



State Senator 25 District takes Oath as Youngest State Senator

The California State Senate held a swearing-in ceremony on Dec. 2 to officially administer the Oath of Office to the Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez who will represent the 25th District, which spans parts of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties including portions of La Cañada Flintridge and La Crescenta-Montrose. At age 32, she becomes the youngest state senator currently serving in California and the second youngest woman in the state's history to hold this position.

"Taking the oath to represent the people of the 25th Senate District – the community where I was raised – is a humbling and profound moment in my life. I will approach this duty and honor with the utmost dedication and drive because of the trust our diverse communities have placed in me," said Senator Pérez. "This moment is not just about me – it's about all of us. California stands for innovation, progress and inclusivity, upholding values like safeguarding the environment, promoting equality and protecting individual rights. However, in the years ahead, our state will face significant challenges from persistent budget deficits to the uncertainties that a second Trump presidency may bring. I am ready to work on the challenges ahead with a commitment to advocating for policies that create social, racial and economic justice."

As a newly elected legislator representing nearly one million constituents, Senator Pérez is focused on bringing bold and compassionate leadership to address California's most urgent challenges. Her priorities include tackling homelessness through systemic reforms, informed by her own

see SENATOR on page 19

La Cañada and Burbank Floats Near Completion, Eye Awards

By Eliza PARTIKA

Local cities prepare their entries for the 2025 Tournament of Roses Parade.

The float entry by the La Cañada Tournament of Roses Association is almost complete as over 1,300 volunteers helped add to the float flowers and dry materials of all shapes, sizes and colors.

Volunteers assisted with moving the float to the decorating site under the Foothill (210) Freeway bridge, a process that takes three days. Volunteers put the finishing touches on the floral alien figures and astronaut that will sit atop the float. All the float's decorations have been painted and younger volunteers joined in to cut flowers and paint signs. Flowers this year that will adorn the float include brown roses, safflower and Summerfield roses, bronze mums and purple statice that will swirl in galaxy patterns around the red Mars

Photo by Eliza PARTIKA
Erik C. Andersen of the Burbank Tournament of Roses Association stands next to the City's entry into the Tournament of Roses Parade 2025 "Having A-Lava Fun."



dust.

"We have to come up with something new every year," said Jennifer Lazo. "We've ever used such unique colors. A lot of funky things (this year)."

It's a challenge to find the right flowers that are needed – "Not a lot

of bronzy brick red, not a lot that aren't dyed or something else that are natural," said volunteer Sarah. But when the right color combinations are finalized she said it's always the most rewarding feeling.

Burbank Tournament of Roses Association is also putting the fi-

nal touches on its float. Director Erik C. Andersen said after being involved in the Association for 43 years and designing floats to submit for consideration, he is excited to see one of his designs, which he drew 34 years ago, come to fruition.

see PARADES on page 7

Canyon Hills Dispute Looks to Spill into Court

By Mary O'KEEFE

The ongoing story of the development planned for a new gated community in the hills of La Tuna Canyon in Tujunga has taken a litigation turn with the recent filing of a lawsuit against the No Canyon Hills, a non-profit organization, and two individuals by developer Whitebird, Inc.

The lawsuit's complaints include trespassing and aiding and abetting trespassing. The lawsuit accuses No Canyon Hills of "orchestrated, ongoing trespasses by members, agents and associates." It also alleges the No Canyon Hills representatives encouraged and instructed individuals to trespass.

The filing states that the group disobeyed the posted "No Trespassing" signs.

see CANYON on page 19



Photo courtesy of No Canyon Hills
A proposed development by Whitebird, Inc. of an area adjacent to the Foothill (210) Freeway appears to be headed to court.



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Waning of Christmas

When you read this it will be after Christmas; however, when it was written Christmas was still a few days away. This reflected early deadlines imposed by our printer in order to meet printing demands (same goes for the Jan. 2 paper).

But as I write this I'm still listening to Christmas music provided by KOST 103 ... and I'm in a cheery, Christmasy mood. Songs like "I'll be Home for Christmas" and "Jingle Bell Rock" are gently emanating from my computer and I have a smile on my face.

I did not (again) send out Christmas cards this year. I'm really bad about that. So I will share a community Christmas letter with you all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! 2024 was a COVID-free year (thank goodness) though Steve and I were reminded of the pandemic when decorating our tree. We have a "special" ornament that at its center reads 2020 and the rest, decorated like a snowflake, reminds us what a bummer 2020 was. (Because I'm a lady - don't laugh - I won't repeat the sentiment.)

We have two sons in North Carolina and two in Southern California. The two in North Carolina are our bartender and chef; consequently, we (especially Robin) really misses them this time of year. Our two Southern California boys include Danny, who owns and operates Bonners Party Rentals. This time of year is especially busy for him as California weather lends itself to outside celebrations and he's

got the heaters, tables, chairs and linens to make things easier for party planners and hosts.

Between the four boys we have five - yes, five - granddaughters; two are in SoCal and three are in North Carolina. We are grateful for the two here while missing the three in North Carolina. But what are we to do? (Anyone with suggestions on how to juggle schedules are encouraged to drop me an email.)

Both Steve and I are doing great! He's busy with Montrose Search & Rescue and I'm busy with the paper. As many know, my offices at CV Weekly were burglarized in September. I was angry and disheartened, but one of our supporters started a GoFundMe page (which was closed on Dec. 20) and the community stepped up to help CV Weekly regroup. I was unbelievably touched by the generosity shown and am grateful that I call CV home.

We look to 2025 with gratitude and hope - may 2025 be a great year for everyone!

This gives a general overview of what 2024 was like for the Goldsworthys. I apologize if it seems impersonal but I'm grateful I have the ability to share holiday cheer with everyone who calls us "friend."

Happy New Year!

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

» WEATHER WATCH

Taking A Look Outside Our Window

By Mary O'KEEFE

We end the year with some interesting weather-fueled events. The first is the winter solstice, which occurred on Dec. 21.

Winter solstice is the shortest day of the year and is the exact moment when half of the Earth is tilted the farthest away from the Sun. The winter solstice is also the day that has the least amount of daytime. Every day after Dec. 21 the days will be a little longer until summer solstice, which occurs between June 20-22, according to NOAA.

On Dec. 21 your shadow looks long. My 4-year-old grandson and I noticed this long, strong shadow while we were on the horse and carriage ride in Montrose - one of my favorite holiday things to do (thank you, Montrose Shopping Park Association).

We also like to see the shadows because my 9-month-old grandson loves to watch "Bear in the Big Blue House" so we are constantly singing, "Where oh where or where is shadow?" It was great to see my little grandson connect the song with the shadow.

The winter solstice was a time recognized by ancient civilizations as a time of change, from dark into the light. Newgrange in Ireland is a tomb-mound, built around 3200 B.C., about a thousand years before Stonehenge. A tunnel facing the solstice sunrise runs to a main chamber and a small window bathes the chamber in solstice light for 17 minutes, according to NOAA.

I just want to point out this took some real observation and engineering skills by these ancient Irish people.

A CNN meteorologist shared a warning for drivers to make sure they clean their windshields as they take to the roads this holiday season as they drive into the lower winter solstice sun.

And then we have the high surf. This week local beaches saw high surf due to a storm that was occurring in the Pacific. The

offshore storm never touched our shores directly but the effects were definitely seen.

The surf peaked on Monday; however, there was high surf expected for Tuesday evening with surf as high as 18 feet expected in Ventura, and 10 to 12 feet in the South Bay Area like Redondo Beach.

Along with the high surf there were also warnings of rip currents, which is a common thing in Redondo.

"Rip currents are powerful, narrow channels of fast-moving water that are prevalent along the East, Gulf and West coasts of the U.S., as well as along the shores of the Great Lakes. Moving at speeds of up to eight feet per second, rip currents can move faster than an Olympic swimmer," according to NOAA.

Although there are warnings not to enter the water during these high tides and rip currents, there will be individuals who do it anyway. Even those who are really good swimmers and expert surfers should not enter the water; however, often we have seen emergency responders going into the water to save someone who thought they could out-swim, and outsmart, the waves.

Locally we see this a lot with the Montrose Search and Rescue team, whose members rescue "experienced" hikers who may have misjudged the terrain.

Lifeguards rescue tens of thousands of people from rip currents in the U.S. every year, but it is estimated that 100 people are killed by rip currents annually. If caught in a rip current, don't fight it. Swim parallel to the shore and swim back to land at an angle, according to NOAA.

Locally, the weather is looking to be a little brisk - "sweater weather." Today, Thursday, will bring a warming trend with temperatures rising to the low 70s by Tuesday.

During this holiday season I hope you had time to spend with family and friends, and/or had time to just relax.

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January 2025

Call Phyllis!
When should we list our home for sale?

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 Watch Parade	2 Balance Checking	3 Meet Mary @ Celestino	4 Prepare 1099's	
5 Walk the Rose Bowl	6 Meet with CPA	7 School Resumes	8 Take Down Tree	9 Yoga 7am <small>Spiritual Heart YOGA CENTER</small>	10 Brows with Gina	11 Lunch with Diane @ Chi Dynasty
12 Walk the Rose Bowl	13 Movie: Den of Thieves	14 Mani Pedi Melody Nails	15 Hair cut with Yong	16 Yoga 7am <small>Spiritual Heart YOGA CENTER</small>	17 Teeth Cleaning	18 Meet Rae Ann @ Taylor's
19 Walk the Rose Bowl	20 Martin Luther King Day	21 Heidi Bruno Grooming	22 Lunch with Chris @ France Café	23 Yoga 7am <small>Spiritual Heart YOGA CENTER</small>	24 Meet Dennis @ Café Sole	25 Meet Karen @ Taylor's
26 Walk the Rose Bowl	27 Facial with Gina	28 Oil Change	29 Chinese New Year	30 Yoga 7am <small>Spiritual Heart YOGA CENTER</small>	31 Lunch with Irene @ Mins Kitchen	

"I has been very gratifying working with Phyllis Harb and Kris Jardino in the sale of my home. These ladies are hard-working, knowledgeable and with exceptional work ethics. They made sure that every obstacle I encountered was taken care of. They were also sensitive to my personal tragedy that forced me to have to sell my place. Phyllis and Kris kept me well informed (by phone, text and email) through this complicated process and promptly answered any concerns I had. This lowered my stress level immensely. I highly recommend Phyllis and Kris who will work hard for you and get the best deal possible."

~ CELIA

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NEXT WEEK PHYLLIS DISCUSSES "SELLING VERSUS RENTING"

NEWS

IN BRIEF

CV Weekly Holiday Hours

The offices of CV Weekly will be closed at noon on Tuesday, New Year's Eve (Dec. 31) and all day on Wednesday, New Year's Day. The office will reopen at 10 a.m. on December 26 and Thursday, Jan. 2.

CVCA Dark in December

The next meeting of the Crescenta Valley Community Association will be on Jan. 23. This first meeting of the year will be a combined meeting of Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association's annual meeting and the CVCA regular meeting.

Items of interest include: Chamlian Armenian School - Conditional Use Permit/Variance Appeal; Los Angeles County Outdoor Dining Ordinance - The Outdoor Dining Ordinance is now available for review. This Ordinance proposes amendments to Los Angeles County Code Title 22 - Planning and Zoning that enhance outdoor dining experiences while prioritizing safety and minimizing impacts on neighborhoods. More info at

<https://pw.lacounty.gov/core-service-areas/municipal-services/dine-out/>.

Ukrainian Exhibition on View

"Between War and Nostalgia: A Ukrainian Trajectory" is a group exhibition that considers and reflects on Ukraine's recent history and its emergence as a post-Soviet nation while grappling with invasion and war. The artists in the exhibit stare directly at Russia's assaults on their homeland and the ravages it has wreaked on their communities, psyche and property while articulating their relationship to their homeland through memory, family and return. Collectively, the artists construct a vision of Ukrainian resilience and defiance.

"Between War and Nostalgia: A Ukrainian Trajectory" will be on view through March 9, 2025 at ReflectSpace Gallery, inside Glendale Central Library, 222 E. Harvard St. in Glendale. An artist reception will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Performance Series Applications Now Open

The application to the 2025 Performance Series for the City of Glendale is now open. Performance groups based in the Southern California region and made up of trios or larger are invited to apply for two performance series: the Brand Summer Music Series and the Jewel City Concert Series.

Performances for the Brand Summer Music Series are scheduled for Fridays in summer 2025 from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Each performance must be one (1) set of one hour and 30 minutes in duration. The ACC will fund selected performance groups a stipend of up to \$2,000 per performance.

Performances for the Jewel City Concert Series are scheduled for Saturdays in fall 2025 from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Each performance must be one (1) set of 60 minutes in duration. The ACC will fund selected performance groups a stipend of up to \$1,500 per performance.

Submit an application by the deadline of Jan. 31, 2025 at 5 p.m. PST. CAPTION: Members of several local organizations accepted funds raised from the annual Cars for Cops & Kids Car Show.

A Very Generous Day of Donations



Photos courtesy of H. Art MARKARIAN

By Mary O'KEEFE

Last week the Rotary Club of Glendale Noon continued its tradition of supporting organizations that support the community.

A luncheon was held to distribute the funds that were raised in the summer at the 7th Annual Cars for Cops & Kids Car Show. That fundraiser was a huge success raising over \$60,000 in 2024, which added to the club's cumulative total fundraising of \$350,000 since it began in 2017.

In a previous article, Lt. Joshua Wofford, a Rotarian, said, "This event is a testament to the power of community. Together, we are driving change and creating opportunities for our youth."

Sgt. Teal Metts, also a Rotarian and co-chair, added, "Seeing the support from our community and the smiles on the faces of the kids we help is incredibly rewarding. We are making a real difference."

Metts and Wofford were at last week's event to help distribute the funds to the many non-profits. These included The Learning Mission, which received \$5,000. Rouben Gargaloyan accepted the donation on behalf of the organization. The Learning Mission was founded after the 2020 Artsakh War with a goal to provide free IT and English education to veterans and their family members and forcibly displaced Artsakh residents, according to its website.

The City of Glendale received a \$7,500 donation that was accepted by Community Services Dept. manager Sevag Garabetian.

"Thank you for recognizing our department," he said. He added the Community Services Dept. also operates child care programs throughout the year including those that provide child care. The department has also expanded its scholarship program to accommodate up to five children at one location, 10 total for its two locations. Guiding Our Youth received

\$6,000 and For the Future received \$4,000. Drew Lang accepted the donations. He serves as a foster youth specialist and the organization serves all of California. It supports foster youth from ages 13 to 17 who have extensive mental health needs and trauma.

Sgt. Jose Barajas accepted \$2,500 for the Glendale Police Officers Association (GPOA)/Cops for Kids program. Barajas explained what the program does for city families.

"Every Christmas we adopt over 20 families," he said. It works with the school district as well as other organizations to find families that may need "a little more service" during the holidays. The GPOA works with other community organizations and individuals to adopt families and are able to give them a Christmas tree, presents, food and support.

George Saikali, the CEO of the YMCA of Glendale, accepted a donation for \$1,000 that will be used for its Youth in Government program.

Craig Harris of Boy Scouts/Scouting America accepted a check for \$1,000.

"Our mission is to provide leadership opportunities, character development, physical fitness development and citizenship," he said.

Nancy Niebrugge accepted a \$1,000 donation for the Campbell Center, an organization that has a 65-year history supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities empowering them to successfully gain independence and attain their desired outcomes through opportunity and choice, according to its website.

Karineh Grigorian, executive director of the Glendale Youth Alliance, accepted a check for \$1,000. The organization's programs are designed to build civic values in local youth

and to provide a foundation for developing job skills to become productive participants of the workforce, according to its website.

Glendale Fire Chief Greg Fish accepted a \$1,000 check for the Glendale Fire Dept.'s Girls and Women Empowerment Camp. Fish explained this program is designed to show girls that the department is a place for them. A goal is to have more young women and girls think about a career in firefighting.

Ascencia was given a check for \$1,000 to continue its efforts in supporting individuals and families that face homelessness. The donation was accepted by Camille Guerero, director of Development.

Crescenta Valley High School Dance Dept. received \$1,000 to help with its program, specifically to help offset the costs of attending competitions.

Yana Karibyan of The Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon presented two donations prior to last week's luncheon. Rotary Foundation youth programs received \$5,000 and Robert

Parseghian received \$10,000 for the Glendale Police Foundation youth programs.

In total The Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon distributed \$47,500, which was from the Cars4Cops proceeds; in addition to those funds The Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon awarded two grants: Young Life Glendale received \$2,000 and a grant of \$1,700 was awarded to YMCA Youth and Government.

Two Rotary Noon members, Larry Tison and Gerry Tomsic, stepped up with additional \$1,000 donations for Ascencia.

All of this support came from the hard work and boots on the ground attitude of members of Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon and its very successful car show.

The car show was started by Rotary Club of Glendale - Noon and spearheaded by retired Glendale police officer Oscar Rodriguez and Edwin Voskanian. It began in 2017 but has seen substantial growth over the years.

In that first year, the project generated about \$9,700; a year later it raised \$37,000 and has continued to grow in fundraising.

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NASA Mars Orbiter Spots Retired InSight Lander to Study Dust Movement

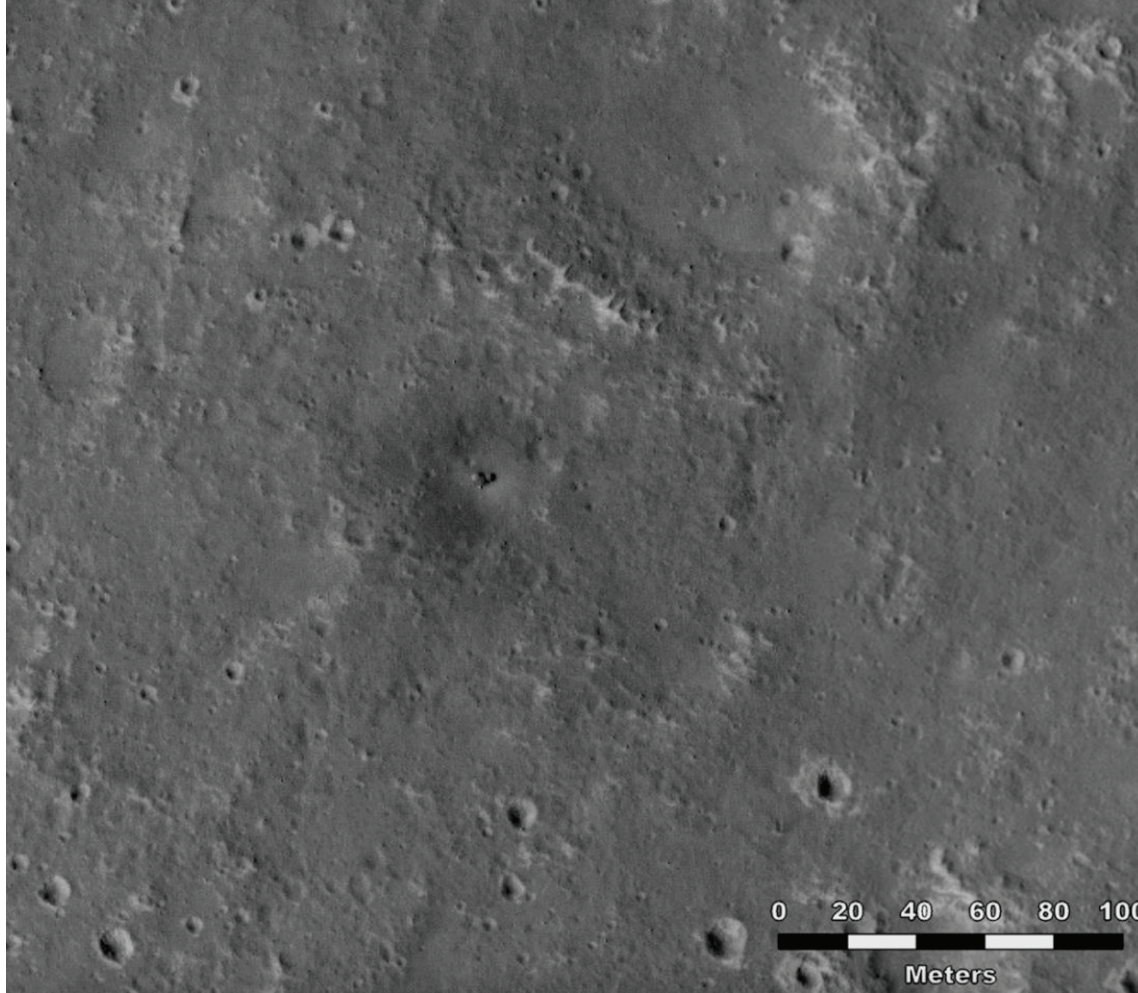


Photo Courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech/University of Arizona

Seen at the center of this image, NASA's retired InSight Mars lander was captured by the agency's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter using its High-Resolution Imagine Science Experiment (HiRISE) camera on Oct. 23, 2024.

NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) recently caught a glimpse of the agency's retired InSight lander, documenting the accumulation of dust on the spacecraft's solar panels. In the new image (taken Oct. 23 by MRO's High-Resolution Imaging Science Experiment (HiRISE) camera) InSight's solar panels have acquired the same reddish-brown hue as the rest of the planet.

After touching down in November 2018, the lander was the first to detect the Red Planet's "marsquakes" revealing details of the crust, mantle and core in the process. Over the four years that the spacecraft collected science, engineers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), which led the mission, used images from InSight's cameras and MRO's HiRISE to estimate how much dust was settling on the stationary lander's solar panels, since dust affected its ability to generate power.

NASA retired InSight in December 2022 after the lander ran out of power and stopped communicating with Earth during its extended mission. But engineers continued listening for radio signals from the lander in case wind cleared enough dust from the spacecraft's solar panels for its batteries to recharge.

Having detected no changes over the past two years, NASA will stop listening for InSight at the end of this year.

Scientists requested the recent HiRISE image as a farewell to InSight, as well as to monitor how its landing site has changed over time.

"Even though we're no longer hearing from InSight, it's still teaching us about Mars," said science team member Ingrid Daubar of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. "By monitoring how much dust collects on the surface – and how much gets vacuumed away by wind and dust devils – we learn more about the wind, dust cycle and other processes that shape the planet."

Dust Devils and Craters

Dust is a driving force across Mars, shaping both the atmosphere and landscape. Studying it helps scientists understand the planet and engineers prepare for future missions (solar-powered and otherwise) since dust can get into sensitive mechanical parts.

When InSight was still active, scientists matched MRO images of dust devil tracks winding across the landscape with data from the lander's wind sensors, finding these whirling weather phenomena subside in the winter

and pick up again in the summer.

The imagery also helped with the study of meteoroid impacts on the Martian surface. The more craters a region has the older the surface there is. (This isn't the case with Earth's surface, which is constantly recycled as tectonic plates slide over one another.) The marks around these craters fade with time. Understanding how fast dust covers them helps to ascertain a crater's age.

Another way to estimate how quickly craters fade has been by studying the ring of blast marks left by InSight's retrorocket thrusters during landing. Much more prominent in 2018, those dark marks are now returning to the red-brown color of the surrounding terrain.

HiRISE has captured many other spacecraft images, including those of NASA's Perseverance and Curiosity rovers, which are still exploring Mars, as well as inactive missions, like the Spirit and Opportunity rovers and the Phoenix lander.

"It feels a little bittersweet to look at InSight now. It was a successful mission that produced lots of great science. Of course, it would have been nice if it kept going forever, but we knew that wouldn't happen," Daubar said.



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GUSD Budget Discussed at Meetings

By Mary O'KEEFE

At a recent Glendale Unified School District meeting staff made a presentation that stated the Los Angeles County Office of Education approved the adopted budget but required the district board approve the Fiscal Stabilization Plan by Dec. 15. This plan outlines how the district will balance the budget while still ensuring it can deliver educational services. The plan is created, discussed and then voted on by the board of education.

"The first interim, as of Oct. 31, includes actuals and budget projections for the current and two subsequent fiscal years," stated a GUSD spokesperson.

The Unrestricted General Fund reserves that were stated at the Oct. 31 meeting were: 2024-2025 required 3% reserves, which equals \$13.8 million; the committed amount of that reserve is only \$0.4 million. 2025-2026 required 3% reserves equaling \$12 million, with a committed amount of \$4.4 million and 2026-2027 required 3% reserve equaling \$12.1 million with committed amount of \$22.4 million. The District is required to have 3% reserves for each fiscal year.

"At the 2024-25 adoption budget in June 2024, the District estimated an \$11M shortfall, which included the anticipated [GTA] negotiated settlement. However, since the adoption budget there were increases in expenditures due to prior year closing activities, increases

in contract services and other operational increases that were unknown at the adopted budget," stated the spokesperson.

Those increases included special education contributions of \$9 million, general liability insurance of \$1 million, a workers comp cost increase of \$0.2 million and health and welfare cost increases of \$0.6 million.

The one bright light in the budget is that student enrollment in GUSD has increased by 287 students in the 2024-2025 school year over the prior year.

"In addition, student enrollment has increased by 144 students since 2024-2025 adoption budget," stated the spokesperson.

In addition to students benefiting from attending school on a regular basis, including keeping up with assignments and curriculum, school districts get funding for each student who attends school. It has become a priority for the District to work on improving attendance.

"The District continues to place a high priority on student enrollment and average daily attendance by offering extensive professional development in this area and providing monthly information to each school. Site staffs are reaching out to families about the importance of student attendance and the connection to learning. The governing board receives a report during each monthly board meeting with detailed information by school site and

districtwide. GUSD staff has implemented a new process for collecting information that may qualify a student for additional supplemental and/or concentration grant funding," according to the spokesperson.

"Concentration grant funding is part of the [local control funding formula - LCFF] and provides additional funding for local educational agencies that have a high percentage of students who qualify."

To be eligible, the District must have more than 55% of students (in a three-year average) that are classified as "Unduplicated Pupil Percentage" (UPP), including English learners, homeless, free/reduced meals and foster youth. Districts that qualify receive 65% of the LCFF base for the population of students above the 55% threshold, according to the spokesperson.

GUSD's UPP has been slightly below 55% for the last several years; however, the District concentrated on an educational outreach that has allowed more parental accessibility and ease of documentation to reach out to parents who had not previously filled out the necessary forms.

"The Business Office will continue to monitor student enrollment average daily attendance. The governing board is updated each month with a presentation that shows month-over-month for each school site, and comparisons to each major reporting period," according to the spokesperson.

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Court of Appeal Upholds City's EIR for Grayson

The Court of Appeal of the State of California, Second Appellate District, Division Five, has affirmed the Superior Court of Los Angeles County's judgment in favor of the City of Glendale concluding that the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Grayson Power Plant Repowering Project met the California Environmental Quality Act's (CEQA) requirements to accurately describe the project scope and physical characteristics. The court found that the FEIR provided sufficient information for decision-makers and the public to understand the project's environmental impacts and alternatives. This decision supports the City Council's approval of the project, which aims to replace outdated power generators with modern, state-of-the-art equipment.

Key findings of the court include:

1. **Accurate Project Description:** The FEIR's project description was accurate and compliant with CEQA, ensuring that the anticipated environmental impacts were neither minimized nor understated.
2. **Reserve Capacity Requirements:** Substantial evidence supporting Glendale Water and Power's obligation to maintain sufficient reserve capacity and the FEIR transparently addressed the dispute over reserve requirements.
3. **Environmental Justice Analysis:** The court concluded that CEQA does not mandate an analysis of a project's impacts on environmental

justice communities, validating the EIR's discussion on this issue.

The City of Glendale's Repowering Project will replace 238 megawatts (MW) of old, inefficient generation equipment with approximately 55 MW of modern, efficient generating equipment and 75 MW of four-hour duration batteries to provide flexible and local resource to backup and supplement the city's primary source of imported power.

"We are pleased with the court's decision, which allows us to move forward with this critical project to ensure a reliable and sustainable energy future for Glendale," said Glendale City Attorney Michael Garcia. "The Repowering Project will not only improve our power infrastructure but - by providing more flexible generation - will also support our commitment to integrating increased local and imported renewable energy sources."

For more information, contact City Attorney Mike Garcia at (818) 548-2080.

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Teddy Bears Cheer Up Patients At USC Keck-Verdugo Hills Hospital

By Ruth SOWBY

For the third year, “Project Hug-a-Bear” put Teddy Bears into the arms of dozens of patients at USC Keck-Verdugo Hills Hospital. On Monday, donors and hospital staff gathered for photos and thank you’s. Commemorating the release of the film, Wicked (hence the green bear), Bloomington’s donated the bears to the hospital. The bears have long sold out in Bloomies’ stores.

Bloomington’s Glendale store is the program’s corporate sponsor. Morgan Lobell, manager of Business Administration at Bloomington’s Glendale, coordinated acquisition of the bears.

“We couldn’t have accomplished this project without Morgan’s help and dedication,” said Vic Pallos, one of the donor partners, along with Chloe Ross. “She made it happen.”



USC Keck-Verdugo Hills Hospital staff and donors look forward to giving patients Teddy bears. Staff and donors, from left, are Raffi Boghossian, RN; Bridget Berg, director of Patient Experience; Emilie Pallos, donor; Chloe Ross, donor and Hospital Foundation board member; Theresa Murphy, chief nursing officer; Jess Beattie, director of Patient and Family Services; Cecilia Dayton, RN, clinical director.



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LCPC Parent Ed Supports FosterAll in Christmas Toy Drive and Brunch

La Cañada Presbyterian Church’s Parent Education Program (LCPC Parent Ed) recently hosted donation collections and events supporting its local mission partner, FosterAll. To celebrate the holiday together and show appreciation to foster families who have opened up their hearts and homes to children in need, LCPC Parent Ed held a Christmas toy drive collecting new toys for boys and girls. Answering the call, LCPC parishioners and Parent Ed participants donated over 200 toys for the toy drive.

Then, on Dec. 7, the LCPC campus was transformed into a winter wonderland for foster families to enjoy a fun-filled day that included games, crafts, music, entertainment, hot cocoa bar, a delicious meal and Santa’s Toy Shop! Children were invited to take books from Santa’s library, shop in Santa’s Toy Shop and take a photo with Santa Claus himself! Families were treated to free family photos with a professional photographer.

LCPC Parent Ed board members provided support for the event organized by



Photo by Willow BAUGHMAN

FosterAll’s Program Director, Kathy Hernandez and Executive Director Lou Moore with Parent Ed Assistant Director Amanda Baughman, LCPC’s Pastor Cindy Frost and Parent Ed Director Anne Bierling.

Outreach Chair Heather Adamack. FosterAll’s Kathy Hernandez organized the impactful event with help from volunteers from many churches including La Cañada Presbyterian Church.


FosterAll recruits prospective foster parents from faith communities and provides ongoing

support to these families so that they can provide safe and loving homes for the thousands of children who have been abused and neglected. Since its inception, this process has been repeated over 3,600 times and has created countless families.

FosterAll emerged in 1985 when

Dr. Mary Rotzien served as an intern at the MacLaren Children’s Center, a troubled Los Angeles County residential facility that has since closed.

FosterAll, with over 350 faith partners, strives to find these children safe, supportive and loving homes.



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CRIME BLOTTER

DEC. 21

2400 block of Montrose Avenue in Montrose, a woman left her home briefly and when she returned she found the front door of her home had its interior door chain attached. She found this unusual because no one was home. She walked to the side of the apartment to enter her residence through the side balcony glass slide door. She witnessed two males wearing dark hoodies jumping the fence near

her balcony. The suspects entered a white SUV and drove away. The women entered her home and found rooms had been ransacked and items had been stolen.

The burglary occurred between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

DEC. 20

3100 block of Stevens Street in La Crescenta, a tailgate was stolen from a Nissan Frontier truck overnight.

4000 block of Rockland Place in La Cañada Flintridge, a tailgate was stolen from a Toyota Tacoma truck that was parked on the street overnight.

DEC. 18

5400 block of Arroyo Summit Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, the kitchen door at a home was found smashed inward and the bottom four glass panels and panes were all shattered. Upstairs rooms

had been ransacked and numerous items were stolen between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

DEC. 17

4900 block of Hillard Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, a person came into the lobby of the Crescenta Valley Sheriff’s Station and reported he had been contacted by his bank concerning a check that had been posted to his account. He logged onto his bank account and found a

fraudulent check written to a person he did not know in an amount that he did not write. He stated he usually writes checks to his employees and then hands those checks directly to them. He was not sure how this fraudulent check was created.

The report came to the station at noon.

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PARADES from Cover

The float, titled "Having A- Lava Fun," will depict baby dinosaurs having their "best day ever" playing together while a T-rex sits in time-out for biting. The float will feature a volcano with pyrotechnics and water flowing through a prehistoric landscape based on natural finds in Los Angeles.

"Even though they might be different species, these dinosaurs are in harmony except for the T-rex. It symbolizes the way I see the world, in a way, where all of us can play together nicely," he said. "One of the pterodactyl's wings are a little shorter because I felt he represents someone with a disability, and his sibling is saying, 'No you can still fly.' That's why he's flying by in his egg. It's showing him, 'No, you can do this,'" said Andersen.

Andersen told the CV Weekly the talent over 25 to 30 years has come together to make this float possible. A dentist carved each figure, painters got involved to make the paper mache dinosaurs. Last year, 4,000 people gave at least four hours each to help. This year, Andersen expects even higher involvement.

The Burbank team got creative with the materials it is using to decorate the float. The design is something Andersen holds close to his heart each year.

"I have a file cabinet with all of the designs I've made over the years," he said. "And it's always so special when I see one come to life."

Andersen and his team invented a new drying technique for some of the most delicate flowers on the float and decorators researched plants and dry materials that actually could have been around at the time of the dinosaurs. Tropical flowers, roses and dried materials and succulents will decorate the float in vibrant colors.

Terri Coomes, decorating chair, said she and Andersen wanted the natural world to be an important inspiration for this year's float.

Coomes said sago palms were a big inspiration for the fine details in the float, outlining the lashes and eyes of the dinosaurs. One volunteer who has the palms in her backyard offered one as a model to recreate them on the float out of other natural materials. Venus fly trap teeth will be made from seaweed hardened and dried to look burnt. Roses and prickly bushes will outline the volcano to look like lava flows that have dried. Coomes said the team wanted a bright dinosaur to lead the float so the team decided on a base of split pea, brushed and filtered, to create a topiary look with mums and limes, with loofah sponges as the chest of the brontosaurus. Yellow marigold and yellow straw flowers will be

used to decorate the dinosaurs running along the sawdust path, lined with trees decorated with delicate flowers dried and covered in a special resin to hold their shape. The water will be light blue and dark blue irises to create a shimmering water effect. Onion skins will be layered and hand cut to be placed along the fish to mimic scales. The stegosaurus and triceratops will be scaled with mums and roses. Moss hydrated with water will be at the base of the volcano, with seven different roses to create the flames. The nest will be made of fresh and dried gathered materials, like those found in the wild.

"We went through each of the dinosaurs to create different textures. Dinosaurs are scaly but we wanted them whimsical, to know they are babies [and] that they are having fun," she said.

"It's nice to have the support. I can get their suggestions to make the float even better," Coomes said. "When we blend things, the natural materials are creating their own look."

Much of the inspiration comes from volunteers and long-time members, Coomes added. Volunteers from the Girl Scouts Magnolia Troop in Burbank assisted with sifting and breaking up flowers that will be glued onto the dinosaurs.

Girl Scout Chloe Kochones, 10, said it means a lot to share her work with the community.

Isabelle Kochones, 11, said she liked being able to give back to her community by helping with the float.

"Not a lot of people get the opportunity to do this, and it's important for the future," she said.

Jamie Kim, 10, added, "When you're helping decorate the float, the people who see the float will see our work."

"When they see the float on TV, they'll see what we made," said Leila Naghshineh, who is also a member of the Girl Scouts.

While one goal of his may be to win awards for his float, Andersen said the most important part of the yearly float building for him is to get the community involved in a new challenge.

"This float is a challenge for us," Andersen said, "and it's coming together."

Plans Made for County to Apply for Homekey+ Funds

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recently unanimously approved a motion introduced by Board Chair Kathryn Barger to prepare Los Angeles County so it can successfully draw down millions of funds from the state's Homekey+ program when its application portal opens next month.

Los Angeles County will be allocated \$599 million, with \$277 million earmarked for veterans and \$321 million for general population homeless housing projects.

"This program is a golden opportunity to expand access to sustainable housing for those

who need it most, including veterans and individuals with mental health challenges who have nowhere else to go and need support to stay housed," said Board Chair Kathryn Barger. "I'm excited about this next round of funding. The state is an important partner in our local work to help our homeless off the streets and Los Angeles County needs to be ready. We need to maximize every cent."

The County will soon embark on its fourth round of applying for Homekey funds. The program originated as Project Roomkey early in the COVID-19 pandemic. All

Homekey+ project proposals must be filed by May 30, 2025. Once awarded, housing projects must be completed within 24 months. The funds support the acquisition and occupancy of hotels, motels and other properties to house people experiencing housing challenges.

Chair Barger's motion directs several County departments to assess their collective readiness and develop a clear plan to effectively leverage the next round of Homekey funding. This includes proposing specific goals for creating housing units and identifying the target populations that will be served.

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Glendale Elks Host Annual Children's Christmas Party

By Charly SHELTON

The Glendale Elks Lodge welcomed families and children with open arms on Sunday, Dec. 22, for their Annual Children's Christmas Party. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., the Lodge was a festive wonderland, filled with the sounds of laughter, the smell of delicious food and the warmth of holiday cheer.

Joe Allen, Elks member and event organizer, expressed his delight at the event's success.

"Families and supporters of the Elks in Glendale turned out. Great numbers of families and kids are once again reaching pre-pandemic attendance. The kids participated in games, activities and crafts. Then Santa made an appearance and took photos with the families. It was a fun day," he said.

The event, a beloved tradition in the community, featured a

free lunch for attendees. Hot dogs and macaroni and cheese were served, providing a kid-friendly meal that delighted young and old alike. But the food was just the beginning of the excitement.

Children and adults alike participated in a variety of games and craft-making activities. Tables were set up with colorful supplies, giving kids the opportunity to create their own holiday masterpieces. For many families, these activities were not only fun but also a chance to spend quality time together during the busy holiday season.

As the afternoon progressed, the excitement reached its peak with the arrival of Santa Claus. Santa's appearance brought smiles and wide-eyed wonder to the children, many of whom had been eagerly awaiting their chance to meet him. Santa

greeted each child warmly, listened to their holiday wishes, and posed for photos, creating memories that families will undoubtedly cherish for years to come.

In addition to the crafts and Santa's visit, there was a palpable sense of community among attendees. The Glendale Elks Lodge, known for its charitable efforts and dedication to the community, has long been a hub for events that bring people together. The Children's Christmas Party exemplified the spirit of the Elks, providing a space for families to connect, celebrate and make lasting memories.

As year-over-year attendance numbers continue to grow, the event has now reached levels not seen since before the pandemic. The event's success is a testament to the community's resilience and the efforts of

the Elks to foster connections through meaningful programs and events.

The Annual Children's Christmas Party is just one of many ways the Glendale Elks Lodge gives back to the community. From charitable donations to hosting events like these, the organization remains committed to its mission of service and community

engagement.

With the success of this year's celebration, the Glendale Elks are already looking ahead to next year's festivities, aiming to make it even more memorable. For now, the Lodge can take pride in having brought joy to countless families and setting the stage for a holiday season filled with happiness and togetherness.



USC VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER FOR AGING

» ADRIA NAVARRO, PHD, MSW

How's Your Memory?

In Age Friendly health care, as provided at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, there is focus across many dimensions, including what we refer to as the four Ms: What Matters to you, Mentation, Mobility and Medications. The Community Resource Center for Aging (aka: Resource Center) supports the health system with care to outpatient community members looking for information to prevent and/or address these concerns. The Resource Center, started as a pilot program in 2020, is now a full-time information and assistance program staffed by graduate-level resource specialists to provide free care coordination to more than 500 individuals each year. Mentation is a frequent focus of inquiries and options counseling to determine an individualized approach to health and social care aimed at improving the quality of one's daily routine.

People are often concerned about the decline of cognitive skills related to thinking, remembering, learning, communicating and making decisions, either in themselves or in a loved one. The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2024 Update, which prioritizes support for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ARD) and their families. Supporting people with ARD and their families and caregivers requires offering them the tools that they need, helping to plan for future needs and helping to ensure that safety and dignity are maintained.

But how to determine if we are beginning to experience cognitive decline?

If you have Medicare Part B, you are entitled to an annual wellness visit at which time you can request a cognitive evaluation. These evaluations are a way for health care professionals to learn about your brain's functioning and

cognition to address any issues that you may be experiencing. The benefits of a cognitive evaluation include potentially identifying treatable health issues that may be influencing your cognition; allows for a baseline measurement to evaluate changes in the future; and provides the potential for early diagnosis and therefore, proactive planning.

If you desire a cognitive evaluation because you are noticing changes in your thinking abilities, keeping a list of points you would like to discuss with your provider is a good idea. Also be sure to call ahead of your annual exam and let your doctor's office know you'd like them to administer a cognitive evaluation during your visit so they can prepare and allow enough time for this to occur. For more information, such as the value of having a baseline cognitive evaluation, contact our resource specialists Monday through Friday for a complimentary phone consultation or to arrange an in office appointment. Email aging-resources@med.usc.edu or call (818) 949-4033.

For more information about cognitive assessments:

<https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2022/cognitive-test.html>, <https://www.ncoa.org/article/ask-for-a-cognitive-evaluation-during-your-next-annual-wellness-visit/>.



Adria Navarro, PhD, MSW
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VIEWPOINTS

IEWS OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

Sunland Co-Founders and Their Pasts

When last we spoke, Monte Vista was founded in 1885 and two hotels had been built. The founders of the town, Judge Sherman Page and F. C. Howes, had sold out their enterprise to Frank Barclay. Before we turn the page on Page and Howes, I thought it interesting to share a bit about these two.

Felix Cary Howes was born in 1838 and grew up in Putnam County, New York. At the age of 12 he performed some work and was paid with a check. When he entered the bank, he was taken by the grandeur. The young man resolved to become a banker and soon began working as a teller. He joined his parents in a move to southeast Minnesota at the age of 20.

Sherman Page was born in 1833 and grew up in Cambridge, Vermont. He showed an interest in

the law at an early age, attended college in New York and relocated to southeastern Minnesota to begin his career as an attorney. In 1871, at the age of 37, he was elected to the State Senate. Two years later he became a judge of the 10th Judicial District.

Mr. Howes' banking career was interrupted by the Civil War. He became a clerk for the Commissary Dept. and accompanied General Sherman on his march to the sea in 1864. He then returned to banking, eventually moving to St. Paul, Minnesota. He soon tired of the harsh winters there so in 1875 he began a search for a more genial climate. Finding Los Angeles, he chose to settle here with his wife Clara and their four daughters.

Sherman Page, now Judge Sherman Page, would serve on the

bench in Minnesota from 1873 thru 1880 but not without controversy. In 1878, he was impeached for official misconduct by the Minnesota House of Representatives. He was charged with "having an arbitrary and violent temper; treating witnesses, counsel, and litigants improperly; and lacking dignity and decorum."

Impeachment documents went further: "Judge Sherman Page is corrupt, ever exerting a dangerous influence, whose very breath is poisonous for, like the serpent, he not only covers his victims with slime but breathes his poison into their very existence. He stands before this community, a man noted not for kind deeds and words, but deeds of unkindness and malice. We consider him a man to be feared in any community."

It didn't end there; the Minnesota

Senate found Judge Page not guilty and he was free of consequences – at least so he thought. Apparently the community was not at all happy with the judge's acquittal and in August of 1880, while sitting in his library, a would-be assassin took his shot. The judge survived the attempt, the perpetrator was caught and put on trial for attempted murder and was subsequently found not guilty. Not long after this, feeling quite unwelcome at home, the Honorable Judge Sherman Page made his way to Los Angeles.

I've found nothing to say that Felix and Sherman knew each other back in Minnesota, although they lived in the same community for a number of years. I find myself wondering what Felix knew of this man. Seems like an unlikely choice for a business partner. Nevertheless, the two men

came together on the western edge of the Crescenta Valley and founded Monte Vista in 1885.

The duo sold out to Frank Barclay in 1886. I'll get back his contributions soon but as I often say, "Too much history, too little time;" so for a bit I'm off to other places of local historic interest. But why is Monte Vista now Sunland? When the population rose to allow for a post office, the residents were informed that a Monte Vista had been founded up north and, while the spelling was slightly different, another name would have to be chosen. The name Sunland became the alternative.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looks Forward to Implementation of WSGVAP

Thank you [CV Weekly] for covering the county board approval of the West San Gabriel [Valley] Area Plan in the Dec. 12 paper. The article does a great job

explaining some zoning aspects while also touching on the Area Plan's intention to increase walkability, wildlife conservation and support for small businesses.

As a mom and community resident who would like to see

a more vibrant La Crescenta-Montrose, I am excited to see the Area Plan's passage. I can imagine how awesome it would be for this area to progress in a way where we can run basic errands without relying on a car, where

we can open up our community gem – Rosemont Preserve – to be more accessible, and where we can make our downtown more attractive so that we can access healthy restaurants, gathering spaces and other small

businesses right where we live. I look forward to see how we can all work together to make our community more dynamic and vibrant.

*Jennifer Ho
La Crescenta*



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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Special Guests Welcomed at Monte Vista Elementary



Assistance League Glendale (ALG) chair Linelle Vincenti (left) presents Principal Hury Babayan on PJ day with a \$2500 check to buy books for the school library. ALG visits the schools in the GUSD with the actual authors and illustrators of children's books.

On Dec 16, Monte Vista was visited by six authors and Illustrators: Tao Nyeu,

Larissa Theule, Vincent X. Kirsch, Tim Egan, Alexis O'Neill and Leslie Margolis.

Every classroom had a personal session with an author learning how to write stories, draw pictures and enjoy reading. Members of AL Ghelpers were Kathy Blyth, Judy Cabrera, Judy Rezvani, Karen Saunders, Danette Erickson and Margaret Gwynne.

Submitted by Danette ERICKSON

CV Girls Lacrosse Food Drive and Skills Clinic



On Saturday, Dec. 14 for lacrosse athletes it was a day of learning and giving. Athletes of all skill levels came together with the goal of experienced players introducing the sport to new players. But the highlight of the day was the food drive organized by the lacrosse team.

Thanks to the generosity of participants and Falcon families, four cars were filled with donations for the Bailey Center.

Photos provided by B. BALLARD ABOVE: Lacrosse girls stand in front of the boxes they filled for the Bailey Center. RIGHT: New players learned how to catch and throw.

see LACROSSE on page 12



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 Transforming Lives
 Strengthening Community

CCLCF Shows Off Its Ceramic Program at Pottery Sale

By Ruth SOWBY

For those who ever thought of throwing clay on a pottery wheel and turning out masterpieces, Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge showed what is possible at its annual ceramics sale on Dec. 14 & Dec. 15. Would-be potters of all ages took a host of classes at the Center and their creations were shown off and sold at the Center's sale.

Pots of all shapes and sizes, many covered with colorful glazes and priced to sell, filled the Center's large community room. Customers had plenty of time to buy during the sale held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. over two days. The sale attracted dozens of pottery lovers who wanted to grab the best of the bunch.

Pasadena residents William Prescott and wife Randi Friedland, who take classes at the Center, looked at the variety of teapots Center teacher and artist Miriam Balcazar was selling. In the Center's patio 17-year-old La Cañada High School students Rosalind Verma and Kenisha Gerbuyos were selling pitchers they made in a Center teen ceramics class.

"It's a fun way to get our work out there," said Verma.

The Center's non-profit community studio with three spaces and 12 pottery wheels was founded by ceramist Helen Jean Taylor and has been in operation for 60 years.



Photos by Ruth SOWBY

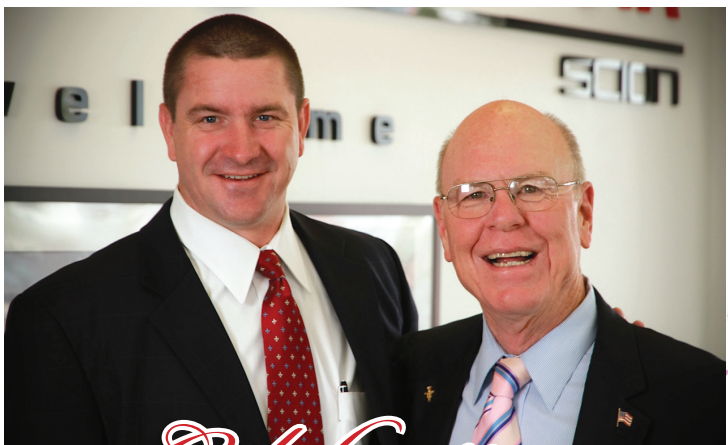
TOP LEFT: The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge hosted its annual Ceramics Sale on Dec. 14 and Dec. 15.

TOP RIGHT: Center teacher and artist Miriam Balcazar shows one of her handmade tea pots to Center ceramics students William Prescott and wife Randi Friedland.

BOTTOM LEFT: Center ceramics students Rosalind Verma, 17, and Kenisha Gerbuyos, 17, are proudly pushing their pots for sale. They attend La Cañada High School.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Artist Andrew Granier displays his ceramic sculptures at the Center entrance.

Bob Smith TOYOTA



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People Making News

Tai Walton from La Cañada is among the 1,340 prospective candidates for degree at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee commencement exercises in December. He attends Milwaukee Sheldon B. Lubar College of Business, master of business administration.

UWM is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin with over 22,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

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LACROSSE from page 11



The teams cheered each other on.

The girls' lacrosse team played an active role in delivering and sorting the items, embodying the spirit of proving that the Falcon lacrosse family doesn't just play together – they serve together.

Support this paper!
Visit our advertisers!

THERE IS STILL TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR HOUSE!

STREET ADDRESS	AREA	ZIP	NOTE
10531 Mather St.	Sunland	91040	
6817 Day St.	Tujunga	91042	
9916 Provo Ave.	Tujunga	91042	
9606 Tujunga Canyon Blvd.	Tujunga	91042	
4007 Willalee Ave.	La Crescenta	91214	off Honolulu Avenue
3552 Prospect Ave.	La Crescenta	91214	
4012 New York Ave.	La Crescenta	91214	The Backyard Ballerdazzle Musical Light and Snow Show
3425 Mary Ann St.	La Crescenta	91214	
3437 Mary Ann St.	La Crescenta	91214	
3440 Mary Ann St.	La Crescenta	91214	
3452 Mary Ann St.	La Crescenta	91214	
3239 Los Olivos Ln.	La Crescenta	91214	
3113 Pontaic St.	La Crescenta	91214	
3014 Paraiso Way	La Crescenta	91214	
2653 Orange Ave.	La Crescenta	91214	
4723 Sunset Ave.	La Crescenta	91214	off Kemper
1200-1400 Oak Circle Dr.	Sparr Heights	91208	
2200-2400 Honolulu Ave.	Montrose	91020	Montrose Shopping Park
3528 Sierra Vista Ave.	Sparr Heights	91208	
1968 Waltonia Dr.	Montrose	91020	
2229 Crescent Ave.	Montrose	91020	
3117 Sparr Blvd.	Glendale	91208	
2211 Sherwood Pl.	Glendale	91206	

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY PRESENTS

The 2024 Merry & Bright Holiday Light and Display Tour!

Share your merriment and brighten the spirits of your community this Holiday Season! From December 19th – January 4th families will be driving past identified houses that have been decorated festively for the season.

To include your address in the Merry & Bright Tour and be entered into our contest, send your address to **HollyWeen@cvweekly.com** by **5 p.m.** on Dec. 26. Your address will be included in all three issues of the CV Weekly that feature Merry & Bright Tour addresses! Entries received after Dec. 26 will be included in the following issue/s of the CV Weekly. Get your address in asap so families can create their own drive-by experience.

Judging will be done between December 20th - 29th.

The first 25 entrants will receive two tickets to the Holiday Exhibit at the Ronald Reagan Library. The winners will be announced in the January 9 issue of the CV Weekly!

JUDGING CATEGORIES

1. Christmas Story Award

(traditional or nostalgic use of lights and decorations - Leg Lamp use gets extra points)

2. Clark Griswold Award

(excessive use of lights and decoration - more is ALWAYS better, can we see it from space?)

3. Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree Award

(best use of music and technology)

4. Santas Coming to Town Award

(best use of Santa or Santa's in decor)

5. Most Original Award

(not your usual everyday holiday decor)

6. Best In Show Award

(ya blew the judges minds)

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS!



TRAVEL & LEISURE

Los Angeles Zoo Celebrates First-Ever Perentie Hatchlings

The Los Angeles Zoo is celebrating the successful hatching of two healthy perentie lizards (*Varanus giganteus*). This is the first time the LA Zoo has bred the species in its history.

"It is incredibly rewarding for our team to experience success breeding this species," said Byron Wusstig, LA Zoo acting curator of ectotherms. "This species is not endangered, but it is rarely seen in zoo settings outside of Australia. The LA Zoo is one of only three AZA-accredited institutions that have successfully reproduced them."

The babies are doing well, are eating and are being closely observed by Zoo staff. While they continue through early stages of development, they will be raised off-exhibit in very specific, controlled environmental conditions that will allow them to thrive. The adult male perentie, the sire of the new babies, can be seen by Zoo visitors in the Zoo's Australia section adjacent to the Komodo dragon habitat.

Native to Australia, perenties are among the world's largest lizards, dwarfed only by the Komodo dragon, Asian water monitor and a few others. Adults of the species can reach more than eight feet in length and can weigh more than 40 pounds. They are identified by their brown skin with

cream or yellow markings.

Perenties are a carnivorous species and eat a variety of food, including turtle eggs, insects, birds, other reptiles and small mammals and marsupials. Perenties track their prey by sight or by sensing with their tongue. Once caught, the perentie will violently shake the prey until it is dead and then swallow it whole.

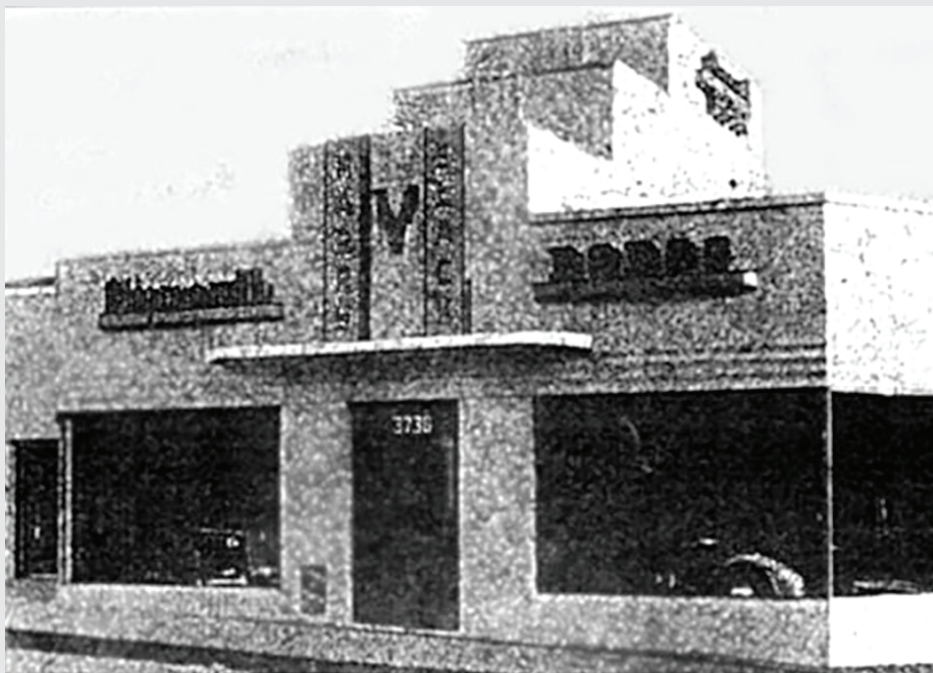
The Los Angeles Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and is dedicated to providing exemplary animal care and wellbeing. As a trusted leader in local and global conservation efforts, the Los Angeles Zoo is saving wildlife and connecting Angelenos to the natural world by delivering diverse learning opportunities and creating unforgettable experiences. The 133-acre campus is lush and its team is passionate and dedicated and welcomes all to be inspired by the Zoo's vision to create a just and sustainable world where people and wildlife thrive, together.

The Zoo is located on Zoo Drive in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$22 for adults and \$17 for children ages 2 to 12. For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L.A. Zoo website at www.lazoo.org.



Photo Courtesy Los Angeles Zoo
A perentie lizard hatchling emerges from its egg at the Los Angeles Zoo, marking the first successful breeding of this species in the Zoo's history. Native to Australia, perenties are among the world's largest lizards, rarely seen in zoos outside their native country.

THEN & NOW



*Harry Slack Car Dealership
Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV*

Then: Harry V. Slack opened this Dodge-Plymouth dealership in 1936 in this purpose-built art deco styled showroom on the southeast corner of Honolulu Avenue and Verdugo. The neon work on the signs and following the lines of the building was stunning and featured a large neon "V" (for Harry V. Slack) above the door. Besides the new car showroom the dealership featured a large used car lot, service bays at the back of the showroom and a three-pump gas station next door. There was a piano in the showroom and Mrs. Slack would "tinkle the ivories" to entertain the browsing customers. In the '50s this became the first location for Swanson's Furniture. In the '60s, Foothill Mattress moved from Tujunga into the showroom.

Now: After a brief stint as a men's clothing store, the old Harry V. Slack building became a Verizon store. Here's a little Verizon history – in 1984 the Bell Telephone Company was broken up into several smaller companies, commonly called "Baby Bells." One of the Baby Bells, Bell Atlantic, greatly expanded by acquired GTE (General Telephone and Electronics) in 2000. They rebranded as "Verizon," a combination of "veritas" (Latin for "truth") and "horizon." With the changeover to a Verizon store, it's too bad they don't still have the big neon "V" above the door.

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JUST FOR FUN

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The club is dark on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3 in observance of Christmas and New Year's. The club returns on Jan. 10. The cost to attend Friday meetings, which includes lunch and program, is \$25. All are welcome.

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

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 Friday (note new day) from 10 a.m. to noon in the Park's building at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. There are no events on Dec. 27 in observance of the Christmas holiday.

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.

FLOAT DECORATING OPPORTUNITY

Volunteer with the Kiwanis International Rose Float Project to decorate floats for the 2025 Tournament of Roses Parade! The float construction site is at Phoenix Decorating Company in Irwindale. This year, there will be a one-time \$5 registration fee for all volunteers, including Key Club advisors and

chaperones.

New this year: All volunteers ... adults and teens ... will receive a Kiwanis Decorating Team shirt that must be worn while decorating. There is a limit of one free shirt per year, but additional shirts are available for a \$20 donation. A meal will be provided for each shift for everyone who signs up through the Kiwanis portal. Payments will be accepted online and in-person at the float site. Further details will be included in follow-up communications after sign up.

Please note: Decorating shifts begin at the time listed. Volunteers must arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of their shift in order to be checked in and ready to begin on time.

Visit the Sign Up Genius at <https://tinyurl.com/mu3ye4vu> for more info.

CCLCF CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge will be closed from Dec. 24 - Jan. 1.

Visit the CCLCF website at cclcf.org or call (818) 790-4353.

CANASTA IS CALLING

Canasta - an activity that will brighten your day with fun and relaxation. Those who have not played before - don't worry; you will be taught! 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.

BACK TO SCHOOL EXHIBITION AT BOLTON HALL MUSEUM

Bolton Hall Museum is celebrating the history of Sunland-Tujunga's public schools. Its new exhibit, Back to School with Bolton Hall, traces the history of local education from its humble beginnings as a one-room schoolhouse to the vibrant community of schools that exist today. Spotting each of the area's public schools, the exhibit features vintage yearbooks, textbooks, photographs and more.

Bolton Hall Museum is open for visits on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome and admission is free. This exhibit runs through spring 2025.

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

Additional information is available from Little Landers Historical Society by calling (818) 352-3420 or visit BoltonHall.org or email llhs@boltonhall.org.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTING MONTH

Community members are invited to join the Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club, a community of stamp enthusiasts that meets regularly to share their passion for this timeless hobby.

The Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club meets every third Tuesday at the LA County Library

- La Crescenta located at the corner of La Crescenta Avenue and Foothill Boulevard, 2809 Foothill Blvd., at 7 p.m. in the second floor community room.

For more information about the club and upcoming meetings, call (818) 903-4451.

ALL INVITED TO HANUKKAH IN THE FOOTHILLS

The ninth annual Hanukkah in the Foothills will take place on

Saturday, Dec. 28 at 4:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 10137 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. At sundown the menorah will be lit and the story of miracles will be shared. Come and enjoy music, potato latkes and donuts.

This is a free event for all ages and faiths to come together and celebrate the Festival of Lights.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com December 23, 2024 - December 29, 2024

ARIES March 21 - April 19

Exciting new ideas and fresh opportunities are calling your name, but don't let self-doubt trip you up. Don't be afraid to think big, but remain grounded. Take time to reflect privately—your inner world needs a little sorting out too. Trust your intuition, but give the facts a quick double-check.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

Money, investments, or shared resources need your attention. Handle debts—financial or emotional—with care and accountability, avoiding quick fixes or the blame game. Prioritize long-term stability and choices that align with your values and future goals over band-aid solutions. Get input from your trusted circle, but don't overanalyze it.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You're caught between craving more freedom and the pressure to meet work demands or please others. Professional delays test your patience but offer a chance to reassess your path or commit harder. Get clear on boundaries and long-term goals, without neglecting your responsibilities or the needs of others.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

Things are falling into place, even if it doesn't feel like it. Don't rush it. Setbacks are a sign to check any limiting beliefs holding you back—take your time and work through them. Dream big, but remember the small details matter too. Both are important for the journey ahead.

LEO July 23 - August 22

Don't stretch yourself too thin by taking on more than you can handle, especially when it comes to social or group activities. If there's any emotional or financial drama in your relationships, handle it with care. Rethink how you're sharing things and if it's really benefiting both sides.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Home life, work, and relationships need some balance. Are your personal and professional worlds syncing up? Don't put your personal life or relationships on the back burner for work. Be honest with your loved ones, don't let one area take over, and adjust boundaries or expectations where needed.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Communication's a bit chaotic, with big ideas clashing with the details. Take your time with decisions and pause before speaking. Traveling or taking that course you've been eyeing sounds tempting, but double-check if it's really the right time to explore that. Pace yourself to avoid burnout.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

It's a tug of war between having fun and handling responsibilities, especially when it comes to relationships and finances. The key is balancing joy with duty. Take time to rethink your values around money, shared resources, and how it impacts your self-worth. What feels off? Realign and adjust where needed.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Your relationships and home life are asking for attention. Are your needs matching up with others' expectations? Don't overpromise or stretch yourself too thin. Set clear boundaries, especially if family drama is in the mix. Watch for misunderstandings—take a sec to make sure your words match your intentions.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Your mental health and daily hustle need some TLC. Running on empty or feeling burnt out? Balance productivity with self-care by identifying where you're been overcommitting and make tweaks to restore balance. Don't forget to communicate those changes to others who are involved, even if it feels awkward or hard.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Group dynamics might feel a bit off or intense right now. Feeling misunderstood? You might want to speak your mind, but take a step back and see who truly appreciates the real you and shares your values—don't give in to peer pressure or say something you'll regret later.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

It's okay to focus on your personal goals, but make sure you're also getting real about the time and energy your career and home life demands. Take a breather, avoid rushing big decisions, and stay rooted. Be honest with others, even if they're disappointed—you gotta stay true to yourself.

ACROSS

- 1) Accomplish, biblically
- 6) Mentally healthy
- 10) Anagram of "laws"
- 14) Wiser companion
- 15) Intensely interested
- 16) One of the strings
- 17) Emergency light
- 18) Announced ones' presence at the door
- 19) Boldly provocative
- 20) Coat of arms
- 23) Lubricant
- 24) Dog biter
- 25) Canal large enough for seagoing vessels
- 27) Baby newt
- 30) "Meet Me ___ Louis"
- 32) HHH, to Homer
- 33) Takes as spoils
- 35) Register part
- 37) Let fly, as lava
- 40) Certain undergrad, briefly
- 41) What some popular videos go
- 42) Blacken on a grill
- 43) German river
- 44) Italian desserts
- 45) Sing "nyah-nyah" to
- 46) One spelling for an Eastern potato
- 48) Store on board
- 50) Male doll
- 51) Alcove for eating
- 54) Snooker cushion
- 56) Gene material, in brief
- 57) Some occurred in Geneva
- 62) "Green Gables" girl
- 64) Newspaper notice, briefly
- 65) Brook catch
- 66) Bartlett, for one
- 67) Decidedly not marshy
- 68) Avoid doing
- 69) Emerald Isle language
- 70) Rocks to refine
- 71) Increased excessively, as a score

DOWN

- 1) Remove one's hat
- 2) Bulging earthenware vessel
- 3) Dutch cheese
- 4) Finishing stroke, to a calligrapher
- 5) Latticework for vines
- 6) Full of barbs
- 7) Petri dish stuff
- 8) Roman day
- 9) Pale yellowish-white
- 10) "___ Maria"
- 11) Eddie Munster's hairline feature
- 12) Maxims
- 13) Craftily
- 21) Desire
- 22) "___-Willow" ("The Mikado" song)
- 26) Out of fashion
- 27) "So what ___ is new?"
- 28) April 1 honoree
- 29) Vaudeville headliners
- 31) Coupe quartet
- 34) Musical motif
- 36) Catholic sacrament
- 38) Ill at ___ (uncomfortable)
- 39) Brown songbird
- 41) Flawless musician
- 45) Tweet source
- 47) "For what ___ worth ..."
- 49) Horse morsel
- 51) Window decor
- 52) Away from the outer edge
- 53) Fireplace remnant
- 55) Insect stage
- 58) Thick mud
- 59) Homebuyer's need, usually
- 60) Twisty-horned antelope
- 61) Kind of child
- 63) "... ___ he drove out of sight ..."

12.24.24

REACH FOR IT

By Jill Pepper

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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69					70				71				

ANSWERS on page 4

PET OF THE WEEK

CV Weekly loves to hear about your pets! Send a pic and small caption to steve@cvweekly.com to share your lovable pets with the community!



PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

My Electrolux refrigerator hasn't worked right since I bought it. Can you fix it?

The Electrolux refrigerator Gayle Douglas purchased doesn't work – and it never has. How many times should the company attempt a repair before it replaces or refunds the appliance?

Q I bought a new Electrolux refrigerator last fall. The refrigerator has not worked right since it was hooked up. The temperature does not adjust right and it freezes anything under the ice maker or anywhere near the back of any of the shelves and the crisper drawers.

I bought a set of refrigerator thermometers so I can see what the actual temperature is; the temperature ranges between 29 and 34 in the refrigerator with the control set at 40 degrees. A sheet of ice is behind the crisper drawers and ice is built up on the ice maker in the bottom freezer.

I've lost a lot of food because it froze. I have called Electrolux's warranty department numerous times. I have had eight visits to our house by two separate technicians to try to diagnose and or fix this

refrigerator. They have replaced the rear tower twice and the seal that connects the refrigerator to the freezer five or six times, but it hasn't fixed the problem.

Electrolux sold me a lemon and I feel I am just being strung along until the warranty expires. I would like to be refunded the \$2,100 I spent so I can get a properly working refrigerator. Can you help?

– Gayle Douglas, Richland, Washington

A: Electrolux should have given you a problem-free refrigerator. And if it couldn't it should have fixed your appliance quickly.

But eight visits by a technician? Come on!

As I've noted in previous stories, manufacturers like Electrolux strongly prefer repairing appliances to replacing or

refunding them. And the reason is simple: It's less expensive.

You should give an appliance manufacturer the opportunity to fix a problem with your new appliance. By "reasonable" I mean two or three chances. After that, you have every right to request a replacement or a refund.

You kept an excellent paper trail between you and Electrolux. It's painful to read. You repeatedly asked the company to fix your refrigerator and it repeatedly offered excuses and delays. I really don't understand how or why Electrolux would test your patience like this – unless of course it were profitable.

Sometimes an appeal to someone higher up the food chain can yield better results. I publish the names, numbers and email addresses of the top customer service executives at Electrolux on my consumer

advocacy site, Elliott.org.

I contacted Electrolux on your behalf. A representative responded directly to you.

"We apologize for the issues you are having with your current appliance," he wrote in an email. "We feel the best means of offering assistance would be to buy back your appliance on a prorated basis. Based on the purchase date and the original purchase price, we are offering to buy back your appliance for 100% of the original purchase price."

You received a full refund from Electrolux.

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

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CALENDAR THIS previous page

PASADENA HERITAGE OFFERS WALKING TOURS

On Saturday, Dec. 28, Pasadena Heritage invites the community to take walking tours featuring some of Pasadena's unique architectural treasures. Attendees have the

opportunity to participate in two different walking tours. Please note: walking tours will last at least two hours and will take place rain or shine!

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/99aavmwa> for tickets and

more information.

CHANUKAH FESTIVAL HOSTED BY CHABAD OF LA CANADA - LA CRESCENTA

The Chabad of La Cañada - La Crescenta is having a Chanukah

Festival at Memorial Park on Sunday, Dec. 29 at 4 p.m. A special performance will be given by world renowned ventriloquist Chuck Field. This event promises to be fun for the whole family. In addition, the Festival will feature Chanukah crafts, a petting zoo, jelly donuts, latkes, chocolate gelt and more.

Free to attend. RSVP at <https://www.cvchabad.org>.

LEARN MODERN SQUARE DANCING

A new 13-week beginner's class in modern square dancing is starting Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7:45 p.m. at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta. The first two classes are free.

Meet new people while getting exercise for both body and mind. Learn the Steps to Fun! For more info email illi313@yahoo.com or visit www.setsinstep.org.

BOLTON HALL PRESENTS 'IMBIBING LA'

Bolton Hall Museum invites the public to get the New Year off to a good start by taking part in the first 2nd Saturday program of the New Year. The program is at 1 p.m. on Jan. 11 at Bolton Hall Museum in Tujunga.

LA has been a center of winemaking and brewing since the wine-loving Spaniards first settled in the area. Presenter for this program is journalist, author and culinary historian Richard Foss who will talk about how Los Angelenos' tastes in alcoholic beverages have shifted through the years from the first communion wines served by monks to the Prohibition era of law-dodging partiers to modern beverage craftsmen.

This event is free to attend and open to the public; everyone is welcome.

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

Additional information is available from Little Landers Historical Society, by calling (818) 352-3420, visiting BoltonHall.org or emailing llhs@boltonhall.org.

LCWC HOSTS BINGO

The La Crescenta Woman's Club is having a bingo game on Saturday, Jan. 25 at the clubhouse. Check-in is at 5 p.m.; games begin at 6 p.m.

The cost is \$25 per person, which includes bingo sheets for 10 games (four cards per game).

Sponsors are wanted.

Tickets are now on sale; visit <https://lacscentawomansclub.org/> for more information.

The LCWC clubhouse is located at 4004 La Crescenta Ave.

FRITZ COLEMAN'S SHOW EXTENDS AT THE EL PORTAL

"Unassisted Residency," the live comedy performance by TV personality Fritz Coleman that features special guests, has been extended at the El Portal Theatre in the Monroe Forum, 5269 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood.

Shows are on Sundays at 3 p.m. on Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 30 and April 27, 2025. Further 2025 dates to be announced.

Admission is \$40 for general admission; \$50 for cocktail table seating.

Online ticketing is available at <https://www.elportaltheatre.com/fritzcoleman.html>.

ACTIVITIES AT SUNLAND SENIOR CENTER

The Sunland Senior Center offers a selection of classes and activities daily. Whether seniors are looking to exercise or dance or are interested in art, theater, or knitting, the Center has something for everyone. Sunland also hosts bingo on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and a movie matinee on the big screen at 1 p.m. on Thursdays; on Mondays and Fridays there is country line dancing from noon-1:30 p.m. The Sunland Senior Center runs programming from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. with a donations-based lunch served daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunland Senior Center is located at 8640 Fenwick St. in Sunland. For further information, call (818) 353-9571. These special events are free.

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RELIGION

NOTES & NODS

MT. OLIVE OFFERS A BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY & A COMMUNITY LUNCH

Mt. Olive invites the Crescenta Valley community to its monthly breakfast Bible study at Panera Bread Restaurant, 990 Town Center Drive, Suite A in La Cañada on the third Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. They are currently in the Book of Second Corinthians. Also, a weekly Bible study is held at the church on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Lastly, Mt. Olive offers a community luncheon every second Wednesday through May. For a suggested minimum donation of \$5, a delicious lunch is offered including a brief uplifting devotion and some great entertainment provided by various local artists.

Mt. Olive is located at 3561 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta.

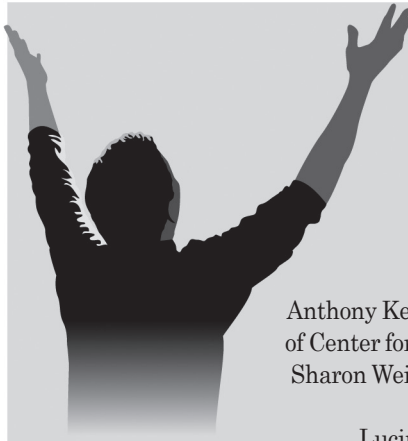
WALK AND WORD

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 Dec. 29. Participants will walk for the first hour and then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.

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

Those with questions can email Jeanne at jnlavieri@earthlink.net.

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



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Jon Karn of Light on the Corner Church; Rev. Kimberlie Zakarian of Holy House Ministries; Anthony Kelson RScP, Laney Clevenger-White, RScP, and Rev. Dr. Beverly Craig of Center for Spiritual Living-La Crescenta; Rabbi Janet Bieber, Carolyn Young, Sharon Weisman; Rev. Mary Morgan, Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta; Rev. Dabney Beck, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; Lucinda Guarino, Rev. Karin Ellis, La Cañada United Methodist Church; Rev. Sherri James, UP Church; The Rev. C. L. "Skip" Lindeman, Upland Christian Church; Rev. Rob Holman, St. Luke's Anglican Church; Rev. Sharri Johnson, One Heart Retreat Center; Larry Maib Emeritus, Highlands Church La Crescenta; Rev. Valerie Reeves, Staff Minister, Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living

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

Question: I am in a dilemma about Christmas time regarding gift giving. It seems as though all the stores, TV ads and basically everyone I know is preoccupied with giving and getting gifts. In my mind this is not what the Christmas season is about. I have many people I would like to give gifts to but I just don't have the money. I don't bake and I'm not creative enough to make gifts and I just feel so hopeless and downhearted that I can't give the ones I care about something they would like. It makes me want to hide out and avoid getting together with anyone over the holidays.

Do you have any suggestions of what I can do?

Signed,

Downhearted

warmth of being with family" through pictures of comfort surrounded by expensive items, brilliant colors, shiny objects and abundant food all prepared and laid out by professionals, photographed artfully by photographers and imagined by people who rarely, if ever, have actually experienced anything like that in real life. In short, it is a fantasy that is largely unattainable for most of us.

The retailers are acting in their own best interests. Retailers are not concerned that most people cannot achieve what is being promoted.

How about thinking of those you would like to connect with at Christmas and write something to them? A few sentences telling them what they mean to you. Perhaps relate a story from past experiences you shared that is dear to you. You could even put what you write onto a card. Take the time to write it on scratch paper and then write your corrected words carefully and legibly so your card looks neatly done. How often do we take the time to communicate what is really important – that is, our connection with our loved ones?

Merry Christmas and may your holiday season be full of good connections!

Rabbi Janet Bieber
Temple Beth Emet, Burbank

Dear Downhearted,
How about this? It requires effort but write a note or Christmas card to each

person on whom you were planning to shower a gift. Tell that person how much you care for them and why. I seem to remember reading Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay on "Gifts" (when I was in high school) and he did not like the idea of gift-giving because it could bring a sense of obligation to the person receiving the gift.

You do not have to parrot Emerson's words but try to give what I said above to each person.

And you could say on every card, "Christmas makes me thankful for YOU."

Good luck and Merry Christmas!

The Rev. C. L.
"Skip" Lindeman,
Upland Christian Church,
Disciples of Christ

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LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

FREE QUONSET TYPE military/agricultural type storage building for removal and reuse as possible. Size is approximately 21' wide X 112' long X 12' high at top of arching roof. Older post war Quonset type bldg. with painted (lead paint) corrugated metal skin, metal interior supporting arches at approx. 10 ft. on centers, and 2 overhead loading doors, 1 at end & 1 at side. The location is at Oakmont Country Club, Glendale with good access for dismantling of this portable type building. The slab foundation can stay but bldg. must be removed between Jan 15, 2025 & March 1, 2025. Photos available upon request. Contact Kurt Desiderio at Oakmont Country Club for more information at desiderio@oakmontcc.com. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly December 26, 2024, January 2, 9, 16, 2025.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

MID VALLEY TOWING II
LIEN SALE: 22-NISS
License: ZKB559 / HI
VIN: 1N4BL4CV5N309817
to be sold at 10:00 am on 1/7/2025 @ 524 Riverdale Dr Glendale, CA. Published by Crescenta Valley Weekly, December 26, 2024. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly December 26, 2024.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta Cloud Ave located at 4441 Cloud Ave., La Crescenta, CA 91214 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 1/16/2025 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Laura Hage; William E Patterson. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly December 26, 2024.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta located at 4454 Lowell Ave La Crescenta, CA 91214 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 1/16/2025 at 10:00 AM. Ron Romanes; Blaise Devitt; Mitzzy Solorio; Jay Arthur Holladay; Bridget Marie Buchanan; Leslie Irene Alderette; Hrachya Nersisyan; James Lawrence Magill; Julieta Betancourt. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly December 26, 2024.

LEGALS

NOTICE

In accordance with Sec. 106 of the Programmatic Agreement, AT&T plans an ANTENNA ARRAY ON EXISTING SCE TOWER at 7717 VERDUGO CRESTLINE DRIVE TULJUNGA, CA 91402. Please direct comments to Gavin L. at 818-391-0449 regarding the site CLL05422, CNS-3879080# Published by the Crescenta Valley Weekly, 12/19, 12/26/24.

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CANYON from Cover

This is an area just above the Foothill (210) Freeway and for decades has been a walking path for hikers.

Emma Kemp, the co-founder of No Canyon Hills, said she has been taken aback by the lawsuit, especially with the naming the two individuals along with the non-profit.

"It's one thing to sue a non-profit group but I think it's quite another thing to sue individuals," she said.

That is just one thing that has upset Kemp – the individuals who have been named in the lawsuit are just young people who "care about the environment." They, according to Kemp, recorded what they saw and reported it to the proper authorities.

This is an action numerous hikers do as they hike along the many trails in California, reporting everything from bird migration to vegetation, like the sighting of poodle-dog bush (the "fire flower" that appears after

a wildfire that can cause severe irritation to the skin).

The most recent findings in the area of the Whitebird proposed project was the finding of Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), a species that is designated in the California Endangered Species Act.

This finding prompted the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife to issue a letter stating Whitebird's application for an incidental take permit, that allows the developer to build homes in the area of a protected species, was incomplete.

This is just a series of delays for the project, which has spanned about two decades. The area where Whitebird wants to build its gated community with about 221 single-family homes that it calls Canyon Hills is in dispute with environmentalists and local residents.

The project was approved by the City of Los Angeles in 2005

but that approval will expire in October 2026, so the clock is ticking – loudly – for the project to begin.

No Canyon Hills is a non-profit that was started due to concern over the project.

Kemp said one of its concerns is the threat of fire. Since the EIR (environmental impact report) was issued in 2003 there have been several larger wildfires in and around the area. Fire departments have also newly implemented a "fire zone" program that categorizes wildfire threat in each area. The area in question at 7000 to 8000 La Tuna Canyon Road is categorized in an "extreme fire zone." With the recent practice of insurance companies either canceling or increasing the cost of fire insurance, residents are more aware than ever of what an extreme fire zone indicates.

Kemp pointed out that a lot has changed over the past 21

years since the last EIR was done. The project would cut through a wildlife corridor as well.

A petition that was prompted by the request to conduct an update EIR has, as of Monday, 178,000 signatures and continues to grow.

Kemp said the proposed project has reached beyond the Sunland-Tujunga and La Tuna Canyon areas. The hiking path in the region has been used for decades including those who hike to the Cross of San Ysidro.

Kemp added that she has come across many hikers along the area in question but has never seen a No Trespassing sign.

"I have never seen a single No Trespassing sign," she said. "And there's no fencing – not even a wire that states it is private property."

In addition, the lawsuit states that "despite Whitebird's

issuance of cease-and-desist demands" the No Canyon Hills organization has continued.

"I did not receive and was not aware of any cease or desist correspondence from the developer," Kemp said.

CVW reached out to the attorney for Whitebird but as of press time did not get a response.

For more information on No Canyon Hills, visit nocanyonhills.org or to sign the petition visit <https://tinyurl.com/26yehzp2>.

This is an ongoing story that CVW will continue to follow.

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SENATOR from Cover

personal loss, and expanding affordable housing to help more Californians achieve homeownership. She is committed to enhancing public safety with well-resourced, compassionate crisis management strategies. She will advocate for equitable health care access, including reproductive care, and work to reduce the financial barriers to higher education for California's students. With a focus on environmental justice, she plans to hold polluters accountable and expand renewable energy access in underserved communities. Additionally, she will fight for working families by advocating for fair wages, expanding access to good-paying jobs, and protecting small businesses in the face of rising costs.

"When it comes to advancing policy, whether it is improving education and healthcare access or creating jobs, I know collaboration and constructive dialogue are extremely important. Throughout my career and time in public office, I have always approached public service with integrity, transparency and an openness to listen. Regardless of where we stand on the political spectrum, we all want to build a brighter future for California, and I am ready to answer that call," concluded Senator Pèrez.

As an incoming legislator, Senator Pèrez brings widespread experience in civic leadership, public policy and community advocacy. She made history as the youngest Latina mayor in California to lead a mid-sized city while guiding Alhambra through the COVID-19 pandemic. A San Gabriel Valley native with deep public service roots, she will continue championing causes, like youth empowerment, housing access, advancing higher education opportunities and immigrant rights in the State Senate by bridging grassroots advocacy with a history of impactful leadership.

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