Community members are invited to explore the fabric of their life in a six-week free series focused on writing and sharing their stories.

Guided Autobiography (GAB) for Older Adults will meet at the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., on Tuesday afternoons from Feb. 27 through April 2 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. They will participate in the method developed by Dr. James Birren, which aids in

reflection and sharing experiences from each person's journey. This process is facilitated by certified GAB instructors as a service of the USC-VHH Community Resource Center for Aging.

Attendance is limited and advance registration is required. To sign up, see library staff or register online at Visit.LACountyLibrary.org/Events and filter by location or event date.

Registration will close by March 5.

CRESCENTA VALLEY GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB PRESENTS 'WALK WITH THE ANIMALS'

"Walk With the Animals," an in-person program rescheduled from Feb. 6, will feature local tracking expert Jim Lowery. The program will be at the La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5.

The presentation will be an intimate conversation about

techniques for tracking animals and what might happen at the "point of contact" with the trail where tracks express behavior, biology, mood and personality.

Lowery is a leading tracking instructor and author in the U.S., having taught tracking skills to thousands of students through his school, Earth Skills, since 1987. He has trained field biologists, naturalists and rangers and has led many specialized workshops in tracking technique as well as on tracking specific mammals including black bear, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, badger, antelope and kit fox.

All are welcome.

COMMUNITY CENTER PRESCHOOL HOSTS WESTERN ROUND UP

On Saturday, March 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge will be closing its parking lot to host the 30th

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/JUST FOR FUN

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 17

Dear Indecisive Couple,

It's kind of you to host a large party so both sides of your family can get together. What a shame some allow the celebrations to go off track with arguments. It's perfectly fine for you to set the atmosphere of your gathering. Perhaps the problem for those who left early for the lack of beer was the surprise that the atmosphere had changed from prior years. When you begin planning next year's party you can let everyone know well in advance what refreshments will be served. No explanation is necessary but you certainly can note that with more younger children it will be a "family friendly" event. Do those who didn't want a non-alcoholic party entertain you at their home? They could pick a different holiday and host whatever type of party they like. Perhaps a few smaller "adult" gatherings during the year will satisfy their desires for that type of socializing. Whatever you and you husband choose, I hope everyone can relax and have a good time.

Sharon Weisman
sharon@jetcafe.org

NOTES & NODS from page 17

Glendale at 8 a.m. on Feb. 18 and Feb. 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.

THE WAIT IS OVER... THE 2024 SMART-A-THON IS BACK!
SMART-A-THON 2024
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
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1812 Verdugo Blvd., Glendale, CA 91208
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\$60 Lunch & Participation per person or sponsor a team!!
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