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## Council Okays Plans for Rockhaven

By Julie BUTCHER

On Tuesday night, the Glendale City Council voted unanimously to move forward with plans to revitalize the property that houses the former sanitarium Rockhaven, authorizing an additional \$468,875 to consultant SWA.

As city Community Development director Bradley Calvert explained, the city has received an \$8 million grant from the state, through the office of State Senator Anthony Portantino, to “begin the process of rehabilitating the Rockhaven site.” Prior Council votes gave direction to focus on reopening the site to the public and developing the park element of overall plans with the “museum element following and then the rehabilitation/reuse of the other buildings.”

The Council reviewed schematic plans and voted to move forward into “final design and [the development of] construction documentation, including the grounds, park component that would be open to the public; ADA accessibility; and the museum itself, core and shell, as well as some stabilization of existing buildings.”

Calvert indicated that the work would include addressing drainage issues.

“ADA accessibility is paramount,” Calvert told the Council. “We can’t open the site without this. The site needs to be accessible.”

Co-CEO and local SWA Group principal Gerdo Aquino offered an overview of plans that were amended based on feedback received during an extensive community presentation on July 10 at the Montrose Library and input from the city’s Historic Preservation Commission. Aquino emphasized the importance of maintaining the historic character of the

see GCC on page 19

## GUSD Welcomes Kids Back to School

By Mary O’KEEFE

Glendale Unified School District students, along with thousands of students across Los Angeles County, are back in school. That means traffic is going to be much heavier than it has been over the summer.

According to the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, the definition of school-related traffic congestion is “the overcrowding and blocking of streets on or near school property that is typically associated with car transportation of children to and from school.”

According to the California Dept. of Motor Vehicles, common causes of vehicle collisions include unsafe speed, driving distractions and improper turns.

And those issues can be seen on

The first day back to school was filled with anticipation ... and traffic. TOP LEFT: Steve Hernandez sends his daughter Isla off to her first day of school, TOP RIGHT: Rosemont principal Suzanne Risse welcomes students to Rosemont, BOTTOM RIGHT: Henry, Calli and Maggie head to Lincoln Elementary for their first day and BOTTOM LEFT: pedestrians are shepherded across the street by crossing guards.

see BTS on page 7



## Exploring the Power of Thought: Dr. Annie Varvaryan Speaks at the 2024 Summer Speaker Series

By Mary O’KEEFE and Charly SHELTON

The Crescenta Valley Substance Misuse Prevention Coalition/CV Cares continues its impactful Summer Speaker Series, aimed at shedding light on crucial topics like mental health and substance misuse. The series, which kicked off in June, has already featured discussions on a variety of important issues and the next installment promises to be equally enlightening.

On Aug. 27, Dr. Annie Varvaryan, a licensed clinical psychologist and co-owner of Couch Conversations Psychotherapy and Counseling, Inc., will lead a discussion titled, “Do Your Thoughts Affect Your Life? A Psychologist’s Take on How to Overcome Unhelpful Thoughts.”



File photo

You can read more at [CVWeekly.com/NEWS](http://CVWeekly.com/NEWS) Licensed clinical psychologist Dr. Annie Varvaryan, who spoke previously to students at Crescenta Valley High School, will be the next guest speaker of the Crescenta Valley Substance Misuse Prevention Coalition/CV Cares.

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

# Pancake Bliss

I was talking recently to a reader (and supporter) who shared with me the untimely death of Al Kallis. The name may not be familiar, but his story will surely resonate with most of you.

Al (and his wife Trudy) was an early investor in the International House of Pancakes. Back in 1958 the restaurant, founded by Al and Jerry Lapin (according to the IHOP website), opened in Toluca Lake. Al and Trudy guaranteed loans for the restaurant and if it failed they'd be bankrupt. However, as history shows, IHOP didn't fail and in fact expanded through franchising. In 1991, IHOP moved its headquarters to Glendale.

Most everyone has an IHOP story – whether it's fondly remembering their first Rooty Tooty Fresh N Fruity® breakfast or thinking about the iconic A-frame building easily recognized throughout the world, IHOP touched just about everyone. According to Al's obituary, "honored at the 50th anniversary of IHOP, Al and Trudy were deeply moved when former employees and franchisees, including minorities and immigrants, credited IHOP for enabling them to realize their American dream."

I did a little more digging on Al Kallis and found some additional interesting facts about him.

For example, Al attended Art Center School in Los Angeles – later known as Art Center College of Design where

I worked from 1996 to 2000. He was an illustrator and created iconic posters for cult films like "Attack of the Fifty Foot Woman" and "Beach Blanket Bingo."

He and Trudy were philanthropists. They supported organizations that included the American Film Institute, The Young Musicians Foundation, Children's Charity Variety Club and The Los Angeles Children's Museum.

He was also a filmmaker. According to his bio, which was drafted in 2019, his production of "The Making of Amber Waves" won The American Film Festival's Blue Ribbon Award. The film is included in the National Archives and has been utilized by the Hollywood Director's Guild, UCLA, Northridge College and many other film schools as part of the curriculum. He also spearheaded several other documentaries.

What an amazing individual! Apparently, he and Trudy were married for nearly 70 years (she died in 2020) and in his obituary it was noted that "he partook eagerly in the banquet of experiences this world offers with passion and joy."

An inspiring person to be sure.

see ROBIN on page 7

*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

Anyone who has been outside lately has probably had this experience: You are hanging out with friends in the backyard as the sun is slowly setting and temperatures are becoming pleasant. You are enjoying a nice meal or just sitting on a porch swing and talking to friends when you find yourself scratching your ankles. You look at your friends and they too are reach down to scratch. You put on insect spray and it works for a while and then you start itching again.

Or maybe you had a great time in the backyard with no itching then later in the evening you wake up due to little tiny itchy bites on your ankles.

This is the season for Aedes mosquitoes and these little buggers are really making a relaxing evening, or day, difficult to have in Southern California.

"Aedes (pronounced "aid-dees") mosquitoes are aggressive, black-and-white insects that thrive in our cities. Aedes mosquitoes are also called 'ankle biters' due to their behavior of biting people near the feet. Don't be fooled: These mosquitoes will bite any exposed skin that doesn't have on repellent," according to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (The District).

And it has been my experience they will sometimes bite regardless of repellent.

According to reports, these ankle biters are from Southeast Asia, South America and Egypt but traveled to the U.S., probably hitching a ride on fruits, vegetables, plants and/or animals. But the pests can also travel on clothes. However they arrived here, the fact is Aedes are here. They first arrived in the U.S. about 50 years ago but have only arrived in Southern California since about

2011 when The District staff identified a "thriving population of Aedes albopictus in the city of El Monte."

Aedes, also called ankle biters, are not the common light brown Southern California house mosquito. These ankle biters have a narrow black body with white stripes on their back and legs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

That is if you see them. Often they are on your ankles, biting, then gone before you notice.

It seems like they bite all day and night but they actually do prefer biting during the day, which again is different than the Southern California native mosquitos that bite at night.

Aedes love humans so our homes are perfect hangout spots – and they have water sources.

"After taking our blood, female mosquitoes search for stagnant water to lay their eggs," according to The District.

These ankle biters can invade your home as well. The District has some suggestions on what to do to keep them from your home including:

- Using repellent.
- "Tip 'N Toss." People should tip out any stagnant water that is found and toss out unused containers.
- Make mosquito source reduction a part of the weekly routine.

Now for more good news – ankle biters are not the only tiny insects that love to feast on human flesh. There are also chiggers. These are really common in the Midwest but they can actually be found in all 50 states. In Southern California, according to the UCI Health, they are referred to as mites.

see WEATHER on page 7



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Don't Miss Next Week's Q&A – Phyllis discusses "Who pays for additional inspections?"

# NEWS

## Three Decades of Serving the Community



TOP LEFT: Pete Smith, left, with his dad Mike.  
 TOP MIDDLE: Ever the car lover, Pete Smith owns his great grandfather's 1925 Chevrolet Model K Touring Sedan.  
 TOP RIGHT: Mike Smith can oftentimes be found in his office at Bob Smith Toyota – surrounded by photos and memorabilia.  
 BOTTOM LEFT: People lined up for lunch provided by the dealership.  
 BOTTOM MIDDLE: Mike Smith shares a laugh with friends over lunch.  
 ABOVE: For over 30 years Bob Smith Toyota has been on Foothill Boulevard  
 Photos by Mary O'KEEFE

By Mary O'KEEFE  
 If businesses could be comfort food, Bob Smith Toyota would be meatloaf and mac 'n' cheese. For over three decades the Bob Smith business has been in the 3300 block of Foothill Boulevard.

But Bob Smith Toyota is not just a business – it is a family.

Mike Smith, former owner of Bob Smith Toyota, and his family lived in La Cañada since the 1950s. Mike's dad had moved to La Cañada Flintridge in the '50s.

"It was just a big orange orchard," said Mike's son Pete of the area at the time.

The Smith family has been synonymous with car dealerships for over 100 years – since 1917.

In San Francisco in 1917, the memory was still fresh of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that happened just 11 years earlier on the San Andreas Fault.

"It was interesting. The earthquake happened a few years before and horse and carriage was the mode of transportation," said Mike in a previous interview. "My grandfather said if you want to get out of town quick you can't do it on horse – you need a car."

And with that the Smith family

bought its first car dealership in San Francisco. The dealership back then was called Smith Anderson. Over the years the Smith family has had dealerships for Volkswagen, Porsche, BMW, Fiat and Dodge Plymouth, just to name a few.

For most of four generations Smiths have been in the business of selling, servicing and leasing cars.

In the late 1980s/early 1990s Toyota was an up-and-coming company. The location of the Toyota dealership on Foothill was owned by a family that wanted to get out of the car business so Mike and his brother Tim purchased the Foothill location.

During that time Pete went off to college then lived in New York. He worked in the insurance business until he called home and said he was ready to continue in the tradition of his family's auto business. This was right after Mike had bought the Crescenta Valley location.

Mike credits Pete's return to the success at the Foothill location.

"His arrival was the beginning of our business taking off," Mike said in a previous interview with CVW. "[Dad] always said you need to keep young, fresh ideas in your business."

Pete said looking to the future there is a big push for electric vehicles but Bob Smith Toyota is approaching that

new technology cautiously. "We're following Toyota's lead on that," he added. "Everyone has different driving needs, so you can't have 'one size fits all.'"

When asked about the longevity of the business Pete, who purchased the dealership 13 years ago, said it came down to the "basics."

"As my grandfather taught his sons and taught me, and my dad continues to teach me, first you've got to take care of your people who you work with. We refer to them as family," he said. "Then you've got to take care of the customers and if you do all of that right then everything else takes care of itself."

He said he has been very lucky over the years to have the support of his community; however, that support has extended both ways. Bob Smith Toyota has been generous to many non-profits as well as local businesses and schools.

"And we offer a terrific product, so that certainly helps," Pete added. "We have a great partnership with Toyota. There is no better manufacturer in the business than Toyota."

It also comes down to the love of cars, which Pete definitely has; however, he also loves working with people – whether staff or customers.

### IN BRIEF

#### CVCA TO MEET TONIGHT

The Crescenta Valley Community Association will have its meeting tonight, Thursday, Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting will include discussion on local issues as well as an opportunity for Foothill area residents to bring their own concerns. Contact the CVCA at crescentavalleycommunityassn@gmail.com with questions and for Zoom meeting information.

On the agenda are updates on the following projects: 4459 Lowell - Chamlian Armenian School's new Baghdassarian Preschool, 3411-3437 Foothill Blvd., 2817 Montrose, Twelve

Oaks and Rockhaven. There will also be other items of discussion.

All are welcome.

#### ARMENIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL FESTIVAL

The Armenian American Museum and Cultural Center of California has announced that the inaugural Armenian American Museum Festival on Sunday, Oct. 6 at the Glendale Central Library backlot, located outdoors directly across from the museum's construction site. The festival is a tribute to the community for its long-standing support

and a celebration for the progress of the museum's development.

The Armenian American Museum Festival is a free, family-friendly event that welcomes the public to enjoy a day of food, games, live entertainment and cultural enrichment.

Those who would like to sponsor the event should contact Mary Khayat at (818) 644-2073 or Mary@ArmenianAmericanMuseum.org. The deadline for sponsorship opportunities is Sept. 5.

To learn more, visit ArmenianAmericanMuseum.org.

One example of the relationship between the Smith family and the community could be seen on Aug. 7 when Bob Smith Toyota celebrated not only three decades on Foothill but also Mike Smith's 80th birthday. Not only family members but customers, friends and reps from Toyota crowded the showroom at 3333 Foothill Blvd.

"I thanked our loyal customers and friends," Pete said. He also thanked them for their trust and support and told them they were the driving force behind their success.

"We all wished my dad a happy birthday," Pete added.

Pete said instead of a birthday celebration Mike wanted to shine the light on the dealership; however, it was obvious who the star of the event was and – for everyone who knows Mike – they know that contagious laughter and boundless energy is the foundation of Bob Smith Toyota.

"[The] event was really an excuse to celebrate his birthday. He is kind of our spiritual leader, our head cheerleader," Pete said. "We wanted to honor him not only for his birthday but for the 31 years up here in La Crescenta."

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# NOTES & NODS

## Lutheran Church to Host Events

Lutheran Church in the Foothills is gearing up for a busy weekend of community and faith. On Saturday, Aug. 24, the church will host a men's breakfast at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Rick Hall will be taking on chef duties, preparing a delicious meal for attendees. The morning will include fellowship, conversation, and prayer.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, the church

will offer a special back-to-school blessing during its 10 a.m. worship service. Students, teachers and staff will be recognized and receive a special blessing as LCIF celebrates the beginning of a new school season.

LCIF will continue its Wednesday Summer Fun series on Aug. 28 at 6 p.m.

Meet at LCIF for an evening of pickleball! It's a great opportunity to meet new people, enjoy some

friendly competition and spend a pleasant evening outdoors. Visit [lcifoothills.org](http://lcifoothills.org) for information on small group gatherings and opportunities to serve.

For more information or to request/offer help, email [office@lcifoothills.org](mailto: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.

## Back To Church Weekend

Bethel Church in Sun Valley is hosting a special "Back to Church" weekend celebration on Sept. 14 - 15 that the whole community is invited.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, a free pancake breakfast will be offered from 9 - 10 a.m. followed by games, inflatables for the kids and prizes.

On Sunday, Sept. 15, everyone is invited to a joyful worship service at 10 a.m. followed by a free coffee/lunch fellowship time.

Contact the church at (818) 767-4488 or go online to [bethelsunvalley.com](http://bethelsunvalley.com) for more information.

Bethel Church is located at 10725 Penrose St. in Sun Valley.

## Women's Nondenominational Bible Study

Seasons of Life Bible Study offers three classes to choose from: Joy of Living will be studying "The Letters of John and the Gospel of Mark." Women of Faith will be studying "Minor Prophets" and "Living a Purposeful Life." This year, a Women's Coffee Club will be offered along with "Ribbons of Renewal" discussing daily struggles with the stress and anxiety of life.

Studies meet on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. beginning Sept. 26 and continuing through April 14, 2025 at Highlands Church (4441 La Crescenta Ave. in La Crescenta).

If interested, contact Lynda Hessick at (818) 640-6022 or email [lyndahessick@gmail.com](mailto:lyndahessick@gmail.com).

Registration deadline is Sept. 5.

## Mt. Olive Offers Community 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.

All are invited.

## 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 Aug. 25. Participants will walk for the first hour and



A division of Crescenta Valley Publishing, LLC

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Crescenta Valley Weekly is distributed on Thursdays to: La Crescenta, Montrose, La Cañada, Sunland, Tujunga, Glendale and Toluca Lake. Yearly subscriptions are \*\$65.00  
\*Rate is higher for mailed copies

## Mail Payment to:

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then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.

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

distancing will be practiced, masks will be optional.

Those with questions can email Jeanne at [jnlavieri@earthlink.net](mailto:jnlavieri@earthlink.net).

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

## Needing to place an Obituary or Memorium for a loved one?

Please submit 350-375 word plus a photo (preferred photo size is 200 dpi, 4x6 inches) to [robin@cvweekly.com](mailto:robin@cvweekly.com)

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# Student Commissioners Chosen

The City of Glendale Public Works Dept. announced the recruitment of two transportation and parking student commissioners to serve as vital voices in the community's transportation initiatives.

This unique opportunity invites dedicated students to contribute directly to shaping the future of transportation and parking policies in Glendale. The selected student commissioners will serve a one-year term and work alongside experienced professionals to provide insights, perspectives and innovative ideas that reflect the needs of Glendale's diverse population.

"Our city is committed to fostering a collaborative environment where the next generation of leaders can actively participate in topics that impact our transportation infrastructure," said Daniel Hernandez, interim director of Public Works. "We encourage passionate students with a keen interest in urban planning, sustainability and community

engagement to apply for this opportunity."

*Key Responsibilities of the Transportation and Parking Student Commissioner include:*

- Collaborating with city officials and stakeholders to address transportation challenges and improve parking strategies.
  - Advocating for sustainable and equitable transportation solutions that benefit all residents.
  - Engaging with the community to analyze feedback and recommendations on transportation-related issues.
  - Participating in meetings, workshops, and events to contribute to ongoing projects and initiatives.
- Eligibility Criteria:*
- Must reside in the City of Glendale at the time of application and during incumbency.
  - Must be a student attending high school or college at the time of appointment.
  - Must be 25 years of age or younger at the time of

appointment.

- Must be available during commission meeting dates and times.
- Must be able to commit a minimum of two hours of meeting time and two hours of preparation time per month.
- Must have a reliable means of transportation to attend Commission meetings.

*Application Process:*

Interested students are encouraged to submit the following information to Marine Gaboyan, MGaboyan@GlendaleCA.gov by Sept. 16:

- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation
- Statement of interest (250-500 words)
- And if under the age of 18, students must submit Principal Approval Form confirming the ability to fulfill the commitment.

For more information about the Transportation and Parking Student Commissioner position, visit [GlendaleCA.gov/CityClerk](http://GlendaleCA.gov/CityClerk) or contact the Public Works Administration Office at (818) 548-3900.



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# Updates on Local Incidents

Travelers along the north Glendale (2) Freeway can still see the remnants of a big rig crash that occurred on Wednesday, Aug 14.

Hundreds of boxes of raisins spilled onto the freeway near the Mountain Street exit after the big rig had a front left tire blowout. A second big rig was a victim of the crash.

There is dash-cam video shared on YouTube that shows how violent the crash was as the damaged big rig crossed lanes and slammed into the center divider.

Both north and southbound traffic was backed up for hours as the 1, 2, and 3 lanes of the freeway in both directions were closed as emergency responders and crews cleared debris from the freeway. A week later those driving northbound can still see the raisin stains on the freeway.

Fortunately no one reported any injuries, according to California Highway Patrol spokesperson Officer Philips.

A shoe store in La Cañada

Flintridge has been struck twice with smash-and-grab types of burglaries. The store in the 800 block of Foothill Boulevard is a new store in the area.

On Aug. 8 about 4:30 a.m. suspects smashed the glass windows and fled the area with numerous items including clothes and shoes.

Then on Monday, Aug. 12 it was hit again in the same style of smash-and-grab. Suspects dressed in hooded sweatshirts were seen on surveillance footage grabbing everything they could and running from the store – but this time the burglary occurred at 6 a.m.

"On the [surveillance] footage you can see cars driving past the store," said Sgt. John Gilbert, LA County Sheriff's Dept. – Crescenta Valley Station.

In the second incident the suspects put the stolen items into a vehicle, described as a silver Kia, and fled the area. That car had been reported stolen and was recovered nearby.

It is possible the suspects had another vehicle ready to transfer

the items to as they left the area.

Anyone with information is asked to contact LASD/CV Station at (818) 248 3464.

At about 8:45 a.m. on Aug. 15, the Glendale Police Dept. received reports of gunshots heard and a man down in a shopping plaza.

Glendale police officers quickly responded to a shopping plaza located at the 800 block of North Pacific Avenue. When officers arrived on scene, they discovered an adult man in the parking lot suffering from a gunshot wound. Unfortunately, the man was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A suspect has not yet been identified at this time. Glendale Police Dept. Homicide Unit detectives were at the scene shortly after the shooting and are actively investigating this incident as a homicide.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is encouraged to contact the Glendale Police Dept. at (818) 548-4911.


Information on this case provided by GPD

# Correction

In the Aug. 15 issue regarding the bike plan in the Glendale City Council story, Councilmember

Dan Brotman was quoted as saying, "It's part of an attack on our school system..." His correct

quote is "It's part of a whole with the attacks on our school system..."



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*Obituary*  
**Robert George Gramme Sr.**



January 1935 – August 4

Robert "Bob" Gramme passed in the early morning on Sunday, Aug. 4 at his home in La Crescenta. Bob was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and friend to many.

He was born in January 1935 in his grandmother's home in Aurora, Illinois. His parents, Michael

and Elizabeth Gramme, had six children of which Bob was the couple's third born. He attended Marmion Academy Catholic High School, a military prep school, in Aurora. At a high school dance Bob was introduced to a member of the orchestra band, Marlene Patricia Kramer, who would later become his wife. He then went on to St. Procopius College and graduated from Illinois Benedictine University.

Bob and Marlene moved from Aurora to California with his older brother Mike and his wife Gloria.

Bob and Marlene had two boys, Robert Jr. and Jeffrey James Gramme. He leaves six grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and (yes) two great-great grandchildren.

Throughout his life Bob was an active member of his local Catholic parish. From St. James in La Crescenta, where his son Jeff attended, to St. Bernard in Los Angeles, he was very active

in leading and helping wherever needed. Even recently, in his 80s, Bob assisted with weekly food preparation/delivery for homeless families through the local church.

After a wonderful marriage of 30 years, his wife Marlene passed from cancer. His younger brother Ron introduced Bob to Patsy Sue Lobben, who had lost her husband to cancer as well. A year later they were married in Lake Ripley, Wisconsin where Pat was living. Pat had two boys, Mark and Matthew.

There will be a rosary and funeral at St. James in La Crescenta on Friday, Aug. 23 at 10 a.m. with reception to follow. Bob will be buried alongside his wife Marlene at San Fernando Mission on Saturday, Aug. 24.

Robert George Gramme Sr. is remembered fondly by four generations of his loving family and friends. His life consisted of faith and family and plenty of fun throughout a well-lived life. And now he's in heaven!

*Obituary*  
**Anne C. Skinnell**



1951 - 2024

It is with a great sense of loss and sadness that the family of Anne Cecilia Hull Skinnell must announce her passing due to kidney failure on Friday, July 26 in Glendale. Following several months of steadily declining health and multiple hospital stays, she was ultimately transferred to a hospice care facility where she passed quietly and peacefully with her husband Rob by her side. She was 73.

Anne was born to Hugh Hull and Dorothy Eagon Hull in Beloit, Kansas. After graduating from

high school in Hays, Kansas, she attended a training institute for design. In 1971, Anne moved to California working initially for an insurance firm. After that, she worked at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, in the radiation department, ultimately becoming supervisor of the clerical staff in that department.

In 1973, she met Robert Skinnell and they were married in 1974; she resigned from her position at the hospital in 1977 to begin raising children. For the next 30 years, in addition to their own children Anne lovingly cared for a number of other young children with the Skinnell home as her base of operations.

Anne had a love of crafting and quilting but her most abiding activities were centered around helping other people. She was a fine cook and put her culinary skills into service for others. A former member of La Crescenta Presbyterian Church, for several years she ran the senior adult luncheon program there, providing once a month a warm, welcoming and wonderful meal to seniors from the community. Many years later, she worked tirelessly to provide meals for

homeless people on the street.

Anne is survived by her husband of 50 years, Rob. She is also survived by her four adult children and their spouses and eight grandchildren: Heidi Wyckoff and Matthew and their children Madeline and Travis; Christopher and Kerri Skinnell and daughter Anya; Ryan and Charie Skinnell and daughters Sophia, Sydney and Shane; Geoffrey and Katrina Skinnell and daughters Gabrielle and Isabelle.

Anne's surviving siblings include Linda Hull of Washington; Bruce Hull and Vicki of North Carolina; Mark Hull and Julie of California; Chris Hull of Kansas; and Mary Caballero and Raymond of Oregon.

Anne's passing has left a very large empty space in the hearts of all her family and of her very dear friends; she will be greatly missed. There will be no public service for Anne, but rather a gathering of family and friends to celebrate her life.

In lieu of flowers, it was Anne's request that donations in her memory be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital through the following website: <http://fundraising.stjude.org/goto/AnneSkinnell>.

**CRIME BLOTTER**

**AUG. 17**

3000 block of Evelyn Street in La Crescenta, deputies responded to a witness who reported seeing four males wearing ski masks exiting an unknown vehicle at the location. When deputies arrived they found the rear driver side window had been smashed on the vehicle and the center console had been ransacked. The incident occurred at 6 a.m.

2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, an employee reported witnessing a suspect, described as a male, White, about 5'11" tall and weighing about 200 lbs. with brown hair and wearing a gray shirt and black pants, walking the aisle with a shopping cart. He placed four clothes detergent bottles into the cart and walked to the self-checkout area. He purchased a diet soda and walked out of the store with the other items. He exited the store and entered a 2019 gray Alfa Romero Guilia at 8:24 p.m.

**AUG. 16**

2200 block of Cross Street in La Cañada Flintridge, as residents were driving toward their home they saw Suspect 1, described as a male adult wearing a white long sleeve shirt, black shorts and white shoes, walking into their driveway. At first they did not think this suspicious. They parked their vehicle and one resident (Victim 1) exited the vehicle and entered the residence on the east entrance.

The second resident (Victim 2) exited the passenger seat and walked toward the west side of the property. Victim 2 noticed the door leading to the backyard was left ajar. Victim 2 heard male voices coming from the backyard but was unable to recognize the voices. As she approached the door she was met with four suspects running from her backyard. They all entered a four-door Lexus Crossover. The residence discovered numerous items had been stolen. The incident occurred at 8:03 p.m.

**JULY 30**

900 block of Town Center Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported while she was shopping at the stores in the Town Center she lost her cellphone. She tracked her phone from her computer and saw it was in motion. She tracked it to a home in the 3300 block of Altura Avenue in La Crescenta. According to her cellphone tracking software, the person with the phone had made several stops prior to the deputy making contact with the victim. The phone was in motion at the time the deputy arrived with the victim and it continued to move. Deputies tracked the phone into Glendale but were unable to find it. The victim had lost the phone outside one of the stores. The victim was advised to cancel all of her credit cards and change her passwords. It is not known if the phone was found between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

BTS from Cover

any given day around local schools, and especially during the first few days that school is back in session. In the Crescenta Valley area the ongoing issues appear to be U-turns on streets where they are not allowed, like in front of schools, speeding as parents hurry to drop off their child and speeding as student drivers hurry to get a parking spot and to class on time. And distracted driving, whether due to cellphones or simply not paying attention to other vehicles and pedestrians, is another major problem. These driving bad habits have been witnessed repeatedly by CVW reporters who have been with California Highway Patrol officers as they patrol local streets.

Another issue that CVW often receives calls of concern, not just at the beginning of school but all year long, is the long line of vehicles on Rosemont Avenue when students are being dropped off and picked up. Residents along Rosemont Avenue often find themselves unable to exit their driveways, either due to the number of

vehicles lined up and down the avenue or vehicles parked in front of their driveway.

Law enforcement will be on the streets throughout the year to “educate” and can issue citations to drivers who do not follow the rules of the road.

To make school drop off and pick up easier there are a few tips shared by law enforcement. These include making sure drivers have enough time to get their student to school and knowing the basic rules about U-turns and where to stop at crosswalks.

“Many drivers don’t realize that you need to stop at the shark teeth [symbols] prior to the crosswalk,” said CHP Officer Bay in an earlier interview.

The “shark teeth” are the long triangle symbols painted on the road that are technically termed a stop line. They are placed 20 to 50 feet in advance of a marked crosswalk to show where vehicles are required to stop, or yield, when pedestrians are present.

It is not just parents of school-aged students who need to be aware of the beginning of

school but all drivers. Streets, not just around the schools but throughout the area, will be affected during school drop off times in the mornings between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. on regular school days.

Another issue that school districts are looking at is what to do about cellphone use by students on school campuses.

On June 18 the Los Angeles Unified School District board approved a resolution to create phone-free school days across the District.

“Studies show that smartphones and social media are distracting kids from learning, eroding their mental health, and stifling in-person social connection. LA Unified is the largest school district to implement a smartphone ban during the school day, with the goal of supporting students’ academic success and well-being,” according to a statement from LAUSD.

The resolution calls on the District to create a comprehensive implementation

policy to take effect in January 2025, according to LAUSD.

On Aug. 13, Gov. Gavin Newsom sent a letter to all school districts urging them to restrict smartphone use in classrooms. In the letter he applauded districts like LAUSD for its efforts in this area.

“Excessive smartphone use among youth is linked to increased anxiety, depression and other mental health issues. A recent Pew Research Center survey found that 72% of high school and 33% of middle school teachers report cellphone distractions as a major problem,” stated the letter.

The call for smartphone restrictions on campus was resonated by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond.

“The call-to-action echoes existing legislation that empowers California school districts to enact policies that restrict students’ cellphone use. Assembly Bill 272, which became effective Jan. 1, 2020, affirms the right of school

districts, county offices of education and charter schools to establish policies that restrict students’ cellphone use in school,” according to Thurmond.

At GUSD, the board is awaiting further instruction from the state but has already put in place a cellphone policy.

“The Board of Education recognizes the use of smartphones and other mobile communication devices on campus may be beneficial to student learning and well-being, but could be disruptive of the instructional program in some circumstances. The Board permits limited use of mobile communication devices on campus in accordance with law and the following policy.

“Students may use cell phones, smart watches, pagers, or other mobile communication devices on campus during non-instructional time as long as the device is utilized in accordance with law and any rules that individual school sites may impose. Mobile communication

see BTS on page 11

## Barricade Situation on Fairchild

By Mary O’KEEFE

On Aug. 13 the neighborhood in the 3500 block of Fairchild Street saw Glendale police activity that included a barricade situation.

“The individual was wanted for assault charges among other cases in

Glendale,” according to a GPD spokesman.

When GPD officers attempted to contact the individual, he barricaded himself inside a home and hid.

“Eventually officers were able to gain entry and conduct a search, which led to him surrendering and being arrested,” according to GPD.

The house in which the man barricaded himself was known to him.

WEATHER from page 2

These chigger/mite bugs are so small they often can only be seen with a microscope, but the bites of these tiny warriors can give victims a strong urge to scratch their skin, according to UCI Health.

These bites are not painful but do cause a lot of itching, much like the ankle biters.

Chigger bites are itchy red bumps that can look like pimples, blisters or small hives. They are usually found around the waist, ankles and in warm skin folds. The bites get bigger and itchier over several days and often appear in groups, according to UCI Health.

The ankle biter bites usually are in clusters around the ankles.

Aedes are efficient at transmitting (spreading) several fatal human arboviruses including chikungunya, dengue, yellow fever and Zika. In recent

U.S. history, Aedes mosquitoes were responsible for Zika outbreaks in Florida, Texas, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Those who travel (to Europe, Asia and South America) should be aware they could be a carrier of these diseases and not know it, according to The District.

Okay, mosquitos and chiggers/mites are causing us to itch but not enough to force us to stay inside all of the time; after all, this is Southern California where the sun is worshiped. But now in addition to sunscreen we should all keep repellent in our outdoor bags.

It will be nice outdoors weather-wise with a cooling trend (sort of) coming with highs in the low 80s today through Sunday and then we start moving up in temperatures to the low-to-mid 90s from Sunday through next week.

ROBIN from page 2

Can you tell that school is back in session? Even if you don’t have a student at one of our local schools, if you drive you know what time of year it is. My husband (who attended Rosemont Middle School as a kid) and I stopped by Rosemont yesterday morning and the only thing he

could say was, “I don’t remember it being nearly this crowded when I went here!”

I had to laugh when I saw one person had actually driven onto the curb when dropping off his/her student.

I guess they all were eager for the start of the new school year.

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# VIEWPOINTS

VIEW FROM THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

## A Wonderful Meal at 7308 Foothill – Part One

It's early morning, 1944; a heavy mist drifts across the landscape. An M4 Sherman tank suddenly pierces the fog, its big steel treads roaring as they revolve, propelling the massive machine forward. Abruptly it comes to a stop, the big gun rises and locks in. Just when you might expect to hear a deafening blast, Cecil opens the hatch above his head and pops up.

"Everything's working perfectly, Bill," he said. "Let's get her shipped out to those boys over there fighting Hitler."

Cecil Frankel, 29 years old, was a test driver for some time at Chrysler Motors Tank Arsenal Plant in Detroit, Michigan. His wife Violet had recently given birth to their first child, a son they named Robert, and it seemed they desired to go west seeking new opportunities. They arrived in Los

Angeles in the summer of 1944 and began to explore their new home.

Just by chance they found themselves driving up Foothill Boulevard one day, keeping an eye out for a good place to eat. Soon they spotted a small six-stool café and stopped. They had discovered the Chateau Rose Marie and, after having a delicious meal and meeting the owners Jack and Rose Gallo, they discovered the eatery was for sale. It's hard to say what excited them but before the day was out Cecil and Vi had negotiated a deal, and the café was theirs.

Neither of them had any restaurant experience.

The place occupied the front of an old house at 7308 Foothill Blvd. Living quarters were in the back behind a good-sized garage. The Frankels took up residence and now a name change was in order.

Cecil's nickname was Buddy and it seemed the perfect moniker for their new endeavor: Buddy's Café. Despite their inexperience, the business flourished. The six stools soon became eight, then 10 to 12. The wafting sweetness of Vi's scrumptious pies and good home cookin' brought customers in from across the Crescenta Valley and beyond. Soon the large garage was renovated into a dining room and outdoor seating evolved.

Wanting to please and being good at it, the Frankels worked hard, paid attention to small details, maintained a clean, well-run establishment with great food and were liked by everyone. For 14 years all was well ... until Friday, May 23, 1958 at 2 'clock in the afternoon.

"Andrew that would be fine, we've got a deal," Buddy exclaimed

to his vendor. They shook hands and he sat back at his desk.

He'd left the kitchen long ago to manage his growing operation and had meetings scheduled that day. Another food salesman waited to be led down to his office when Buddy called for a cup of coffee. He hadn't looked good that day and wasn't feeling well. By the time the coffee arrived, Buddy was dead at his desk.

His passing had come without warning, stunning the community that loved him so. At the extremely young age of 43, Cecil "Buddy" Maurice Frankel had died of a heart attack.

Four hundred-plus people are said to have attended his funeral. Old timers claimed then that it was the largest memorial ever held in Sunland-Tujunga. Over a mile of cars wound their way down Foothill

Boulevard, enroute to Glen Haven Memorial Park where he was laid to rest.

A Buddy's Café advertisement once proclaimed, "We have the honor of being Tujunga's oldest fine restaurant established August 1944." It concluded, "The perfect setting for a wonderful meal."

All of these years later, that still holds true. It's still a location where you can get a wonderful meal and the setting couldn't be more perfect.

But that story is for next time when a young man is awakened by his mother from a sound sleep. She is excited to share her knowledge of an opportunity with him. Her boy's name? Joselito.

*Craig W. Durst, AKA The History Hunter, is a historian of the Tujunga Rancho and President of the Friends of Verdugo Hills Cemetery. He can be reached at [craig@thehistoryhunter.com](mailto:craig@thehistoryhunter.com).*

GUEST OP ED » JEFF PRANG, LA COUNTY ASSESSOR

## The 2024 Assessment Roll – LCF and Glendale

It's that time of year again when my office undertakes its most important function of the fiscal year that lays the ground work for the property taxes that pay for our vital public services: The Assessment Roll. In fact, it's a Constitutional mandate.

The Roll for 2024 was closed as of June 30 and it reflects growth for La Cañada Flintridge and Glendale as well as the rest of the County.

First off, let me say this

comprehensive tally values more than 2.5 million real estate parcels in Los Angeles County and results in the tax dollars that goes to pay for vital public services such as healthcare, police, fire, schools and even librarians, to name just a few. As I mentioned, I am constitutionally mandated to close the Roll by the end of the fiscal year on June 30. As a point of reference, my fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

I am pleased to announce that

the 2024 assessment roll has a total net value of \$2.10 trillion, indicating the 14th year of consecutive growth. The 2024 Roll also grew by \$96.70 billion (or 4.8%) over 2023. That value places about \$20 billion to be used for those public services I just mentioned.

Locally, La Cañada Flintridge for 2024 came in at \$10.77 billion for taxable values, which is a 4.8% increase over last year's numbers. That includes 7,163 single-family homes, 74 apartment complexes, 295 commercial-industrial parcels for a grand total of 7,532 taxable properties. Yes, it's a solid growth at \$10.77 billion.

Glendale in 2024 came in at \$42.12 billion for taxable values, which is a 4.7% increase over last year's numbers. That includes 34,364 single-family homes, 5,854 apartment complexes, 3,345 commercial-industrial parcels for a grand total of 43,563 taxable properties reflecting a solid growth at \$42.12 billion.

Some basics: The Roll, as it is known, contains the assessed value of all real estate and business personal property in the County's 88 cities along with the unincorporated areas. It also breaks down the number of single-family residential homes, apartments and commercial-industrial parcels.

This year's Roll comprises 2.39 million real estate parcels as well as business assessments countywide. That includes 1.89 million single-family homes, 250 thousand apartment complexes, 248 thousand commercial and industrial properties and more than 163 thousand business property assessments.

Since the Roll is the inventory for all taxable property in the County, it can provide some insight into the health of the real estate market. The Roll is also driven in large measure by real property sales, which added \$53 billion to the Roll as compared with 2023; the CPI adjustment mandated by Prop. 13 added an

additional \$39 billion; and new construction added \$9 billion.

Finally, to say this has been a challenging couple of years is an understatement and the fact that property values continue to grow is certainly good news and a testament to the viability of the region. A full list of assessment growth amounts and parcel counts for cities and unincorporated areas is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2xde9mm8>.

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang has been in office since 2014. Upon taking office, Prang implemented sweeping reforms to ensure that the strictest ethical guidelines rooted in fairness, accuracy and integrity would be adhered to in his office, which is the largest office of its kind in the nation with about 1,400 employees. It also provides the foundation for a property tax system that generates about \$20 billion for public services annually.

Bob Smith

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Questions the 'Well-Orchestrated' Strategy**  
 Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger advocates "a well-orchestrated strategy" to remove homeless encampments ("Barger Issues Statement On L.A. County's Homeless Encampment Strategy," Aug. 8, 2024).

"Los Angeles County has solid partnerships to implement compassionate strategies that work," she stated. "[Law] enforcement is certainly an important tool but it needs to be applied strategically and in a way

that sustains permanent change."

In the wake of the George Floyd riots, the Board of Supervisors, City Council and the mayor ordered law enforcement to stand down. The result? Homeless encampments sprouted like weeds. The Metro turned into a mobile homeless shelter plagued by drug use, stabbings and shootings. Like pigs at the trough, politically connected developers and non-profit organizations – the homeless-industrial complex – gobbled up gluttonous portions of \$24 billion in tax money with little

or no accountability.

How is the "well-orchestrated strategy" working? Ask the poor woman who survived a brutal attack on Aug. 7 at the Allen Avenue railroad station in Pasadena where a deranged man pushed her onto the tracks, then dragged her onto the freeway. Police arrested the suspect, who was charged with attempted murder.

Would anyone be surprised if he is an "unhoused Angelino?"

*Les Hammer  
Pasadena*

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[bit.ly/sherlock-society](https://bit.ly/sherlock-society)

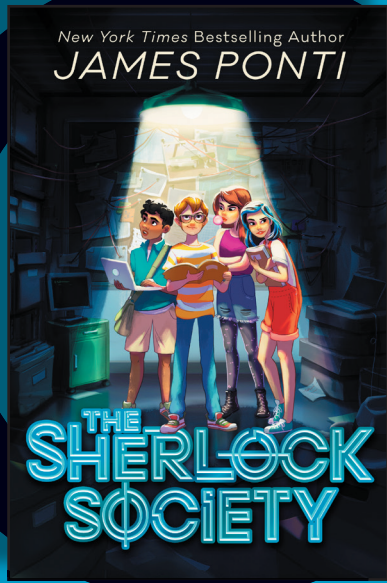
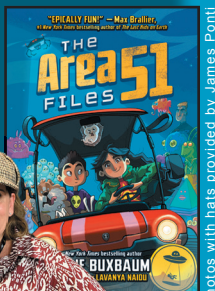


Photo credit: Elena Seibert Photography

Best for ages 8+

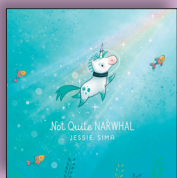


Author photos with hats provided by James Ponti

### Dessert before Dinner!



Cookie Time with Jessie Sima!  
Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm



Best for ages 4+

### Explosive Book Launch



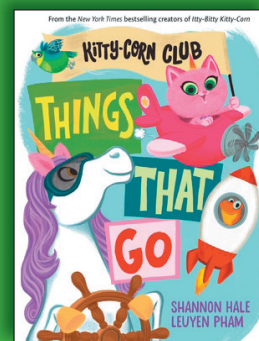
with scientist Jorge Cham!



Best for ages 8+

Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm

### Story Time and Drawing with

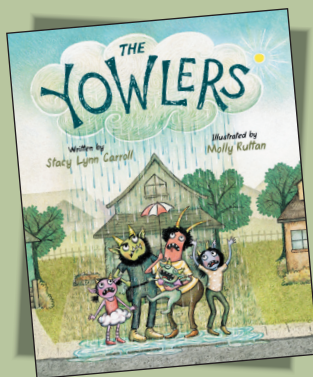


illustrator LeUyen Pham!  
Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2 pm



Best for ages 0+

Story Time & Book Launch!  
Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 am  
with illustrator Molly Ruttan  
Best for ages 4+



### Magic Multiplied!

Emma Steinkellner & Callie C. Miller

Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm

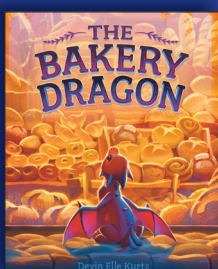


Best for ages 8+



### Book Launch!

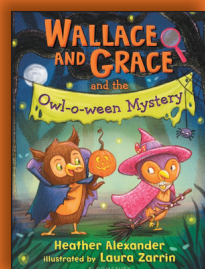
with Devin Elle Kurtz



Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm

Best for ages 4+

### Halloween Mystery Story Time & Craft!



with Heather Alexander



Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

Best for ages 5+

### Graphic Novel Launch with Dora Wang



Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

Best for ages 7+

### Cat-lover Story Time with Kristen Tracy



Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11 am

Best for ages 4+

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# YOUTH/SPORTS

## Local Student Wins Top Animation Prize in Youth Film Contest

Crescenta Valley High School senior Chloe Ban won the top animation prize of \$1,000 in the One Earth Young Filmmakers Contest for her short film "Black Tide." She will also receive a matching gift of \$1,000 to donate to a non-profit supporting the theme of her film. Ban decided to donate this match to Earthjustice, which focuses on environmental law.

Ban used simple, black, white and red text and graphics to convey urgency in her 3.5-minute film "Black Tide," which is about the Deepwater Horizon explosion in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as other oil spills. The tense soundtrack matches the onscreen action with the percussive tap-tap of typing throughout. For example, when explaining the cause of the explosion, Ban moved text in a narrow space upward on the screen to a horizontal line, visually mimicking the surge of natural gas that traveled to the platform.

For Ban, creativity and activism go hand in hand. In her contest submission, she wrote: "Spreading awareness through video editing and film is a great way to raise awareness about important issues."

During the past year, One Earth Young Filmmakers Contest received 400 submissions from 55 countries and 36 states. Australia, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Poland and the United Kingdom will be represented among winners, along with the U.S. states of California, Florida, Illinois and Virginia. The Global Award celebration will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 22 in person at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St. in Chicago, Illinois, or online virtually anywhere in the world. A special screening for those in Asia/Pacific is also available. Adam Joel of Aggressively Compassionate will host this event, introducing the winners before their films premiere. Reserve tickets are available at [tinyurl.com/yfc24awards](http://tinyurl.com/yfc24awards).

"Once again there is a variety of wonderful films, from emotional and poignant to humorous and hopeful," said



founder Sue Crothers. "From environmental justice to appreciating the beauty of our environment, these films tell us that we are all responsible for where we are but also for where we can be. Change is possible!"

The One Earth Young Filmmakers Contest asks students from age 8 to 25 to create a 3- to 8-minute environmental film that inspires change or action. Animated or stop-motion films can be a minimum of 45 seconds long. The deadline each year is June 25, which gives individuals and school groups the entire academic year to submit their film projects. Beginning in January 2025, a jury of 31 film and/or environmental experts started evaluating 18 films each, on average. The call for entries for 2025 will open soon on Film Freeway.

## Applications Now Open for 2025 Pasadena Tournament Of Roses® Rose Court

Applications are now open for the 2025 Pasadena Tournament of Roses® Rose Court presented by Citizens Business Bank. The geographic eligibility includes the Pasadena City College district and has extended to seven additional zip codes including Alhambra, Eagle Rock, El Sereno and San Gabriel. Details and application are available on the Tournament of Roses website.

Applicants are being sought who bring diverse strengths and perspectives to the process, whether they're natural public speakers,

youth leaders, academic stars or involved in their community and school. An applicant isn't required to have all these skills; the selected Rose Court members will provide a well-rounded group that serve as ambassadors of the Tournament of Roses, the Pasadena community and the greater Los Angeles area.

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses remains a long-standing supporter of a diverse slate of educational initiatives and provides each Rose Court member a \$7,500 educational scholarship.

The Rose Court application, eligibility requirements and additional information can be found at <https://tournamentofroses.com/about/rose-court/>. Interested participants are encouraged to explore the website for answers to frequently asked questions and discover the benefits of joining the Rose Court.

The first round of Rose Court interviews will take place at Tournament House on Saturday, Sept. 7 and Monday, Sept. 9.

## YOUTH NOTES

### Falcon Robotics Upcoming Book Drive:

CVHS Falcon Robotics is having a STEM book donation drive benefiting elementary students in Glendale. Throughout the months of August and September, the community is invited to contribute to this initiative by donating books using the Falcon Robotics Amazon Wish List.

The Amazon Wish List features a diverse selection of books about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), including topics such as early aviation technology and

chemistry, designed to increase knowledge and inspire young minds.

Donations will be collected now through Sept. 30 then they will be distributed to Glendale elementary schools by Falcon Robotics.

Visit [cvrobots.com/bookdrive](http://cvrobots.com/bookdrive).

### CVIM Holding Clothing Drive

Crescenta Valley Instrumental Music Dept. is having a clothing drive fundraiser.

It is on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 9 a.m. to noon and Sunday, Aug. 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations

accepted of gently used clothes, shoes, accessories and linens. Collection will be at the CV Band parking lot (off Ramsdell Avenue).

For more information, email [1stVP@falconmusic.org](mailto:1stVP@falconmusic.org).

### Lions to Hold Kases for Kids

On Aug. 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the local Lions Club is having its annual Kases for Kids. Collection will be at the Ralphs Marketplace parking lot (in the 2600 block of Foothill Boulevard at Raymond Avenue).

BTS from page 7

devices shall be turned off during instructional time," according to a statement from GUSD.

A GUSD student may use a cellphone in specific circumstances including in the case of an emergency or in response to a perceived threat

or danger, and when a teacher grants permission to the student to use the smartphone.

At present while the GUSD cellphone restrictions continue to be in place the district will review the issue as more study and instruction from the state becomes available.



Welcoming students to Rosemont Middle School were board of education member Telly Tse, principal Suzanne Risse and the director for GUSD College and Career Division Christin Molano.



Dan D Lion hugs an incoming student at Lincoln Elementary School.



Students at Crescenta Valley High School share summer stories.



Cars line up to drop off students outside CVHS.

# Support for Enhanced Quality of Life

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Our dedicated social workers will connect you with community-based services and support systems that can assist with concerns, such as:

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**[USCVHH.org/aging-resources](https://www.uscvhh.org/aging-resources)**

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# BETWEEN FRIENDS

## Burgers, Brews & Blues at McGroarty Arts Center



By Ruth SOWBY

Where else can you get free admission, free entertainment, free art class info, and beautiful weather at the same time? That's just what happened on Saturday's balmy night when the McGroarty Arts Center in Tujunga held its annual Burgers, Brews & Blues event.

Since the money from this fundraiser comes from food purchased, the sale of the burgers and brews benefitted the Center's mission to provide affordable arts education, events and programs to the foothill community.

More than 300 supporters made friends easily as they sat

at long tables set up for outdoor dining. Chatting quieted for the blues played by the band LaRue Sounds. Music filled the soul while the cheeseburgers, potato salad and chips filled the tummy. Center director Annette Bethers acted as host for the evening, scurrying around keeping everybody happy.

"I love the Center," she said, "Our purpose tonight is to bring everyone in the community together for a fun summer night. This is the place that touches peoples' lives."

Lists of Center workshops and mini classes were available. Popular classes are "Writing Your Memoir" and "Stand-up Comedy."

Fundraiser proceeds were

expected to be between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

Looking ahead, the Center is hosting its annual chili bowl on Dec. 7. This will be the 20th year for the Center's chili bowl festival. There will also be a holiday artisan marketplace during the chili bowl.

Photos by Ruth SOWBY

LEFT: Glendale resident and Clark Magnet student Jad Abdoush snaps a shot of 17-year old volunteers, from left, Samantha Sabinas, Stephany Gutierrez and Airin Avanesian.

MIDDLE: Castaic resident and La Rue Sound's lead singer Cecilia, 19, sings the blues at McGroarty's Arts Center's Burgers, Brews & Blues on Saturday night, Aug. 17, at McGroarty Arts Center in Tujunga.

RIGHT: Lake View Terrace resident Griffith A. Birkner waits for the trimmings for his cheeseburger at the McGroarty Arts Center's fundraiser.



## Affordable Health Screenings Coming to Montrose

Residents living in and around the Montrose area can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Montrose Church will host this community event on Aug. 27. The church is located at 2409 Florencita Ave. in Montrose.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for

cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health

- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Diabetes risk

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

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with participants to create a package that is right for

you based on your age and risk factors. Call (877) 237-1287 or visit our website at [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com). Pre-registration is required.



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Deadline is Aug. 26!

CRESCENT VALLEY WEEKLY



# The Doctors House Named to National Register of Historic Places



One of Glendale's jewels, the Victorian-style structure known as the Doctors House that stands in Brand Park, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its unique architecture and storied past.

The Glendale Historical Society, which rescued the house from demolition in 1979, unveiled the plaque at its annual meeting. John Schwab-Sims, TGHS president, welcomed members.

Three women who were pivotal to the rescue and restoration effort – Carole Dougherty, Sue Lazara, and Marie Luft – were recognized along with Isabelle

Meyer, who led school tours for many years.

Dougherty, the driving force behind the push to rescue the house and move it to Brand Park, was unable to attend.

Built around 1888 in the then-popular Queen Anne-Eastlake style, the house was occupied by a succession of four doctors between 1890 and 1914 and was identified by the city as a historical landmark in 1977.

Despite the designation, the city council approved a 1979 plan by a developer to purchase the lot and demolish the structure in order to build an apartment

house. When TGHS protested, the city replied that it had no funds available for preservation.

After a public protest, Dougherty and Luft worked with city officials who agreed to purchase the house, one of only two remaining Queen Anne structures in the city, for \$1 with the understanding that TGHS would fund the move to Wilson Avenue to the park.

The duo found a local company to move the house to the park in September 1980.

Once the house was on its foundation, the restoration process began. Lazara came on

board to head the hunt for period-appropriate furnishings. After four years of labor, much of it by volunteers, and with generous support from local suppliers, the house opened to visitors.

Several years later, Meyer, a retired elementary school teacher, became curator of the house and also established an outreach program to local third grade students, which included a class outing to the site.

The historic house is open for tours on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is closed in July, on holidays and during inclement weather.

For more information, visit the website: <https://glendalehistorical.org/museum-tours>.

Photos provided by TGHS  
 LEFT: Glendale Historical Society president John Schwab-Sims, left, David Meunier and immediate past president Steve Hunt  
 MIDDLE: TGHS members Isabel Meyer, Marie Luft and Sue Lazara were honored for their dedication to the rescue and restoration of the Doctors House, which opened to the public in 1984.  
 RIGHT: The Doctors House, operated by The Glendale Historical Society in Brand Park, has been named to the National Register of Historic Places.

# MONA to Receive the 2024 Superintendent's Award for Excellence in Museum Education

The Museum of Neon Art (MONA) announced it will receive the superintendent's award for Excellence in Museum Education for its multi-part K-12 program. The competition is the joint project of the sponsors, the California Association of Museums (CAM) and the California Dept. of Education (CDE). This award recognizes the innovative work MONA and its partner schools have been doing over the last four years to bring STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) education into the

classroom. The MONA School Engagement Program provides a comprehensive four-part educational initiative consisting of professional development for classroom teachers, school-based classroom workshops, an in-depth field trip experience at the Museum of Neon Art, followed by free family admission for participating students in order to extend the learning experience and involve a diverse group of families.

The teachers receive an

interactive tour of the museum and take an eight-hour neon bending and curriculum building workshop. Following this, MONA staff visits the teachers' classrooms for a 90-minute session to facilitate an art making activity, introduce MONA and offer some creative research tasks to frame and contextualize the classroom's future visit to the museum. On field trip day, classes are bussed to MONA and split into smaller groups (12-15 students) to cycle through a circuit of different activities. The groups can complete

a hands-on sculpture activity, see a demonstration of neon bending and explore the museum galleries. After this, students are provided with tickets that grant admission for their families for over a year to the museum.

The Superintendent's Award for Excellence in Museum Education competition recognizes the outstanding achievements in California museum programs that serve K-12 students and/or educators. Since 2012, the competition has recognized 66 programs, presented by a

diverse range of institutions that demonstrate the vibrant contributions museums make to California's K-12 educational system. The Museum of Neon Art is one of six institutions that received the Superintendent's Award for 2024. The awards will be presented to recipients between Feb. 18-21, 2025 at the California Association of Museums conference in San Francisco. There will also be a moderated panel providing award winners with a platform to share more about their museum programs.

# Dignity Health Announces New President and CEO of Glendale Memorial Hospital

Dignity Health announced the appointment of Betsy Hart as president and CEO of Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center, effective Aug. 19. Hart comes to Glendale Memorial Hospital with more than 15 years of senior leadership experience in healthcare, having most recently served as chief operating officer (COO) at Northridge Hospital Medical Center.

As COO, Hart oversaw daily operations across procedural, inpatient, ancillary and ambulatory services. She played a key role in strategic planning and decision-making for all service lines with a particular focus on ambulatory growth to address community needs while

maintaining financial responsibility. Hart also led operational responses during the COVID-19 pandemic and spearheaded various construction projects at the hospital, including expanding the Emergency Department and establishing a new urgent care center. Prior to joining Dignity Health, she served as the chief nursing officer at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center in Burbank.

"With her clinical background as an ICU nurse and as COO, Betsy has demonstrated exceptional leadership in both clinical and executive roles," said Jill Welton, Market president, Dignity Health Southern California. "Her track record of creating effective and cohesive

teams that are committed to exceeding quality healthcare outcomes will enable Glendale Memorial Hospital to remain a pillar in the community that patients and their families continue to rely on for exceptional medical care."

Hart holds an MBA and an MSN from Walden University and an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University. She is also a member of the Hospital Association of Southern California and the American College of Healthcare Executives. Additionally, she currently serves on the board of the American Heart Association and was their most recent chair for the Go Red for Women Campaign.



# TRAVEL & LEISURE

» TRAVELS WITH GREG

## Polynesian Paradise at Catamaran Resort and Spa in San Diego

By Greg ARAGON

**M**y 6-year-old son has never left California. So when he said the Catamaran Resort and Spa ([www.catamaranresort.com](http://www.catamaranresort.com)) in San Diego is more fun than Hawaii, I took it with a grain of salt.

But then I started thinking. He has a good point. The tropical island-inspired Catamaran has everything a kid and his family love. It offers a big, beautiful swimming pool, a sandy beach, spacious rooms and suites, bike rentals, a video arcade, an onsite restaurant and lots of opportunities to make new friends.

Our getaway to the Catamaran Resort began recently when we checked into a gorgeous bay front suite overlooking San Diego's stunning Mission Bay. Spanning 438 square feet, the room was highlighted by a large patio that is literally steps from the sandy beach.

The suite also boasted a big private bedroom with two queen beds and a large TV, a separate living area with another big TV, a pullout sofa, a wet bar with a refrigerator and a dining area. A large and spacious bathroom with a walk-in shower completed the room's layout.

Beyond the suite, the rest of the property is just as impressive. Featuring 310 rooms, the sprawling Polynesian-themed resort is surrounded by palm trees, waterfalls, koi ponds, exotic birds and lush vegetation.

The hotel is located in San Diego's Pacific Beach community and sits on the shores of Mission Bay, a large, artificial saltwater bay created for recreational activities such as wakeboarding, jet skiing, sailing, camping,

cycling, jogging, roller skating, skateboarding and sunbathing.

One of my family's favorite spots at the resort was Mission Bay's sandy beach located steps from our patio. Here the kids made sand castles and played in the water while we relaxed in lawn chairs, soaking rays and admiring the coastline.

The beach was also where we rented a 21-ft Hurricane powerboat and cruised around the bay for a fun-filled hour. We rented the boat from Action Sports Rentals ([www.actionsportrentals.com/catamaran-resort-hotel-spa/](http://www.actionsportrentals.com/catamaran-resort-hotel-spa/)), which has a booth on the dock in front of the Catamaran Resort.

It was an epic voyage. After learning how to control the vessel and finding the proper speed for the bay, we cruised into the morning sun. Along the way we waved to boaters and paddle boarders, sailed beneath an old bridge and past expensive condos and luxury hotels. The boat was easy to maneuver, had lots of seating and shade and was a perfect family outing for the afternoon.

After mooring the boat, we went to the resort's large pool area where my kids played in the water and made new friends. Secluded behind tall palm trees, the pool is a tropical oasis with lots of seating, a Jacuzzi and a bar. Each day, the pool area offered a free kids' program for hotel guests.

Next to the pool is also a video arcade, full of free games for kids and their parents. My son and I had a great time there, shooting basketballs, racing cars and playing foosball.

From the pool, we walked along a lush, tropical path to Oceana Coastal Kitchen, the resort's on-site signature restaurant.



Boasting beachfront dining with spectacular views of Mission Bay, Oceana serves creative, coastal California dishes with an eclectic flare. The restaurant, led by executive chef Paul Arias, won TripAdvisor's 2023 Travelers' Choice "Best of the Best" Restaurants for Everyday Eats, ranking 10th best in the U.S.

Our dinner at Oceana began with a delicious bowl of New England style clam chowder with bacon, red bliss potato, thyme, cream and steamed little neck clams on top and mixed in. I am a major chowder fan and this bowl had the perfect amount of creaminess along with a perfect clam to potato ratio, making it one of the best I've had.

The restaurant also specializes in sushi and when we sampled the Oceana House Roll we fell in love. The rolls are exquisitely filled with eel, tempura shrimp, crab, Nori, avocado and unagi sauce. This dish is a work of culinary art.

We completed our dinner at Oceana with a succulent grilled prime hanger steak with smoked potato puree, watercress, cippolini and macadamia chimichurri; and a tasty Hawaiian style pad Thai with stir fried vegetables, tofu,

see SAN DIEGO on page 16



Photos by Greg ARAGON

TOP: The Catamaran Resort and Spa is a tropical paradise on the shores of Mission Beach in San Diego.  
ABOVE: Hotel rooms are steps from beautiful Mission Beach.  
BELOW: The resort offers boat and bike rentals from its private dock.



### THEN & NOW



**THEN »** In the business district of La Crescenta, Mr. Weatherbee lounges with two female companions and his dog on the front porch of his grocery store about 1912. This is the southeast corner of Michigan (Foothill) and Los Angeles (La Crescenta). Electricity has just been installed, the first in the valley, as evidenced by the light bulb just above the door. This was the post office as well. Vernon Hall was the postman on Route 13, which included all of the Crescenta Valley and part of Tujunga. He delivered the mail by horse and buggy to the approximately 150 residents of the valley.

### Mr. Weatherbee's Store Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



**NOW »** Even after Weatherbee's store disappeared, the corner was re-invigorated by another CV landmark, the Spike Jones Market. That fondly remembered store was a victim of the '71 earthquake, and the corner of Foothill Boulevard and La Crescenta Avenue is now occupied by a paint store.

# Final Weekend of 'The Music Man'

Tickets for the final performances of "The Music Man," a Broadway favorite from the 1950s, are available at Highlands Church. La Crescenta native Carter Thomas is the director of Highlands Theater LA and the production of "The Music Man."

"The Music Man' tells a story about learning to have hope and opening one's eyes to the beauty in everyday life," Carter said in a previous interview. "The characters are fun, entertaining and relatable, offering something for everyone to enjoy."

Thomas is collaborating with his siblings Rebecca, Tracey and Philip reflecting that in many ways, "The Music Man" at Highlands Theater is truly a labor of love.

"The Music Man" runs through Aug. 25 at Highlands Church. Tickets range from \$16.88-\$22.13 and available at <https://www.simplenetix.com/e/the-music-man-tickets-164204>.

Highlands Church is located at 4441 La Crescenta Ave.

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SAN DIEGO from page 15

pineapple, chili, macadamia nuts, cilantro and soy.

After dinner we strolled along the beach and watched the sun fall into Mission Bay.

The next morning we had potatoes and eggs, and a plate of chilaquiles for breakfast at Oceana, and then rented a surrey bike from Action Sports Rentals. We then pedaled around the bay. Along the way we saw sailboarders fling over waves and then stopped at a park for the kids to play.

Back at the resort we watched a demonstration featuring the hotel's exotic parrots including vibrant macaws, beautiful cockatoos and a lilac-crowned amazon. Some of the birds talk and can say things like "hi," "hello" and "goodbye." The parrots are available to view outside daily between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Pacific time, depending on the weather.

We concluded the day at the resort's Sunset Luau. Held on the shores of Mission Bay, the luaus are a festive celebration of Polynesian food, music and dances perfect for family and friends. The party begins with a lei with real flowers and a delicious Mai Tai. This was followed by an all-you-can-eat buffet with Hawaiian-inspired rice and salads and various succulent meats including pork, chicken and fish.

Local luau group Pride of Polynesia provided authentic island music and dance featuring hula and fiery torch dancers. Kids also got a chance to hula dance and participate in activities at the Kids Corner where they made flowered

leis, festive crafts, colored and played with stick-on tattoos.

Catamaran Resort and Spa is located at 3999 Mission Blvd. in San Diego CA 92109. For more information and reservations call (858) 488-1081 or visit [www.catamaranresort.com](http://www.catamaranresort.com).



Oceana Coastal Kitchen offers creative, coastal California dishes.



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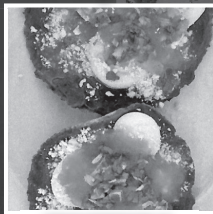
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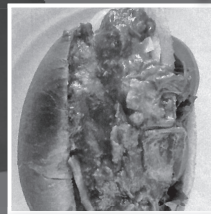
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# JUST FOR FUN

## CALENDAR this

### GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. This Friday, Aug. 23, Friends of Rockhaven founder and president Joanna Linkhorst will make a presentation.

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.

### RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY BACK WITH REIMAGINED 'GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH'

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey of "The Greatest Show On Earth" fame returns to SoCal with an all-new show at Crypto.com Arena in DTLA from August 23-25. For specific local show information visit <https://www.ringling.com/show/los-angeles-ca-2024-cryptocom-arena/>.

### 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.

### LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE

Sets in Steps Square Dance Club offers 13-week classes on modern square dancing. The first two classes are free!

The next 13-week course begins on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Classes are from 7:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and are held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta (new location).

For more information, visit [www.setsinstep.org](http://www.setsinstep.org) or [www.facebook.com/SETSINSTEP](http://www.facebook.com/SETSINSTEP) or call Ileana at (818) 395-4482 or email [illi313@yahoo.com](mailto:illi313@yahoo.com).

### 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.

### WEEKEND OF FUN AT LOL

Our Lady of Lourdes School is having a Family Fun Days carnival on Friday, Sept. 6 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 7 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 8 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the school, 7324 Apperson St. in Tujunga.

Free admission; food and games available for purchase.

### CCLCF HOSTS UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration is open for fall I (session dates: Aug. 26 – Oct. 19). Youth, teen and adult programming.

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge is celebrating its 75th anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Community Center auditorium. There will be passed hors d'oeuvres, an open bar with signature cocktails and a live band. For tickets, visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/fundraisingevents/event/75thanniversary/>.

The 31st Annual Thanksgiving Day Run & Food Drive summer sale continues through Aug. 31. Adults and teens are \$20, children are \$10.

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

### CAMPFIRE PROGRAM: 'I WILL SURVIVE'

The August campfire program at Deukmejian Wilderness Park on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. will focus on hiking safety and wilderness survival. This will be an evening of songs, skits, smiles and s'mores.

Come at 6:30 p.m. for a craft or arrive at 7 p.m. for the campfire program.

RSVP and sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/5n6ruudm>.

Deukmejian Wilderness Park, 3429 Markridge Road, La Crescenta/ Glendale

### EISENBERG TO PRESENT AT SIERRA CLUB

Join the Crescenta Valley Group of the Sierra Club on Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the La Crescenta Library when David Eisenberg

presents his favorite shots from his three-month trip earlier this year in the South Pacific. He traveled through Polynesia, around Australia and along New Zealand's eastern coast. See a sampling of the 43 ports in these locations!

The La Crescenta Library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta. The community room entrance is at accessible from the rear parking lot off La Crescenta Avenue.

### GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY (GAB) WORKSHOPS

Older adults are invited to La Crescenta Library to explore the fabric of their lives in a five-week series focused on writing and sharing stories.

This workshop will meet on Monday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 9. Participants will be taught in the method developed by Dr. James Birren, which aids in reflection and sharing experiences from each person's journey. This process is facilitated by certified GAB

instructors as a service of the USC-VHH Community Resource Center for Aging.

Attendance is limited and advance registration is required. People are asked to register every individual in their party, including kids. This will be used to save spots in the program. Availability is not guaranteed for any unregistered attendees.

Registration will close by Sept. 4.

La Crescenta Library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta.

### CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

On Tuesday, Sept. 10, Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley will be hosting a Healthcare Provider Open House at its Sierra Madre Community Center (331 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. This free in-person event will allow those working in the

see CALENDAR THIS on page 18

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com August 19, 2024 - August 25, 2024

**♈ ARIES** March 21 - April 19  
Aspects suggest that too much hard work and not enough attention to your body and well-being may result in stress. Give yourself plenty of leeway now. Make sure to pay attention to your health, because by doing so, you'll have a lot of extra stamina and be more likely to succeed.

**♉ TAURUS** April 20 - May 20  
This period is excellent for making changes at all levels of your life. You have a window of opportunity to get started now. Use this chance to get back on track as far as your well-being is concerned, especially if you've strayed lately. If you start a diet now, you'll be more likely to stick to it. Go for it!

**♊ GEMINI** May 21 - June 20  
It's time to do some daily inner work on your health and wellness goals in order to make them a reality. You can do this in a number of ways. You can visualize them in detail, as though you've already attained your desires. You can use affirmations regularly. Or you can experiment with self-hypnosis. For best results, stick to the method you choose.

**♋ CANCER** June 21 - July 22  
This period may encourage you to get involved in an exercise group or join a club that you feel good about. You thrive when you have the support of others. You may not be so effective at achieving your goals if you try to accomplish them alone. Make a point of finding out what's available in your area, and get going.

**♌ LEO** July 23 - August 22  
This period may coincide with a drop in enthusiasm. If you've worked hard over previous months, there's a possibility that you may have burned out. Don't give up altogether. Instead, learn to pace yourself and slowly increase the length of your workouts. Consolidate your efforts so you're ready for the next stage.

**♍ VIRGO** August 23 - Sept. 22  
Take off and give yourself the freedom to explore new cultures and philosophies. If you're traveling, this may be a good time to experiment with other ways of eating that could benefit you. Watch out for certain foods that have adverse effects on your system. Try to limit your intake of greasy or fatty dishes.

**♎ LIBRA** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22  
You may feel moved to take a look at your ancestry and check for any inherited weaknesses. If there's a health issue that seems to repeat itself among family members, you may want to acknowledge this and see if you're prone to the same issue. You might also want to get advice on anything you can do to help keep the problem at bay or avoid it altogether.

**♏ SCORPIO** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
This an excellent time to get some help with your training and fitness program. If you lack motivation, you may find this to be the best way to reach your goals. If you don't want to hire a trainer, you may want to bring your partner into the fun. That way you'll be able to support each other and spend some time together in the process.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21  
Your health zone brings good news. If you've been thinking about going on a diet or losing weight, this is a great time to commit to your goals. You'll be more likely to stick with any routine you begin now. If you're thinking of going for a treatment like acupuncture, this is the best time to begin.

**♑ AQUARIUS** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18  
You're moving closer to achieving your health goals in many ways. It's time to consolidate your progress and think ahead. How can you improve on what you've already achieved? Do you want to focus on some aspect of your fitness efforts? For instance, you may enjoy dancing and swimming. If so, go for it!

**♒ PISCES** Feb. 19 - March 20  
Some books concerning health and wellness may contradict your experience. At this point, you need to trust yourself rather than go with what someone else wrote. Everyone's metabolism is different, so what works for you won't necessarily work for others. Get advice and ideas, but listen to your body. It will direct you.

### ACROSS

- 1) Net lining in a woman's hat
- 5) Jr.-to-be
- 9) Mortgages, e.g.
- 14) Encourage strongly
- 15) Weight not charged for
- 16) Coastal feature
- 17) Charlie Rich's nickname
- 19) Keach who played Mike Hammer
- 20) '50s scandal subject
- 21) Cobwebbed place
- 23) Part of a ruler
- 26) Think like a hillbilly?
- 29) Move with legs spread out
- 33) Paris-based intl. agency
- 34) Rocky ridge
- 35) Raised, as a bet
- 37) Farmyard biddy
- 38) Miner's paydirt
- 39) Whale constellation
- 40) "To thine own \_\_\_ be true"
- 41) Cigarette leftover
- 42) Speed tracker
- 43) Crab's claw
- 44) Type of engine
- 46) Dilapidated
- 48) Walked with long steps
- 49) "Buona \_\_\_" (Italian greeting)
- 50) Cuban dance
- 52) Plane's passage
- 57) Chiropractor's concern
- 59) Vodka brand
- 62) "Bear" that's not a bear
- 63) 100 cents, abroad
- 64) Length times width
- 65) Sense of dread
- 66) Head of a college
- 67) In the vicinity of

### DOWN

- 1) Crescent point
- 2) Opera solo
- 3) Far from beautiful
- 4) Prefix meaning "to the left"
- 5) Leave high and dry
- 6) Graceless one
- 7) Paid player
- 8) One more than penta-
- 9) Expand
- 10) Act the siren
- 11) Family disgrace
- 12) Columbo, for one
- 13) Pig's place
- 18) Drop vowels
- 22) Aligns
- 24) Like any good crossword puzzle
- 25) Groups of seven
- 27) Peacock "eyes"
- 28) Diet adjective
- 29) Healthy dishes
- 30) "To your health!"
- 31) Deception
- 32) Absorbed, as a cost
- 36) Blender setting
- 39) One of Moses' spies
- 40) Not he
- 42) Beef, e.g.
- 43) Jenny of weight loss
- 45) Noises, essentially
- 47) Kindergarten implement, maybe
- 51) Grew older
- 53) Equine tone
- 54) Had on
- 55) Yachting
- 56) 365 days
- 57) Place to be pampered
- 58) Thing in the kitchen
- 60) Have regrets
- 61) Part of the history book

see ANSWERS in next week's issue.

### SHADY ANIMALS

By Mary Jersey

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| 65 |    |    |    |    |   |    |    | 66 |    |    |    |    | 67 |    |

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

# I ordered bras, but they sent me a hideous shower curtain

Deirdre Stewart orders six bras online but receives only two – plus a “hideous” shower curtain. Will PayPal’s protection plan help her?

**Q**uestion: I ordered six bras online recently and paid with PayPal. I received two bras that were four sizes too big and a hideous shower curtain.

I have been waiting for six weeks for PayPal to refund my money through the PayPal Purchase Protection plan. I’ve supplied every piece of documentation required. I have emailed, messaged and spoken on the phone with PayPal customer service and the resolution center to no avail. They keep telling me the seller wants this or that, or they aren’t responding to requests from PayPal.

I called PayPal and a representative asked me to call back the next day and that they would have a resolution. But the next day, they had nothing.

Finally I got a message from someone who said he was a supervisor. He had personal and confidential information about my account and sent me a text from PayPal and asked for the code provided. He promised to look into my case.

He then called me back but this time there was no caller ID phone number. He was hard to hear, and when I told him that repeatedly, he said, “You are a bitch and you are not getting a refund.” And then he hung up. This is very, very scary and disconcerting. Can you help me?

– Deirdre Stewart, Flower Mound, Texas

**A**nswer: This is one of the weirdest cases I’ve ever come across. Of course, the online store should have sent you six bras in the correct size. But PayPal should have also protected you.

PayPal’s Purchase Protection plan specifically addresses a problem like yours. For example, it applies if you “bought a book but received a DVD” or “purchased three items but only received two.”

CALENDAR THIS from previous page

healthcare field to tour the new community center, learn about Cancer Support Community’s free services, and discuss the best ways to support the mental health of both healthcare providers and patients alike.

The event is sponsored by City of Hope and is open to all who wish to learn more about in-person and virtual mental health support for caregivers, patients and their families. The event features live music, appetizers, a hosted bar, networking opportunities, and prizes. Register free at [www.cancersupport.link/HPOpenHouse2024](http://www.cancersupport.link/HPOpenHouse2024).

KIWANIS OF BURBANK HOLDING FAMILY FUN DAY

Kiwanis Club of Burbank is having a golf ball drop and family fun day on Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Burbank High School, 902 N. 3rd St. in Burbank. The free event includes music, crafts, food booth, games and classic cars from the Road Kings!

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

PayPal states if an order doesn’t arrive or it doesn’t match the description, “We’ll reimburse the full cost of eligible purchases plus original shipping.”

I have more on PayPal’s Protection plan in this recent story on PayPal scams. But basically, here’s what you need to know: The “protection” is unevenly enforced, at best. And there’s also a fair amount of artificial intelligence involved in the dispute process, which means mistakes will be made.

You had good documentation of the problem but could have followed up via email instead of on the phone. I know it’s sometimes more comfortable to call someone for a resolution, but with something like this you need everything to be on paper. Well, digital paper. You know what I mean.

There’s also the issue of that rude supervisor. The first supervisor was certainly from PayPal, but I’m not sure about the second guy. I’m having a hard time believing a PayPal supervisor would use language like that. However, it has happened in the past.

I would have contacted one of PayPal’s executives through my

consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. Be brief, be polite and keep everything in writing, as outlined in the Elliott Method.

I contacted PayPal on your behalf.

“Within two hours, I had calls from PayPal. It has now been resolved in my favor,” you said. Indeed, PayPal fully refunded you for the purchase,

which is what it should have done in the first place.

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

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» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



## ALL ARE WELCOME!

### Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting

# Scouting America

## Verdugo Hills Council



**August 24th 1-4pm**  
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Activities until 4pm

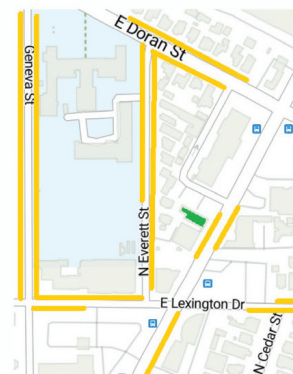


Alumni, families, and community welcome!  
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Store with Scouting and outdoor gear will also be open

### What is Scouting America?

Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) is the premiere leadership and character development program for boys and girls grades K-12 with recreational outdoor activities as the learning vehicle. Youth learn to make a positive impact on their community, and how to challenge themselves while having fun and creating lasting memories.



Street parking is available along many side-streets, see map for details!



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT First Filing No. 2024159357 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CONSULTANTS, 1649 SANTA ROSA AVE., GLENDALE, CA 91208 LA COUNTY. Registered Owner(s): HESS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC., 1649 SANTA ROSA AVE., GLENDALE, CA 91208. This business is being conducted by: an CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 07/2024 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct signed ROBERT HESS, Title: PRESIDENT. NOTICE - A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). Published Crescena Valley Weekly, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

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GCC from Cover

property through the use of appropriate materials, focusing on indoor-outdoor usages, and rebuilding the garden atmosphere that was critical to the historic purpose of Rockhaven. The site will be accessible through three entrances to "define the most inviting and logical walking path:" work will minimize the amount of reconfiguring and will maintain the historic character while planning for future occupants and opening access to the remaining buildings, the consultants explained.

Immediate cost estimates to rehabilitate the Pines Cottage, establish a safe and accessible path of travel from each street (Honolulu and Paradise avenues), address drainage issues to protect all of the buildings and to rehabilitate planting and irrigation adjacent to the museum building is \$6.53 million. Additional landscaping is estimated to cost \$850,000 and \$495,000 to rehabilitate the remaining pedestrian walkways,

for a total of \$7.875 million.

Allan Durham offered public comments opposing additional expenditures to consultants in favor of funding the actual work needed.

Friends of Rockhaven president Joanna Linkhorst commended the changes made to the plans and advocated for "the least amount of change and the most amount of preservation."

"Rockhaven is the last sanitarium in a valley that was full of them," Linkhorst said urging plans to be amended to keep all of the three bathrooms intact as part of the museum space and building added restroom space outside the museum and keeping irreplaceable "tiles that Agnes picked out." She encouraged the city to include "volunteers to get in and help out to save more money and make amazing things happen. Girl Scouts are eager to get in there and get to work on the Rose Path, for instance."

Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian wants to "use every building." He urged the running of utilities to each of the buildings on the site as well as protecting all of the existing buildings.

"If we cannot waterproof these buildings, they will continue to deteriorate," Councilmember Gharpetian said, envisioning future uses of the property as a community center and community park.

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian continued to envision the relocation of the city library somewhere on the Rockhaven site "so we can upgrade the fire station."

Community Development deputy director Mark Berry suggested that funding remaining from budgeted allocations to fix roofs could be used for additional maintenance and preservation, such as painting and protecting exposed wood in the Acorn and Coulter cottages.

In other business, the Council

approved up to \$392,139 for a comprehensive operational analysis and integration study of the city's Beeline operations. A transit route analysis of the bus line was last conducted in 2018-19.

The Council debated and voted 3-2 to reconsider changes to the process by which members of the city's boards and commissions are appointed. Mayor Elen Asatryan requested reconsideration of the Council's previous decision to return to a system by which each councilmember appoints a member of each commission rather than making appointments using panels of councilmembers to select commissioners and board members.

"I'm against the panel system in general," councilmember Gharpetian stated, adding that all of the city commissions and boards should stop making decisions until the appointment process was fixed.

Councilmember Ara Najarian

agreed.

"I'm not going to vote in favor of bringing this back," he said. "I don't think it's good government to agendize an item, have discussions on it, take public input, debate, vote and then - a short time later - decide that you want to flip that and go back. I don't think the panel system is equitable. It doesn't make sense procedurally or practically."

The matter will come back to the Council for further deliberation in two weeks.

Councilmember Gharpetian raised concerns about changes to zoning made in conjunction with plans for the Verdugo Wash.

"I have lost my faith and trust, to be honest. I'm really disappointed and very offended," he said, noting that "thousands are opposed to this project" and that "I feel like they tried to sneak one in."

*You can read more at CVWeekly.com/NEWS*

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