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# CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

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MAY 23, 2024

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## Council Takes on Full Agenda

By Julie BUTCHER

Late Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council reaffirmed its recent decision to delay a public vote on creating districts, opting instead to allow the newly formed Charter Review Committee time to evaluate the possibilities in advance of a possible vote in 2026.

"I'm not happy about not doing November," Councilmember Dan Brotman said. "I've been clear. The benefits of districting are not related to the threat of a lawsuit. There are pros and cons and – on balance – I think having districts would have more benefit than cost."

Mayor Elen Asatryan reluctantly agreed to the delay.

"I have grave concerns about the outreach and about the price tag for putting this on the November ballot," she said.

Also on the packed agenda, the Council approved the issuance of \$166 million in electric revenue bonds, the second of three such issuances, to fund extensive GWP capital projects. According to city staff, the first rate increases went into effect in January with additional increases set for this July and for July 2025 to cover the costs of repowering Grayson, setting up the Scholl Canyon biogas plant, and developing the city's solar power program.

By unanimous vote, the Council authorized spending \$764,393 from the city's asset forfeiture fund to purchase and build out a mobile command post for the police department. The specialized vehicle is expected to cost a total of \$1,885,620 and will be used for crime scene management; pre-planned events (such as the World Cup in 2025 and the Summer Olympics in 2028); natural disasters; terrorism; and continuity of emergency services.

Residents lined up to share their opinions on a road rehabilitation project to slow speeds and add protected bike

see GCC on page 8

## Memorial Torch Relay Honors the Fallen

By Mary O'KEEFE

*Members of CV Sheriff's Station take part in three-day run.*

This past weekend members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. (LASD) participated in the annual Memorial Torch Relay. This is a three-day run with 56 legs of the relay that covers over 300 miles.

The three-day event began at 9 a.m. on May 17 and ended on May 19 about 4 p.m. at the Altadena Sheriff's Station.

Runners from the CV Sheriff's Station took the torch from Palmdale at mile marker 15 on Angeles Crest Highway. The first 16 miles of the relay was run by the LASD elite running team, led by CV Station's Dep. John Hong who brought deputy elite runner friends to help. At mile marker 16 members of the Montrose

Photo courtesy of LASD  
Members of the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station took part in the Memorial Torch Relay held this past weekend.



Search and Rescue ran the remainder of the 21-mile stretch.

"This is a 49-year tradition by the LASD to honor our LA County fallen brothers and sisters in the line of duty. We run and move the Memorial Torch from the Hall of Administration to Altadena Sheriff's Station. There is no fee to participate beyond love, re-

spect, commitment and sweat equity," according to the Los Angeles Sheriff's Athletic Association.

This year's run was dedicated to Dep. Ryan Clinkunbroomer and police officer Chad Swanson, who was from the Manhattan Beach Police Dept. (MBPD).

Sgt. Johanna Armstrong from the

Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station ran the relay, representing the station. She said this relay was even more poignant because the CV Station took the torch from the Palmdale Sheriff's station where Clinkunbroomer had served.

The honor to take the torch from see TORCH RUN on page 8

## Residents Warned of Scams

By Mary O'KEEFE

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept.-Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station released a warning to residents about a person/s who have been calling the public stating they are a member of the LASD. The imposter allegedly tells victims they need to pay a specific amount of money to avoid being arrested.

"Our station, nor any other law enforcement agency, would [never] request a payment over the phone to avoid an arrest. Never give your personal information, credit card number or banking information over the phone unless you have verified the identity of the caller," according to the CV Station.

CV Station's Sgt. Johanna Armstrong said this scam is similar to the IRS scam where imposters would call victims and threaten them with arrest due to "non-payment of taxes." They would threaten to send someone to the victim's home; however, this is not how the IRS conducts business.

"Now the [imposters] can spoof phone

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Photo courtesy of LASD  
Residents are reminded that legitimate members of law enforcement will never call asking for information or funds.

see SCAMS on page 8



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

# Hitting the Ground Running

I barely caught my breath from my (wonderful) vacation when I found myself knee-deep in things to do. For example, last Thursday I had the opportunity to attend a virtual reality demonstration at Glendale Community College.

GCC recently installed this technology from Dreamscape Immersive, made available (in part) from State Senator Anthony Portantino, with the guidance of Dreamscape Immersive. I had a chance to try it out and I have to say the experience was incredible and exciting. I spoke to GCC superintendent/president Dr. Ryan Corner regarding the technology and what it means for the future of GCC. You can read my story on page 3.

On Saturday night (into Sunday morning) I was at the YMCA of the Foothills in La Cañada for Prom Plus (PP), the after-prom party for Crescenta Valley High School seniors and their guests.

The Y is such a great venue; as previous president of PP, I am so grateful to CEO Vince Iuculano and his staff for allowing PP to take place at the YMCA. It's a roomy venue that has a kitchen made available to PP, plus a large multipurpose room and parking lots a plenty to handle the number of cars of volunteers and guests. The lower parking lot (the one that faces Foothill Boulevard) is where PP places the zip line and there was plenty of room.

In addition to the zip line, there was a mechanical bull, climbing wall, food (most donated) and prizes. Thanks are extended to Joe Allen who purchased and arranged the prizes in addition to securing the funding for them, Juan at LA Partyworks – the company

that provided all the “toys” that the students enjoyed during the night – and Julie Dowse who worked with Mary O’Keefe to make sure the kitchen was pumping out food all night. There were plenty of others too – too many to mention – but please know how grateful the PP committee is for the undying help.

Alas – this year might be the last for PP. It’s been around since 1994 after the 1991 murder of a CVHS senior at an unsupervised post-prom hotel party and there seems to be few parents willing to step up and take the reins for this 30-year-old organization. That’s a sad reflection of the times, I’m afraid. Though I am not sure what the future holds for PP, what I do know is that, in the words of Mary O’Keefe, we’ll get on the bus to help out but won’t drive it any more.

Sunday was not a day of rest for me (or Mary). A young lady that we know (and love) was having a college graduation event at my house on Sunday morning beginning around 11 a.m. Thankfully I was able to get a couple of hours of sleep before helping to set up my house. The party was so much fun, though, and I think she had a great time, too.

Monday of this week saw me – well, exhausted. I think I’m getting too old for all of this activity! But looking back I’m happy with everything that took place and am pleased that I was a part of it.

Is it a bad thing for me to be already planning my next vacation...?

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

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» WEATHER WATCH

## Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O’KEEFE

I have thought a lot this past weekend about what home means. I spent Saturday and Sunday at Prom Plus (PP). This after-prom party for Crescenta Valley High School seniors celebrated 30 years this year and it is an amazing organization; however, this is the last one I’ll be participating in. I have been a PP board member for well over 15 years. Only one of our board members has a child in the school system; for the rest of us, all of our kids graduated years ago from the high school. For an organization to grow it has to have new members, and I am hopeful (given the response I received from parents who want to keep the organization going) that it will continue. But for me ... this was it. I started working at 5 a.m. on Saturday and went to bed at 9 p.m. on Sunday; I am just too old for this.

That being said, PP (and especially Prom Plus Club, the youth arm of Prom Plus) has been my home ... a place where kids show up and feel safe, where I feel comfortable and where I have made a lot of friends. It has also been an inspiration. I have seen the best in our community as members volunteer and donate money to help support PP. It has made me feel like this community is my home, even though I am not from here or even from California. And that got me thinking about home.

I am in the minority within my immediate family; all of them were born and raised in California. There are times when, although I know my home is here, I still feel like a visitor. I have spoken to people who are transplants from other states, and countries, and this is a common feeling – especially when something happens “back home.”

For me, Tuesday was that homesick-

type feeling when I watched the Weather Channel as it tracked tornadoes ravaging my home state of Iowa. My brother, who is in Arizona, sent me a notice that read, “The National Weather Service has issued a tornado warning for Mahaska County and the tornado is headed in the direction that would likely affect the City of Oskaloosa.” Oskaloosa is my hometown.

That was a “heart skips a beat” moment – when you feel absolutely helpless. My brother and I immediately began reaching out to family and friends in Iowa. Luckily the tornado did not touch down in Oskaloosa and all were safe. My cousin, who lives north of Oska, had a tornado go over her town but it did not touch down; however, the wind was so strong it split a large tree on her property.

One of my friends shared a before and after photo of Greenfield, Iowa. The before-photo shows a green, tree-lined street; the after-photo was taken immediately after the tornado struck and there was nothing left but small pieces of wood where houses used to sit. There was a post on social media that stated, “The way landscapes can be deeply altered in mere seconds will never cease to scare the cr\*p out of me.”

On Tuesday, 20 tornadoes slammed through three states with multiple people killed and thousands of homes and businesses obliterated. On Wednesday, authorities were still shifting through the rubble in Greenfield searching for survivors.

When there is an earthquake here, I get calls from all of my family and friends in the Midwest asking me if I am okay – this is something that happens with families everywhere; however, the power of these storms on Tuesday was frightening. My cousin sent a video that showed the

see WEATHER on page 5

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# NEWS

## IN BRIEF

### OFFICES CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

The offices of Crescenta Valley Weekly will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

### CVCA MEETING TONIGHT

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its monthly meeting tonight, May 23, at 7 p.m. in the community room at the La Crescenta Library. The meeting will include discussion on local issues as well as an opportunity for foothill area residents to bring their own concerns. The library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd.

Contact the CVCA at [crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com](mailto:crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com) with any questions. All are welcome.

### GWP RELAUNCHES PROGRAM

Glendale Water and Power (GWP) has contracted with Richard Heath and Associates (RHA) to relaunch its Home Energy and Water Upgrade Program for residential customers. The program helps residential customers save energy and water through an in-home survey, and the installation of free energy and water saving devices.

RHA's certified contractors specializing in energy and water efficiency will schedule home visits with customers interested in participating in the program and conduct a free energy and water survey of the home to identify potential energy and water efficiency upgrades. A short report will be generated listing recommended retrofits customized to the customers' home that will include anticipated annual energy and water savings. The efficiency measures for saving energy will consist of retrofitting existing lighting fixtures with LED lamps, installation of wall packs, flood lights, canopy lights, lighting dimmers and sensors, window film, weatherization, and more. Water benefits will include installation of faucet aerators, low-flow showerheads, high efficiency toilets, efficient sprinkler head replacements and more.

The program has set a limit of \$2,500 worth of retrofits per customer, which is an increase of \$1,300 from previous years. Interested customers can schedule an appointment with RHA by visiting [GWPHomeUpgrade.com](http://GWPHomeUpgrade.com) or by calling (800) 263-9313.

### THE BALCONY PICNIC EXPERIENCE

The Balcony of LA, a non-profit organization, is hosting a free community picnic at Two Strike Park every Wednesday in the month of May from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The next (and last) one is on May 29.

It is free and open to all. The organization's goal is to get folks out of the house, meet new people, get kids to connect with new kids and make new friends and just build stronger community bonds overall.

There is no financial exchange occurring. It is not a fundraiser. There are no vendors.

Bring a blanket. Bring some food. Come hang with locals in the grass while the sun sets.

Two Strike Park is located at 5107 Rosemont Ave.

### NEW BILLING OPTION FOR GWP CUSTOMERS

Customers of Glendale Water & Power are advised to look for a new video engagement tool that helps customers view and pay their bills. GWP videos through SmartVX is fully integrated with customer information and billing system to give them customized information regarding billing, payment options for overdue bills, energy conservation tips and more.

Each video is interactive, featuring embedded links that direct users to useful GWP resources where they can manage payments, set-up outage management alerts and access a customer self-serve portal. The customized videos contain only the account holder's information and the embedded links are safe to click and take users to GWP secure payment portal that asks customers for log in information.

Customers will receive these videos through text messages and emails. To get a glimpse of what SmartVX offers, visit <https://tinyurl.com/4x3mpyx9> to watch a sample video.

# GCC Boasts New VR Technology



By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

A celebration was held on May 16 of Glendale Community College's (GCC) President's Circle. The celebration was an opportunity to introduce the college's newest addition: virtual reality technology.

College Superintendent/President Dr. Ryan Corrner welcomed the intimate gathering, taking time to laud the college's Foundation for its fundraising efforts that resulted in the new technology being brought to the GCC campus.

He said, in part, that the purchase was the result of a "crazy idea."

"Having a crazy idea can lead to a conversation," he said.

State Senator Anthony Portantino was instrumental in securing state funding for the software, hardware and licensing (for five years) of the technology.

"Future funding will be dependent on what we want to do in the future," said Corrner. "There is different VR that fits with different needs. I do foresee that investments will continue in VR but my hope is that it expands to different types of products that fit the needs of our college."

GCC is the only community college in the world that has this type of VR technology – an acquisition resulting from a visit to the GCC campus.

"About two years ago I met [Dreamscape Immersive CEO] Walter F. Parkes through a

colleague who specialized in educational technology," said Corrner. "He visited the GCC campus."

Parkes, the former head of DreamWorks Motion Pictures, drew on his work with big-budget, big-screen spectacles to help cofound Dreamscape Immersive, the company that's behind the VR technology at GCC. Corrner first visited the Century City headquarters of Dreamscape Immersive with "cabinet level" supporters of the college – "deans, the vice president, the executive director of Glendale College Foundation," he explained.

The second excursion included representatives from other college sectors that would benefit from the technology. Among them was biology faculty and others who would utilize VR.

Corrner said plans in the future include building a lab that incorporates "free roam elements."

"We are in the process of building out a full VR room where you put on a headset and get a full body avatar," Corrner said. "There will be full participation in the experience – walking around, reaching out and touching the other avatars. We'll give students the full utility of virtual reality."

Another goal of the program is to bring high school students onto the campus.

"What we want to do is work with biology students at [the high school level], approach the GUSD secondary instruction, find teachers who are interested [in this technology] and engaging them," Corrner said.

At Thursday's reception, attendees had the chance to experience VR. After being escorted into a room outfitted with VR headsets and other materials, guests were told what they would be experiencing. After putting on the headset, they were transported to an "alien zoo," a colorful place where, using a joystick, they moved about to examine the inhabitants – some that appeared sickly.

Attendees, which ranged in age from an 8-year-old to those over the age of 70, reacted

positively – and excitedly – to the VR experience.

"I didn't want to take off my helmet!" one woman said.

And this was just the reaction Corrner hoped for.

He relayed a story of a former biology student who left the course to pursue other options.

"She said that had VR been available to her she might not have changed her major" – which is right in line with the goals of the program – and Corrner.

Photos by Robin GOLDSWORTHY

LEFT: College trustee Yvette Vartanian Davis manipulates a joystick to travel in virtual reality.

RIGHT: State Senator Anthony Portantino holds up a watercolor of the GCC campus, done by a Crescenta Valley High School student, given to him in appreciation for his work in securing funding for the virtual reality technology at the college.

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# Budget Outlook Appears 'Rosier'

By Julie BUTCHER

The Glendale City Council held its fourth budget study session on Tuesday afternoon and was surprised to hear that the financial forecast got considerably rosier once city staff updated revenue estimates to accurately reflect income from Glendale Water and Power (GWP) that it had underestimated in past renditions of the proposed budget.

The city charter allows the city to transfer up to 25% of GWP's income each year. By agreement, the current council has limited that amount to 10%.

The most updated proposed budget reflects an increase from FY 2023-24 of \$31.5 million, or 2.7%, to a total of \$1.204 billion, with a general fund of \$325 million.

Every department needs additional staffing, explained city manager Roubik Golanian noting that the city had cut 20%-25% of its budgeted positions during the "great recession" and is slowly building back. There are currently 120 vacancies of the 942 budgeted jobs citywide; the city hopes to reduce this 13% rate to 10% this year - reportedly an industry standard. The city also benefits from \$8 million in salary savings from the current vacancies, Golanian concluded.

The budget session highlighted outstanding issues and final changes to the budget are expected to be approved by the Council on June 4.

The city has not been billed by the City of Los Angeles for expenses incurred in joint operations of the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant but has nonetheless set aside \$11.4 million for that expense.

Responding to previous requests, councilmembers reviewed possible ways of hiring staff to assist the Council. Some cities utilize higher-level chief-of-staff type of positions; others assign a staff assistant to each councilmember. Glendale councilmembers opted to review hourly staffing or internship options in the future.

The Council will also consider the

creation of a unit within the Office of the City Attorney to prosecute misdemeanors not being prosecuted by the current Los Angeles County district attorney. To do so, the city is required to secure either permission for the unit from the DA or a vote by the public to amend the city charter to permit the change. Staff for the new prosecutors would cost \$1.2 million and could appear on the ballot in 2026.

"Given the overall atmosphere and culture we have in LA County, it's something I'd like to explore," Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian opined.

The Community Development Dept. proposed adding two code compliance inspectors to help enforce local regulations regarding street vending, Mylar balloons, restaurant plastics, gas-powered leaf blowers and tree protection measures at a fully loaded cost of \$256,000.

Mayor Elen Asatryan expressed her preference for expending funds to support education and incentives rather than enforcement.

"I'm not interested in going after our restaurants and gardeners until we help them transition," she said.

Councilmember Kassakhian countered her point of view.

"For \$256,000, this is a great bargain for all of the issues they could address," he said. "We used to see strong enforcement of our shopping cart ordinance but that has fallen by the wayside and we're starting to see abandoned shopping carts. Same with illegal dumping. There are hot spots throughout the city. These are things we wouldn't have seen on the streets of Glendale 15 years ago. It's the little things that affect people's perceptions of our city. Graffiti too."

Councilmember Dan Brotman agreed noting that added staff was necessary to both educate and enforce city regulations.

"Whatever you call it, because what you're calling enforcement is telling people what the right thing to do is, it's not actually giving fines," he said. "I know there have been cases where people have put

artificial turf on city parkways. We don't fine those people; we tell them how to fix it and [explain] what the city policy is. In most cases, they understand and make the change. Now if you've been out there three times and they thumb their nose at us, we have to be able to issue a citation. That's the world we live in. We need code enforcement if we want any of our codes enforced, if we're serious about the laws we've passed. It doesn't preclude us from doing other things like education and offering incentives."

Finally, the Council reviewed budgets for the city's internal services departments, which account for 8.6% of the budget, \$27.9 million proposed for the coming fiscal year, 75% in salary and benefits.

The Finance Dept. operates using generally accepted accounting standards and performs the financial work of the city: processing payroll, administering the city budget, preparing financial statements, paying the city's bills, collecting revenue, performing analyses and audits as required by city practice and local, state and federal law.

The Office of the City Attorney provides advice and counsel to the council, the city's boards and commissions, and department heads and staff; responds to requests for legal services; drafts all of the city's ordinances, resolutions and motions; oversees all aspects of the city's contracting processes; enforces the municipal code; and administers insurance, claims, and litigation of the city's risk.

The city clerk "serves as the city's 4-1-1," detailed City Clerk Suzie Abajian. Her office answers public inquiries and offers counter service; manages all of the city's public records; staffs the City Council as well as the city's boards and commissions; coordinates elections; conducts ceremonial and educational outreach; and administers forms and filings.

The full citywide budget is expected to be before the Council at its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 4 at 6 p.m.



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Surrounding Areas

# New Information Makes for Richer Memorial Ceremony

By Mikaela STONE

A look back into history made this year's Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony extra special as the Glendale Police Dept. acted on information gathered by department historian Teal Metts. While local law enforcement annually honors fallen officers from the past 109 years, this is the first year all four fallen officers have a photograph to commemorate them.

Metts' research into the previously pictureless Marshal Charles Whitney Smith, who died in service of Glendale's Tropic area in 1915, revealed Smith's face in print via the article memorializing him. Also, the first of the area's fallen law enforcement officers lay buried in an unmarked grave. Now, Smith's story can be fully appreciated alongside the better-documented officers honored each year at the ceremony.

Marshal Charles Whitney Smith succumbed to his wounds after being shot by a member of a holdup team whose crime spree stretched across the Los Angeles County area. He left behind his wife Mae Gibson – whose name was unknown before Metts' research.

In 1926, Officer Leslie O. Clem, a member of the motorcycle brigade, struck a set of streetcar tracks during a vehicle chase. He, too, died and was survived by his wife.

In 1972, Officer John Isaacson Jr. also perished in a vehicle chase, resulting in his being thrown out of his car. He is also remembered by his wife Sally and son John.

Officer Charles Lazzaretto, the final officer to die, died as a result of a shootout with a domestic violence suspect in 1997. His remembrance was read by his son, Andrew Lazzaretto. His father's sacrifice steeled Lazzaretto's resolve to

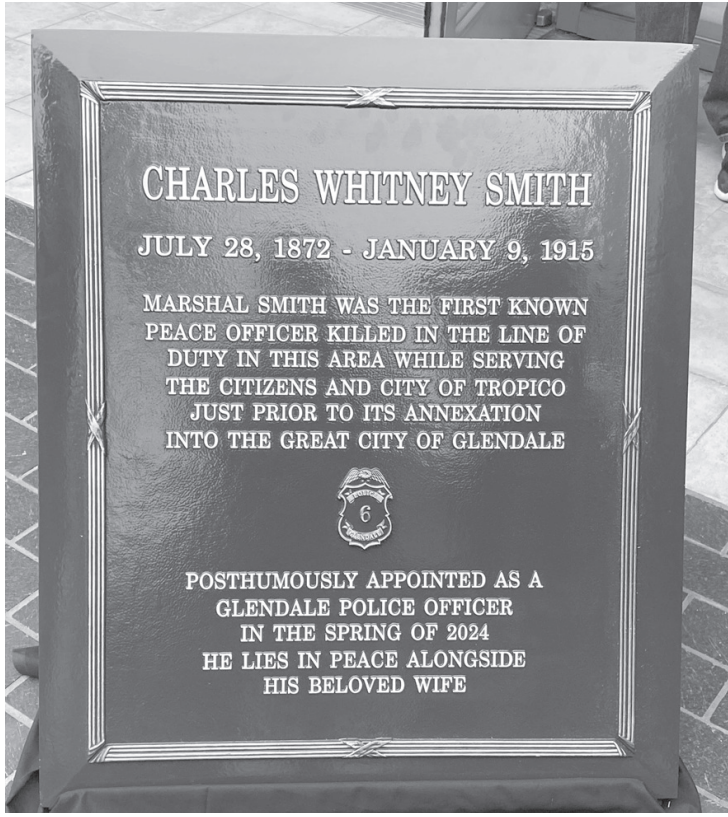


Photo provided by Mikaela STONE  
New information provided by Teal Metts on Marshal Charles Whitney Smith completed a grave marker in honor of the fallen officer.

become a member of the Glendale Police Dept., a salute to both of his parents who met through law enforcement as officer and dispatcher. Lazzaretto is "grateful to belong to an organization that keeps [his] father's legacy."

In opening remarks by Glendale Police Chief Manuel Cid, he acknowledged not only the lives of the officers given in the line of duty but also the families who had been deprived of their loved ones. He thanked them for their sacrifice.

To further honor Marshal Charles Whitney Smith, the Glendale Police Dept. posthumously named him a Glendale police officer and assigned him badge number 6, the next unassigned 1915 marshal badge number in Glendale. Metts unveiled Smith's long-deserved grave

marker, purchased with money fundraised from the department, and presented two artifacts for those assembled: an LA County coroner logbook containing Smith's autopsy report (on loan from the LA County Sheriff Museum) and a Glendale police logbook entry discussing the events leading up to Smith's death. These were accompanied by the booklets Metts wrote on Smith's life and Metts' own research. Of the collective effort put into ensuring Smith was properly honored, Metts noted that "everyone, from the chief down to the officers, including retired radio shop operators ... civilian employees [and] retirees out of state" pitched in.

The GPD placed Smith's grave marker in Forest Lawn later that day.

# Crescenta Commons Cleaned, Renovated by Community

By Eliza PARTIKA

Parents and students at Monte Vista Elementary helped weed and plant flowers at the Crescenta Commons, located adjacent to the school at the corner of Rosemont and Orange avenues. They replaced old plants with yarrow plants and mulch. Master gardeners from Creative Concepts, a local landscaping company, and staff from the Crescenta Valley Water District helped students as they learned about the impact of the plants on the environment and on water.

The renovated garden will

be dedicated to Girls on the Run Montrose, an organization at Monte Vista Elementary that funded the garden for two consecutive years.

Robbyn Battles, a parent organizer of the cleanup event, said the funds raised by the Commons' GoFundMe page on Facebook and by Girls on the Run were used for this renovation; however, to achieve the expansion the community indicated it wants for the garden, much more money is needed.

Battles said as funds allow, volunteers will work section by section to add new plants and colors to the garden. She and Michael,

head gardener at Creative Concepts, worked together to build the garden when it was established in 2014 and are working on a new plant list to gather input from the community on what it wants to see installed. The group also plans to partner with Creative Concepts and Crescenta Valley Water District on having educational events at the Crescenta Commons.

Battles said she's excited to see the garden grow.

"We changed a place that was vacant into something pleasant for families," said Battles. "Moms sit

see COMMONS on page 6

WEATHER from page 2

immense power of the wind and that was without the tornado touching down.

My prayers are with those who lost their loved ones and are trying to pick up what is left of their homes and lives.

It is another reminder that, as advanced as we think we are, Mother Nature must still be respected.

Today, more patchy fog and some drizzle are expected with no measurable rain eventually

clearing with a high of 69. The same on Friday with highs of 66. Over the weekend we may reach into the 70s; Monday and Tuesday will be in the high 70s with sunshine expected.

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# Burbank Fatal Traffic Collision

On Saturday, May 18 at about 11:15 p.m., Burbank Police and paramedics responded to Vanowen Street west of Hollywood Way regarding a traffic collision involving multiple vehicles. When police officers arrived, they located a male in the roadway who had been ejected from a white Scion. The male sustained serious injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Officers located a second vehicle involved, a white Toyota Corolla, which was occupied by a driver. The driver sustained moderate injuries

and was treated at the scene by paramedics.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that the Scion and the Corolla were traveling eastbound on Vanowen Street at a high rate of speed. As the vehicles approached Hollywood Way, the vehicles collided with each other and careened into an electrical pole and fire hydrant. The force of the collision knocked the electric pole down and sheared the fire hydrant.

The driver of the Corolla remained at the scene and was interviewed by traffic investigators.

At this time, it is unknown whether drugs or alcohol were factors in this collision. Preliminarily, it appears unsafe speed is likely a contributing factor.

The decedent has only been identified as an adult male. As of May 18 the identity of the deceased had not been released.

This collision remains under the investigation of Burbank Police Dept. Traffic Detective Ryan Murphy. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact Detective Murphy at (818) 238-3103.

COMMONS from page 5

here and chat waiting for their kids to get out [of school]; they connect.”

Ines Chessum, one of the founding members of the Commons, said the garden has become a safe place for the neighborhood, a place for families to gather even after school hours and on weekends.

“It kind of reminds me of growing up [when] everybody’s parents took care of everybody else’s kid. That’s how you can describe this,” she said.

James Lee, general manager of the Crescenta Valley Water District, said it’s nice to be with a partner that revitalizes the community.

“There’s a big emphasis on the hometown feel. You have people who have been here for generations. You don’t find that as much in Southern California, so it’s cool to be part of it,” Lee said.

The water district has also had conversations about partnering with the Rosemont Preserve about doing events about stormwater capture and nature education.

“We’re all in the same community, so the more we can preserve these relationships and teach kids, the better,” he said.

As volunteers shuffled from planting to pulling weeds, Creative Concepts gardener Michael taught the volunteers how to properly space flowers for the best growth and how

to pull weeds without damaging the surrounding soil or plants. As the kids patted down moss, he demonstrated how essential extra watering was for the first layer of the dense, wet moss to hydrate the parched top soil underneath.

Monte Vista teacher Kristin Pardo said the philosophy of Girls on the Run is to teach young girls confidence through running a 5K and also helping their community. The Commons, she said, is a large part of that.

“I think it’s amazing. These guys [at Creative Concepts] have been so great with them and they’re learning all these things about the nature in their community,” she said.

Pardo and other teachers at the school have hopes for how they might be able to use the space after renovations and expansions are complete.

“Hopefully, when the renovations are finished, we won’t have to drive for field trips,” she said. “We can just walk right outside.”

Ellery Edwards, a sixth grader

at Monte Vista, said she noticed that she and other girls were more confident and self-reliant in their time with Girls on the Run. Edwards also said learning to help others with the Commons project taught balance and how to be kind. She enjoyed the Commons space because of the flowers she plants to beautify the area for her and her friends, who often gather there.

“A lot of the kids meet here and it’s a safe place for them to just be able to meet their friends without having to worry about, ‘Oh, is this safe?’” she said.


Creative Concepts gardener Michael said the revitalization and planned education projects will incorporate science and botany when teaching about the natural world.

“I really enjoy being involved with the community,” he said.

Battles said the community can contribute to the gardens by mailing checks to 2629 Foothill Blvd #386, or visit Facebook to contribute to the park’s GoFundMe page.



Photo by Eliza PARTIKA  
Students from nearby Monte Vista Elementary School worked to improve the garden.



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

This notice applies only to those properties that receive water service from the Crescenta Valley Water District.




This is a notice that the District will consider renewal of the capital charge implemented in 2023 at the same level as last year. A report containing a description of each parcel receiving water service and the amount of the charge for each parcel for the fiscal year 2024-25 is available for inspection at the District office and on the District’s website at [www.cvwd.com/updated-property-tax-roll-information](http://www.cvwd.com/updated-property-tax-roll-information)

If you would like to transfer the capital charge to your utility bill please contact us or visit our website to complete the required form. Forms must be submitted by July 15, 2024. If a form was submitted last year, it will remain in effect.

There will be a public hearing held on June 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the District’s main office at 2700 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta, CA. You can file a written protest at or before the hearing.

**We invite you to review this information and contact us at (818) 248-3925 or [feedback@cvwd.com](mailto:feedback@cvwd.com) with questions, comments or concerns.**



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To provide quality water and wastewater services to the Crescenta Valley community in a dependable and economically responsible manner.

**Our Vision**

Secure sustainable water supplies and ensure infrastructure reliability, while furthering our commitment to accountability, transparency and cost-effectiveness

ANSWERS for page 17

1	B	O	R	A	T	6	T	A	P	A	10	G	R	E	G		
14	A	D	E	L	E	15	O	P	A	L	16	R	A	R	E		
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# Transnational Burglary Suspects Arrested

On May 20, at 10:31 p.m., Glendale Police Dept. officers arrested four Columbian national burglary suspects in the Emerald Isle area of Glendale.

The incident marks the second arrest in three weeks involving Bryan Martinez Vargas, 28, of Columbia in connection

with transnational burglary operations, often called "burglary tourism."

On Tuesday night, a Glendale police sergeant observed a car driving without headlights in the area of Emerald Isle Drive and Kirkham Drive. The car was exiting a dead end street.

Deeming this vehicle suspicious, a traffic stop was initiated by the sergeant and the car was searched.

During the vehicle search officers allegedly found a video surveillance device with a battery pack charging system camouflaged with leaves. This

evidence, combined with the finding of freshly disturbed dirt in a planter in the cul-de-sac, led Glendale detectives to believe that the suspects had strategically placed the camera in the planter. This method allowed them to create a sophisticated method to gain

a view of residences and know when homeowners left, according to GPD.

Officers also located a construction hardhat and vest, which can be used as a ruse to approach homes with minimal suspicion. Several jewelry boxes were also found in the car.

# GUSD and Nine GUSD Schools Named to Educational Results Partnership Honor Roll

Glendale Unified School District and nine GUSD schools have been named to the 2023-24 Educational Results Partnership (ERP) Honor Roll for high achievement and student success. The Honor Roll program highlights high-performing schools and districts that are preparing students with the fundamental skills needed

to be successful in college, career and life.

GUSD has been named 2023-24 Star District, which is a high-performing district where more than 33% of students are considered socioeconomically disadvantaged. Additionally, seven GUSD schools, including Clark Magnet High School, have

been named 2023-24 Star Schools. Monte Vista and Valley View elementary schools have been recognized as Scholar Schools, which are high-performing schools where fewer than 33% of students are considered socioeconomically disadvantaged.

The 2023-24 Honor Roll recognizes public elementary,

middle and high schools that demonstrate high levels of student academic achievement.

According to ERP methodology, "Honor Roll schools and districts represent those that were comprehensively higher performing on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

(CAASPP) English Language Arts and Math Assessments, for all cohorts of student populations served and that are improving outcomes for historically underserved student populations."

Approximately 17% of eligible schools and 14% of eligible districts made the California Honor Roll list.

## CRIME BLOTTER

May 18

Angeles Crest Highway in the Angeles National Forest, a door lock of a vehicle was punched and a wallet was stolen from a vehicle between 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

2900 block of Fairway Avenue in Montrose, a resident reported returning home to find the gate to the backyard open. At first the resident thought it had been accidentally left open but then, upon entering the master bedroom, it was discovered the bedroom had been ransacked, the glass of a window had been shattered and several items were stolen at 11:10 p.m.

May 17

400 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported that while she was shopping at a grocery store at the location a female placed a food product in the victim's "face" and asked a question. The woman said she did not work at the store and directed her to an employee. When the woman finished her shopping she went to the cashier and found that her California driver's license and credit card were not in her wallet. She went home and contacted her credit card bank and was told someone had attempted to

make a fraudulent charge but it was not approved.

The female who distracted her was described as Hispanic, 5'5" tall, weighing about 140 lbs, in her late 30 and wearing a light-colored shirt and orange pants.

The theft occurred between 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

May 13

2400 block of Florencita Avenue in Montrose, a man reported that when he arrived at the church at the location the church's utility truck, a Ford E350 red and green panel truck, which had

been parked in the parking lot, was missing. The man contacted members of the church to see if anyone had borrowed the truck but no one had used it since May 12. All the keys for the truck were accounted for.

Surveillance footage revealed a silver four-door Toyota Corolla sedan entering the church's parking lot and parking next to the panel truck, out of the view of the camera. A few minutes later the silver vehicle reversed and turned southbound in the parking lot. The panel truck then reversed and drove toward the parking lot on Florencita Avenue and out of view. The

silver four-door sedan followed the panel truck out of view. The incident occurred at 5:48 a.m.

May 12

Rosemont Avenue and Montrose Avenue in Montrose, a woman reported as she exited the Metro 90 bus at the location she placed her bus pass in her purse, which was hanging off her shoulder. A man, described as White and middle aged, stole her purse by forcing it off her shoulder then fled the area on foot.

The robbery occurred at 2:30 p.m.

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*(Original Watercolor by Vince Takas)*

lanes to a 1.6-mile stretch of La Crescenta Avenue from Montrose south to Verdugo Road. Staff recommended rebidding the project in order to take advantage of a potential \$3 million grant from Metro.

The plan is to eliminate one traffic lane in each direction and add a center median for turning. Parking would be limited in certain spots; an additional traffic signal would be added at Oakmont View; a pedestrian hybrid beacon would be added at Piedmont; and a signalized bicycle crossing would be added mid-block between Las Palmas and Arlington.

"I live on La Crescenta and it's already difficult getting in and out of my driveway. This will make it more difficult. And it will reduce our property value and the curb appeal of my home," one speaker expressed his adamant opposition to the street project.

Melissa Church, president of the PTA at Fremont Elementary School, offered a different opinion.

"I'm asking that you stop delaying this project," she said. "I'm not a

cyclist so framing this issue as cyclist versus not is disingenuous. Cars travel too fast through our residential area and past our elementary school. They race, they make dangerous turns – all day, every day. When it's two lanes, we're going to get stuck behind a slow driver and we're going to be annoyed. Then we're going to move on. The entire neighborhood will be safer for pedestrians and cyclists and dogs on walks and kids on skateboards and the inconvenience to us adults will be worth the trade off."

"This is a great opportunity to do some traffic calming and reduce speeds," another speaker said. "Let's not forget what this project is about: it's not about bike lanes; it's about reducing speeds and increasing safety for all road users."

Paul Rabinov from La Crescenta spoke in favor of the plan, noting that it is expected to reduce future accidents by 30%: "Well worth it; let's do this in a way that creates safety for everybody."

Earlier in the meeting, the Council recognized and commended the winners of the 2024 Children's

Bookmark Contest. The winning bookmark designs can be seen at <https://www.glendalelac.org/kids-bookmark-contest> and will also be available starting June 1 at all Glendale branch libraries to celebrate the start of the Summer Reading Challenge.

The Council acknowledged the work of the city's Public Works Dept. and recognized the workers who filled the Council A"m always comparing Glendale to some of our neighboring cities where their sidewalks double as their skate parks and we certainly don't have that in Glendale," Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian commended. "When something happens, you guys are always on top of it."

Speakers from local LGBTQ+ organizations, including

glendaleOUT, spoke at the beginning of the meeting, reading from their proclamation: "Whereas the City of Glendale continues to view LGBTQIA+ hate as a permissible allowance of differing opinions, and [w]hereas queer and questioning students in our school district are watching, [t]he undersigned are saying ENOUGH; enough complacency, enough empty proclamations, enough complicit non-action, enough compromising the public safety of queer and ally residents, ENOUGH; Show up: Say something. Do something. Enact something. End the normalization of queer hate in Glendale."

Crescenta Valley High School teacher and advisor to the school's Gay-Straight Alliance, Alicia Harris, spoke "in solidarity with

the community members advancing Project Protect."

"Last year you pledged to support organizations such as GALAS and glendaleOUT and to work in support of educators and professionals in the community who work to ensure children and families in the community feel accepted and safe," she said. "You read this while bigots rioted in the parking lot of the school board just down the street. Yet despite the weighty goals laid out in the proclamation and the magnitude of the moment illustrated blocks away, you failed. You failed to take any action to support the LGBTQIA+ community at all."

The next regular meeting of the Glendale City Council is set for Tuesday, June 4 at 6 p.m.

TORCH RUN from page Cover

the Palmdale Station was poignant for Sgt. John Gilbert from the CV Station.

"It meant a lot to former alumni from Palmdale. I was there for 10 years," he said. "It is still a special place to the deputies who worked there."

Dep. Clinkunbroomer was murdered on Sept. 16, 2023 as he left the Palmdale Sheriff's Station. He was in uniform in a marked patrol vehicle. (On Sept. 18, 2023 Kevin Cataneo Salazar, 29, was arrested, accused of lying in wait and murdering the deputy. He is still in custody and his next court date is on June 13, 2024.)

"Our son Ryan was a dedicated, hard-working deputy sheriff who enjoyed working here at the Palmdale Station. He was proud to work alongside his partners that he considered brothers and sisters. He sacrificed daily to better the community that he served. Ryan made the ultimate

sacrifice in doing so. Ryan was recently engaged to the love of his life. As our firstborn son, Ryan will be greatly missed by his family, friends and the sheriff's department as a whole. Please keep Ryan's family friends and colleagues in your prayers and respect everyone's privacy during our time of mourning. Thank you from the bottom of my heart the Clinkunbroomer family." – Statement from the Clinkunbroomer family released by LASD at the time of the deputy's death.

On Oct. 4, 2023 MBPD Officer Swanson was killed while on his way to work in a motorcycle accident on the 405 Freeway at Del Amo Avenue. A vehicle struck Swanson's department motorcycle after another vehicle made an unsafe lane change. The impact threw Swanson off his motorcycle.

The LASD Memorial Torch Relay began in 1975 after a dramatic

increase was seen in the number of deputies killed in the line of duty.

"From 1850 when LA County was first formed until the beginning of 1970, less than 300 law enforcement officers from agencies throughout the county had been killed in the line of duty. In the early 1970s, there was a dramatic increase of the number of officers killed. In just a five-year period, between 1970 and early 1975, 12 Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies were killed in the line of duty. During one traffic stop in 1970, four CHP officers were all killed by just two suspects," according to "Lighting the First Flame" by Dep. Chris Miller [retired] LA Sheriff's Museum.

In 1975 Sgt. Lee Stahl wanted to honor those fallen deputies and wanted to raise public awareness of the loss. His idea came from the Olympic Torch Run. That first year there were 24 runners who ran 291 miles.

SCAMS from page Cover

calls," Armstrong said.

This means the caller identification on the phone can either read LASD or can read someone the victim may know so the call appears to be legitimate, she added.

"The imposters can be very persuasive," she said.

Armstrong said she received these types of scam calls and attempted to get as much information from the scammers as she could.

There is another scam when someone will call a victim and threaten to release "revealing" photos. Even if the victim has never had these types of photos taken, some victims are concerned that through AI [artificial intelligence] these types of photos could exist. This type of AI threat recently occurred with deep fake photos of singer Taylor Swift.

Victims pay to keep the photos from being released.

These scams can be extremely complicated and intense. The imposters are very good at finding ways to frighten victims and then play on those fears.

A few weeks ago, a woman came to the CV Station and reported she had been contacted by a person

who stated he was from Amazon and that fraudulent activity had been found on the her credit card that was associated with her Amazon account. The imposter provided a contact for the victim for what he said was the Federal Trade Commission. The victim called the number she was given. That imposter said an individual had access to her Social Security number and instructed her to send a copy of her California driver's license to him via email. She did and he instructed her to contact the Dept. of Motor Vehicles and the Social Security office to obtain a new driver's license. She was then advised, by the imposter, to go to a bank and withdraw funds. She was told to meet an individual who would, apparently, help her with a new license and Social Security card. She followed instructions and met a man/suspect, described as an Asian male, on Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta where she gave him the money.

The imposter was so convincing that the victim was afraid he would try to find her. She went to the CV Station and while she was there received another call by another imposter. The deputy was

able to overhear the phone call. The imposter asked if she knew a certain individual; she did and she was then told her that person had been arrested. She was told to go to the bank and withdraw more funds to keep the individual out of jail. She was told to then mail the funds to an address that would be would provided later.

The victim left the station. She was concerned and afraid, still believing the imposter may be real. She was still willing to get the money and mail it; however, the deputy was able to convince her this was a scam and helped her block the callers from contacting her again.

Armstrong reminded community members that the station can be called any time and to call if they are concerned they have been contacted by a scammer.

"[Law enforcement] is never going to ask for money over the phone," Armstrong said. "And no one is going to call you and tell you there is a warrant [out in your name]."

If someone states s/he is a deputy from the local station and there is a doubt, call the station at (818) 248-3464 to verify, according to LASD.



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# VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » CRAIG W. DURST

## A Walk Through Montrose in 1929 – Part 7

Let's continue our time travel adventure. We've gone back to 1929 and we're walking west down Honolulu Avenue. In our last episode, we saw several small markets in the 2200 block of Honolulu. We even peeked inside the Safeway Market (where Mayhall's Sewing and Vacuum Center are today) to get a feel for how shopping worked in 1929.

We take a few steps west and on our right is the Montrose Chamber of Commerce office (now the site of Cracking Crab seafood restaurant). The small office is busy as business in Montrose is booming with lots of new stores coming in.

Next to that is a lumber company to supply wood for the many new homes being built locally. (That site is now The Strand Salon, Drawn 2 Art and The Light Committee photography studio – but not the same building.) The smell of fresh lumber is in the air. We pass by the storefront of the lumber company where

hardware and nails can be bought and come to a vacant lot on its west side (where Sake Sushi Bar is today). We can see open bays in back where the lumber is stacked. A green Ford Model A pickup truck chugs into the vacant lot from Honolulu and pulls up to several other old pickup trucks parked there. Men in overalls are busy loading lumber into the trucks. It looks like a lot of redwood siding. While there we notice there's another lumber company just around the corner, also doing a brisk business.

We pause at the vacant lot and look across the street to the north side of Honolulu. There's a business we recognize from the present, Thompson Bros. Cleaners (the building at 2275 Honolulu is now Wild Acai juice bar and Pedal Spin, and the current location of Thompson Bros. Cleaners is behind Black Cow restaurant). They must have a steam plant as we can see wisps of steam rising from vents in the roof. Suddenly

there's a loud whistle and a puff of steam. They have a steam whistle on the roof! We note the time, 12 noon, and remember that Thompson Bros. Cleaners had a steam whistle that went off at noon every day.

We continue walking west and come to a large brick building (now Pepe's Mexican restaurant and Montrose Town Kitchen and Grill). This is Evans Garage according to the sign out front. We can see inside the building there are cars being worked on by mechanics. It also looks like part of the building is a new car dealership selling Hudson Essex cars.

Continuing along Honolulu approaching Ocean View Boulevard, we come on the most amazing building! It's tall – two-stories – and cream colored. A high arched entryway extends up the full front of the building. Mission tiles are visible on the roof. Decorative ironwork frames a double door and above the door are the words Crescenta Cañada National Bank. This building is

absolutely spectacular! (Today this is Starbuck's Coffee.)

We enter through the front doors to find that the lobby is open to the ceiling of the second story, creating a cavernous lobby for the bank. The floor is polished concrete with decorative tiles imbedded. We look up to the ceiling and see big wooden beams above. The beams are dark wood with decorative painting on them. Tall expansive windows on both sides of the room pour in natural light.

To our right, on the west side of the lobby, are the tellers behind dark wood counters. A man in a suit approaches, introduces himself as the manager and welcomes us to this bank, which he says has just opened this year. He says he feels fortunate to open in such a prosperous and growing community. He's obviously hoping we'll open an account, so we make excuses

and head back outside. (This spectacular building still exists as Starbuck's, but the tall arched entryway and side windows have been framed in. The cavernous lobby is interrupted by a drop ceiling that hides the decorative beams above. A plywood façade hides the front of the building.)



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

**CV WEEKLY IS ONLINE!**  
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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Kudos to First Responders

Four very kind and experienced gentlemen came to my assistance on Friday morning, April 19, and I need to make mention of them.

I was experiencing a truly

horrible lower back spasm that was making it close to impossible for me to move. I called two of my kids, asking them to come over and help me. When they arrived and saw my predicament, it was agreed that we should call 9-1-1.

The paramedics/firemen who arrived were so helpful – not just to me but also in guiding my children as to what would be best for me. Two carried me in a special chair down three flights of stairs and deposited

me carefully in the car of my daughter-in-law. She was able to drive me to the Verdugo Hills Emergency Room.

I am sharing my story and gratitude here with all who read this paper because what these

people did for me was normal for them, but extraordinary for me!

Thank you so much!

Tracy Collins  
La Crescenta



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### True Sanctuary Checklist

Does not allow hands-on interaction or photo opportunities with animals of any age	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does not breed animals outside of AZA Species Survival Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does not take animals off property for events	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does not buy or sell animals or animal parts	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Animals have access to clean water, shade, places to hide from public view, and proper medical care	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Facility has 501(c)(3) nonprofit status	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Bonus: Facility is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Bonus: Facility is accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

For more information about the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries visit their website: [SanctuaryFederation.org](http://SanctuaryFederation.org)

A true sanctuary is a place of refuge or safety that provides quality lifetime care for the animals it has rescued. The term "sanctuary" is not regulated by any governing body. Anyone can start a sanctuary, but only a few facilities can be considered a true sanctuary.

It is crucial to practice ethical tourism and only support true sanctuaries that care for animals. We can make a difference through our choices! Before you visit any facility that keeps wild animals, please check to see if they are a true sanctuary and make sure your patronage will not fund abusive exploitation, dangerous breeding practices, or the exotic pet trade.



# A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE...

Being pet lovers, sometimes we dream of having much larger versions of our beloved furry companions. I know I do. Tigers especially. I recently had the privilege of visiting Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge Center in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, and fell in love with all their rescues. I learned some horrifying truths about what these gorgeous creatures have gone through before coming to their forever homes at Turpentine Creek. If you are looking to visit an animal "sanctuary" or are invited to a cub petting party read on to learn why we need to stop false sanctuaries and illegal for-profit animal exploitation venues.

— Rachele Miller

Did you know that there are estimated to be 10,000 big cats in captivity? That is three times more than there are in the wild! This includes lions, tigers, leopards, cheetah, jaguars or cougar species, and any hybrid of such species. Unfortunately, these majestic animals sometimes fall into the wrong hands, as shown in the true crime documentary "Tiger King." In some unaccredited institutions, tigers are used strictly for profit and can include tiger selfies or other photo opportunities, ripping tiger cubs away from their mothers so guests can hold them, and other animal exploitation methods.

If these large felines are not found in reputable or accredited institutions, then they may be subject to animal abuse, such as cub petting,

declawing, malnourishment, etc. Until recently, there was no form of federal protection for these animals regarding private ownership and exploitation. Reputable facilities, like AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and GFAS (Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries), practice the highest standards of animal welfare and are crucial for conservation advancement. Additionally, AZA facilities participate in a SSP (Species Survival Plan) where they manage ex-situ ("off-site") populations to promote healthy, sustainable, genetically diverse and demographically varied AZA populations.

In December 2022, President Joe Biden signed the H.R.263/S.1210 Big Cat Public Safety Act into federal law. This law entails the following: prohibits private ownership of big cats, makes it illegal to buy, sell, trade or transport big cats across state lines without a permit, and prevents the public from direct contact with big cats (including cubs). Because of this law, big cats are now protected from multiple forms of animal abuse. Not only that but since big cats are banned from being privately owned, this lessens the opportunity for international black-market trade. This legal leap is an incredible feat for big cat conservation; however, the law alone is not enough to save these majestic animals.

A true sanctuary is a place of refuge or safety that provides quality

lifetime care for the animals that it rescues. The term "sanctuary" is not regulated by any governing body. Anyone can start a sanctuary, but only a few facilities can be considered a true sanctuary.

It is crucial to practice ethical tourism and only support true sanctuaries that care for animals. We can make a difference through our choices!

Before you visit any facility with wild animals, please check to see if they are a true sanctuary and make sure your patronage will not fund abusive exploitation, dangerous breeding practices or the exotic pet trade. *Used with permission from Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge website (<https://www.turpentinecreek.org/>)*

Use the quick check list to see how other sanctuaries stack up.



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**2024 CV Weekly's PET SECTION**  
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# YOUTH

## Assisteens Registration Now Open



Assisteens are auxiliaries of Assistance League chapters that encourage and provide volunteer opportunities for young people in grades seven through 12. The Assisteens at Assistance League of Flintridge (ALF) was established in 1967 and since then the local communities have greatly benefited from the philanthropic endeavors of the student-governed group. The goals are to uplift youth, to engage in community service and to develop a sense of personal responsibility, self-reliance, public speaking and leadership skills.

The group meets one day a month during the school year to work on projects with opportunities on other days as they come up. Assisteens also staff the Bargain Box Thrift Shop on Saturdays. Meetings are held at Assistance League of Flintridge, 4607 Oakwood Ave., La Cañada Flintridge. Students from La Cañada Flintridge and the nearby foothill communities are welcome to sign up.

Registration is now open for the 2024-25 Assisteens season that runs from August to May. For more information, visit the ALF website at [ALFlintridge.org](http://ALFlintridge.org) or contact ALF at (818) 790-2211.

## Fremont K-Kids Celebrate a Year of Service

Over 40 student members of the Fremont Elementary School K-Kids Club gathered recently in their school auditorium for the final meeting of the year. The group has been busy with service and outreach this year, doing monthly cleanups in the blocks surrounding the school, pulling weeds and gardening around the school campus, packing food with the Children's Hunger Fund, volunteering time to work on the La Cañada Rose Parade float, and sending letters to Operation Gratitude to share with the overseas troops. They also organized the school's lost and found closet on a bimonthly basis and collected food

during the fall food drive. This busy group extended its outreach to Manhattan Beach where the members recently collected 15 pounds of trash from the beach.

The Fremont K-Kids Club is a service club sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Glendale. The group helped with Glendale Kiwanis' Incredible Duck Splash earlier this month by running a game booth, retrieving the rubber ducks from the lake and selling ducks for their own Duck Buddy team. At the year-end meeting on Tuesday, Glendale Kiwanis President-elect Carl Povilaitis and Kiwanis K-Kids Advisor Cathy Keen presented K-Kids president

Francesca Daza with a check for \$965.50 for their many hours of work with the duck race. These funds will help the K-Kids continue service in the community next year. Future projects include funding a bear statue that will be part of the school Foundation's beautification project and painting a kindness mural on the four handball walls on the playground.

To wrap up the celebration of a successful year of service, Povilaitis and Keen served root beer floats to the group. Faculty co-advisors Tara Patton and Christina Martin and principal Vickie Atikian were on hand to join in the festivities.

*Submitted by Cathy KEEN*

## Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Accepting Applications for Student Commissioners

The City of Glendale Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission is accepting applications for student commissioners to serve a one-year term from September 2024 – September 2025.

The deadline to apply is June 14, 2024.

Ex officio student commissioners are active, non-voting members of the

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission. It is an opportunity for students to share their experience and expertise in recreation programs, human services, workforce programs and the development and maintenance of public parks, recreational facilities and open space. Commission input will help ensure continuation of Glendale's parks, recreation programs and services.

*Qualifications:*

- Must be a student
- Must reside in the City of Glendale
- Must be 25 years of age or younger AND
- Must be available to meet in person the third Monday of every month at 2:30 p.m.

For more information and to apply, visit [GlendaleCA.gov/ParksStudentCommissioners](http://GlendaleCA.gov/ParksStudentCommissioners).

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# TRAVEL & LEISURE



## Aiso, Morgovskaya to Perform for GNC

On Wednesday, June 5 12:10 p.m., the Free Admission Glendale Noon Concerts program will be performed live in the sanctuary of Glendale City Church.

The program will feature violinist Ken Aiso and pianist Valeria Morgovskaya performing works by Franz Schubert and Pablo de Sarasate.

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

He has been invited to renowned music festivals in UK, France, Sweden, Switzerland, India, Georgia, Bolivia and Kazakhstan, and has taught at Montecito Summer Music Festival since 2008. Aiso is a laureate of Long-Thibaud International Competition in Paris and International Music Competition of Japan, and was elected associate of Royal Academy of Music in London. He received Shimousa

Kan-ichi Music Award in his native Japan in 2018. Since moving to Los Angeles in 2015, Aiso has been serving as faculty at Loyola Marymount and La Sierra universities, and performs with Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

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

## MONA's Classic Cruise Farewell Tour

The Museum of Neon Art will launch its last season of Classic Neon Cruises® starting on Saturday, June 1 at 7 p.m. MONA invites audiences to board the open-air top of a double-decker bus to get an intimate view of historic neon signs and permanent installations of contemporary neon art through downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood. For the past 25 years MONA's Classic Neon Cruise has become a summertime tradition and a cult phenomenon under

the leadership of Eric Lynxwiler. This year Lynxwiler is retiring from leading the cruise. Though the museum may host Neon Cruises in the future this will be the last summer to experience them in this format.

Lynxwiler said, "When I first stepped up to that Neon Cruise megaphone, who would have known 25 years would fly by before I put it down? It's been an amazing time sharing a city that I love with thousands upon thousands of guests.

"I've watched Los Angeles change so much over the last decades that I look back with joy to think about all of the neon I never thought would get relit that actually got illuminated on Cruise nights. There are also the sad memories of the many neon signs that disappeared overnight and sometimes right before our eyes."

The live narrated tour departs from downtown LA and points out neon's historic and aesthetic dimensions, placing them firmly

within the context of 20th century Los Angeles cultural history. From the classic movie marquees of downtown LA's theater district to the glittering lights of Hollywood to the glowing pagodas of Chinatown, guests will see innovative electrical advertising as well as outstanding examples of contemporary art on this award-winning tour.

Part historic tour, part stand up comedy, and fully a love letter to Los Angeles, this tour

is crafted for locals who may have missed parts of LA history hidden in plain sight as well as tourists who want an offbeat insider's look on what makes this complex city glow. At the helm is longtime tourguide Eric Lynxwiler, who has been leading the cruises for the past 25 years. Lynxwiler is an urban anthropologist and co-author of "Wilshire Boulevard: Grand Concourse of Los Angeles" (Angel City Press, 2005),

see MONA's on page 13

### THEN & NOW



**THEN** » In 1929, the Crescenta Cañada Bank opened on the southeast corner of Ocean View Boulevard and Honolulu Avenue. The exterior architecture was very impressive with its massive arched entry but its interior was even more spectacular, with a two-story high open lobby featuring big Mission-style wooden beams across the ceiling. In the '50s a drop ceiling was installed and a plain façade added, hiding the beams and the arch.

### Montrose Starbucks Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



**NOW** » All the spectacular architectural features of the old bank are still there, waiting to be revealed. The beams and the archway are intact and begging for restoration. Starbucks, the current tenant, chose not to restore. It used an exterior design that ignores the old architecture and adds another façade to the once grand building. Perhaps in the future a forward-thinking architect will see the potential here.

MONA'S from page 12

"Knott's Preserved: From Boysenberry to Theme Park, the History of Knott's Berry Farm" (Angel City Press 2015), and author of "Signs of Life: Los Angeles Is the City of Neon" (Photo Friends of the Los Angeles Public Library Publications, 2016).

"Los Angeles was always full of surprises and was quite a character night after night," recalled Lynxwiler. "We never knew what the city would (literally) throw at us as we drove. So many smiling faces looked back at us and so many dropped trou – moons flashed us, too! I think the biggest takeaway from the Cruises is that Angelinos need to be a tourist in their own backyard sometimes. The Neon Cruise was never meant for out of towners – I always said that if you think you know LA,

come with me!"

MONA Executive Director Corrie Siegel said, "MONA is so lucky to share Eric Lynxwiler's leadership, curiosity, wits and humor with the public for over two decades. We are excited to celebrate 25 years of rollicking through the streets of Los Angeles this summer and are so thankful for how much he has informed how we see this beautiful, complex and ever-changing city."

The Museum of Neon Art Classic Neon Cruises® are scheduled for the following dates: June 1, July 20, Aug. 17 and Sept. 7.

Tickets for general audiences are \$73. Tickets for MONA members are \$63. To purchase tickets visit: <https://store.neonmona.org/collections/neon-cruises>.

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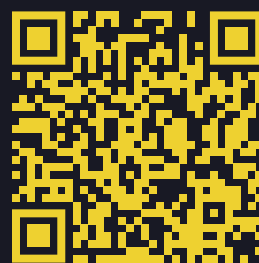
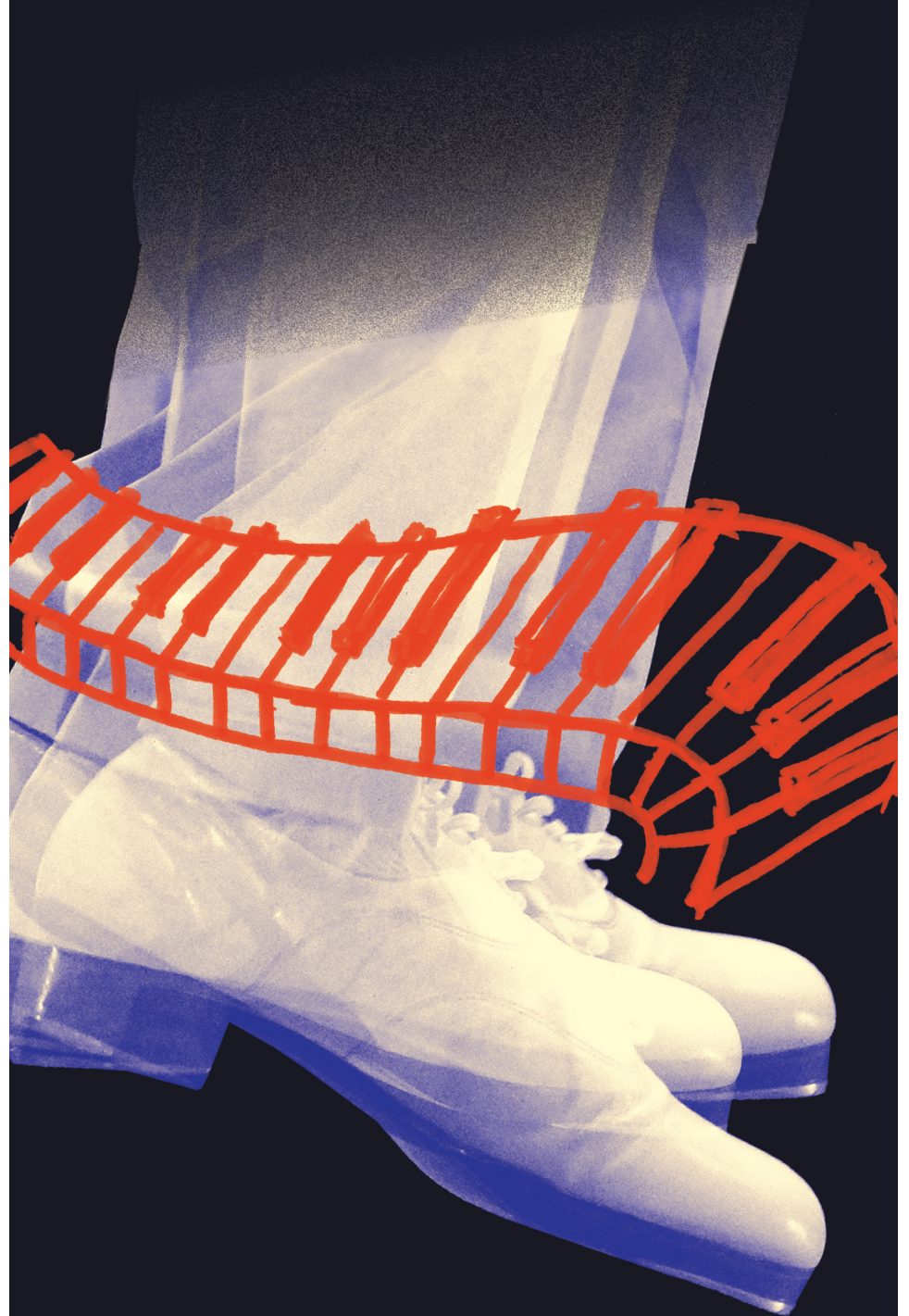
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# BETWEEN FRIENDS

## The YWCA Glendale & Pasadena Heart & Excellence Awards Celebrate the Power of Philanthropy



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By Ruth SOWBY

The Anoush Glenoaks Ballroom in Glendale on May 15 was standing room only for the YWCA Glendale and Pasadena's 27th Annual Heart & Excellence Awards & Persimmon Donor Circle luncheon. According to the Y website, the Persimmon Donor Circle is a collective of individuals who are dedicated to advancing the Y's mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.

The event, emceed by journalist Silva Harapetian, brought together more than 200 supporters to celebrate two exceptional women.

Retired attorney Valerie Merritt is the outgoing YWCA Glendale Pasadena board member. She is also a Persimmon Donor and member of the Leadership Circle. Grace Yuen, an investment banker, is also a Persimmon Donor and former YWCA Pasadena Foothill Valley board member. Due to a previous commitment, Yuen

wasn't present at the luncheon.

Also recognized was The Oakmont League as an outstanding women's civic organization. The League has worked for 85 years with local community agencies to provide services and funding to needy community residents. The League also provides scholarships to worthy students at Glendale, Clark Magnet, Hoover and Crescenta Valley high schools. Scholarships are also offered to Glendale Community College students.

Also honored at the May 15 event was Jada Yang with the Cami's Courage Memorial Scholarship. Presenting the scholarship was former YWCA board member Carol Ann Burton, the mother of scholarship namesake Cami Burton who lost her life in a car accident while serving as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Malawi. Yang is a graduate of La Cañada High School and incoming freshman at UC Berkeley. She will study public health, disability studies and public policy. Yang doesn't

allow her cerebral palsy to slow her down and, as such, is an avid disability rights advocate. She is the founder of Mission for Mobility. Yang received a standing ovation from the audience.

The YWCA Glendale and Pasadena's fundraising goal was \$30,000. During the luncheon, \$27,100 had already been raised. Funds raised will help support the YWCA's emergency shelter and housing programs, the domestic violence service center and the violence prevention program.

Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: Carol Ann Burton presents the Cami's Course Memorial Scholarship to Jada Young, who recently graduated from La Cañada High School. The scholarship is named after Burton's late daughter Cami Burton.

MIDDLE: YWCA Heart & Excellence awardees are, from left, Valerie Merritt, the Oakmont League represented by League President Pam Sorem and Jada Yang.

RIGHT: Glendale Mayor Elen Asatryan gives city greetings to YWCA supporters at the Heart & Excellence Awards luncheon on May 15.

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## PSHA Welcomes New Community Partner Doheny Eye Institute

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts formed a new community partnership with Doheny Eye Institute for the 2024 Pasadena Showcase House of Design, while lauding its longtime partner Dunn-Edwards Corporation – a partner since the first Showcase House, which took place in 1965.

Doheny Eye Institute, whose overarching vision is to have the greatest impact on human eyesight by leading the field with groundbreaking research and superior education programs, is donating the use of its lot to help offset Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts' need to rent parking space for volunteers and staff. The lot

was also made available for special events, such as the Empty House Party, which took place in January.

"In order to mitigate cars, traffic and noise in the neighborhood where the Potter Daniels Manor is located, it's crucial that we provide off-site parking for our many volunteers, designers and vendors," said Doty Ewing, this year's benefit chair for Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts. "This year, Doheny Eye Institute eased this burden by becoming a valued community partner and making their parking lot available to us during the 2024 Pasadena Showcase House of Design. This is our only fundraiser throughout the year, and Doheny's

generosity enables us to raise more money for our cause."

Since 1948, the Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts has raised more than \$25 million to support music and the performing arts throughout Southern California providing grants to local non-profit organizations while also funding its own outreach programs for youth.

This year marks the 59th Pasadena Showcase House of Design featuring 27 designers transforming the historic Potter Daniels Manor. Time-selected tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online at <https://pasadenashowcase.org/showcase-house/>.

# La Cañada Thursday Club Honors 12 LCF High School Students

The La Cañada Thursday Club culminated a trio of April events when last Sunday it awarded scholarships to 12 local high school seniors at the annual Scholarship Tea. All of the La Cañada Flintridge students have made their college selections and proudly held the banners of their future schools. Each student gave a short speech of his or her community service experiences and future college plans.

Ed Morales, the president of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, addressed the recipients and audience. He spoke about the importance of volunteering and leadership. He emphasized taking individual passion for community service and applying it to future endeavors. His wife, Lisa Schembari Morales, was a 1986 Thursday Club debutante.

The Club's Greenawalt Scholarship was named in honor of Club member Denise Greenawalt and honors a student/s who have achieved academic excellence and exhibited energy and tenacity in overcoming obstacles. Selected for the Greenawalt Scholarship this year were Isabella Chan from Flintridge Prep and Yasmin Ghaneh from LCHS. In the fall, Chan plans to attend University of Colorado, Boulder, and Ghaneh plans to attend UC San Diego.

The students awarded the Club's Foundation Scholarship included William Bigby of Flintridge Prep, who plans to attend NYU; Annabelle Fung, LCHS, to attend Anglo American University in Prague; Aidan Henriques, St. Francis, to attend UC Berkeley; Cameron Hong, LCHS, to attend Harvard; Irene Hong, LCHS, to attend Olin College of Engineering; Annabelle Lee, Flintridge

Prep, to attend Tufts; Katelyn Matarese, LCHS, to attend Harvard; CJ Sullivan, Flintridge Prep, to attend University of San Diego; Jenna Todoro, Flintridge Sacred Heart, to attend UC Santa Cruz; Kevin Zhang, Flintridge Prep, to attend MIT.

The presentation was followed by an informal tea in which students, parents, Club members and the keynote speaker socialized while snacking on tea sandwiches and cookies.

Other April events celebrated at the Thursday Club began on April 18 with a gala luncheon fashion show benefit, April in Paris, held in the Club's courtyard. Fashions were presented by Everson Clare Boutique. Chairing the event was Verna McElderry and Ingrid May.

On the 27, the Club debutantes were honored and participated in a brunch and fashion show, Fashion in Bloom. The brunch was attended by family members and friends. Debutante models included Annalise Armetrout-Wiswall, Emily Yang, Olivia Cha, Jenn Musso, Sophia Barton, Patricia Tomasulo, Sienna Thompson, Madison Thompson, Judy Ku, Cassandra Dirkin, Shannon Speaker, Norah Dusing, Julia Vazquez, Reese Arturo and Ava Stygar.

Submitted by  
Jane Napier NEELY



## Questions About Today's Real Estate?

### Ask Phyllis! Estate Sale Procedures

Dear Phyllis,

I have been following your real estate column for years. I have a new subject I don't believe you have discussed. We sold our home with the same Realtor who helped us with our purchase more than twenty years ago. Because we were relocating to South Carolina to be near our grandchildren, our agent referred us to someone who could manage the estate sale after our move. My sister agreed to water, take out the trash, and generally keep an eye on the home for us after we left. The remaining items were tagged for sale once we had cleared out what we were taking with us. My sister noticed a vanity stool that was tagged for \$125.00. She asked me if she could have it and of course I said yes. The estate

saleswoman complained to our agent that it should not have been removed. Our agent requested that I pay the estate person the \$125.00. The commission we paid was over \$100,000. I did so but was surprised. I think because we moved out of state, she felt there was no more business to be gained by us. Can you chime in on estate sales procedures? Disgruntled

Dear Disgruntled,

Like Realtors, estate sale procedures and rules can vary from person to person. The woman I use for estate sales has complained to me about items being removed after taking inventory and before the sale. It is a common occurrence that family members or close friends will ask for things.

However, she has never asked for the home seller to reimburse her. I have referred enough business over the years that she chalks it up as the cost of doing business.

From my understanding, this situation could have been handled differently. Your agent could have reached out to the estate salesperson and requested that they let this go, understanding the circumstances of your move. Alternatively, the agent could have paid the \$125 and resolved the issue without involving you. These are just a couple of potential solutions that could have prevented this situation from tarnishing your memories of selling your home of twenty years and moving out of state.

Phyllis

## People Making News

Rachel Min of Shadow Hills was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Min was initiated at University of the Pacific.

Min is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5% of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create an honor society that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all

fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

A total of 1,118 students walked the stage at Biola University's spring 2024 commencement. Approximately 800 undergraduate and 318 graduate students will commence from Biola.

The following local undergraduate residents are taking flight from Biola:

Clara Chung of La Crescenta, majoring in public relations & strategic communications; Melissa Dunnigan of Sunland, majoring in English; Melanie Ramos of Tujunga, majoring in psychology; Molly Mittelberg of La Cañada Flintridge, majoring in nursing; Peter Deirbadrossian of Glendale - 91214, majoring in biological science.

Founded in 1908, Biola is committed to the mission of biblically centered education, scholarship and service. With more than 5,000 students at its Southern California campus and around the world, Biola's eight schools offer more than 250 academic programs at the bachelor's, master's and



### Phyllis Harb

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## RELIGION

## RELIGION SERVICE DIRECTORY

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*"Where it is our dream to help you build and manifest your dreams!"*

 4845 Dunsmore Ave.  
 La Crescenta, CA 91214  
 (818) 249-1045

Celebration Service Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
 Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.

 **Church of Scientology**  
 Mission of the Foothills

2254 Honolulu Ave. Montrose  
 Mondays-Thursdays 4:00-9:30 pm  
 Saturdays 10 am to 6 pm



**OUR HELP IS YOURS**  
 scientology-montrose.org  
 818-957-1500  
 email: foothills@scientology.net

**Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church**

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

**PASTOR KEVIN KANG**  
 2700 Montrose Ave  
 Montrose, CA 91020  
 www.cvumc.org

 **GETHESEMANE 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**

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 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.lcifoothills.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!**  
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 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://stlukeslacrescenta.org/  
 www.facebook.com:  
 St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church

## NOTES &amp; NODS

## LUTHERAN CHURCH TO HOST EVENTS

Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) is having a blood drive on Thursday, May 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the church's Fellowship Hall.

LCIF also hosts activities that are open to everyone this spring and summer: Bible study groups, knitting, quilting, opportunities to learn live-streaming media production and more. Board games, food and fun are coming to LCIF on Wednesday, June 5 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Bring a favorite game or play one of the many provided. The event marks the beginning of Wednesday evening "fellowship" events at the church. LCIF will provide a light meal each

Wednesday evening as well as a fun activity.

LCIF also reminds the public that online registration is open for its upcoming Vacation Bible School, which will be held June 17 through the 21 from 9 a.m. - noon for children ages 4 through sixth grade. Local students in grades seven-12 interested in volunteering for the event can register at lcifoothills.org. Service hours are available.

Lastly, a reminder that LCIF will hold its annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, June 2 following 10 a.m. worship service with Pastor Rick Hall. The meeting and potluck will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to bring a favorite summer

dish to share.

Visit lcifoothills.org for event details, including small group gatherings and opportunities to serve. For more information or to request/offer help, email office@lcifoothills.org, or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd, in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 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 all are invited to its monthly breakfast Bible study at Panera Bread Restaurant, 990 Town Center Dr., Suite A in La Cañada on the third Saturday of each month at

8:30 a.m. The Book of Ephesians is currently being studied. The church also 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.

**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 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

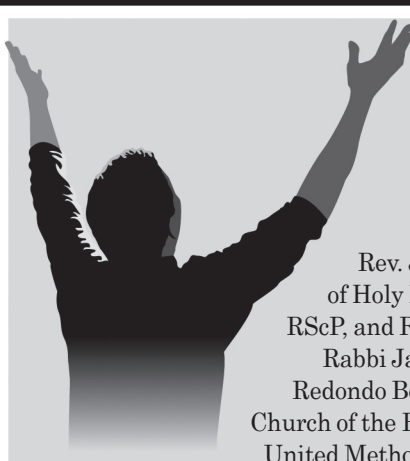
Ann Stupakis at jostupakis@yahoo.com.

**WALK AND WORD**

Walk and Word participants will meet in the parking lot of Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road in La Crescenta/Glendale at 8 a.m. on May 26. 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.

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/RELIGION



## 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.

**Q**uestion: Our daughter ... or several. First, concerning her fears, does she feel unsafe on campus? Has she been unable to study? Were there plans for her to pay you back for her tuition support once she was working? Maybe she's afraid to graduate and get into the working world. Most higher education facilities have resources to help struggling students with issues like these. Has your daughter availed herself of these services?

Her grades are great and we're very proud of her accomplishments. We mortgaged our house to send her to the best college we could send her to and now we just don't know quite what to do or what to tell her. We don't think it would be a good idea to tell her she is making a mistake.

Your suggestions and/or solutions will be most helpful.

Concerned Parents

Dear Concerned Parents,  
 I can understand your concern; there have been violent incidents at some institutions. When authorities are called to stop demonstrations innocent bystanders often get hurt. Two of the four killed at Kent State in 1970 were just watching during a break between classes. However, I wonder why, if you are funding the education, you are reluctant to be candid with your daughter about how you feel.

Given she is in her junior year of college she's legally an adult so you have no control over her decisions. But if she isn't supporting herself you have some leverage.

If you haven't already, I suggest the three of you have a discussion

... or several. First, concerning her fears, does she feel unsafe on campus? Has she been unable to study? Were there plans for her to pay you back for her tuition support once she was working? Maybe she's afraid to graduate and get into the working world. Most higher education facilities have resources to help struggling students with issues like these. Has your daughter availed herself of these services?

Perhaps she's changed her mind about her career path and is reluctant to tell you. This is more likely if you guided her into the choice. You could also ask about what she plans to do instead of finishing her degree. Will she be working in her chosen field?

Is there a way to complete her studies remotely? That's another option to pursue.

Lastly, consider that college is more than classroom experiences. Learning to socialize with a diversity of people and exploring new ideas is also part of the maturing process. Some institutions are echoing the Vietnam era by holding teach-ins. It might be enlightening for your daughter to listen to some of the many viewpoints on the current world situation.

Hopefully your family can open up to each other and come to a solution satisfactory to all.

Peace,

Sharon Weisman,  
 Secular Humanist

Dear Concerned Parents,  
 It is admirable that you are listening to your daughter's concerns, even if you're struggling with them, rather than just

dismissing the notion of leaving college "until things calm down." After all, she probably didn't like vegetables either, or her bedtime, or getting up for school, and you honed your parenting skills to see that she got both enough broccoli and a high school diploma. You would be forgiven for entertaining the temptation to simply put your foot down and say, "Stay in school or else!"

As wage-earning, mortgage-paying adults, we are often denied the luxury of being actively riled up by current events; we can get complacent trying to pay the bills. While your daughter might not agree with the content of the protests, or may be put out by the fact that she has to walk through

them on the way to her classes, she can both witness and participate in something denied to citizens of other countries. Confronting the issues of campus protests and determining how she feels about those subjects is also a great opportunity to define her citizenship post-college. I disagree with people who say that college isn't "the real world;" as adults we often build barriers to the real world with our purchases and our comfort. But your daughter can now reckon with real-world issues on campus the same way she is being exposed to them, in theory, in class. She may discover that her voice matters and that she can make a difference. It is an education that comfortable grown-ups often avoid. So I think she should stay in school and get that degree, and get two educations for the (steep) price of one.

Marty Barrett,

Author and Secular Humanist



# JUST FOR FUN

## CALENDAR this

### GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon but is dark this Friday in observance of the Memorial Day weekend.

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.

### CCLCF HOSTS UPCOMING FREE EVENTS

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is having beginner glass beadmaking workshops with Ethan and Amanda Stern continues through June 12 on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

There are a limited number of spots available.

The cost is \$250 plus a non-refundable \$20 materials fee.

Included in this introduction to beadmaking are the basic skills of heating rods of glass, applying glass to a mandrel and shaping it with tools.

To register, visit [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org) or call (818) 790-4353.

On Saturday, May 25 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. CCLCF is having a family bingo night and ice cream sundae bar (ice cream provided by Handel's) sponsored by Engel & Völkers/Carrie Grochow. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids.

Registration opens Tuesday, May 28 at 9 a.m. for a series of summer ceramics classes being taught from June 17 to Aug. 10. Offers are classes in adult ceramics, intermediate, handbuilding, intermediate wheelthrowing, intro to ceramics and teens ceramics.

A book club, in collaboration with Flintridge Books in La Cañada, meets the fourth Thursday of each month from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the auditorium at CCLCF. The book is free with registration to the club. To register, visit or call [cclcf.org](http://cclcf.org), 818-790-4353. The next meeting is Aug. 22 (no June or July meetings).

The Book Club is sponsored by a grant from the City of La Cañada

Flintridge.

Finally, the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge and CS Productions present "Mean Girls: High School Version" based on the 2004 film. Showtimes are Friday, June 28 at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 29 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, June 30 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$15 for students. Opening night tickets are \$30, which includes admission to the reception.

Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is located at 4469 Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge.

### 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 May 26 at 3 p.m.

see CALENDAR THIS on page 18

### ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



## FreeDailyCrosswords.com

5.23.24

### ACROSS

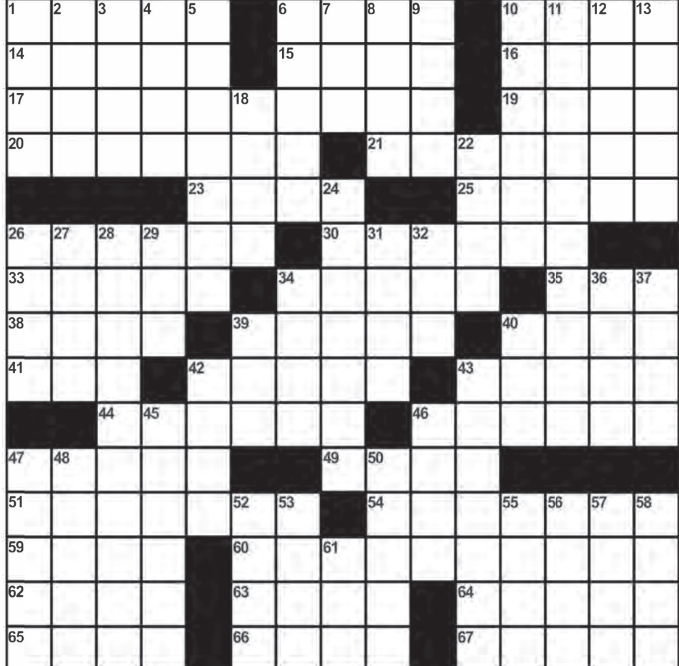
- 1) Baron Cohen's movie
- 6) Spanish finger food
- 10) Maddux in Cooperstown
- 14) Singer with the album "25"
- 15) Birthstone for many Libras
- 16) Steak order
- 17) Guardians of the Tower of London
- 19) Major Spanish river
- 20) With suspicion, as a look
- 21) Houseguest's place to sack out
- 23) S&L conveniences
- 25) Parenthetical words
- 26) Scorpion attacks
- 30) Gun enclosure
- 33) "Gay" capital
- 34) Off-the-wall shot
- 35) Eustachian tube site
- 38) Sign over a theater door
- 39) \_\_\_ fours (small cakes)
- 40) Colombian metropolis
- 41) Insult, on the street
- 42) Part of MO
- 43) Golf green border
- 44) Rig driver
- 46) Brought a smile to
- 47) Nuts go-with
- 49) Leave an impression?
- 51) Eisenhower Library locale
- 54) "Nature" essayist
- 59) Eric of "Troy"
- 60) Small hexagonal cracker
- 62) Spy Aldrich
- 63) Blacken on the grill
- 64) Bench pieces
- 65) Go on a tirade
- 66) Ferber who wrote "Show Boat"
- 67) Newbies on the job

### DOWN

- 1) Cake with a kick
- 2) Keatsian works
- 3) Need a bath badly
- 4) Italian auto, informally
- 5) Like almost all high school students
- 6) Family emblem
- 7) Go \_\_\_ (lose it)
- 8) Links benchmarks
- 9) \_\_\_-ran
- 10) Mechanic's gun contents
- 11) TV antenna of old
- 12) Got it wrong
- 13) Crystal-lined rock
- 18) Bits of legislation
- 22) Many a rural business
- 24) Level of importance
- 26) Flouted the limit
- 27) Danny DeVito sitcom
- 28) Tablecloth fabric
- 29) Barclays Center player
- 31) Author of "Battle Cry"
- 32) Turn to compost
- 34) Hand over, as land
- 36) Spiny succulent
- 37) Brie covering
- 39) Office-seeker, informally
- 40) Main chip, for short
- 42) Clio or Erato
- 43) Massachusetts college
- 45) "It's about time!"
- 46) Wile E. Coyote's supplier
- 47) Kid-lit elephant
- 48) President who once lived in Indonesia
- 50) Aquarium beauty
- 52) Margin of victory, perhaps
- 53) Green-\_\_\_ (jealous)
- 55) Depend (on)
- 56) Hollywood VIP
- 57) "The Simpsons" bus driver
- 58) "The Untouchables" role
- 61) \_\_\_ Luis Obispo

### IN A STEW

By Fred Piscop



see ANSWERS on page 6

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by [horoscope.com](http://horoscope.com)

May 20, 2024 - May 26, 2024

### ARIES March 21 - April 19

For your health to thrive now you need to listen to your self-talk and how it may contribute to or diminish your well-being. Replace negative thinking with a way of communicating with yourself that is much more positive. The more kindly you speak to yourself, the better your health will be.

### TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Join a group or club for ongoing support with your healthy endeavors. The more the merrier, especially this week when your social life is highlighted. Find new ways to bring friends and family together and keep fit at the same time. The more you share your journey to total wellness and involve others, the more successful you'll be.

### GEMINI May 21 - June 20

Your overall health is often affected by your mood. You may find that you feel like trying a different form of exercise or a different way of eating every few days. It also follows that you may enjoy a variety of healing treatments. Variety is the spice of life, and it helps you feel better about yourself, so don't forget that and get stuck in the easy, familiar routine - mix it up for the best results.

### CANCER June 21 - July 22

When you feel and look great, you literally glow like the Sun. Your health is your greatest asset and one in which you place a lot of pride. When you aren't up to the mark, it shows as you lose your luster. This week is the time to do a detox, which will certainly help revive your bright and shining aura and make you more attractive all round.

### LEO July 23 - August 22

You can draw on deep reserves of strength this week to help you feel better inside and out. You may feel you're fighting an ongoing battle as far as your health is concerned, but the good news is that once you take responsibility and start doing the right things, you'll notice a very positive difference immediately. In fact, you may not believe how good you feel.

### VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

A health issue may come to a head and cause you to seek professional help. This may be for a physical condition or it could be because you've had enough of feeling out of shape and now desire with all your heart to get fit. This is the last time for a while that you will have the time and motivation for this, so allow the power of the days ahead to transform your state of well-being inside and out.

### LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You seem to be examining your state of health in great detail and looking at various options that will give you what you want. If you aren't sure which direction to take, then think about getting expert advice from someone who can show you the way. If you want a training program or help with any aspect of your wellness strategy, this is the time to ask.

### SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You may become aware of just how important it is to keep your body free of toxins and eat the kinds of foods that promote good health this week, and begin a new initiative. You may have been battling with health problems due to issues that aren't always so obvious, such as intolerance to certain foods. The coming days may bring something of an epiphany.

### SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

There's no doubt that our homes can have an effect on our health. Over the coming days you may get an offer to make changes that will not only make you far more comfortable but also contribute to your overall wellness. If you have any plans to create a home gym or perhaps a sauna, you'll have great success in finding exactly what you need.

### CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Don't just think about making changes to your daily routine to insure greater health; instead, get on with it. You may have a tendency to dream and hope that things will automatically turn out as you wish and that your health problems will magically go away even if you aren't making that much effort. Over the coming days something or someone will act as a catalyst, paving the way for dynamic change.

### AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Being healthy is very much about listening to the intuitive messages that you pick up from day to day. Often when you're in the midst of doing something that's bad for you, you may sense a still, quiet voice whispering in your ear. It's letting you know there's another way to live, one that supports your well-being rather than working against it. Tune in to your inner guidance and take action.

### PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

Don't think that you have to stay in a rut as far as your exercise routine and diet are concerned. It's important that you create a day-to-day strategy that's fun and works for you. If you find it's becoming less so, look around for a way to make your lifestyle more dynamic. Instead of jogging or working out at the gym, try something different. It works!

# CELEBRATE PRIDE 2024

## SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Pride in the Park • 12pm - 2pm  
Memorial Park

## SATURDAY, JUNE 8

Community Hike • 10am - 12pm  
Hahamongna Park

## SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Author Lecture  
Sarah and Ian Hoffman  
5pm - 7pm • LC Congregational Church

## SUNDAY, JUNE 23

Community Storytelling  
3pm - 5pm • LC Congregational Church

**PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT**

# Why won't Citi remove these fraudulent charges from my card?

*Kathleen Sullivan has \$4,000 in fraudulent charges on her Citi Costco Visa. Why won't Citibank help her?*

**Q**uestion: I've had 20 fraudulent charges on my Citibank account and I need your help getting them removed.

All of the charges happened six months ago and they were all for an online travel agency called Agoda. I immediately notified Citi as well as Agoda. Citi issued me a new card, but the fraudulent charges continued. It took four new cards before the charges stopped.

The charges were all for hotels in and around Singapore, usually for one or two nights. I saw a name on an invoice that I reported. Citi, of course, told me they would investigate. Agoda said the charges were legit, so Citi wants me to pay.

Because I had used Agoda in the past, Citi said they consider it a "billing discrepancy" and not fraud. An Agoda representative told me the company was not going to charge me and I should talk with Citi. But that was not true—Agoda charged me and Citi allowed it.

I thought if you called and got a person's name and date of conversation, the information would be recorded in my account. I have learned that is not the case. Can you help me?

— Kathleen Sullivan, Redwood City, California

**A**nswer: You shouldn't be responsible for any of these fraudulent charges — not a one.

This is a textbook case of bureaucracy and lack of accountability, costing an innocent customer \$4,000.

But let's break this down. First, when you saw a fraudulent charge on your card, you did the right thing by reporting it. One of Citi's card benefits is that you will not be responsible for unauthorized charges. Citi defines those as charges neither made by you nor any authorized user. You met both those criteria; these were made by an unknown person outside the country, according to your records.

So why did the charges continue? That's a mystery. Citi may have updated all the merchants with which you were doing business, including Agoda. When you signed

up for your Agoda account, you might have authorized your credit card to share that information with the company. (I asked Citi about your case, but it didn't say what went wrong.)

The only thing that would have stopped the charges is if you'd closed your account. But, of course, you couldn't have known that.

Someone may have hacked into your account — again, it's difficult to say how someone obtained your account credentials and made fraudulent bookings. What is certain is that your bank should have stepped up to fix this problem ASAP.

I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the key executives at Citigroup, Costco and Agoda on my

consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. A brief, polite appeal to one of them should have helped them see that they were overlooking something.

And what was that "something?" Well, even though you had an Agoda account, it didn't mean you made those transactions. Citi's guarantee is unambiguous. It should have promptly reversed the charges and not held you responsible for any future fraudulent charges.

What I find remarkable is that these reservations were made under a different name for a hotel in a country you were not even in at the time. Plus, you reported the transaction as fraudulent. This should have been an open-and-shut case.

Could you have handled this differently? Well, you could have potentially gotten Costco involved. And I think you might have appealed your credit card dispute. I have more advice in my complete guide to credit card disputes.

I contacted Citibank on your behalf. It also didn't respond to my initial inquiry. But I asked again. And then you contacted me with some good news.

"I got a letter from Citi today saying they have credited my account on the fraudulent charges," you said. "After almost six months of trying to get Citi to acknowledge the fraud, I was feeling very hopeless. I am so grateful!"

*Christopher Elliott is the founder of Elliott Advocacy (<https://elliottadvocacy.org>), a nonprofit organization that helps consumers solve their problems. Email him at [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org) or get help by contacting him at <https://elliottadvocacy.org/help/>. ©2024 Christopher Elliott*

CALENDAR THIS from previous page

Additional shows have been added on June 23, July 21 and Aug. 18. Tickets are \$35 and \$45.

<https://www.elportalthatre.com/fritzcoleman.html>

**DANCING AS EXERCISE**

Dancing As Exercise is a free ongoing weekly event sponsored by the Los Angeles County Park program for seniors (50 plus) as a form of staying healthy.

There is live music every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Park's building at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta.

Light refreshments and water are provided along with socialization and information about other park activities.

Dancing, per se, is not required; single persons are welcome.

**CANASTA IS CALLING**

Canasta — an activity that will brighten your day with fun and relaxation. Those who have not played before — don't worry; we will teach you! Come on Tuesday afternoons to play canasta from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Montrose Library, 2465 Honolulu Ave. in Montrose (818) 548-2048.

You can read more at [CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS](http://CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS)

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# SAVE THE DATE

## J'S MAINTENANCE 55TH ANNIVERSARY FIESTA

**THURSDAY, May 30, 2024**  
**5:30pm - 9:00pm**

Join us for an unforgettable celebration marking 55 incredible years of excellence and community service, hosted by J's Maintenance in collaboration with the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce and Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, at 3550 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta, CA 91214. RSVP is required for this event. Admission is FREE and includes delicious food and drinks, music against the scenic Foothills backdrop, and an array of unbelievable opportunity prizes to win!

**PRE REGISTER AT: [bit.ly/JSFIESTA](https://bit.ly/JSFIESTA) (case-sensitive)**



This ad is sponsored by J's Maids as a service to the community.

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Wishing you all calm and health!



# LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGALS

### NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME: DOMINIQUE GERALDA PIERRE-VIL. Case number 24VECP00124. Superior Court of California, Van Nuys Courthouse East, 6230 Sylmar Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91401 To all interested persons: 1. Petitioner DOMINIQUE GERALDA PIERRE-VIL filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: a. Present Name: DOMINIQUE GERALDA PIERRE-VIL to Proposed Name: DOMINIQUE GERALDA PETITFRERE. 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: JULY 18, 2024, Time: 9:00 AM Dept.: 107 Room: 107. 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 May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2024.

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### WANTED

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### • POOL/SPA •

**PET OF THE WEEK**



This is Taco, a 12-year-old Pembroke Welsh Corgi living his best life in La Crescenta. Taco loves chasing his fellow corgi sister Lila, eating snacks and going on walks. He has won twice at the Crescenta Valley Hometown Country Fair dog parade, and was voted 'best corgi butt' at Corgi Beach Day. *CV Weekly loves to hear about your pets! Send a pic and small caption to [steve@cvweekly.com](mailto:steve@cvweekly.com) to share your lovable pets with the community!*

### • PRINTING/GRAPHICS •

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