

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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High Wind Alert Launches First Meeting of New Year for Council

By Julie BUTCHER

The Glendale City Council held a short but jam-packed meeting on Tuesday night, its first of the new year, on a night that Mayor Elen Asatryan announced the city was opening its emergency operations center in response to severe high winds.

The mayor urged Glendaleans to sign up for text alerts bit.ly/EmergencyEnroll and to follow the city on social media for updates and emergency information. She added that folks can contact the city's communications team directly at communications@GlendaleCA.gov or by calling (818) 545-4213.

The council unanimously approved the appointment of Edith Fuentes to the Planning Commission; Alex Parajon to the Audit Commission; Erasto Ongkeko Jr. to the Building and Fire Appeals Commission; Sue Bell Yank to the Arts and Culture Commission; and Regina Alcazar to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission. Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian balked at the appointment of Ted Flanigan to the GWP Commission.

"I'm okay with all of the other nominations," Gharpetian said. "I believe we should be a little bit careful about appointing consultants or lobbyists. I read Mr. Flanigan's resume – [he has] extensive experience, I'll admit – very knowledgeable, very experienced, but I don't think we should appoint consultants or activists or lobbyists."

Gharpetian reported that Flanigan's business had done work for the city in 2019 and 2022 and that Flanigan had served on the commission in 2020.

"I served on commissions for 10 years," Gharpetian continued. "The role of the commission is for the average joe of the community to help the city, to be kind of in the middle, not to be too much to one side on any issue."

see GCC on page 8

Wind-driven Fires Darken Local Skies

By Mary O'KEEFE

Fires erupt throughout the Southland.

"Like something I have never seen before." That was a quote from Los Angeles Police Dept. Chief Jim McDonnell referring to the wind-driven fires that began with the Palisades Fire on Tuesday at about 10:30 a.m., then came the Eaton Fire later that night then the Hurst Fire in Sylmar – also on Tuesday night – and the Woodley Fire that started early Wednesday morning.

Emergency responders knew this was going to be a difficult time as the prediction of the strong winds were warned about; however, these unusual Santa Ana winds moved the fire so fast it shocked even the most veteran of emergency responders.

Throughout Tuesday firefighters battled the Palisades Fire that was first reported southeast of Palisades



Photo by Mary O'KEEFE
Feroocious winds whipped through the foothills downing trees like this one on Los Amigos Street in La Crescenta.

Drive in Pacific Palisades. The fire went from covering 200 acres to 1,000 in a short time and continued to grow leaving a path of destruction in its wake. An estimated 30,000 people were under mandatory evacuation.

But some faced road closures and traffic jams and at one point people in the area of Palisades Drive and some on Sunset Boulevard appeared to panic as they attempted to evacuate. They got stuck in traffic and just

abandoned their vehicles – many taking their vehicle keys with them making it almost impossible for emergency vehicles, including fire engines, to get to the areas that were in need.

see WIND AND FIRE on page 7

New Laws for People to Learn

By Mary O'KEEFE

It is that time of year again for Californians to get to know the multitude of laws their legislative representatives have passed in 2024. There are about 1,000 new laws that hit the books the first day of 2025.

According to CalMatters, legislators actually presented about 5,000 bills. In total 1,200 bills were passed by legislators; Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed 200 of those presented.

Below is the list of 12 new laws highlighted by the Speaker's Office:

- **AB 2017:** A bank or credit union is prohibited from charging a consumer a non-sufficient funds fee when consumer's attempt to initiate a transaction is declined instantaneously or near instantaneously due to non-sufficient funds.
- **SB 1075** requires a credit union to provide a member notice each time the credit union assesses an overdraft fee or non-sufficient fund fee.

see NEW LAWS on page 5



Cars like this one could be cited under the new "daylighting law."

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE



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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Wild, Windy Times

These last few days have been especially stressful as local businesses and residents dealt with vicious winds that sparked fires nearby and farther away. For me it's all reminiscent of the Station Fire, which started in August 2009 as I was getting ready to launch the Crescenta Valley Weekly.

I remember I was wondering what to put on the front page of my first paper; however, once the fire hit it wasn't difficult to decide what would be on the cover. The devastation we experienced, coupled with evacuations, made for uncertain times. And all we had to deal with was the fire, not the horrendous winds that actually started so many of these blazes this time around.

I knew we were in trouble on Tuesday night when Steve, who usually teaches a Montrose Search and Rescue training class on Tuesdays, called me to say that the class was canceled and he was being called out to "work the fire." At that time the only fire was the one in Pacific Palisades; little did I know that not long after I arrived home did another fire break out, this time in Eaton Canyon in (much closer) Altadena. As the winds shrieked outside my La Crescenta house, power

went out at the house about 10:30 p.m. Thankfully, my mother-in-law had given us three little lanterns (with batteries) that worked like a charm to help me navigate my dark abode.

Steve got home some time after I went to bed but was called out again when it was still dark outside (I think he slept for about 90 minutes).

At the office, the power was still on (it never went out) but we lost internet and our phones. Consequently, the paper you're reading was pieced together at various sites: the home of our layout guy in North Hollywood and downtown LA at the home of Mary's daughter and boyfriend (they had power, heat and internet – a winning trifecta to be sure). Unfortunately, our proofreader lives in La Crescenta and was without power and internet, too; consequently she couldn't read the articles beforehand to make corrections. I ask you to please be kind when reading this issue though I have to admit that I've learned a lot from Anne on writing better.

see ROBIN on page 8

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

When we started CVW it was September 2009 and we were knee-deep in the Station Fire. I had covered fire and law enforcement when I was with the Valley Sun and LA Times Community News but the Station Fire was something else. I remember getting a call that there was a small fire in the Angeles National Forest that was probably going to be contained "soon" ... but it wasn't. My son Charly (who also writes for the CV Weekly) and I spent a lot of time in the field those next few days as the fire continued to spread, incident command centers moved and we all watched as the fire just didn't seem to end. The next year we faced the floods and then in 2011 the winds arrived that had many of us lose power for days ... and days.

So you would think I would be prepared for the Eaton Canyon Fire that was heading our way on Tuesday night/Wednesday morning; but this was a different experience. It was the intense winds of 2011 plus the fire of 2009, but these winds were strong and a force to be reckoned with.

I went to take a photo from the top parking lot of the YMCA of the Foothills. I got out of my car expecting a normal Santa Ana wind but this one punched me. It honestly felt like I had been hit in the arm as I was knocked into my car. I understood the meaning of the term "Mountain Wave" used by NOAA and other weather sources. One of the many weather specialists I was listening to on Tuesday and Wednesday described "Mountain Wave" as winds that come over the top of the mountain and pick up speed as they continue down the hill into the valley.

The smoke from the fire moved at a quick pace – as did the fire itself. The sky went from pink to black smoke in a matter of seconds. I, like I assume most Southern Californians, watched as the firefighters battled the fires at

Pacific Palisades, Eaton Canyon and Sylmar. News reporters followed the Eaton Canyon Fire, sharing how quickly the fire was moving.

Almost all of them stated, "I've never seen anything like this before." In our area the closet blaze was Eaton Canyon in Altadena. We saw the fire as a distant glow until later Tuesday evening when we began to see spot fires trickle down the mountain near La Cañada Flintridge. The street lamps and signal lights were all out along Foothill Boulevard giving it a haunted feel as only a few car lights could be seen through the light smoke that drifted down the boulevard. The wind was forcing my car out of its lane and the early morning sky held a strange kind of darkness.

Then came the evacuation warnings and orders. Even though there were not mandatory evacuation orders for areas of La Crescenta I started seeing a line of cars moving down from Briggs Terrace and the top of Rosemont Avenue. This line of cars emphasized how serious this fire was and how fast it was moving. As we were getting notice of evacuation warnings for La Crescenta and Montrose, I grabbed my "go" bag and made sure I had everything I needed.

It made me realize how important it is for us to be ready, set, go – as LA County Fire would advise. I had my battery-operated lanterns, my flashlight, emergency vest and medication. I also made sure I had my external hard drive, which holds of all my important paperwork, and my laptop. What I didn't realize was that my portable charger for my phone and computer were not charged. I remember specifically when I had planned to charge it, but I just put it off and then the power went out.

In my world, every mistake is a learning moment so here is what I learned from this latest fire storm: no matter how prepared I think I am ... I am not as prepared as I thought I was.

see WEATHER on page 8

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Don't Miss Next Week's Q&A – Phyllis discusses "How important are interior photos?"

NEWS

IN BRIEF

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING AND COLLECTION

Residents with the City of Glendale can recycle their Christmas trees now through April 1. Those living in a single-family or multi-family household (2-4 units) can recycle trees by placing them curbside on regular collection day. Please remember to remove all ornaments, decorations, bags, stands, bars, nail and tinsel/s (flocked trees and fire-retardant trees are okay). Trees must be cut in half if taller than 8 feet.

Those with questions should call the City of Glendale Public Works at (818) 548-3916.

Burrtec customers in the unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County - Montrose/La Crescenta can also put their tree curbside on collection day through the end of January. Customers need to make sure there are no ornaments, decorations, bags, stands, bars, nail and tinsel/s (flocked trees and fire-retardant trees are okay). Trees must be cut in half if taller than 6 feet.

Customers with questions can call Burrtec.

VETERANS HOST MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Local veterans host a monthly breakfast at the Verdugo Hills Memorial Hall on the second Saturday of the month. The breakfast is free to all local veterans and supporters, but donations are always graciously accepted. This month's breakfast is on Saturday, Jan. 11 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The Hall is located at 4011 La Crescenta Ave.

CVCA LOOKS AHEAD TO NEXT MEETING

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/>.

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.

Community, Home and Innovation: Self-Made Floats and CVHS Musicians Highlight this Year's Rose Parade



Photo by Eliza PARTIKA
LCF entry in the Tournament of Roses Parade: The City of LCF entry in the Tournament of Roses Parade earned the Crown City Innovator Award.

By Eliza PARTIKA

Excitement reigned at this year's Tournament of Roses Parade as almost 800,000 people poured on to Colorado Boulevard to witness the decorated floats make their way through Pasadena. At 5 a.m., volunteers helped to line up the floats on Orange Grove Boulevard in front of the Tournament House. Many spectators waited for the parade to start bundled up in lawn chairs, sleeping bags and tents or staking out their spot in the bleachers, donning winter wear and Rose Parade gear. Locals featured prominently in this year's parade - Burbank, La Cañada, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre and Downey won the Animator, Crown City Innovator, Fantasy, Golden State, Founder and Mayor's awards, respectively. Float scores were based on "creative design, floral craftsmanship, artistic merit, computerized animation, thematic interpretation, floral and color presentation and dramatic impact," according to the Tournament of Roses website. The floats with the highest scores in all categories received awards during float assessments.

Ernest Koeppen, president of the La Cañada Tournament of Roses Association (LCFTRA), said winning the Crown City Innovator Award gives him a trifecta of awards as president: his first the Mayor's Award given for community; the Golden State Award, representing his home California; and lastly, Crown City Innovator, for the cutting-edge technology used in this year's float with special recognition for the way decorating teams ground roses and other dry materials to create Mars.

"We've gone from a little bit to a little bit bigger, and now we can think bigger. I keep saying, 'Think big, think big, big things will happen.' So we thought huge and big things happened,"

Koeppen said.

Erik C. Andersen, a member of the Burbank Tournament of Roses Association, designed that city's float, Having a Lava-Fun, 34 years ago. He told the CV Weekly it was incredible to see his design in the parade and to win an award for animation.

"It was incredible seeing all those smiles on the kids' faces. This achievement is thanks to the incredible talent of our construction and decoration teams, along with the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to bring my vision to life. Without them it would have remained just a drawing on paper. It took 34 years to see my design float down Colorado Boulevard and I couldn't be prouder," said Andersen.

Attendees flocked to the Rose Bowl Stadium days before the parade to observe volunteers adding the final touches to the professional floats for Kaiser Permanente, the UPS Store, Boys & Girls Club, and Explore Louisiana, among others. Pasadena City College hosted each band performing in the parade at BandFest, a pre-parade showcase of the sets they performed in the parade.

Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) graduate Nicole Stephan had the honor of performing this year in the Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor Band. The Honor Band stood out in its uplifting performance of a set that included old-time favorites like "Saturday in the Park" by Chicago and "When the Saints Come Marching In" to reflect the parade theme of Best Day Ever.

For Stephan, who is a senior at CVHS, this year's Rose Parade - her third playing cymbals for

the Honor Band - is bittersweet.

"It's really cool when you know that you are representing your school. It's a huge honor to represent CV in a way that not other CV kids can do. The long lasting friendships I've created these past three years I know won't go away. It's something I will have that not many people will ever have. The feeling you have on the [January 1st] is something not many [high schoolers] get to experience," Stephan said.

Band director Kyle Luck said he is proud of his band, composed of 221 PCC Lancer Band students and select high school students from across Southern California, for their hard work and preparation, from their auditions to their practice march through Dodger Stadium, and finally to the parade. A former Tournament Honor Band member himself, Luck said it's his goal for students to come away proud of what

they accomplished and with memories they will carry with them for life.

"What it is to be excellent, that's what I want them to learn - what it is to achieve excellence. I can still recall the first time I went around TV Corner in 1983 on January 1, and I had no idea what to expect. And then the two years I did it after that - each one had its own differences and there are things that I can still recall from that experience. I want to make sure that my students have the best experience possible so they can enjoy the parade," Luck said.

For self-made floats like LCFTRA's Rover Rendezvous, the days before the parade are a dash to the finish line punctuated by the love and care volunteers put into their work, adding the last details before parading their creations for thousands to see.

see ROSE PARADE on page 8

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The Importance of Movement and the Senior Life Style



Photo by Anupam MAHAPATRA/Unsplash

Keeping active is key to living a healthy lifestyle, say experts.

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY
Movement is key to aging gracefully, according to many experts. In fact the benefits, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, can be immediate and include improved sleep quality, a reduction in feelings of anxiety

and a reduction in blood pressure. But there are long-term benefits, too, including a reduction in risks of developing dementia (including Alzheimer's disease) and a reduced risk of depression; reduced risk of heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes; lowered risk of eight types of cancers (bladder, breast,

colon, endometrium, esophagus, kidney, lung, and stomach); reduction in the risk of weight gain. Increased physical activity can also help people live independently longer, improve bone health, reduce the risks of falls and, according to emerging research, physical activity may

also help boost immune function. Though the benefits are obvious how to achieve them may not be. Thankfully, local senior centers, like the Sunland Senior Center, offer a variety of activities that appeal to seniors. For example, on Mondays and Fridays there is country line dancing from noon-1:30 p.m. Sunland Senior Center is located at 8640 Fenwick St. in Sunland. For further information, call (818) 353-9571.

At Crescenta Valley Park/LA County Senior Centers, Programs and Activities are a great place for adults ages 60-plus years to stay fit, active and to meet new people, according to the CV Parks & Recreation website. Activities promote physical and mental well-being, socialization, nutrition, life-long learning and volunteer opportunities.

Its website offers examples of activities including cultural classes and events, group walks, special interest classes, clubs, field trips and inter-generational experiences. Resource, referral, case management and social services are offered by other county departments. Service providers are co-located such as health screenings, grief counseling, Alzheimer's education and caregiver support.

CV Park also offers Dancing As Exercise, 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 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Park's community building at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta.

Light refreshments and water are provided along with

socialization and information about other park activities. Note that due to recent wildfires some of these events may be postponed.

Local hospitals can provide avenues for living more healthy. For example, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital asks, "Who says you have to 'age out' of good health?"

The hospital advises older people to check out who's consulting at their workplace or offering coaching services in the community. These people haven't let age stop them – in fact, they're gaining energy and peace of mind from their activities. Getting older doesn't have to signal a decline; in fact, the more active people stay the healthier and happier they're likely to be.

Visit keckmedicine.org for more information.

According to GymBird, there are gyms that are designed specifically for seniors. These facilities offer balance improvement exercises, mobility maintenance programs, muscle strength training and cardiovascular health activities. The local YMCAs provide these services and more.

Information on the YMCA of the Foothills website states that the three local YMCAs – YMCA of the Foothills, Crescenta-Cañada Y and Verdugo Hills Y – each offer a variety of low-impact classes specifically designed for seniors, including aqua arthritis, aqua fit, low impact land arthritis and gentle yoga. These classes focus on improving mobility, range of motion, endurance, balance, and flexibility while helping to ease joint stiffness.

Learn more at www.ymcaofthefoothills.org.



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Vitello's Steps Up to Support Fire-Affected Communities

By Charly SHELTON

As wildfires rage across Southern California leaving destruction in their wake, communities in Pacific Palisades, Sylmar and Altadena face unprecedented challenges. Lives have been upended, homes lost and families displaced. In times like these, it's the strength and compassion of local communities that bring hope and healing. In this spirit, Vitello's Italian Restaurant in Studio City has opened its doors to become a donation center, rallying the local community to provide relief to those affected by the devastating fires.

The team at Vitello's understands that during a crisis every small act of kindness can make a big difference. That's why it is inviting the community to contribute essential items to support displaced families. Non-perishable food, new clothing and basic necessities such as toothbrushes and deodorant are being collected at Vitello's. For those who wish to contribute financially, cash donations are also welcomed,

ensuring direct assistance can be given where it's needed most.

But it's not just about gathering donations; Vitello's is offering a helping hand to anyone affected by the fires. Vitello's is making essential supplies available to help families in this difficult time. It's a lifeline for many, reminding everyone of the importance of neighbors supporting neighbors.

Any donations that surpass immediate community needs will be forwarded to the Bailey Human Care Center in Tujunga where they will be distributed to even more families in need. This ensures that the generosity of the community stretches as far as possible, touching as many lives as it can.

Vitello's is also honoring the selfless heroes who have been on the frontlines battling these devastating blazes. First responders are the backbone of the community during disasters and Vitello's is showing its gratitude with a 50% discount on meals at any of its venues. Firefighters, police officers and other emergency



Photos by Charly SHELTON

personnel can present their ID cards to receive this small token of appreciation—a heartfelt thank you for their bravery and dedication.

In moments of crisis, it's the collective effort that helps communities heal. Vitello's is proud to stand with its neighbors, offering support, gratitude and a reminder that together we can weather even the darkest storms. Whether donating goods, sharing

resources or simply spreading the word, every action counts.

Vitello's encourages communities to come together, stay safe and support one another as these challenging times are navigated. Anyone able to donate or who need

assistance should visit Vitello's and be a part of the compassionate community effort to rebuild and recover.

Visit VitellosRestaurant.com for reservations and more info.

Letter Writing Campaign in Support of Rockhaven

Friends of Rockhaven is asking those who would like to support their effort in saving the Rockhaven Sanitarium to turn back time and write a letter – not an email but a handwritten letter – and mail it to the Glendale City Council asking them to support this historical woman-owned-and-operated mental health facility. The letters can be mailed to: City of Glendale, Attn: Glendale City Council, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206,

An example of a letter can be found below:

Dear Mayor Asatryan and Councilmen Brotman, Kassakhian, Gharpetian and Najarian,

We were so excited to see staff working on ways to save the bathrooms and the closet wall in the Pines at Rockhaven Historic District! How amazing it will be to one day see the floor tiles that Agnes Richards chose in 1931 that her granddaughter later covered in linoleum!

But we were told by the lovely Mr. Berry in our meeting with

Director Calvert that plans are still to make two bathrooms usable, add an accessible bathroom and put in a warming kitchen. It seems staff is considering this an all-inclusive building because it is the only space considered “public” at this point. Staff members said they have not gotten direction from Council to consider any other alternatives.

Besides the fact that the \$8 million grant is supposed to be used to create a park and museum, accessible walkways are being built across the campus and landscaping has been planned; staff is not making any plans to make this property a “park” unless directed by Council to do so. Plans right now are to shoehorn a bathroom into a bedroom that has a unique architectural detail and is, to us, display space for artifacts we have in storage.

So we are asking you to, right now while plans are still being finalized, direct staff to put in an outdoor accessible bathroom and to leave the Pines as original as possible.

What we have at this moment

is the only chance to be able to preserve all the original elements in this building! If it is decided later to make Rockhaven Historic District a park and then put in outdoor bathrooms we have irreversibly lost details and space we cannot get back!

And even if Rockhaven is never declared a park, if all the rest of it becomes businesses, it can only benefit from exterior public restrooms. There are 3.5 acres that will be used in one way or another and an outdoor bathroom just makes sense!

But staff members are under the gun to make sure they get everything done in time to claim the grant. If direction is to be given it cannot wait until they present it to Council at the last minute in February. Please! RIGHT NOW direct staff to put the bathrooms outside The Pines and leave the 1931 building as original as possible!

We thank you for your attention and action,

(Insert your signature here)

NEW LAWS from Cover

- **AB 2123:** This eliminates employers' ability to require employees to use accrued vacation leave before accessing California's Paid Family Leave Program.
- **AB 2863:** This law would require businesses to maintain verification of the consumer's affirmative consent for at least three years, or one year after the contract is terminated – whichever is the longer period. This would help those who sign up for a subscription and find the initial contract is not clear.
- **AB 2801:** Requires landlords to return deposits in full if rental is left clean and requires landlords

to take pictures of property if claiming damage or cleaning fees.

- **AB 3206:** This extends the sale of alcohol to 4 a.m. but is limited to the 100-person VIP club of the LA Clippers' new Inglewood arena.
- **SB 1144:** This law requires an online marketplace to establish and maintain a policy prohibiting the sale of stolen goods on the marketplace and to provide a mechanism to notify the marketplace of the sale of stolen goods, as specified, and would require an online marketplace to alert local, regional or state law enforcement agencies in

California if it knows or should know that a third-party seller is selling or attempting to sell stolen goods to a California resident, except as specified

One of the laws that may be a little tough to get used to the “daylighting law.” This law requires vehicles to be parked at least 20 feet away from the approaching side of all crosswalks. Drivers who park within 20 feet of a crosswalk could find a citation when they get back to their car. The citation can be issued even if there is no sign posted regarding the new rule. The no-parking zone decreases to 15 feet if there is a curb extension.

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Obituary
Marlene Hitt



Dec. 3, 2024

Marlene Hitt, age 88, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, passed away on Dec. 3.

Marlene was a longtime resident of Sunland-Tujunga and a treasured voice in her community. A poet, author, historian and devoted leader, she dedicated her life to preserving local history and to inspiring others through her writing and service. She served Little Landers Historical Society as docent, director, archivist and represented LLHS as a board member on the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. She authored Sunland-Tujunga, From Village to City. She wrote hundreds of historical columns for the Foothill Leader, Voice of the Village, SHPOA and North Valley Reporter. In all areas of service, she desired to ensure that local history remain a vital part of community discussions and decisions.

Marlene was a prolific poet and served as the first poet laureate of Sunland-Tujunga (1998-1999). She was a founding member of Chuparosa Writers, Women's Writing Workshop and Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga.

In earlier years Marlene was an active member and Sunday school teacher at Sunland First Baptist Church (now New Hope). She was a beloved sister in her P.E.O. Chapter DJ, serving two terms as president and was recently recognized as a Golden Girl.

Marlene's contributions earned her numerous accolades, including recognition as a Pioneer Woman of the Year and a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Known for her kindness, quiet strength, positive attitude and calming presence, Marlene was loved by all who knew her. She will be deeply missed.

Marlene is survived by her daughter Jeanette and husband Gary; her son Robert and wife Trish; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18 at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church, 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta.

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

Please submit 325-350 words plus a photo (preferred photo size is 200 dpi, 4x6 inches) to robin@cvweekly.com
CV Weekly Subscribers: \$50
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Obituary
**Reverend Dr.
Beverly Craig**



April 1, 1942 - Nov. 7, 2024

Reverend Dr. Beverly Craig made a peaceful transition from this world into eternity on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024. She was surrounded in love with her family members and friends by her side.

Rev. Bev, as she was lovingly referred to by all who knew her, was the oldest of nine children. She was born on April 1, 1942 to Leo E. and Claribel Muhlbach in Ravenna, Nebraska. She attended East Ward Elementary and Ravenna Junior and Senior High School, graduating in 1960. Soon after her high school graduation, Rev. Bev moved to California where she lived with her grandparents, George and Winifred Johnson, while she attended college.

During her college years, Rev. Bev met and married James Sauers. They had two children, Tamara Lynette and George Geoffrey. This marriage was dissolved in 1983. She was briefly married to Donald Craig from 1991 to 1996.

Rev. Bev answered her call to the ministry by joining Rev. Bill Schirmer at the La Crescenta Center for Spiritual Living after she graduated from the Ernest Holmes College in Huntington Beach in 1993. At the conclusion of the interview, Rev. Schirmer told Beverly, "You're just the minister I've been praying for." Rev. Bev also felt her prayers had been answered and accepted the position on the spot, serving in the capacity of assistant minister for eight years until Rev. Schirmer's passing. Rev. Bev was unanimously voted into the position of senior minister in 2001 and served in this position until May 2024 when she felt it was in the best interest of the La Crescenta Center and its

congregants that she retire due to a lengthy illness. This was a difficult decision for Rev. Bev as she loved her spiritual home and the congregants; but in her own words, she was ready to "pass the baton" to someone else who would fill her multiple positions and "grow the church," always putting the needs of others before herself.

One of Rev. Bev's proudest moments was when she received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in November 2019. This was an honor bestowed to her by the Centers for Spiritual Living organization (CSL), which very few ministers receive. Her doctorate was awarded in recognition of her many years of participation with the Centers for Spiritual Living organization (CSL), for her service and commitment to her community and for the years of participation and advancement of Religious Science practices. It was a rare honor for which she was most grateful and appreciative.

Rev. Bev was passionately and actively involved in many community organizations. She held the positions of FEMA chaplain, LA County Sheriff's chaplain, chairperson of the Sheriff's Clergy Council, YMCA chaplain, Community Emergency Response Team minister, member of the Strategic Partners/Drug & Alcohol Coalition, Glendale Religious Leaders Association, director of the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, and director of the Crescenta Valley Town Council. These were not just titles; Rev. Bev was active – daily, weekly or monthly – in every one of these organizations.

In addition to the organizations referenced above, Rev. Bev's contributions to the Center for Spiritual Living organization Youth Centers were indispensable from 1995 to 2005. As the manager of Youth Ministries, she was responsible for the development and implementation of the United Youth Program curriculum. She trained ministers throughout the U.S. in the youth program. Annually and bi-annually she coordinated youth retreats, which were attended by youth from all over the country who traveled to learn Religious Science principles and practices.

Fourteen years ago, in collaboration with Robin

Goldsworthy, editor of the Crescenta Valley Weekly, Rev. Bev initiated the Spiritually Speaking column. The column is a Q and A format designed to provide spiritual answers to the challenges community members face. Representatives from different religious denominations respond to questions, which gives readers insight into the various religious philosophies practiced throughout the community. The Spiritually Speaking column is still active today in her honor.

Rev. Bev was well known, respected and loved in her community. She believed that her purpose was to serve people and to share her deep convictions of the Religious Science principles and her love of the teachings.

Rev. Bev is predeceased by her parents, grandparents and two sisters, Patricia Lynne Muhlbach and Carolyn Jean Erickson. She is survived by her daughter Tammy Gingras and son-in-law Mike; son George Sauers (and former daughter-in-law, but loved like a daughter Irene Sauers); two grandchildren: Peter Muro and Kaitlyn Sauers – all of whom she loved and cherished.

Rev. Bev's living siblings and family members who now cherish her memories are Linda (Terry) Ott, Pamela (Jerry) Pandolfi, Paul Muhlbach, Cheryl (David) Rhodes, Debra (Ruben) Zamora and Dennis (Peggy) Muhlbach. A very special aunt, Barbara Shepherd, a special niece, Kimberly O'Connor, a special nephew Sean O'Connor and his wife Debbie, in addition to numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She will be dearly remembered by her church members at the Center for Spiritual Living - La Crescenta who Rev. Bev loved and held dear to her heart as well as many from the community who admired Rev. Bev. for her many contributions.

A celebration of life service will be held for Rev. Bev on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Center for Spiritual Living – La Crescenta, 4845 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. A reception will be in held directly after the service in Chaffee Hall.

A private interment will be scheduled at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Center for Spiritual Living – La Crescenta.

CRIME BLOTTER

JAN. 3

2200 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, deputies responded to a call concerning a burglary that had just occurred. The storefront window at the location was broken and the front door was ajar. Surveillance footage showed a male individual described as weighing about 230 lbs. and wearing a black shirt over a gray hoodie, black pants and a facemask. The man broke the glass window at the location and entered the building. He stole cash from the cash register

and then left the same way he had entered at 11:10 a.m.

1800 block of Fairmont Avenue in La Cañada Flintridge, a woman reported receiving an alarm activation while she was out of the area. She believed this to be a "false alarm" and deactivated the alarm and reactivated her security system. The next day she received a call from her landscaper who informed her the rear patio glass door at her home was shattered and the residence appeared to

be ransacked. She returned home and found several rooms ransacked and items on the floor of her bedroom that did not belong to her. Deputies took the items.

The burglary occurred at 5:26 p.m.

5500 block of Alta Canyon Road in La Cañada Flintridge, a family returned home to find their back door open and several rooms ransacked. Numerous personal items were stolen.

see BLOTTER on page 7

FIRE AND WIND from Cover

That is when a fire department bulldozer came in and plowed a path for emergency responders.

As of Wednesday at 1:23 p.m. the Palisades Fire had burned 15,832 acres, according to Cal Fire.

“The Palisades Fire is located in both LA City and LA County,” said LA County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone and Region 1 coordinator for Fire and Rescue Resources. “We have no percentage of containment [as of noon on Wednesday].”

During a Wednesday press conference Marrone reported that the fire destroyed an estimated 1,000 structures; there were no reported fatalities but a high number of significant injuries to residents “who did not evacuate in addition to first responders who are on the fire line.”

There were over 1,000 personnel assigned to the fire. The cause of the Palisades Fire is still under investigation.

“For the Eaton Fire, it is located in both the Angeles National Forest – the Altadena area of LA County and Pasadena,” Marrone said.

According to Cal Fire, the Eaton Fire began on Jan. 7 at 6:18 p.m. near Altadena and Midwick drives in Altadena/Pasadena. As of Jan. 8 at 1:21 p.m. the fire had destroyed 10,600 acres and was 0% contained.

“We have over 500 personnel assigned and unfortunately we have two reported fatalities to

civilians, unknown cause at this time. We do not have a number of significant injuries,” he added.

He said there were over 100 structures destroyed and the cause of the fire was unknown and still under investigation.

“With the Pacific Palisades Fire, we know that it continues to demand a significant amount of resources and attention,” said LA City Fire Chief Kristen Crowley during the press conference.

The Hurst Fire began near Diamond Road in Sylmar area and, as of Jan. 8 at 1:20 p.m., had burned 505 acres.

“The Los Angeles City Fire Dept. is battling these major fires [Palisades and Hurst] while also maintaining ... 9-1-1 services for the City’s approximately 4 million residents,” she said.

As of 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday aircrafts that would normally be used in fighting wildfires were grounded due to high winds. Crowley added the aircraft will resume their “water drops and acreage mapping” when the weather allows them to do so.

Almost all of Altadena and La Cañada Flintridge were among the areas that were under evacuation orders due to the Eaton Fire as of Wednesday morning. Several areas in La Crescenta and Montrose were under an evacuation warning.

Evacuation orders are lawful orders to leave because of an immediate threat to life.

Evacuation warnings are notices of potential threat to life and or property.

In addition to the fire danger the high winds toppled many trees destroying property throughout Crescenta Valley, La Cañada Flintridge and Burbank. Crews worked to clear streets as winds calmed but unfortunately the winds continued throughout Wednesday.

There were several power outages throughout Crescenta Valley and Glendale. Southern California Edison as of press time did not have information as to how many customers were affected by outages.

According to Glendale Water and Power, as of press time there were 94,981 customers served, 12 active outages and 8,335 customers

affected.

Glendale Unified School District canceled classes for all students and district offices will be closed beginning on Wednesday and continuing through Friday “due to high winds and fires impacting our region,” according to GUSD.

For information on wellness resources for GUSD families visit https://www.gusd.net/7025_4.

Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station Program Call for Artists



The Arts and Culture Commission of the City of Glendale is requesting proposals from creative artists and community members to temporarily display a unique installation in the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station (ASMPGS). The application is open year-round, and submissions are reviewed annually in the spring. Art is displayed on a rotational basis in the ASMPGS. Artists whose work is chosen for installation at the ASMPGS will receive a

stipend of \$1,000 in addition to a production budget of up to \$1,500 for a total maximum stipend of \$2,500.

The gas station is located at the Adams Square Mini Park at 1020 E. Palmer Ave. in Glendale. The ASMPGS is a 12’x12’x12’ cube with acrylic windows on all sides allowing for artwork to be viewed from all angles.

The Adams Square Mini Park project was completed by the City of Glendale to create a green space in the center of the business district for the

densely populated Adams Hill neighborhood, and to incorporate the historic 1936 Streamline Modern Gas Station. The gas station is listed on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources.

Art installations at the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station are sponsored by the Glendale Arts and Culture Commission and the Community Services & Parks Dept. To learn more about the program and to apply, visit www.GlendaleArtsandCulture.org/AdamsSquareMiniPark.

BLOTTER from page 6

Surveillance footage revealed a black vehicle driving northbound on Alta Canyon Road as the victim drove away from the area. The black vehicle then performed a U-turn and parked in front of the location. Two unknown male suspects walking up the resident’s driveway. Suspect No. 1 was described as a light-skinned male adult wearing a red hat, a black surgical mask, a white long-sleeve shirt, black pants with red and yellow stripes and gloves. Suspect No. 2 was described as a light-skinned adult male with short black hair, wearing a dark mask, a dark jacket, dark pants, white shoes and gloves. They were seen exiting the location with items in their hands.

The burglary occurred at 7:04 p.m.

2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, a woman reported her cellphone had been stolen. She believed it was stolen when she stopped at the grocery store at the location. She reported that the phone was in her backpack; when she left the store she realized it was missing and located the phone at a location in Newhall. Santa Clarita law enforcement went to the location and spoke to the person where the phone had last “pinged.” The person said s/he did not have the phone and had not been in La Crescenta.

The theft occurred between 4:05 p.m. and 4:50 p.m.

JAN. 2

4500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue in La Crescenta, while the resident was away from his home he received a message

from his neighbor that a loud “bang” had been heard coming from the inside of his home. The neighbor shared that it felt like an earthquake. He didn’t see any indication on his surveillance footage of anything unusual at that time. The resident returned to find several rooms in his home had been ransacked. He reviewed video surveillance and found two male adults “casing” his home. Suspect No. 1 wore a hoodie sweater, jeans, dark colored shoes, black gloves and a dark colored mask. Suspect No. 2 wore a hoodie sweater, sweatpants, gym shoes, light colored gloves and a dark colored mask. The front window was found smashed and pry marks were on the window frame. It appeared several items were missing but because of the disarray of the home a final list of stolen items was not completed as of press time.

The burglary occurred at 6:55 p.m.

4500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue in La Crescenta, when a family returned home from a vacation they discovered their front door was kicked in and numerous rooms had been ransacked. Several items were reported stolen.

The burglary occurred between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

DEC. 20

2400 block of Montrose Avenue in Montrose, when a resident returned from a vacation he found the sliding glass door was open, several rooms were ransacked and numerous items were stolen between Dec. 20, 2024 and Jan. 4, 2025.

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GCC from Cover

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian made the motion to nominate Flanigan to the GWP Commission, noting that he had served on the commission before and that he had done work for the city.

“For those who may not be aware, Ted Flanigan is regionally if not [nationally] recognized in the field of energy efficiency consulting – not just with Glendale but various agencies – and we’re actually quite fortunate to have him as a Glendale resident,” Kassakhian said.

Kassakhian added he believed enough time has passed to make previous work Flanigan had done for the city no longer a conflict of any kind.

“I don’t want average joes,” Councilmember Dan Brotman said. “I want people who can really bring their expertise to bear and contribute something and help guide us.”

Councilmember Brotman commented further about Flanigan’s independence. “He’s not an activist. He’s straight down the line. I appointed him originally and when the Grayson question came up and there was a debate about whether we should have five Wärtsiläs or three Wärtsiläs and he voted for five,” he said. “He didn’t just say I’m going to be the activist.”

The appointment of Ted Flanigan to the GWP Commission passed with three votes. Councilmember Gharpetian voted against the appointment and Councilmember Ara Najarian was not present at the meeting.

Mayor Asatryan had asked the police department for an update on the policy of the city regarding the detention of individuals based on immigration status. Glendale police chief Manny Cid briefed the council.

“I want to be clear and emphatic: the Glendale Police Dept. does not and never has been involved directly in doing immigration enforcement,” said Chief Cid. “It is generally out of the scope of municipal law enforcement – local law enforcement – to be involved. Immigration operations and enforcement efforts are generally reserved for the federal government and federal entities. So, by both policy, law and practice our police department does not engage, doesn’t directly assist, ICE or Homeland Security in immigration enforcement.”

Chief Cid then explained that the passage of SB-54 by the California State Legislature further restricted the role of local police departments in the enforcement of immigration laws. Glendale is in full compliance, he reported.

Glendale has a contract with ICE and Homeland Security that allows those agencies to utilize local jail facilities to temporarily house (24 – 48 hours) detainees already in custody for other crimes. Cid reported that the contract has not been used since 2018 and in 2018 only six such detentions occurred.

Chief Cid concluded that it was essential to the mission of keeping Glendale safe that

its residents “feel confident being able to approach a police officer, to report a crime, to call us when they need help; it strikes at what we’re trying to accomplish.”

“With all due respect to our federal leaders, the idea to come into local areas like Glendale or the greater LA area and do mass sweeps just logistically presents a great amount of challenges and the federal government would largely have to rely on local agencies to accomplish that which is contrary to state law here in California,” added Chief Cid.

Finally, Councilmember Brotman introduced sad news of the passing of local beloved environmentalist Jack Walworth. Walworth was described as having been one of the leaders of the Glendale Environmental Coalition, eventually becoming the group’s co-chair along with Jackie Gish, who was present at the council meeting with friends and family of Walworth’s.

He was passionate about addressing climate change and he “knew that what we did at the local level really really mattered,” Councilmember Brotman eulogized his Walworth.

Mayor Asatryan added her “deep condolences.”

“Jack was an amazing activist who was valued very much. I loved all of our conversations, and I loved that he always kept one day solely for his wife and family,” she said adding that the council would adjourn its meeting in memory of Jack Walworth.

ROBIN from page 2

Hopefully that will be reflected in this issue.

As I write this, Mary has been on the phone non-stop with various agencies to get the latest news on the fires and evacuations while also listening to several press conferences.

(You can read her story on the cover of this week’s issue.)

As I write this the skies are still dark though the winds have eased; I wish everyone safety as they navigate these unsure times.

WEATHER from page 2

Take this time to review the Ready. Set. Go. program from LA County Fire and make a list of all of the things you should take and all the things you should do to be prepared to leave. Make sure you have all of your medications and important papers, remember to fill or charge your car, take chargers for tech items and anything else you might need.

Make sure to add something that is a comfort item for you. When my kids were small and we had our earthquake kits at schools we also added photos of the family and a toy that would remind them of home. Just because we are older that doesn’t mean in trying times

we may not need a little comfort. Stay safe, be aware and be prepared. Go to <https://fire.lacounty.gov/rsg/> for more information.

The future is still a little windy but, according to NOAA, not anything like what we just went through. There will be a Red Flag Warning until today, Jan. 9, at 6 p.m. then there will be a Fire Weather Watch from today to Friday at 5 p.m.

There will be some winds in the forecast but more of “typical” Santa Ana winds with gusts up to 10 mph and up to 20 mph in the foothills above 2,000 feet, according to Mike Wofford, NOAA meteorologist.

ROSE PARADE from page 3

Volunteer Kevin Maloney took other volunteers painstakingly through the process of cutting stems and laying out flowers to put in vials that will be transferred to the float. But this year, his favorite contribution is the meticulous layers of petals he placed one at a time to create the Mars alien skins, made of black bean and split peas.

“I’m a Lego person,” he said. “So this is me, this is what I like. It takes four to five hours, and I can just sit here and work on it.”

A total of 1300 volunteers showed up to help decorate LCFTRA’s float on Dec. 23 and by Dec. 28 the float was finished and ready to make the journey to Pasadena.

Parliamentarian Samantha Babroff, a 20-year volunteer, said, “I love being in the community. I grew up in La Cañada. I have a lot of friends I see one time a year here under the bridge, so it’s nice to see people I’ve known since I was 13. Now I’m seeing their kids grow up. It’s such a unique experience to be here.”

Babroff and other volunteers were excited to show off the innovations on the float, like the partial electric battery and the Mars rover and helicopter replicas.

Longtime volunteers like Evan Jacobs, whose family has participated in float building for over 40 years, said it feels good as

an all-volunteer organization to be up against professional floats.

“You can only build the same float so many times before you have to start changing something. And we changed so much. [My favorite part] was watching the drone fly for the little it did down TV Corner; knowing [we did that] was pretty cool.”

Jan Jansen, a volunteer who used his work with Mee Fog Systems to inform the fog machine that smoked behind the crashed rocket, said it is the team’s closeness, creativity and organization that allows LCFTRA floats to get better each year.

“The discipline is incredible, it’s a family. It’s things like that that make this fun,” Jansen said.

Volunteers arrived in La Cañada from around the country to assist with decorating. One volunteer, Hayley Witwer, said she travels from New York each year after learning online of LCFTRA’s need for volunteers. She told the CV Weekly it’s the detailed, small work in a tight-knit community that keeps her coming back.

“Maybe ignorance is bliss, but when I first came out, I thought I had sure never done this, but I had done some small needlework [projects],” Witwer said. “It’s really neat being a part of something that’s tiny, a one-foot or two-foot part of something huge.”

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CRESCENTA VALLEY
WEEKLY
THE FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



This year's displays were magical and festive that really reflected the season. CV Weekly is grateful to those who submitted their address so we could include them on our holiday Merry & Bright tour.

The judges had a hard time choosing to award from the many houses that participated. CV Weekly is already looking forward to the 2025 Merry & Bright tour; plan now to be a part of this exciting self-guided tour.

BEST IN SHOW



2653 Orange Ave.: Best In Show – Ya blew the judges' minds



BEST Traditional Decor

10531 Mather St.: Christmas Story Award – Traditional or nostalgic use of lights and decorations



BEST Can we see it from space?



3014 Paraiso Way: Clark Griswold Award – Excessive use of lights and decoration; more is ALWAYS better. Can we see it from space?



BEST Unique Decor



2229 Crescent Ave.: Most Original Award – Not your usual everyday holiday decor



BEST Snowman Decor



1968 Waltonia Drive: Frosty's Coming to Town Award – (formerly Santa's Coming to Town) – Best use of snowman decor



BEST Music & Tech

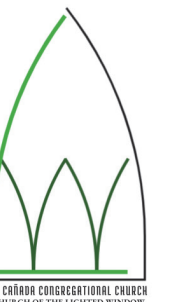
3113 Pontiac St.: Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree – Best use of music and technology.

*This was a spectacular timed light and music display that was difficult to catch on camera. A display not to miss next year!

Thank you to all the sponsors who supported the CV Weekly Merry & Bright Holiday Light and Display Tour. Your support is so appreciated.



Jodi Deranja, Realtor
COMPASS



VIEWPOINTS

IEWS OF THE VERDUGOS » CRAIG DURST

The Lamson's Lair

Over the years I've made a point of going on eBay to search the various names that interest me hoping to uncover something historical in nature – La Cañada, Lake View Terrace, Montrose, Sunland, La Crescenta, Tujunga – to name a handful. Most often there is nothing to find but sometimes it's quite intriguing what comes up for sale. I believe there's a future story to write expounding on these finds, but today I'd like to tell of my most recent score.

There's always this moment of tension as you count down the last moments at the end of an auction. You've committed the top amount you're willing to shell out and it all comes down to whether the other party wants it more. The time dwindles down to zero and you have to wait a few moments as the wheels spin to

find out if you've been victorious. Luckily in this instance, I won the battle.

Days ago, I received the item. It's a handmade Christmas card dated 1950 from local Tujunga pioneers Joseph Harry Lamson and his wife Alice.

The name Joseph was on the Lamson family tree as far as his great-great-great grandfather, born in 1718, and yet he went by his middle name, Harry. On the front of the card, which measures only 4 x 5 inches, is a photograph of Harry out in front of his home which once stood at 7139 Greeley St. Below is a handwritten caption, "Lamson's Lair."

Before I explain what more was included with the card, I must first share just how important Harry Lamson was and is for the history of this community. Harry was born on Aug. 2, 1873 in

Maine. His grandfather, Joseph Sanborn Lamson, had been one of the earliest daguerreotype photographers in the United States in the 1840s. His father, Joseph Harrison Lamson, became somewhat famous as a photographer on the east coast when Harry was a boy in the 1880s and 1890s.

When Harry arrived in this area in the early 1900s, he came with his camera and initially set up his photography shop near to his younger brother Frank in Pasadena. After his brother passed in 1908, he and Alice found their way to Greeley Street in Tujunga. With years of experience as a photographer and with what he had learned from his father, Harry lost no time in setting out to photograph – well – everything. He photographed the people and the

places they congregated. He took pictures of the local hills and the buildings that were springing up everywhere. He captured a great deal of the pioneer days of the surrounding area and for that we are truly indebted to him.

Now going back to the Christmas card: it makes more sense that it included a series of photographs. The first, as I mentioned, was the exterior of their home. Harry stands near the front door and vines and greenery literally mask much of the house. In this initial photo the number of windows stands out. All the doors and windows in their home were created by combining a great number of glass photographic plates that were approximately 8 x 10 inches in size. I counted over 260 of these glass plates within the photos included with the card.

The rest of the photographs revolved around Harry in what Alice labeled as The Studio. Each picture has some of Alice's handwriting with a short description on the back. Strangely, Alice does not appear in any of the images. We see Harry sitting at a grand piano, another with him sitting at his desk with a photograph of John Steven McGroarty in his right hand and a cigarette in his left, and another where he relaxes with a beer and a newspaper on their patio. The card concludes on the final page with the handwritten words, "Christmas Greetings to you all from Alice and Harry, 1950."

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.

NEWS FROM THE CVTC » FRIDA BAGHDASSARIAN

Looking Ahead in 2025

As we welcome the New Year, the Crescenta Valley Town Council is excited to share some updates and highlights from our recent activities. In December, we hosted our inaugural "Jingle and Mingle," an event organized by our outreach committee, led by Kerri Brautigam and myself. This gathering provided a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude to our community partners and we were thrilled

with the turnout. The positive response has encouraged us to plan more events like this in the future, fostering connections within our community.

Looking ahead, we invite everyone to join us for our general meeting on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. at the library. This meeting will be particularly special as we welcome our newly elected council members: myself (Frida Baghdassarian), Dede

Mueller and Chris Kilpatrick. Each of us will be sworn in to serve a three-year term. We are honored to have Supervisor Kathryn Barger present to officiate this significant moment.

Additionally, we will take a

moment to acknowledge our outgoing member Elizabeth Ahlers for her time on the council. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

As we embark on this new year, we look forward to continuing our work for the

Crescenta Valley community and hope to see many of you at our upcoming meeting.

Happy New Year to all!

Frida Baghdassarian, J.D.

President

Crescenta Valley Town Council

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Some Twelve Oaks History

Thank you to Mary O'Keefe for her Jan. 2 article on Twelve Oaks and the residents who will be relocated during the pending reconstruction of this long-standing senior living center.

As a past president of National Charity League of Glendale, I've followed the saga of Twelve Oaks Lodge from the 1930s when it was opened by the Verdugo Hills Sunshine League to its transfer to NCL and, in 2002, to the be.group, the company formerly known as Southern California Presbyterian Homes, and then to its rescue by NCL members and transfer to Episcopal Communities and Services (ECS).

The five-acre property was originally owned by James and Effie Fifield of Minnesota who spent many winters here. In the early 1930s, they formed the Verdugo Hills Chapter of the Sunshine Society in order to turn their home, already named Twelve Oaks Lodge, into living spaces for the elderly.

James Fifield died in 1933 and after Effie Fifield's passing in 1937, 12 rooms were opened to seniors. Several cottages, a large library, recreation room and a croquet court were also on the five acres of wooded parkland.

In the early 1960s, the Glendale chapter of National Charity League, formed in 1942 to assist needy elderly,

became involved. Members had raised funds to build and operate a retirement facility of their own.

Instead, they offered more than \$50,000 to the Sunshine Society to construct a residence hall specifically for women. It was to be named for True Aiken Stern who had initiated the project. NCL assumed full cost of construction and the building was dedicated in May 1964.

A few years later, National Charity League of Glendale took over operation of Twelve Oaks Lodge and the rest, as they say, is history.

*Katherine Peters Yamada
Past President, 1990-91
National Charity League of
Glendale*

BLOTTER from page 6

Two unknown male suspects walking up the resident's driveway. Suspect No. 1 was described as a light-skinned male adult wearing a red hat, a black surgical mask, a white long-sleeve shirt, black pants with red and yellow stripes and gloves. Suspect No. 2 was described as a light-skinned adult male with short black hair, wearing a dark mask, a dark jacket, dark pants, white shoes and gloves. They were seen exiting the location with items in their hands.

The burglary occurred at 7:04 p.m.

2600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Crescenta, a woman reported her cellphone had been stolen. She believed it was stolen when she stopped at the grocery store at the location. She reported that the phone

was in her backpack; when she left the store she realized it was missing and located the phone at a location in Newhall. Santa Clarita law enforcement went to the location and spoke to the person where the phone had last "pinged." The person said s/he did not have the phone and had not been in La Crescenta.

The theft occurred between 4:05 p.m. and 4:50 p.m.

JAN. 2

4500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue in La Crescenta, while the resident was away from his home he received a message from his neighbor that a loud "bang" had been heard coming from the inside of his home. The neighbor shared that it felt like an earthquake. He didn't see any

indication on his surveillance footage of anything unusual at that time. The resident returned to find several rooms in his home had been ransacked. He reviewed video surveillance and found two male adults "casing" his home. Suspect No. 1 wore a hoodie sweater, jeans, dark colored shoes, black gloves and a dark colored mask. Suspect No. 2 wore a hoodie sweater, sweatpants, gym shoes, light colored gloves and a dark colored mask. The front window was found smashed and pry marks were on the window frame. It appeared several items were missing but because of the disarray of the home a final list of stolen items was not completed as of press time.

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

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

Village Poets Starts the New Year with Poets Shahé Mankерian and Jackie Chou

Village Poets will celebrate the New Year with Armenian American poet Shahé Mankерian and Los Angeles poet Jackie Chou for an exciting presentation on Sunday, Jan. 26 at 4:30 p.m. at Bolton Hall Museum in Tujunga. There will also be an open mic, so attendees are invited to bring their best poems to participate. The reading starts at 4:30 p.m. and goes till 6:30 p.m. This reading is being sponsored by a grant from "Poets and Writers."

Shahé Mankерian is the principal of St. Gregory Hovsepian School in Pasadena and the director of mentorship at the International Armenian Literary Alliance (IALA). He previously served as co-director of the Los Angeles Writing Project and is a recipient of the Los Angeles Music Center's BRAVO Award for innovation in arts education. Mankерian's

debut poetry collection, History of Forgetfulness, was published in 2021 by Fly on the Wall Press (UK). The collection was a semifinalist for the Khayrallah Prize and a finalist for the Bibby First Book Competition, the Crab Orchard Poetry Open Competition, the Julie Suk Award, the Quercus Review Press Poetry Book Award and the White Pine Press Poetry Prize.

Jackie Chou is a Pushcart and Best of the Net nominee whose poem "Formosa" was a finalist in the 2023 Stephen A DiBiase Poetry Prize. Her work has also appeared recently in The Ekphrastic Review, Panoply Zine, Synchronized Chaos, Lothlorien Poetry Journal and Lee Herrick's Our California project. Her two collections of poetry, Finding My Heart in Love and Loss and the Sorceress, published by cyberwit in 2023, can be found on



Jackie Chou

Shahé Mankерian

Amazon. Check out poems of these poets at www.villagepoets.blogspot.com.

Bolton Hall Museum is located at 10110 Commerce Ave. in Tujunga. Bolton Hall is a Los Angeles Historical Landmark built in 1913.

LCFOG Holds Installation Luncheon



The installed board of the LCFOG.

The La Cañada Flintridge Orthopaedic Guild held its annual installation luncheon at the La Cañada Flintridge Country Club on Jan. 2. The installation ceremony was performed by Mary Beth Perrine, assistant vice president of LuskinOIC Foundation with help from Michael Willis and Danica

Montes of Luskin Orthopaedic Institute.

Installed officers were DeeDee Nuanes, president; Caryl Pettit, vice president; Joanne Ploszaj, treasurer; Joan Cleven, Ways and Means chair; Chris Wright Roper, recording secretary; and Wendy Nicoll, corresponding secretary.

Sent from my iPhone

LCFOG has continued to support LuskinOIC, formerly Orthopaedic Hospital, for 67 years by volunteering at LuskinOIC functions throughout the year and raising funds to benefit the children who receive important, and often miraculous, medical treatment and surgeries at the hospital.

AAUW Recognized

The Glendale Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has received a star in AAUW's 2024 Five Star Program for excellent programs.

"This recognition is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our members

to advancing AAUW's mission of gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research," said Branch President Beverly Van Citters.

The AAUW Glendale Branch annually funds scholarships for young women enrolled at

Glendale Unified School District high schools and Glendale Community College. Public meetings occur throughout the year and are open to the public. For information about membership, activities and meetings, please go to <https://glendale-ca.aauw.net/>.

CORRECTION

In the Jan. 2 article "Specialized Service for a Special Community," the name of the previous owner of La Crescenta Pharmacy was Lou Fram.

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ANSWERS for page 17

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Community Comes Out to View Burbank Rose Parade Float – Up Close & Personal

By Ruth SOWBY

It was standing room only on the corner Olive Avenue and Glenoaks Boulevard as hundreds of looky-loos surrounded the Burbank Rose Parade float to get a closeup look at what they may have missed on TV. The float, having won the Tournament of Roses' Animation Award, was on display Jan. 4-5. For the parade, the float had animated dinosaurs, two waterfalls and a rumbling volcano that spewed lava and real fire. Plenty of

photos were snapped during the 48 hours the float was parked.

Glendale resident Nicole Bochniak brought along her 9-year-old Doberman Beatrice. The dog had her own glasses for a better look. Los Angeles resident Cecelia Walker missed the parade and was glad she had a chance to see the float. Children were posed and snapped in front of the float making pictures for posterity.

Burbank resident Jinny Barnett, representing the Burbank Assn. Tournament of

Roses, has worked on the Burbank floats for 32 years. She explained that the float she named "Jerry the Dragon" had a flowered fish in its mouth that fell off before Jerry's debut in the parade. The fish, decorated in part with red, brown and white onion skin, was also on display at one of the association booths.

According to the association, over 45 million people in more than 240 countries saw the float on the Rose Parade broadcast.

The Burbank Rose Parade float, 'Jerry the Dragon,' was on display in Downtown Burbank over the weekend (Jan. 4-5). It won the Animation Award presented by the Tournament of Roses Association.



Snoozing Santa



After a busy holiday season, Santa was caught having a well-deserved snooze at Haugen's Ideal Pharmacy in Glendale.

Photo by Ruth SOWBY

People Making News

University of Saint Mary provost and vice president for Academic Affairs Dr. Michelle Metzinger has announced the fall 2024 Dean's List. Michelle Lin of La Cañada Flintridge ended the semester with a 3.5 GPA or better.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary main campus is located in Leavenworth, Kansas. It offers evening accelerated

graduate and undergraduate degree-completion programs. The university also offers online programs. Visit stmary.edu for more information.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2024-2025 academic year. Among these are Caleel Shulman of Glendale, attending the College of Letters and Science; from La Cañada Flintridge, Riley Breckheimer who is attending the College

of Letters and Science, Ava Radabaugh who is attending the School of Business and Eliza Sullivan who is attending the College of Letters and Science.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction. Most call the honor "dean's list" but some grant the "Dean's Honor List" and "Dean's High Honor List."

Applicants Sought for LCWC Scholarship Program

LCWC Scholarship Program The La Crescenta Woman's Club distributes scholarships annually to deserving students. Requirements include:

- A resident of the USA (U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or DACA)
- A graduating senior who will attend a four-year college/university, community college, or trade school in 2025-26

• A graduating senior from any of the following high schools: Crescenta Valley High School, Clark Magnet High School, Allen F. Daily High School or any private or public high school or home school while residing in the geographic area known as the "area of residence" for Crescenta Valley High School.

Scholarships in the amounts of \$500 and \$1,000 available. Applications are due no later than Jan. 31 and available at <https://lacrescentawomansclub.org/scholarships-programs/scholarships>.

For more information, call (818) 957-9806 or email scholarship@lacrescentawomansclub.org.

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TRAVEL & LEISURE

Suzuki, Chow and White Performing for GNC

The Free Admission Glendale Noon Concerts series will be performing at the sanctuary of Glendale City Church at 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale on Wednesday, Jan. 15. The performance will feature violinist Jacqueline Suzuki, cellist Clement Chow, and pianist Brendan White performing works by Ludwig Van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, Fritz Kreisler and Astor Piazzolla.

Violinist Jacqueline Suzuki is a longtime member of the Long Beach and Santa Barbara symphonies. A native of San Francisco, she began her earliest chamber music studies on scholarship at the San Francisco Conservatory. She has performance degrees from the Mannes College of Music (BM), where she studied with William Kroll, and the California Institute of the Arts (MFA).

As a Los Angeles freelancer, she has performed with many ensembles and in many genres from rock, jazz, Latin and Arabic to playing in the pit for the Bolshoi Ballet and onstage with the Three Tenors. She has also recorded with diverse artists including Snoop Dogg, Neil Sedaka and Leonard Cohen.

Cellist Clement Chow has

studied at Rice University and Cleveland Institute of Music where he received his Bachelor and Master of Music. He has been to music festivals around the world that include the Aspen Music Festival, Pacific Music Festival in Japan and the Schleswig Holstein Music Festival in Germany. He made his solo debut with the Houston Symphony at the age of 16. He has also studied with some of the greatest chamber music groups around the world. The groups include Tokyo, Cleveland, Alban Berg, and Amadeus String Quartets.

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

As a recording artist, White was featured on Danaë Vlasse's Grammy Award-winning album

Mythologies. White's collaborations in Southern California have included the Mühlfeld Trio, which won the prestigious Beverly Hills Auditions, the Speakeasy Society, and Eighteen Squared. He is an original member of the Sunset ChamberFest in Los Angeles. White's repertoire spans many centuries and genres and he has worked with well-known composers such as Thomas Adès, Stephen Cohn, Donald Crockett, and Danaë Vlasse.

White is also a composer of original music. Local recital appearances include: Piano Spheres Emerging Artist Series, Soundwaves in Santa Monica, Silicon Beach CO Recital Series, Glendale Noon Concerts, Pasadena Presbyterian Music at Noon, LaCanada Presbyterian, Music@Mimoda, Alhambra Performing Arts Center, and Mason Concerts. He attended the Eastman School of Music and the Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California.

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



Cellist Clement Chow



Violinist Jacqueline Suzuki



Pianist Brendan White

Panorama Music Mondays Begin

On Monday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m., Panorama Music Mondays kick off at the sanctuary of La Cañada Presbyterian Church, 626 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. After the inaugural concert the series continues at Glendale City Church, 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

On Jan 13, the Panorama Music Mondays concert series will feature the Kewa Ensemble of violinist Jacqueline Suzuki, cellist Clement Chow and pianist

Brendan White performing works by Franz Joseph Haydn, Johannes Brahms, Fritz Kreisler, Sergei Rachmaninoff, George N. Gianopoulos and Astor Piazzolla. There is ample free parking. Admission is free or by free will donation.

The works of Franz Joseph Haydn (Austrian, 1732-1809) include Piano Trio No. 39 in G major Hob. XV/25 ("Gypsy"); Johannes Brahms (German, 1833-1897)

Cello Sonata No. 2 in F major, Op.99 II. Adagio affettuoso and Sonatensatz for violin and piano (Scherzo in C minor from the F-A-E Sonata); Fritz Kreisler (Austrian-American, 1875-1962) Viennese Rhapsodic Fantasietta (1948) for violin and piano;

Sergei Rachmaninoff / Kreisler (Russian, 1873-1943) Liebsleid (Love's Sorrow) for solo piano; George N. Gianopoulos (American) City Vignettes for violin & piano, Op. 29d (based

on the poetry of Sara Teasdale):

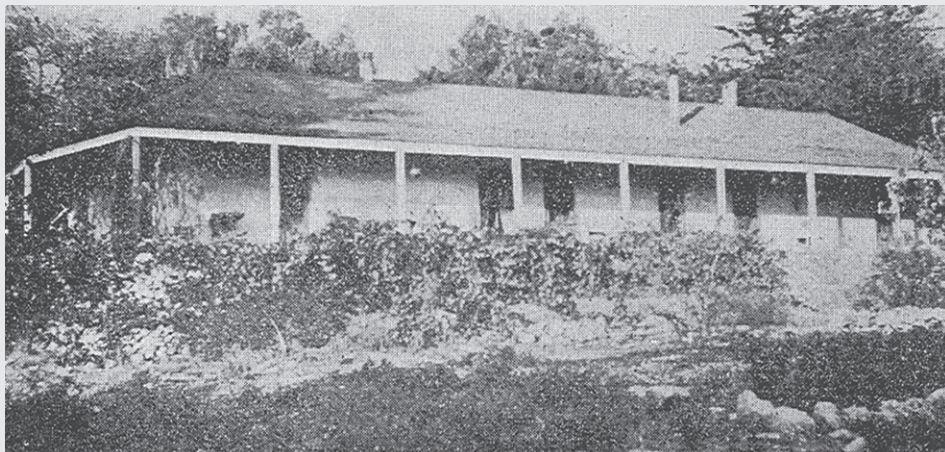
I. Dawn The greenish sky glows up in misty reds, The purple shadows turn to brick and stone The dreams wear thin, men turn upon their beds, And hear the milk-cart jangle by alone.

II. Dusk The city's street, a roaring blackened stream Walled in by granite, thro' whose thousand eyes A thousand yellow lights begin to gleam, And over all the pale untroubled skies.

III. Rain at Night The street-lamps shine in a yellow line Down the splashy, gleaming street, And the rain is heard now loud now blurred By the tread of homing feet.

Astor Piazzolla (Argentina, 1921-1992) Invierno porteño from The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires, "Winter"(1969) (arranged for piano trio by Jose Bragato).

THEN & NOW



Then: In the late 1800s Dr. Benjamin Briggs, after having lost a wife to tuberculosis and suffering from TB himself, searched the world over for the perfect climate in which to set up a hospital for the treatment of lung diseases. In 1881, he settled on the nearly uninhabited Rancho La Cañada. He chose a spot high on an alluvial fan (now known as Briggs Terrace) to build his home/sanitarium out of cement he had imported from Germany – reportedly the first cement structure in Southern California. In this old photo, you can see the wide veranda overlooking the valley. It is from here that he perceived the hills and valley below forming crescent shapes and coined the name La Crescenta.

Benjamin Briggs' House Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



Now: This is roughly the same spot at the same angle today. This is looking north up Terrace Drive, toward Freeman Avenue. The old cement home of our community's founder was bulldozed in the early '60s to create space for this tight community of custom homes with million dollar views. The only trace of Dr. Briggs' 1800s dwelling is his old water tank higher up the Terrace, which has been turned into a charming little house.

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NOTES & NODS

LCIF WELCOMES COMMUNITY
 Lutheran Church in the Foothills (LCIF) is ringing in 2025 with a full slate of activities, beginning with a post-worship potluck on Sunday, Jan. 12. Following the 10 a.m. service, congregants are invited to gather for a time of food and fellowship. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish that represents their New Year traditions or favorite celebratory foods.

In addition to the Sunday potluck, LCIF is also resuming its Wednesday evening program, T.O.W.N. (Together on Wednesday Night). On Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. in the church's conference room, Pastor Rick Hall will lead an engaging Old Testament Bible study, offering attendees a chance to delve deeper into Scripture and explore its relevance to contemporary life.

LCIF is also finalizing preparations for its "In the Footsteps of Paul" pilgrimage to Greece. The journey, scheduled for May, will allow participants to walk in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul, visiting significant historical and biblical sites. A final informational meeting for the pilgrimage will be held on Saturday,

Jan. 11 at 10:30 a.m. at LCIF. This meeting will provide crucial details about the trip itinerary, logistics and answer any remaining questions. All are welcome to attend – even those who have not yet signed up. Final signups for the pilgrimage are being taken now.

The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

BUILDING A CHRIST-CENTERED MARRIAGE – FREE CLASS AT LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN
 A free nine-week course at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church will focus on how to build a Christ-centered marriage rooted in faith, prayer and intentional choices.

The course, which will take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. beginning Jan. 15, will explore God's design for marriage, the power of praying over your spouse and relationship, aligning expectations, and navigating influences from family, culture and social media.

Jamie Given, licensed marriage

LCPC Parent Ed Celebrates the Holidays and Plans for the New Year



Photo by Danilo REYES

Top row from left are Jane Cho, Jenn Kliewer, Heather Adamick, Beth Schupper, Katy Riddell, Amanda Baughman, Julie Milbrodt, Tracy Tobias, Jennifer Gordon, Lynne Graves, Katrina Harbers, Teresa Chiu, Jana Van Dyke, Anne Bierling and Cathy Lukish
 Bottom row from left are Melanie Frey, Jessica Cramer, Elisabeth Stassen, Lauren Gallidoro, Sloan Walsh, Kelsey Hendrix, Jan Roberts, Ashley Barrett and Betty Bredemann.

The board, ministry support team and staff of La Cañada Presbyterian Church Parent Education Program (LCPC Parent Ed) recently met at the La Cañada Flintridge home of Brad and Ashley Barrett for a year-end Christmas party and board meeting. The evening was filled with good food, fellowship, reflection, planning and prayer in anticipation of the wonderful year ahead.

In attendance were staff members, Anne Bierling (director), Amanda Baughman, Betty Bredemann, Teresa Chiu, Jennifer Gordon, Melanie Frey, Jenn Kliewer, Cathy Lukesh, Ellen Mackle, Sarah Montes, Katy Riddell, Jan Roberts, Beth Shupper, Tracy Tobias, Jana Van Dyck and Sloan Walsh as well as board volunteers and MST members Heather Adamick, Ashley Barrett, Amanda Baughman, Jane Cho, Lauren Gallidoro, Lynne Graves, Katrina Harbers, Melanie Frey, Kathy Kovalcik, Kelsey Hendrix, Julie Milbrodt, Elisabeth Stassen and Natasha Wood.

LCPC Parent Ed is filled with exciting opportunities. January 21–24 is the 2nd Semester Open House when all parents and grandparents of newborn children through college students are invited to experience a free trial class (reservation available online). In addition to the 16 daytime classes, additional Parent Express classes will be offered including The Art of Fatherhood in April and a marriage class for couples, The Art of Marriage, that begins Feb. 23. Check the LCPC website for more information on all of these classes: lcpccparented.org.

LCPC Parent Ed also announced the 2025 Annual Gala, Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!, a Mardi Gras masquerade, on Saturday, March 1 at the Castaway restaurant in Burbank. The community is asked to save the date for a fun-filled night of food and live entertainment when LCPC Parent Ed will raise money for ongoing programming. Additionally, 10% of all net proceeds will go to Young

Lives, a multi-faceted, faith-based ministry serving teen mothers. Anyone interested in underwriting opportunities or who would like to donate an item or service to the online auction can do so at <https://bit.ly/parentedgala24>.

Those with children or grandchildren should know that LCPC Parent Ed has a variety of classes available. To sign up for a class or experience a free class, visit www.lcpccparented.org or call (818) 790-6708 x 205. LCPC Parent Ed offers 16 daytime classes that meet weekly September through May and attract participants from over 20 different cities. LCPC Parent Ed also has an online class with parents participating from all over the country. Parent Express evening classes are also available. Scholarships and payment plan available online.

La Cañada Presbyterian Church is located at 626 Foothill in La Cañada.

Submitted by Kelsey HENDRIX

and family therapist, licensed professional clinical counselor, and owner and executive director of Given Guidance Family Counseling in La Crescenta, will facilitate the course.

The course is part of La Crescenta Presbyterian's Praise and Education for Adults and Kids (PEAK) program, which also offers free child care for infants and toddlers; classes for children from pre-school to sixth grade; and Abide, a safe and welcoming environment for middle school and high school students.

All programs take place on the LCPC campus at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. Classes begin on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m., but attendees are invited to come early for a nutritious and delicious meal for the whole family, from 5:30 to 6:10 p.m., at a cost of \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids.

For more information about the "Marriage Through Christ" course, email info@givguidance.com. For more information about

La Crescenta Presbyterian's PEAK programming, visit lpc.net or call (818) 249-6137.

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 Jan. 12, 19 and 26. Participants will walk for the first hour and then gather to read a selection of Scripture. About a half hour will be spent journaling about what was read and then there will be conversation, sharing thoughts.

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

JUST FOR FUN

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The guest speaker on Jan. 10 is Lt. Governor for Division 3 Trish McRae. 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.

POETRY WORKSHOP

On Saturday, Jan. 11 at 3 p.m., Alice Pero will conduct a poetry workshop

for "children of all ages" at the Sunland-Tujunga/LA Public Library at 7771 Foothill Blvd. This workshop is for anyone interested in increasing creativity; it is also suitable for children.

For more information, call (818) 352-4481.

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.

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.

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

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

CANASTA IS CALLING

Canasta – an activity that will brighten your day with fun and relaxation. Those who have not played before—don't worry; 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. Spotlighting 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 see CALENDAR THIS on next page

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

January 6, 2025 - January 12, 2025

ARIES March 21 - April 19

You're ready to tackle any health issues with renewed determination. If you aren't feeling as fit and healthy as you'd like, it's time to do something about it. Don't become a couch potato, tempting though it may be. Plan a routine that you can tackle on a daily basis without getting bored. Make it fun and you'll succeed!

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You have a chance to review your current health situation and make any necessary changes. Take it easy. You may decide to go against your better judgment and end up causing your health to suffer. Don't push yourself to the limit and increase your stress. Think kind thoughts about yourself. It really works!

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You may be trying to align your health practices with a philosophy or set of beliefs that's important to you. But don't constrain yourself in the process. You have to take into account the needs of your body and its metabolism. If you can find a compromise and combine the two, life will be a lot easier.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Your health situation looks interesting, and has for some time. It's important to keep your thoughts positive. Don't drift into a mentality of fear and attract the very things you wish to avoid. Imagine your health as you'd like it to be. Take all possible steps to look after yourself.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You're in the mood to philosophize about your health and health issues. You're seeking any lifestyle that nurtures you. The best way to do this is to follow your heart. Combine a system of beliefs with a down-to-earth way of keeping fit. Throw in a good diet and time to relax and you have the perfect recipe for health.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Take time to think about how valuable good health is. If you've placed a higher value on other aspects of your life, such as possessions, think again. Without good health, it's difficult to achieve your goals or fulfill your dreams or ambitions. Make your well-being a priority. You'll be rewarded with positive energy and a boost to your self-esteem.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

This is a good time to take a look at what you eat. Also think about any practical considerations that may prevent you from following an eating plan that promotes good health. You may want to overhaul your kitchen and throw away the cookbooks full of outdated, fattening recipes. Choose recipes that will help you maintain your ideal weight and image.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

The aspect in your health zone is a double-edged sword. If you can keep your mind upbeat and positive and focus on your vision of perfect well-being, it will work wonders for you. If you tend to dwell on what could go wrong with your body, you're going to feel low energy, which could cause a negative backlash. Use your mind to stay at your peak of fitness.

LEO July 23 - August 22

You might have some big goals in mind when it comes to your health. That's great, but you also seem to have a few worries about whether you can afford to fund your plan. You might feel it's necessary to purchase expensive items in order to make your fitness dreams come true, but that isn't the case. You can get great results without spending much.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You may be susceptible to catching a cold or other minor illness from contact with others. It helps if you can take the right vitamins and minerals to boost your immune system, and make this a daily habit. Get plenty of exercise and stick to a regular health routine, which will also enable you to stay in the peak of health.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

Aspects empower you in all ways. You feel fabulous and on top of the world. Your health will come more under your conscious control. No more sabotaging yourself and then feeling guilty in the same breath. Now you can see it coming and take steps to head off any disasters, especially dietary ones. Stay on track. You're doing just fine.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

You may be obsessed with one particular health issue. Perhaps it's the desire to develop a toned body. Or maybe you're eager to lose weight and can't get this idea out of your head. Give yourself some leeway and look at your health initiatives from a number of perspectives. Chill out!

» ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



ACROSS

- 1) Counter in a debate
- 6) Opponent
- 9) Involuntary muscle contraction
- 14) NBA playground
- 15) One cause of inflation?
- 16) Sheer fabric
- 17) Gives in
- 19) It may be golden on a phonograph
- 20) "Look over here!"
- 21) Common Market abbr., once
- 22) Messy, as a room
- 23) Cyra ___ (molding type)
- 25) Grazing grounds
- 26) Yaps foolishly
- 31) Parkinson's drug
- 33) Type of horse
- 34) Egg handler just before Easter
- 35) When dark comes o'er the land
- 36) Thumbs-down vote
- 39) Weight-room unit
- 41) Hawaiian gift
- 42) Transmitted
- 44) Veterinarian's patient
- 46) Poem of uneven couplets
- 48) Blabs
- 52) Be a contestant
- 53) More than drizzles
- 54) Locate, as data on a computer
- 57) Small newt
- 58) The Three Tenors, for example
- 62) Necklace trinket
- 63) Gives a false alarm
- 65) Author A.A.
- 66) Greek island
- 67) Head of a Muslim state (Var.)
- 68) Dazzling display
- 69) Fire remains
- 70) Square footage measures

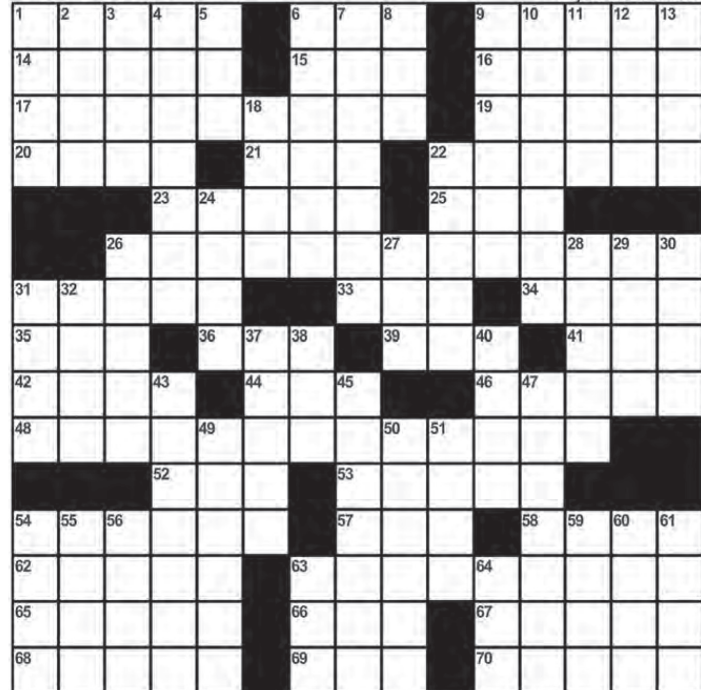
DOWN

- 1) Sound hoarse
- 2) Historians' subjects
- 3) Ottoman VIPs
- 4) Remove bindings
- 5) Greek "T"
- 6) Diamond features
- 7) Some auto repair shop containers
- 8) "... ___ he drove out of sight"
- 9) Mick Jagger and bandmates, briefly
- 10) Danced at Oktoberfest
- 11) Adjutant
- 12) Fall's prelude
- 13) Satisfy, as demands
- 18) Narrowest bottle part
- 22) Arm bones
- 24) Enthusiastic liveliness
- 26) Metric measure of weight
- 27) Lazy poet's above?
- 28) Stocking material
- 29) Acorn, essentially
- 30) Lake that feeds the Niagara River
- 31) Subtraction word
- 32) Low-pitched
- 37) Church recesses
- 38) Up to the present
- 40) Menial worker
- 43) Greek eatery
- 45) Bullfighters
- 47) After peace is declared
- 49) Destiny
- 50) Like a clumsy lout
- 51) Web spot
- 54) Nadir's opposite
- 55) Stylish
- 56) "Safe!" or "out!"
- 59) Part in a play
- 60) Pelvic bones
- 61) Does in, in mob slang
- 63) Intelligence org.
- 64) Caribbean music

1.9.25

UTTER NONSENSE

By Janet Wise



ANSWERS on page 13

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Help! My Samsung TV is a lemon, and I want my \$500 back

Is Martin Griffin's new Samsung TV a lemon? He thinks so but Samsung's solution is to tell him to buy another TV. Who is right?

Question: I purchased a 50-inch Samsung TV. Six months later, the display panel failed. When I called Samsung, they said they couldn't do anything since the TV is out of warranty.

I then wrote to the executive contacts you list on your site and Samsung repaired my TV. I have the receipt for the repair.

The display panel failed again last week and Samsung offered to repair it. Unfortunately, parts are unavailable.

Samsung is now telling me I have to buy a new TV. I have talked to Samsung on the phone and have spoken with managers in multiple departments. I also exchanged text messages with them earlier

this week. I would like Samsung to replace my TV as I feel it is a lemon. I'd like to get back the \$500 I spent on the TV. Can you help me?

— Martin Griffin, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Answer: Your TV should last more than a few months – and no, the solution is not to buy another TV. (And if you do, it probably won't be a Samsung TV.)

Samsung said your TV was out of warranty but that's not the entire story. There's an express warranty (the one in your contract) and an implied warranty. True, you were outside your warranty period for your TV. But there's an

implied warranty that your TV won't break down after only a few months. I explain the difference in my complete guide to getting a repair, replacement or refund.

First, let me commend you on using our executive contacts for Samsung. Reaching out to a customer service manager the first time your TV broke down really helped. If you hadn't done that, you would have been out of luck.

Even though your TV was not under warranty you might have reminded Samsung of its mission – to create "superior products and services that contribute to a better global society." Your product was not superior nor did it contribute to a better global society. Hold

Samsung to its promises.

Strictly speaking, you didn't have much of a case (at least, according to the warranty). But warranties are written by lawyers to protect the company, not you. I contacted Samsung on your behalf. The company agreed to refund you \$240, which is the depreciated value of your TV set after one year. You accepted the offer.

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 from previous page
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.

BURBANK AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

The Burbank African Violet Society will be having its next club meeting on Thursday morning, Jan. 16 at 10 a.m. at The Little White Chapel Christian Church, 1711 N. Avon St. in Burbank.

Club member Luis Pineda will present the learning lab on "Wick Watering Tray Style." Club member and secretary Pat Steen will present the program on "Winter Care for Your African Violets." Questions and answers will follow the program.

The meetings include a learning lab, show 'n' tell, questions and answers, raffle and silent auction tables. Refreshments are served and friendships are made.

Guests are always welcome to attend the meetings. For more information phone (661) 940-3990 or reference: www.burbankafrienviolets.weebly.com.

BINGO FUN BENEFITS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus, Crescenta Valley Council, #3254, is having a bingo game on Saturday, Jan. 18 at Holy Redeemer Healy Hall, 2361 Del Mar Road in Montrose.

The cost is \$30 for 10 games; doors open at 5 p.m.; games begin at 6 p.m. Cash prizes of \$100 to \$250 per game.

For more information, contact Scott Frost at scottf@css-cg.com.

BENITA BIKE'S DANCEART

On Saturday, Jan. 25 and Sunday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m., Benita Bike's DanceArt will perform at Discovery Cube Los Angeles, a STEM-based children's museum. This performance is one of a number of dance-related events that are part of Discovery Cube's Science of Dance Weekend. Discovery Cube Los Angeles is located at 11800 Foothill Blvd. in Los Angeles (Sylmar). Benita Bike's DanceArt will present excerpts from various dances interspersed with information about dance, Q&A and a special "try-out-the-moves" session with DanceArt's professional dancers. Museum visitors will learn how dances are made, how dancers prepare for performance, and why dancers dance!

A limited number of free tickets to this performance and the museum are available to those who pre-register by emailing benita@danceart.org with their name and the number of guests in their party. General admission tickets can also be purchased at www.discoverycube.org/los-angeles/. Admission to the dance performance will be also be included with general admission or a valid membership. This performance is supported, in part, by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Dept. and Los Angeles County Dept. of Arts and Culture/American Rescue Plan.

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).

You can read more at CVWeekly.com/CALENDARTHIS

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LEGALS

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CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY IS READY FOR YOUR LEGAL NOTICES! CALL TODAY! (818) 248-2740

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