

CRESCENTA VALLEY WEEKLY

THE FOOTHILLS' COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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JANUARY 30, 2025

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Chief Fish Presence Requested by Council

By Julie BUTCHER

At Tuesday night's meeting of the Glendale City Council, Councilmember Ara Najarian shared a dramatic news video showing cars left along Sunset Boulevard during the recent fire crises facing various Southern California neighborhoods.

He asked his colleagues to reconsider plans to reconfigure La Crescenta Avenue.

"In light of the recent fires, I plan on asking (Fire) Chief Fish to come to our next meeting to respond to concerns" that the same tragedy could befall La Crescenta as a result of the street changes, Councilmember Najarian explained.

The issue was mistakenly placed on the council agenda but could not be legally reconsidered as a majority of the council has already acted and no one voting in the majority was willing to entertain reconsideration, in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Earlier in the council meeting, Councilmember Najarian announced free local transportation for the celebration of Transit Equity Day on Tuesday, Feb. 4. He also shared that the Burbank Airport has appointed a new executive director, John Hatanaka, and that the regional airport would be opening a new passenger terminal in October 2026.

Najarian also asked for an update on a massive fire, deemed a "thermal event," in northern California reportedly caused by the burning of large capacity batteries, such as those planned for the city's Grayson plant.

City staff reported on concerns raised by the freezing of federal funds, particularly as to the potential impacts of local meals, housing and recreational programs.

see GCC on page 8

The Center of the Community: the La Crescenta Library

By Mary O'KEEFE

On Jan. 25, the La Crescenta Library celebrated its 15th anniversary with cake, cookies and a magic show.

One afternoon visit to the La Crescenta Library and visitors will see this is a very popular place in the community. In addition to being a place where kids go after school to use computers and do homework, it is also a place where young children and their parents/caregivers explore the shelves of books and DVDs.

This is Year 15 of the "new" La Crescenta Library though the area has had a library since 1914. La Crescenta Library first opened in November 1914 as the 78th branch of the Los Angeles County Public Library.

"The collection was first housed in a local church building and subsequently moved several times: once into a school house, later into a local store front and



into the Sears building in 1926," according to the La Crescenta Library website.

The present La Crescenta Library was opened in 2009. On Saturday, the library held an anniversary celebration that started with magician Dave Skale and ended with cookies and cake.

Marta Wiggins, library manager,

told the anniversary audience that this building started as part of a hill.

"They had to carve it out and you can see our field stones that are part of our architecture. Those [stones] were recovered from the building site," Wiggins said. "It took them two years to create the building and it was

Photos by Mary O'KEEFE
Magician Dave Skale brought a lot of laughter to kids as he performed amazing sleight of hand magic while keeping the young kids in his audience guessing and giggling.

completed just after the recovery of the Station Fire."

The Station Fire occurred in August and September of 2009.

see LIBRARY on page 19

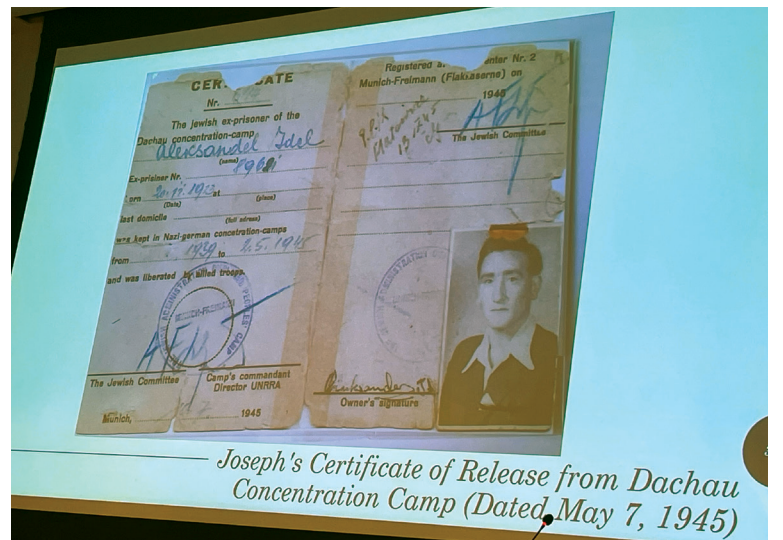
An Interview of Remembrance on International Holocaust Remembrance Day

By Mary O'KEEFE

"We commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day, designated by the United Nations to mark the anniversary of the January 27, 1945 liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration and death camp. We solemnly remember the six million Jews who were systematically murdered across Europe by the Nazis and their collaborators, as well as the millions of others who were killed. We honor those who survived, thank the liberators and renew our shared commitment to human freedom and justice." Statement from Secretary of State Marco Rubio

This year marks the 80th year anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. For years following the end of WWII a group of Jewish survivors shared information on what had happened under the rule of Adolph Hitler. And make no mistake: although Hitler was the leader of the "Final Solution" he could not carry out his genocide plan by himself. Hitler's inner circle – his cabinet – followed his orders. The cabinet included Dr. Josef Mengele, a German Schutzstaffel (SS) officer and physician. He was known as the "angel of death" and Holocaust survivor Joseph Alexander met the man three times.

see HOLOCAUST on page 5



Joseph's Certificate of Release from Dachau Concentration Camp (Dated, May 7, 1945)

Photo by Mary O'KEEFE

Joseph Alexander's certificate of release from concentration camp Dachau in 1945.

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» FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLISHER

Local Opportunities



The number of organizations that want to help those displaced by the Eaton Fire specifically and the Palisades Fire in general are truly heartwarming. From Angel Flight, which created a spot where folks could go and have coffee and snacks, fill out forms and find emotional support while their children were being cared for, to distribution centers that either “popped up” (see Ruth Sowby’s article on page 11) or pivoted and provided an assortment of fire relief items, the response by local organizations has

been incredible. Over the weekend Steve and I had the chance to head to Altadena so I could see firsthand the devastation of the Eaton Fire. It looked to me what I would imagine a war zone looked like: shells of cars parked in front of dirt piles where a house previously stood,

see ROBIN on page 19

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

CVW received a call contesting the numbers I released in last week’s article, which were according to statista.com, on the number of combustion engine vehicles in the U.S. So I reviewed and searched more sources including the Model T Ford Club of America and Duryea Motor Carriage at the National Museum of American History. This is what I found:

First off, the first recorded vehicle in America was American made. On Sept. 21, 1893 Frank Duryea road-tested the vehicle – a secondhand carriage with a gasoline engine – in Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1896, Frank and his brother Charles, and financial backers, founded the Duryea Motor Wagon Company, the first American company that manufactured and sold automobiles. Thirteen production models were made; the only surviving example is in the collection of the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

“The brothers [Frank and Charles Duryea] purchased a used horse-drawn wagon for \$70 and installed their first single-cylinder, four-horsepower, free-piston gasoline engine that Frank built at their shop on 47 Taylor Street. After the buggy was fitted with a friction transmission, low-tension ignition and a spray-type carburetor, the brothers, with Charles at the tiller, road tested the first-ever, working American made gasoline-powered automobile on September 20, 1893.

“The first motor vehicle race in America was held in Chicago in 1895 and was sponsored by H. H. Kohlsaas, owner of the Chicago Times-Herald. The contest was being held ‘with a view of stimulating invention and rousing an interest’ in this new form of transportation. It drew 70 entries. Kohlsaas also offered a \$500 prize for anyone who came up with a proper name for this horseless carriage. Thousands of suggestions were sent to the Times-Herald, and the prize was divided among three people who proposed the word ‘motorcycle.’ Kohlsaas began publishing the first auto trade journal, entitled

The Motorcycle Maker and Dealer, later that same year. The name ‘motorcycle’ never caught on with Americans but eventually the word ‘automobile’ did. In January 1899, the New York Times was the first publication to use the word ‘automobile’ in an editorial, criticizing it as a mixture of Greek and Latin origin.

“At 8:55 a.m. on November 28, 1895, six motor vehicles left Chicago’s snow-covered Jackson Park for a 54-mile road race to Evanston, Illinois and back. Car Number 5, the second car built by inventor Frank Duryea, won the race in just over 10 hours at an average speed of 7.3 mph, earning the \$2,000 prize money. The next day’s Times-Herald reported: ‘Persons who are inclined to decry the development of the horseless carriage will be forced to recognize it as an admitted mechanical achievement, highly adapted to some of the most urgent needs of our civilization.’ After Frank won the Chicago race, demand grew for the Duryea Motor Wagon. In March 1896, Charles Duryea founded the Duryea Motor Wagon Company, the first incorporated American business for the express purpose of building automobiles for sale to the public. The workers started building the first of 13 cars sold that year by hand at their Taylor Street facility – and thus Duryea became the first ever commercially produced vehicle and the largest automobile factory in the United States,” according to MotorCities National Heritage Area Partnership.

“[The Model T] was first [introduced] in 1908. From 1908 to 1927, the last year of production, there were 15 million Model Ts sold. It was not the first [combustion engine vehicle] made in the U.S. but it was the first one that was mass produced by an assembly line that was affordable,” according to a spokeswoman of the Model T Ford Club of America.

So I did write that there were 8,000 vehicles in America in the year of 1900, which came from my source statista.com; the same number was also quoted by the Federal Highway Administration.

see WEATHER on page 19

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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.

GEF PLANS DIAMOND GALA

Honor GUSD alumni while raising funds to continue the work of Glendale Educational Foundation (GEF) supporting District programming. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are now available for the Diamonds Gala being held on Friday, April 11 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

Email or contact Executive Director Bethany Harrington at bethany@glened.org for more information on sponsorship opportunities, ad purchases in the GEF program book and ticket sales. Information is also on the website glened.org.

A portion of these proceeds will also be donated to the GUSD community affected by the wildfires.

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.

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Community Turns Out to Say 'Thanks'

By Eliza PARK

Community members from La Crescenta, La Cañada and surrounding areas gathered at Memorial Park on Monday, Jan. 20 to show thanks to the firefighters and first responders who have battled the Eaton Fire since Jan. 7.

Around 250 volunteers hosted various booths including ring toss, bean bags, bracelet-making and bake sales and a station to write thank you cards to first responders. La Cañada Congregational Church advertised its free counseling services and the La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation raised funds – almost \$64,000 as of press time – for the teachers and staff who lost their homes to the Eaton Fire. Several bands from Crescenta Valley High School provided the soundtrack for the event.

“There was this emerging [sentiment] – who in the community wanted to give back,” said La Cañada Congregational Church pastor Kyle Sears, who coordinated the event after he saw the great need for resources after evacuations. He had a strong desire to help and serve like many others in the immediate aftermath of the devastation due to the windstorms and wildfires.

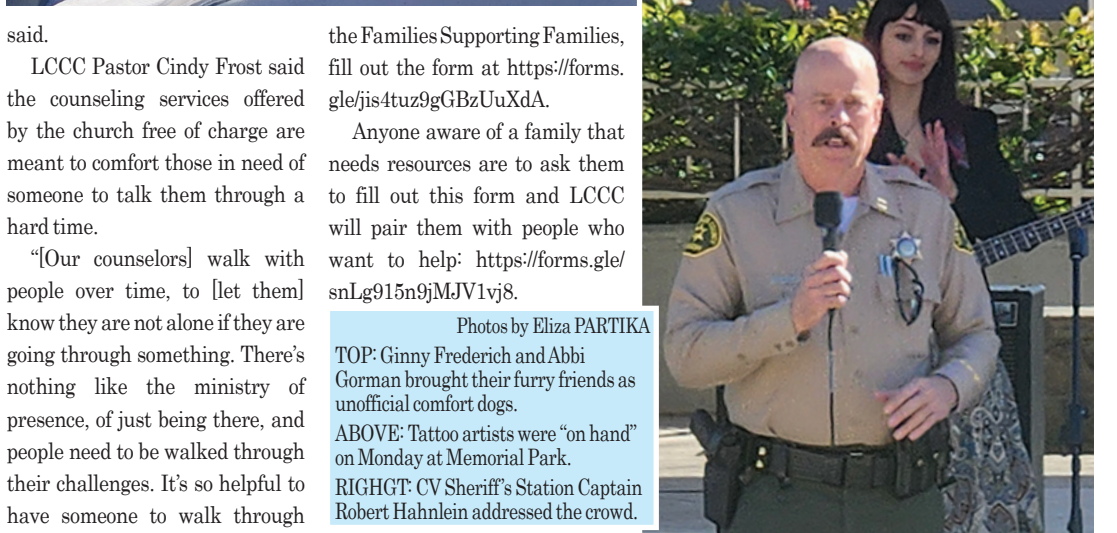
“I learned that I had a staff member who lost everything and the church has been very responsive in providing those kinds of urgent needs for people. So we were able to give her \$500 just to get to the grocery store or make a clothing run or whatever. Then through that we found that there were a lot of people experiencing that kind of immediate need, and we were able to help them out,” Sears said.

Each booth connected attendees to the LCCC’s Venmo account so donations could be made, and to Google Forms to provide sign up opportunities for a program called Family Supporting Family. Family Supporting Family is a service where community members can sign up to provide weekly check-ins over the next six months for evacuees and those who have lost their homes.

Ginny Frederich and Abbi Gorman brought their dogs Cooper and Franklin to comfort event goers. Therapy dog Rusty and others were highlights of the event. Although Cooper and Franklin were not trained as therapy dogs, Frederich said she and Gorman decided to bring their furry friends because of the unique ways dogs are able to comfort humans.

“Dogs break down the barriers between humans,” Frederich said. “They often sense who needs them most.”

“We’re here to make sure our neighbors know they are supported, not just in the short term but for a long time,” Gorman



the Families Supporting Families, fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/jis4tuz9gGBzUuXdA>.

Anyone aware of a family that needs resources are to ask them to fill out this form and LCCC will pair them with people who want to help: <https://forms.gle/snLg915n9jMJV1vj8>.

Photos by Eliza PARTIKA
TOP: Ginny Frederich and Abbi Gorman brought their furry friends as unofficial comfort dogs.
ABOVE: Tattoo artists were “on hand” on Monday at Memorial Park.
RIGHT: CV Sheriff’s Station Captain Robert Hahnlein addressed the crowd.

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NOTES & NODS

LCIF WELCOMES COMMUNITY

In the wake of the recent devastating wildfires, Lutheran Church in

the Foothills (LCIF) is reminding the community of its ongoing pastoral care and emotional support resources, including its weekly Thursday morning prayer breakfast. Held every Thursday at 9 a.m. at the La Cañada McDonald's, this gathering provides a space for individuals to connect with Pastor Rick Hall and others seeking solace, strength, and community.

In addition LCIF, as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), continues to partner with Lutheran Disaster Response to provide aid to the affected communities in Los Angeles County. LCIF has a link on its website where people can donate. Gifts designated to "U.S. Wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the wildfires. In addition, donations can be made by phone at (800) 638-3522. For those wanting to pay by check, donations can be mailed to: Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. People can also give in person, during LCIF's regular Sunday worship at 10 a.m.

For more information, visit lciffoothills.org, email office@lciffoothills.org or call (818) 790-1951. The church is located at 1700 Foothill Blvd in La Cañada Flintridge. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

RUMMAGE SALE ON FEB. 15 AT LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN

Clothes, housewares, books, toys and other gently used treasures will be available at a rummage sale on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church.

Proceeds will benefit a youth mission trip to Arizona where middle and high school students

will work on much-needed maintenance projects in and around Vah Ki Presbyterian Church, which serves the surrounding Gila River Indian Community.

The rummage sale will take place on the La Crescenta Presbyterian campus at 2902 Montrose Ave. in La Crescenta. For more information, visit lepc.net or call 818-249-6137.

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. and began 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 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@givenguidance.com. For more information about La Crescenta Presbyterian's PEAK programming, visit lepc.net or call (818) 249-6137.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE VERDUGO HILLS

UUCVH welcomes retired Disney executive Debbie DelMar on Jan. 26 at 10:30 a.m. "Blessings in Disguise: My Disney Story" will be the topic of DelMar's sermon. She'll reflect on her early Disney career as a Walt Disney Imagineer – how she received blessings but they were in disguise and did not reveal themselves until later.

UUCVH is located 4451 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. Visit the UUCVH website for the ZOOM link <https://www.uuverdugo.org/>.

Celebration of Life Planned for Beloved Reverend

A celebration of life is planned for Rev. Dr. Beverly Craig on Saturday, Feb. 1 at 11 a.m. at Center for Spiritual Living, 4845 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. A light luncheon will follow the service.

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

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



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

Mary O'Keefe
Lead Reporter
mary@cvweekly.com

Designers Steve Hernandez Senior Artist steve@cvweekly.com	Columnist Mike Lawler lawlerdad@yahoo.com
--	---

Contributing Writers
Jabe Bell • Lori Bodnar • Julie Butcher • Rev. Beverly Craig
Eliza Partika • Charly Shelton • Ruth Sowby • Mikaela Stone
Anne McNeill, proofreader

Advertising
Jon K (818) 248-2740 jon@cvweekly.com
Sonya Marquez (818) 381-2000 sonya@cvweekly.com
Lisa Stanners (818) 523-1234 lisa@cvweekly.com

Office Manager/Inside Sales
Rachelle Miller
rachelle@cvweekly.com

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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. 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 jlavieri@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.

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Wednesday Bible Study
6:30 PM

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Concerns Swirl Over Grant and Loan Freeze

By Mary O'KEEFE

Monday night and all day Tuesday was a bit stressful for those who receive government grants and loans, including schools, veterans organizations, small businesses and non-profits, after a White House memo, dated Jan. 27, 2025, ordered a "temporary pause of agency grant, loan and other financial assistance programs."

Organizations throughout the nation panicked as they tried

to understand the scope and meaning of the order.

"The memorandum requires federal agencies to identify and review all federal financial assistance programs and supporting activities consistent with the President's policies and requirements," according to the memorandum.

The problem was no one seemed to know exactly what that meant leading to the panic of several in grant-supported programs like Meals of Wheels,

Head Start and some veteran care programs, mostly in rural areas where a federal grant helps get services to veterans. These programs, along with hundreds of non-profits, were put into a spin as they attempted to get answers.

Later in the day on Tuesday, the Veterans Administration said that all 44 of its financial assistance programs would continue uninterrupted.

At one point on Tuesday the Medicaid website was not

able to be accessed but the White House stated Medicaid was not affected by the freeze. The online systems of Head Start and community health programs reportedly had their payment management service access to web portals cut off.

The freeze was to go into effect on Tuesday at 5 p.m. EST; however, a reprieve was made in the form of a federal judge who temporarily blocked the freeze.

On Wednesday, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

rescinded its call for a pause on payments or federal grants and other programs; however, Karoline Leavitt, the Trump Administration press secretary, shared on X that "This is not a rescission of the federal funding freeze. It is simply a rescission of the OMB memo. Why? To end any confusion created by the court's injunction. The President's EO [executive order] on federal funding remain in full force and effect, and will be rigorously implemented."

HOLOCAUST from Cover

Alexander is 102 years old and continues to talk to adults and students about his experience under Hitler's rule and the 12 camps he was in during one of the darkest times in history. Alexander has shared his story with thousands of students over the years, including those who attend Crescenta Valley High School.

He said the students' reactions have been pretty consistent throughout the years.

"I want them to walk away with the knowledge of what happened," he said.

Alexander added he is concerned the facts about the Holocaust are not known by many students.

"Most U.S. adults know what the Holocaust was and approximately when it happened, but fewer than half can correctly answer multiple-choice questions about the number of Jews who were murdered or the way Adolf Hitler came to power ... Nearly three-

in-10 Americans say they are not sure how many Jews died during the Holocaust while one-in-10 overestimate the death toll and 15% say that 3 million or fewer Jews were killed," according to a 2020 Pew Research Center survey.

"So this is what I hope: When I talk to them they [receive] the knowledge ... they are our future," Alexander said.

Alexander receives letters from students after he speaks and many times those students will repeat his words. The students do seem to have a "light bulb" moment when they understand what happened during the Holocaust.

He added that oftentimes during his presentation he is not certain if the students are listening, and actually hearing, what he is sharing; but once he gets the letters he knows they were listening.

"So I see they do pay attention," he said.

Alexander had been in 12 different camps during WWII.

"One of them was Auschwitz, then was Birkenau and one was Dachau and many others," he said. In all Alexander spent about five years in the camps.

He was born in Poland. When the Germans entered his village in Warsaw they separated people into restricted and non-restricted areas. A couple of weeks after the invasion, the Germans ordered a group of people to the town square. Alexander said in an earlier interview that he did not know why, but neither the family in his home nor in his uncle's home, both which were located in

the town square, were in this first gathering.

"Those who were ordered into the town square were taken away," he said.

There were rumors the Germans would be coming back to take the rest of the Jews, he added.

"My dad said, 'We are not going to wait.' My father had three sisters who lived 25 kilometers [away]," he said.

His mother, father, one sister and one brother left the area; Alexander along with two other sisters stayed home. Not long after they were loaded into a wagon to follow their parents.

Soon after they went to the first camp, which was a work camp. It allowed Jews to return home on the weekends. The work was hard; digging a canal that involved standing in water that was to their knees, without boots. These camps were called ghettos.

He was there for about five months before the order came from the German Nazis that all Jewish men from ages 16 to 60 were to meet at the schoolhouse.

"And off I went to the camp," he said.

He worked at that camp, then two or three camps were combined into one so he moved again. He moved from camp to camp, seven by then, until a train arrived.

"It wasn't a passenger train, it was a cattle car [boxcar]," he said.

The boxcar was packed with Jewish people. They traveled for three days without food, water or bathroom facilities. And then they arrived in Auschwitz.

Alexander said when they arrived about 30% to 40% of the people placed in the boxcar had died.

When he arrived in Auschwitz he met Mengele. He got off the train and lined up.

"Whoever could walk would line up in rows of five and we met Dr. Josef Mengele," he said. "And Dr. Mengele said, 'There's six kilometers to walk to the camp' and he was selecting people [who lined up, directing some] to the left and they would be taken on trucks. So he went through and picked out the sick people, old people, young kids ... I was a little guy and I was a young kid and he told me to go to the left."

But Alexander had already been in several camps by the time he arrived at Auschwitz and he was learning how to survive.

"Every camp I was in I had to work. I tried to get in with the biggest, strongest men. And here Dr. Mengele was telling me to go to the left. I looked around and saw

sick and old people and young kids ... that's not the kind of people I should be with. It was after midnight [when I got off the train]. If it would have been daytime I don't think I could have done this ... I ran back to the other side. If I didn't run back to the other side I wouldn't be here talking to you today. The people who were on the [left side] were taken on the trucks and were taken straight to the gas chamber," Alexander said.

Alexander is a witness to history. When he is approached or hears someone denying the Holocaust he can say he was there. He has a number tattooed on his arm that the Nazis used to identify prisoners at Auschwitz, and he has the stories he shares to warn people that if it happened once it can happen again. But he is 102 years old and he knows time is now the enemy for Holocaust survivors.

When asked if he sees similarities between what is happening around him today in the world and at home - is history repeating itself? - Alexander said, "In a way, some [things]. It started in Germany in 1933. It started right away. The Jews couldn't go to school, Jews couldn't practice any law or medicine ... and that's how it started."

He said when the Nazis took power the Jews had no choice.

"You had to follow the rules, follow the order," he said.

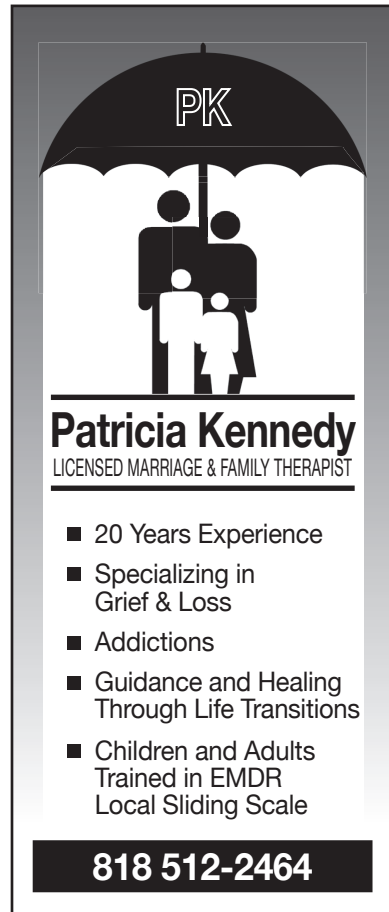
He will continue to share his story of what happened during WWII under Nazi rule.

"I tell the students, I tell everybody, that six million Jews, one and a half million children, were murdered. They weren't murdered because they were criminals or did anything wrong. They were murdered because they were Jews. And today we have a lot of Holocaust deniers and a lot of antisemitism. I call the Holocaust deniers crazy

because the evidence is still there in existence today. You go to Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, Dachau - the gas chambers are still there," he said.

Alexander has been back to Auschwitz a few times and has been invited to a remembrance event at Dachau.

When asked why he continues to go back to these camps he said, "Because I survived and Hitler didn't."



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Price Gouging Charges Filed

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY and Mary O'KEEFE

California Attorney General Rob Bonta on Jan. 22 announced the filing of charges against a real estate agent for attempting to price gouge a couple who lost their home in the Los Angeles Eaton Fire. This investigation began when a complaint was filed with the California Dept. of Justice (DOJ) after the couple tried to rent a home after the Governor's Emergency Order went into effect, which protects fire victims from price gouging. As part of Attorney General Bonta's work to protect Californians following the Southern California wildfires, DOJ also sent 500 warning letters – and counting – to hotels and landlords who have been accused of price gouging. In addition, the office has more active criminal investigations

into price gouging underway, according to a statement from California Attorney's office.

The real estate agent was identified in reports as La Cañada Flintridge realtor Mike Kobeissi.

According to Bonta's statement, the investigation revealed that the couple applied to rent a home that was listed for \$8700 per month but after the application was received were informed that the price increased by approximately 38% to \$12,000. They decided to not rent the house due to the increase in price.

According to Kobeissi, who does not own the house, the rent for the house was increased to current comparable levels. He stated that the situation was "a misunderstanding."

However, the state limits rent increases to 10%; the price had been raised over the 10% limit laid out in Penal Code

section 396 and a charge was filed against Kobeissi that carries a potential penalty of \$10,000 (maximum fine) and the possibility of 12 months in jail.

Currently the house is being rented for \$9570 per month.

"The owner of the house, in consideration of the loss of the home in the Eaton Fire, offered a free month of rent plus the use of furniture that was stored on the property," Kobeissi said.

An arraignment date is currently set for Tuesday, March 4, according to Bonta's office.

On Jan. 27 Bonta announced the filing of charges against another real estate agent, Lar Sevan Chouljian, alleging she attempted to price gouge a family who was evacuated due to the Los Angeles Eaton Fire. This investigation was the result of review of complaints received by the California Dept. of Justice (DOJ).

The investigation revealed that after being evacuated due to the Eaton

Fire, the family began searching for rentals through their real estate agent and inquired about renting a Glendale home. Chouljian offered the family a new price that exceeded the listing price by more than 50%, which is in excess of the 10% limit laid out in Penal Code section 396.

DOJ has opened several active investigations into price gouging as it continues to ramp up deployment of resources to Los Angeles County to investigate and prosecute price gouging, fraud, scams and unsolicited low-ball offers on property during the state of emergency.

A website – oag.ca.gov/LAFires – has been launched by Bonta's office that provides information about how to get help with housing, financial assistance and insurance claims, and for other important resources as well as a place where consumers can file complaints regarding price gouging.

Obituary William "Bill" Steven Bell



Sept. 27, 1951 – Dec. 31, 2024

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend and Scoutmaster, Bill passed away peacefully in the early morning of Dec. 31, 2024 after battling Lewy body dementia for 10 years.

Bill was the first born of three brothers to Stella and Billy J. Bell, and raised in Eagle Rock. Bill was a member of St. Dominic's Youth Choir and later the Folk Mass Choir where in 1971 he met a girl visiting from Phoenix. They fell in love and two years later, in August 1973, he married Jo Anne. He and Jo Anne have called Sparr Heights their home since 1978.

Bill graduated from Eagle Rock High School in 1969 and attended California State University, Los Angeles, where he graduated with a BS in business administration. Bill worked as a purchasing agent in various manufacturing industries including rubber, clothing, aerospace and rivets. He volunteered for 15 years as a first aid instructor with the American Red Cross and served at both St. Dominic's and Holy Redeemer in various capacities.

As soon as they became Mr. and Mrs., they became Girl Scout leaders in Eagle Rock as Scouting was a big part of Jo Anne's childhood. When their own children were of Scouting age, they became active in the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in the Crescenta Valley.


As Scoutmaster, and then assistant Scoutmaster, Bill led the members of Troop 303 for many years. In total, he dedicated about 40 years to Scouting. Both of his own children, Andrew and Christina, earned the highest awards in Scouting. Bill also received numerous Scouting awards.

Bill enjoyed everything in the outdoors, including hiking, fishing, camping, boating and biking. We are fortunate that we have so many wonderful memories with the family, including the three grandchildren.

Bill is survived by his wife Jo Anne; son Andrew (wife Tanaya); daughter Christina (wife Denise); brothers John and Russell; sister Katie; and three grandchildren: Steven, Michael and Alana. His gentle nature, love, wisdom, storytelling, sense of humor, honesty, compassion and companionship will be greatly missed.

His funeral Mass will be at Holy Redeemer Church, 2411 Montrose Ave. in Montrose on Feb. 8 at 11 a.m.

Memorial donations to Scouting America, Verdugo Hills Council, or Lewy Body Dementia Association are appreciated.



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CRIME BLOTTER

JAN. 26

500 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, a phone store reported a theft. When deputies arrived an informant pointed out a male Hispanic wearing a black hoodie and black sweatpants as the person who stole an iWatch from the store.

The deputy detained the juvenile at 1:40 p.m.; after an investigation it was discovered that he had nothing to do with the theft.

JAN. 25

600 block of Foothill Boulevard in La Cañada Flintridge, deputies responded to the location regarding a grand theft report. The surveillance footage revealed a suspect, described as a Black adult male, enter the store. At the time he was wearing a black hoodie, black pants and black shoes with white soles. He reportedly had a cross tattoo with dots on his face near his right eye. The suspect walked through several aisles in the store and stopped at the end cap (a display of products at the end of an aisle) where he selected several items from the shelves and concealed them within the merchandise displayed in aisle 15. He then walked toward the exit and took a hand carry shopping basket. He then returned to aisle 15 where he had hidden all the items he previously selected.

He placed all of the items in the hand basket, tucked the basket under his arm and walked toward

the exit. He walked past registers but did not attempt to pay at 5:10 p.m.

4300 block of Chevy Chase Drive in La Cañada Flintridge, a family left their home and when they returned they found the back door to their home was unlocked; it was locked prior to them leaving. They found the master bedroom closet had been ransacked and a number of items were stolen. Security footage revealed a silver SUV parked across the street from the residence and three females exited the vehicle from the rear passenger seat. Suspect No. 1 was described as light-skinned, wearing a black and white headscarf and black dress. Suspect No. 2 was described as light-skinned, wearing an orange headscarf, gray shirt, black pants and white shoes and carrying a black bag. Suspect No. 3 was described as light skinned, wearing a gray headscarf, white shirt and black pants. A male, Suspect No. 4, also got out of the vehicle and shut the door. Suspect No. 4 was described as having a black beard and was wearing a dark-colored hat, dark jacket, white shirt, dark pants and white shoes.

The suspects approached the residence, checked the door handles and gained entry; they exited through the rear door of the residence.

The theft occurred between 1:22 p.m. and 6 p.m.

» HEALTHY LIVING 2025

When Medications are Needed to Maintain Optimum Health

By Robin GOLDSWORTHY

It's an anxious time right now in America. Uncertainty surrounds things that we previously took for granted. Unfortunately, some people may turn to outside coping mechanisms, which could include "self medication" with drugs that weren't prescribed to them.

Allison Chacon, assistant professor of clinical pharmacy at USC Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, warned that taking someone else's medication can be extremely dangerous.

"Depending on what the medication is, some can cause a life-threatening overdose that could result in a hospitalization and, in the extreme, death," she said. "Sometimes we think that a medication is harmless since our friends take it and have no issues, but everyone's body is different and could respond differently. Especially if you are taking other

medications, there are a lot of drug-drug interactions that can happen and can result in other problems besides the various anxieties they may be trying to self-medicate with."

Then there are people who "go off their meds;" that is, stop taking needed medication – many times because they're feeling better and don't think they need it anymore.

According to the American Medical Association, medication non-adherence – when patients don't take their medications as prescribed – is unfortunately fairly common with research showing that patients about half the time don't take their medications as prescribed.

Chacon said that the severity in a person's response can vary.

"[It] is heavily dependent on the type of medication a person is taking. There are some medications that you can just stop taking and won't necessarily feel

any effects, but it would show up in blood work that your provider may do," she said. "Cholesterol medication is a good example of this one. But for a majority of medications, there is an important, medically necessary reason that it is prescribed and it is never recommended to discontinue without talking to your provider.

"For medications that may help with mood disorders, such as depression or anxiety, these can't be discontinued without a lowering of the dose over a couple of weeks or else a patient may have a worsening of their symptoms. For medications that treat high blood pressure, stopping those without close follow-up could lead to a spike in blood pressure, which would increase the [patient's] risk for a heart attack or stroke. Having a provider that you can have open communication with about your medications is always important,

so you can discuss any concerns you may have before self-managing."

Ultimately, prescription education may be key to curbing these issues.

"The best way to educate patients is typically in the pharmacy when they are picking up their prescriptions or with their provider," Chacon said. "Pharmacists are highly educated on each of these medications and can ask about your medical history and other medications to make an assessment on what you need to look out for, in terms of drug-drug interactions or side effects. You can also walk into any pharmacy and ask to speak to a pharmacist about medications, whether or not you're a patient there. Pharmacists are one of the most accessible health care providers so you can always take advantage of that availability. We definitely recommend staying off Dr. Google because

that tends to scare patients more since they fixate on the extremely rare side effects or random experiences from people on message boards that you never really know if its true or not."

Finally, honesty is the best policy – especially when talking to a doctor or pharmacist.

"Drug-drug interactions are always on the forefront of my mind, and I would assume everyone else's too," said Chacon. "We are always on the lookout for the major ones when checking prescriptions. We also benefit from technology and the pharmacy systems that also help check for interactions in case something is missed. It is always up to the pharmacist to assess each drug interaction and follow up with the patient or provider regarding anything that is concerning."

GPD Arrest Suspect Tied to Several LA Area Residential Burglaries

On Jan. 16, Glendale Police Dept. detectives arrested a suspect believed to be responsible for multiple recent residential burglaries in Glendale. The 22-year-old man was taken into custody during a search warrant at his residence in the City of Los Angeles.

In a coordinated multi-

agency effort, detectives from the Beverly Hills Police Dept. simultaneously served search warrants. They arrested three additional suspects believed to be part of the same residential burglary crew including a 29-year-old man, a 30-year-old man and a 43-year-old man. All the individuals arrested are

Chilean nationals.

Detectives seized evidence from the burglaries, including cellphones and signal jammers. They also recovered stolen property including firearms, jewelry and various luxury items. Detectives have linked this criminal ring to several residential burglaries in cities

across the region including Glendale, Beverly Hills, San Marino and Los Angeles.

This investigation is ongoing. Detectives will be working with the Los Angeles District Attorney's office to assist in the successful prosecution of these individuals.



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Tickets

GCC from Cover

Public Works director Daniel Hernandez reported that the department has made significant progress in cleaning up from the recent winds: 589 calls – 302 reported trees down and 285 reported significant limbs damaged. Hernandez said he believes that public works crews will be caught up by the end of next week, considerably sooner than had been predicted.

The council considered a comprehensive report of possible changes to the rules of decorum for the conduct of city council meetings. According to city attorney Mike Garcia, council meetings are classified as limited public forums. For this reason, the city can impose fair rules on the conduct of participants.

The council agreed to open up public comments at the beginning of council meetings to include agenda items as well as general remarks and to designate 30 minutes for these comments in addition to a specific agenda item to hear about upcoming community events. The council also opted to limit debate among

council members and to end evening council meetings by 11 p.m.; meeting times can be extended by agreement of the councilmembers.

Recently, the council changed the camera angle used during public comments limiting the video appearance of the speaker and showing instead the city council and the back of the speaker. Councilmember Najarian advocated for a split screen approach, saying, “We are certainly entitled to see the face of the person speaking.”

Councilmember Dan Brotman spoke in favor of keeping the new approach.

“I like it the way it is now,” said Councilmember Brotman. “It’s important to remember when the public comes here to speak, they’re addressing the decision-making body; they’re not addressing their friends and family; they’re not addressing the public at large.”

Councilmember Ardy Kassakhian agreed.

“They’re not coming to provide entertainment,” he said. “They’re

here to address the council.”

Councilmember Vartan Gharpetian argued in favor of a split screen.

“If they want to make a video, they’ll make a video,” he said.

The council considered further steps to limit restaurants from using single-use plastic but was unable to agree on next steps.

“I am not ready to add any further burden to our small businesses, our mom-and-pop shops,” said Mayor Elen Asatryan criticizing staff and consultants in their attempts at outreach.

The city’s Sustainability Officer David Jones detailed the need to limit the use of plastic.

“Take-out food containers can contain phthalates, PFAs and BPA, types of chemicals linked to cancer, problems in the reproductive organs, and other health concerns,” Jones said.

The average person eats a credit card’s worth of plastic every week, he reported.

Mayor Asatryan did not disguise her displeasure that staff had drafted a new ordinance without council direction.

“Under what authority did you write up this ordinance?” she grilled staff. The mayor recalled specific instructions to seek input and feedback from the city’s restaurant owners and to focus on incentives rather than rules and penalties.

“To say that I’m frustrated is an understatement,” as she expressed her dismay.

Councilmember Kassakhian agreed that he “prefers the carrot over the stick.” He also suggested starting enforcement with street vendors, noting the unfairness of requiring brick-and-mortar businesses to abide by rules not applicable to the street businesses.

Finally, the council approved the use of \$266,525 in dedicated transportation funds for 60 new concrete planters. According to the staff report, “in collaboration with the Greater Downtown Glendale Association [GDGA], staff requests authorizing dispensing with bidding in order to acquire 60 landscape planters to provide for pedestrian safety on the bridges over the 134 Freeway

on Brand Boulevard and Central Avenue between Goode and Sanchez, and within the Orange Street Alleyway between Wilson and California. The planters staff seeks to procure match existing planters on Brand Boulevard and will therefore provide a consistent downtown aesthetic that beautifies the areas. GDGA will be responsible for installing and maintaining live landscaping in the planters.”

Councilmember Kassakhian noted that the writing proposed for on the planters is “less than inspiring.” He suggested a more specific “Welcome to Glendale” or “Glendale: The Jewel City” message would be more appropriate than Greater Downtown Glendale Association.

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CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
Robin@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
 818.248.2740
 Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
Lisa@CVWeekly.com
 818.523.1234
 La Cañada Montrose

Sonya Marquez
Sonya@CVWeekly.com
 818.381.2000
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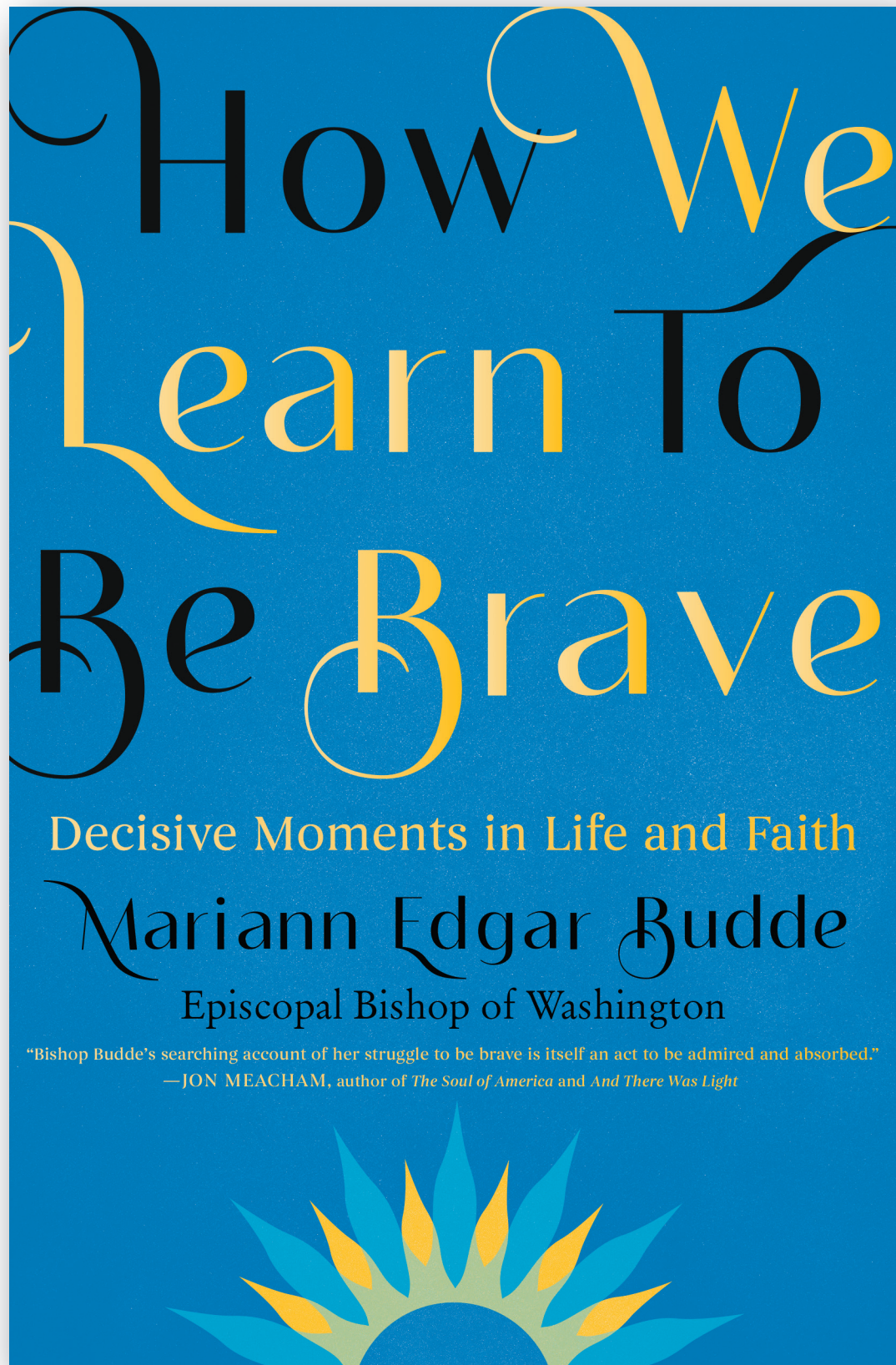
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VIEWPOINTS

TREASURES OF THE VALLEY » MIKE LAWLER

Firefighting in Old Crescenta Valley

As we know, fire is a natural part of our ecosystem. The chaparral and sage that once covered our valley floor was adapted to low-intensity fires that occurred on a regular basis. In fact, the Native-Americans who lived here for thousands of years actually conducted controlled burns on the chaparral to increase the health of the foliage and make the land more productive for hunting and gathering. When the Native Americans disappeared, the sagebrush grew tall and thick. It was only with the coming of the Americans who built homes amid the thick sagebrush that fire became a problem. In the years around the turn of the last century, fire swept across the valley several times. In the late 1800s and early 1900s these fires were frequent, happening in 1878, 1894, 1896-97, 1889, 1907, 1927 and 1933.

The earliest local pioneers in the late 1800s had no organized fire departments. They were on their own. And, as a result, many early homes were lost. Fighting a fire back then was done by hand. If water was available, gunny sacks could be drenched in buckets of water and beat onto or placed on the burning brush, smothering the flames. Also, shovels would be employed to throw dirt onto the advancing flames.

It would have been very dangerous to stand at a line of roaring flames and employ these crude methods. It was hand-to-hand combat. Many people were burned in these early firefighting efforts. If wind wasn't driving the flames a backfire could be set ahead of the fire, but those had to be skillfully managed or they would get away. Wind-driven fires would often leapfrog across the landscape, as they do now, and

early firefighters would have to chase the fire across the valley.

Later, as there was more traffic in the valley, passing wagons and later cars would be stopped along the roadside. Male drivers and passengers would be "volunteered" to fight the fires and handed a shovel. If the fire was great a wagon or truck would be dispatched to downtown LA to bring back more willing hands.

My favorite firefighting story took place in 1907 when the newly married Hall family carved out a little home and orchard at Pennsylvania Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. Vernon Hall was a forest ranger and was often gone for days. His wife Eudoxie, a pretty little French girl barely out of her teens, was alone in the house when a fire broke out in what would later become Montrose. The flames ran quickly through the sagebrush north up

Ocean View Boulevard, jumped Foothill, then careened west, beginning a slow but deliberate march through the sagebrush toward the Hall house. Eudoxie could see the fire coming and her first impulse must have been to run – but run to where?

Eudoxie steeled herself as the flames crossed Rosemont Avenue, then La Crescenta Avenue. Armed with the firefighting knowledge her husband had described to her, she set up a firebreak from which to set a backfire. With a shovel she quickly cut the firebreak on the northern and eastern edge of their orchard, about where Los Olivos Lane and Cloud Avenue are today, and set a line of full water buckets and gunny sacks in the break. As the fire jumped Ramsdell, she lit the backfire at the firebreak. She ran between the buckets, using a wet gunny sack to beat at the flames she had set

to keep the new fire moving east. The two lines of flame converged and mostly extinguished just as a wagon load of men raced up to "rescue" her. Eudoxie was brave ... and lucky.

By the teens, a local volunteer organization was formed, the Angeles Protective Association. It was well-organized, both for firefighting and replanting burned-over areas. It would respond to a bell at the Bissell Ranch at the top of La Crescenta Avenue and at La Crescenta Elementary School. In 1923 this group was able to sponsor a county fire department station in the valley and the dangerous job of fighting fires was placed in the capable hands of professionals.

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

NEWS FROM THE CVWD » JAMES LEE



Our region and those from all around came together to provide support through the incredible losses of the recent wildfires. We will be living with this for many years through the recovery and rebuilding process. Our neighboring water companies, Rubio Cañon Land & Water Association and Lincoln Avenue Water Company, sustained severe losses including their ability to serve water to the homes in their service areas.

CVWD activated its Emergency Operations Center to ensure adequate water supply and pressure for firefighting efforts; to monitor water quality for safe consumption and to provide aid to others once our ability to fulfill our mission had stabilized. I would like to highlight gratitude for our System Operations team. Their day-to-day responsibility is to treat water, test it according to the nation's strictest standards and pump the water throughout the distribution system and into your homes.

Whenever there are high wind advisories or one of Southern California Edison's public safety

power shutoffs, the System Operations team leads the mobilization effort to ensure everything possible has been done to prepare for such events. This effort includes: deploying portable generators to the sites that pump water through the system; checking for brush clearance around sites such as reservoirs and pump stations; fill all of the 17 reservoirs to ensure water supply and pressure in case our water sources are cut off; checking our emergency water interconnections with the City of Glendale, La Cañada Irrigation District and LADWP; reviewing alternate pumping plans in case infrastructure is lost; and monitoring water quality. During our past event, with no power, there was no ability to monitor the system through technology. Consequently the team implemented a 24-hour rotation schedule to refill diesel for portable generators and take manual reads of reservoir levels and water quality.

Thank you to the community as well. CVWD maintains a relatively significant amount of water storage. Our combined 17 million gallons of

reservoir capacity can serve water for five to seven days under typical conditions and seven/11 days under emergency restrictions. The community collectively responded to our notice to restrict water to essential use only, and the response was immediate and significant. Thank you very much for this.

It was only last October that the District purchased two mobile dip tanks for firefighting helicopters to drastically augment firefighting capabilities. It's unfortunate these fires occurred, but the new dip tanks deployed for the fires, and we're glad to have contributed to the fight in this way. We are looking to do what we can for our customers and our neighbors up and down the state as the sponsor of Senate Bill 90, which was introduced to the State Legislature for consideration last week to provide funding for these tanks for other water agencies. We are all in this together after all.

Thank you as always for taking the time to read and for continuing the dialogue.

*James Lee, General Manager
CVWD*

Ovations Arts Ministry | La Cañada PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | Ovations Art Series 2024-2025

"I will sing and make music to the Lord, for he is highly exalted." ~ Exodus 15:1

A concert for children of all ages

Sunday, February 2 at 2 p.m.
Pre-concert lecture at 1:30 p.m.

The CONDUCTOR'S SPELLBOOK

LCPC Orchestra

Free Admission

In-person and broadcast live at live.lacanadapc.org

STORY and MUSIC by **PAUL DOOLEY**
ILLUSTRATIONS by **TANNER PORTER**

La Cañada Presbyterian Church
626 Foothill Boulevard, La Cañada, CA 91011
ovations@lacanadapc.org • 818-790-6708 x251

BETWEEN FRIENDS

Six Hour Pop-up Store Makes Big Difference in La Cañada Flintridge



By Ruth SOWBY

On Sunday, Jan. 26, a new tool popped up to make more donations available to children directly affected by the Eaton Fire who attend school in the La Cañada

School District. Hundreds of items from clothes to toiletries to school supplies were available to District students and parents. Everything was free.

The Osbrink Agency, which represents show biz talent,

partnered with Rainy Day Pennies, Inc. to accumulate items, find volunteers to man the store and give away donations. Rainy Day Pennies' owners, husband and wife Shane and Farrell Foley, offered their La Cañada Flintridge

home for the pop-up. They also let their large network of friends and business associates know they needed donations and the help of volunteers to give the hundreds of items away. Their friends stepped up with donations and manpower for the pop-up. Osbrink clients were also part of the act as donors and volunteers.

Osbrink V.P. Maureen Rose said, "We honestly have been searching for ways to help anyone affected and our sharing outlets with our client roster in case they want to join in."

Altogether about 20 volunteers, including Osbrink's actors and actresses, took five days to set up the pop-up.

Tamara Fragas Williams of Altadena lost her home in the Eaton Fire as well as five homes belonging to family members. High school friends told her about the pop-up and she came running. She needed to replace all of her clothes, having lost every possession she had. The only thing she carried as she quickly evacuated when she saw flames nearby was her important paperwork. There was no time to pack anything else. Friends helped her out of her house.

The next morning, "finagling" her way back she saw that her home was destroyed.

"Only the chimney was left; everything was still smoking and smoldering," Williams said. Houses around hers were still on fire. "My entire life, everything I

Photos by Ruth SOWBY
TOP LEFT: Farrell and Shane, owners of Rainy Day Pennies, Inc., donated their La Cañada Flintridge home, time and talent, to a pop-up store offering clothing, toiletries and toys for La Cañada Unified School District students.

TOP MIDDLE: Pop-up store volunteers, with help from doggie, are La Cañada High School students (from left) Glendale resident Jordyn James and La Cañada resident Addie Craig, who was evacuated during the Eaton Fire.

TOP RIGHT: As the hours went by, volunteers at the La Cañada Flintridge pop-up store opened up their donations to all, not just students at the La Cañada Unified School District. Eaton Fire victim and Altadena resident Tamara Fragas Williams looks through donated clothing.

BOTTOM LEFT: La Cañada High School student volunteers (from left) Bredon Miller, Ronin Horn, Jordyn James and furry friend. Why volunteer, Bredon? "My mother made me."

BOTTOM MIDDLE: Not only were adults served at the pop-up store on Sunday but also their children. Donated toys were a big draw.

BOTTOM RIGHT: On Sunday, the pop-up store in La Cañada Flintridge was filled with hundreds of donated items to give away.

had for 50 years, was gone. I had packed no bags." She did her best to sift through the debris and ashes, but "found nothing."

"My chest and throat hurts. I've already crashed, now I'm processing," she said. "I've got to go embrace it." Asked where she lives now, Williams said, "I'm a gypsy. I go from house to house."

Donations left over from the pop-up store sale are being given to other distribution centers.

Questions About Today's Real Estate?

Ask Phyllis!

Listing A Home That Needs Updating.

Dear Phyllis,
I had my home listed last year. The agent I hired asked me about the infrastructure of my house. After telling him my roof and air conditioning were old, he advised me not to make any repairs. He listed my home as is, and it was on the market for three months before expiring. We had lots of showings and several open houses. When I pressed my agent for feedback, he told me that buyers said my home needed too much work. I don't understand why he would not have at least suggested a fresh coat of paint. I am planning to relist this Spring. How would you approach listing a home that needs updating?

JW

Dear JW,
I understand your frustration. There is no one-size-fits-all marketing plan for listing a home that needs updating. Each home and seller has a unique set of circumstances. Typically, before suggesting any work, I recommend a pre-inspection. I recently had a similar situation. In my instance, the inspector's report indicated that the ducting and the ceilings likely contained asbestos. Because of the potential for asbestos, it wouldn't make sense to paint the interior. The kitchen and bathrooms were original to the 1950s built home. Additionally, there was \$9,000 worth of termite repairs and recommended treatment. The seller and I reviewed the inspection report and decided

to do the minimum. We had the home professionally cleaned and trimmed some plants to get a better view of the home and added mulch to the flower beds. Additionally, we removed the carpet to expose the hardwood floors, which were buffed by the house cleaners. We wanted to present the home's potential without wasting thousands of dollars on cosmetic fixes, which would likely be ripped out anyway. In this instance, we listed this mid-century fixer and sold it for \$50,000 over the asking price in eight days. There were four offers, and as we had a pre-inspection and termite report, the buyer waived their inspection contingency. Best of luck on your relist!

Phyllis



Phyllis Harb

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Children's

BOOKMARK CONTEST

CALLING ALL ARTISTS IN PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE!

Your design here!

 A vertical rectangular template for a bookmark. At the top, there is a large empty box for the design. Below this box, the text '2025' is centered. Underneath '2025', the text 'YOUR NAME' is centered. At the bottom of the template, the Glendale Library Arts & Culture logo is positioned on the left side.

FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2025

Calling all artists! Help us get ready for the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge by designing a bookmark that reflects this year's theme: Level Up at Your Library, focusing on playing and games.

Pick up an entry form starting February 1st at any Glendale Library, Arts & Culture location! All entry forms must be returned to a Glendale Library, Arts & Culture location by February 28.

**LEVEL UP
AT YOUR LIBRARY
SUBIR DE NIVEL
EN TU BIBLIOTECA**



Community Center Welcomes New Board Member

The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge (CCLCF) announced the addition of Alex Martinian to its board of directors. Martinian, CFA, grew up in La Cañada, attended La Cañada Elementary School and La Cañada High School. Following his undergraduate studies at Dartmouth College, he worked in public equity investing at T. Rowe Price. He then attended business school at Stanford, receiving his MBA in 2016. He is an investment analyst at Everett Harris & Co. in downtown Los Angeles and serves on the board of the Stanford

Graduate School of Business Los Angeles alumni club.

"I'm thrilled to have Alex join the CCLCF board as we start 2025," said Board President Dan Sernett. "The combination of his finance and business experience alongside his eagerness to grow the community in his native La Cañada Flintridge makes Alex a natural choice to participate in shaping the direction of our Community Center as we begin the journey of our next 75 years."

Martinian said he is excited to join the Board.

"La Cañada is a special community, and the Community Center is an enduring pillar of this town. I am honored to join the board of this wonderful institution, and I look forward to working with the staff and the other board members to ensure that the Community Center remains a vibrant space in the decades ahead," he said.

Martinian will join the Board Finance Committee this month.

For more information, contact CCLCF at (818) 790-4353 or www.cclcf.org



National Charity League, Inc., Glendale Chapter Announces Annual Membership Drive

The Glendale Chapter of National Charity League, Inc. (NCL), the nation's premier mother-daughter volunteer organization, has announced its annual membership drive and has begun accepting applications from women with daughters currently in grades six through eight. The Glendale Chapter is comprised of nearly 300 members who reside in the Glendale, La Cañada, La Crescenta, Pasadena, Burbank and surrounding areas of Los Angeles.

Glendale Chapter mother-daughter teams volunteered just under 10,000 philanthropy

hours in the 2023-24 year for 20 philanthropic organizations in the community, including the YWCA of Glendale, Twelve Oaks Senior Living, Union Station Homeless Services, Southern California Special Olympics, Door of Hope, and the American Red Cross.

"National Charity League is a great opportunity for mothers and daughters to work together volunteering with local philanthropies. The NCL Core Program teaches our girls valuable leadership skills that last a lifetime," said Stacy Sartor, Glendale Chapter president.

For more information,

prospective members are encouraged to visit the Glendale Chapter's website at [National Charity League, Inc.](http://NationalCharityLeague.com) or send an email to membershipglendale@nclonline.org.

Applications for membership are only accepted during the annual membership drive from Jan. 15 –March 1.

A prospective member shall reside within the Glendale, La Cañada, La Crescenta, Pasadena, Burbank and surrounding areas of Los Angeles, and have a daughter currently in grades six through eights.

Interested mothers are encouraged to attend one of the

prospective member meetings in February 2025. To receive an invitation, contact the chapter at membershipglendale@nclonline.org.

Completed applications are due by March 1.

Established in Los Angeles, California in 1925 and incorporated in 1958, National Charity League, Inc. is the nation's premier mother-daughter non-profit organization. By incorporating mission-based programming, National Charity League develops socially responsible community leaders and strengthens the mother-daughter bond through

philanthropy, culture and leadership. National Charity League recognizes the importance of diverse perspectives and experiences to meet the needs of the communities it serves.

Currently, the philanthropic organization has over 200,000 members and alumnae in hundreds of chapters across the nation. Last year, members contributed more than 2.7 million volunteer hours to more than 6,000 local philanthropy partners and their chapters, resulting in a \$68.7 million fiscal impact. National Charity League proudly celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2025.

BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

A District resident who is named accountholder on the records of the District is eligible for a 25% bill discount.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

- Named account holder on District records
- Receive benefits from any of the programs below. See full list on our website.
 - CalFresh (Food Stamps)
 - CalWORKs (TANF)/ Tribal TANF
 - CARE Program (Gas Company or SCE)
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 - Medi-Cal/Medicaid
 - National School Lunch Program
 - California Lifeline (Phone Company)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Total income for all members in the household must meet the guidelines listed here.

To learn more about our Bill Assistance Program, please visit www.cvwd.com/bill-assistance-program or contact our office.

Household Size	Income Eligibility
1-2	\$51,500
3	\$64,550
4	\$78,000
5	\$91,450
6	\$104,900
Each Additional Person	\$13,450

TRAVEL & LEISURE

Trio to Perform for GNC

On Feb. 5, the Glendale Noon Concerts will feature violinists Samuel Fischer and Sakura Tsai and pianist Jennie Jung performing works for violin duo by Jessie Montgomery, Dimitri Shostakovich and Pablo de Sarasate.

The free admission Glendale Noon Concerts meet from 12:10 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. in the sanctuary of Glendale City Church, 610 E. California Ave. in Glendale.

For more information, email 610ecalifornia@gmail.com.

On the program will be Jessie Montgomery – Musings for Two Violins (2023),

I. Introduction, II. Initiation Song, III. Hymn, IV. Courrante, V. The Swallow and VI. Vivo; also Dimitri Shostakovich – Three Duets for Two Violins and Piano, Op. 97d

I. Prelude, II. Gavotte, III. Waltz; Pablo de Sarasate – Navarra, Op. 33.

Samuel Fischer, violinist, has appeared as soloist throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, with orchestras including the Charleston Symphony, the Hollywood Chamber Orchestra and the Los Angeles Doctors Symphony. Fischer is concertmaster of the Desert Symphony, Opera Santa Barbara, the Redlands Symphony Orchestra and the Riverside Philharmonic. He has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, and the Pacific Symphony. He has recorded extensively for motion picture and television soundtracks, record albums and video games. In chamber ensembles, he has collaborated with a variety of artists including Anne Akiko-Meyers, Martin Beaver and Lynn Harrell, Cho-Liang Lin. Fischer holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Southern California and a master's degree from the Juilliard School. A passionate educator, he is artist professor of violin at the University of Redlands and is on faculty at the Colburn School of Performing Arts, the Idyllwild Arts Summer Program and the Montecito International Music Festival.

Sakura Tsai, violinist and educator, performs nationally and internationally



Samuel Fischer and violinist Sakura Tsai

as a soloist and chamber and orchestral musician. She earned degrees (B.M., M.M., and D.M.A.) in violin performance from the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music where she was honored with the prestigious Order of Areté and became a member of Pi Kappa Lambda. Her mentors and teachers included Midori Goto, Kathleen Winkler and Hagai Shaham. Additional fields of study while pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree included music theory and analysis, violin pedagogy with Andre Granat and kinesiology. Dr. Tsai is on faculty at University of Redlands Conservatory of Music where she also serves as director of the University of Redlands String Project. Additionally, Dr. Tsai teaches at California School of the Arts - San Gabriel Valley and coaches instrumentalists in the Walnut Valley Unified School District. Dr. Tsai frequently appears as an adjudicator and serves as clinician in schools around Southern California and maintains a robust private studio. She is a member

of the Redlands Symphony and the Long Beach Symphony, performs in several regional orchestras, and has spent summers at the Lucerne Festival (Switzerland) and Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival (Germany) academies and Music Masters Course Japan (Japan). Dr. Tsai's solo and ensemble performances have been featured live on TV and radio broadcasts.

Jennie Jung made her debut with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at the age of 11 and has since been active as a pianist in North America. Dr. Jung performed as soloist with the Republic of Tatarstan, Korean Philharmonic, Taejon, Korean-Canadian, University of Toronto, Hart House and Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestras. She also attended festivals including the Banff Centre for the Arts and the Music Academy of the West. As a collaborative pianist, Dr. Jung has performed in North America, Asia, Europe and Africa, and has been on staff at the Mozarteum (Austria), Aspen Summer Music Festival, Gregor

Piatigorsky Seminar for Cellists and the Banff Centre for the Arts. Dr. Jung participated in masterclasses and studied with artists such as Claude Frank, Jonathan Feldman, Marietta Orlov, Marina Geringas, Dalton Baldwin, Anne Epperson, Peter Frankl, Margo Garrett, Martin Katz, Anton Kuerti, Robert MacDonald, Karl Ulrich-Schnabel, and Arie Vardi. Dr. Jung has degrees from the University of Toronto, Yale School of Music and the Juilliard School. She taught piano and chamber music at the Colburn School of Performing Arts and at Center Stage Strings (U of Michigan). Dr. Jung is currently on the faculty of Pomona and Scripps Colleges as well as the Claremont Community School of Music, and she performs regularly in the Los Angeles area.

This is the 17th year of presenting free admission concerts every first and third Wednesday for Glendale and the Southland community.

Upcoming concerts will be updated at <http://glendalenoconcerts.blogspot.com>.

THEN & NOW



THEN: This was Fire Station 19 when it opened on Foothill Boulevard between Rosemont and Briggs avenues in 1930. It was constructed of natural stone to match its nearest neighbor, St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church. A captain, four regular firemen and two local volunteer firefighters on call manned the station.

Fire Station 19 Courtesy of the Historical Society of CV



NOW: When Foothill Boulevard was widened in the late 1940s the fire station lost its driveway in front. They were already outgrowing the small station so LA County sold the station to St. Luke's Church. In the front garage door, the Church built a big stone fireplace and by the early '50s it was in use as a youth house. In the 1980s the church leased the building out and it was the Discovery House, a counseling center. The church is again using it as a youth house. Los Angeles County Fire Station 19 lives on in its newer facility at 1729 W. Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada Flintridge.

Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy Announce Plans in Response to Windstorms and Fires

After the catastrophic windstorms and fires in the local region, many volunteers and community members with the Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy are eager to help. Administrators with Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy are concerned about the safety of community members. There are many unknown health

risks, even when working in areas outside of the burn zones, and for this reason upcoming restoration and community education events are cancelled for the next two weeks.

Since it is unknown what the levels of toxicity is in deposited ash or how the soil has been affected at AFC preserves, tests will be

conducted to better understand the situation. Health officials are urging people not touch or kick up the ash, which could further the health crisis that communities currently face. Urban fires pose different air quality risks than vegetation fires – the devastating burning of homes, cars and other man-made materials has resulted

in lead, asbestos, heavy metals and volatile organic compounds being released into the air.

The community is encouraged to take active measures to minimize the health risks when working outside. This includes wearing a face mask or respirator (KN95 or higher), eye protection, a long-sleeved shirt and pants,

boots and gloves when handling debris or working with the soil.

Currently the regular Rosemont Preserve restoration day on Saturday, Feb. 8 is planned. Anyone participating should wear PPE (KN95+ face mask, gloves and goggles) and take measures to minimize disturbing ash and kicking it up into the air.

Perseverance: 20 Years Of Thinkspace Opens at Brand Library & Art Center

Glendale Library, Arts & Culture and Brand Library & Art Center present Perseverance: 20 Years of Thinkspace in collaboration with Thinkspace Projects, a Los Angeles-based gallery. Featuring over 70 artists, Perseverance celebrates the 20th anniversary of the gallery with a presentation of new works by local artists as well as site-specific murals.

Thinkspace Projects was founded in 2005 in what is LA's West Adams District. The gallery has garnered an international reputation over the past 20 years as one of the most active and productive exponents of the New Contemporary Art Movement. Maintaining its founding commitment to the promotion and support of its artists, Thinkspace has steadily expanded its roster and diversified its projects, creating collaborative and

institutional opportunities all over the world. Established in the spirit of shaping recognition for young, emerging and lesser-known talents, the gallery is now home to world-wide artists ranging from the emerging, mid-career and established.

Perseverance serves to pay tribute to all the creatives Thinkspace has worked with over the last two decades and features a diverse mix of artists on the gallery's current roster alongside some longtime gallery favorites and a look forward with fresh new talent that will be inspiring us for years to come. Thinkspace is more driven than ever to keep forging its path forward to honor the legacy of Thinkspace's co-owner, Shawn Mery Vezinaw Hosner, and to keep building on all the gallery has accomplished thus far.

Perseverance: 20 Years Of Thinkspace, which is the fifth



collaboration between Brand Library & Art Center and Thinkspace Projects, will be on view Feb. 1 – March 29. Artists

featured in the exhibition will be present at the opening reception on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m..

For more information and to view the list of featured artists, visit BrandLibrary.org/Gallery.

Woodrow Wilson Theater Department
PRESENTS

General Admission \$12
Reserved Seating for \$20
Pre-sale for \$10 by Tuesday, 02/04

The Addams Family
Young @ Part

Wednesday, February 5, 2025
7:00 PM

TICKETS
PRE-SALE (\$10)
AT DOOR (\$12)
RESERVED (\$20)
PLEASE PRE-ORDER TICKETS
EMAIL BY 2/04/2025
WMSBOXOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

Woodrow Wilson Auditorium
1221 Monterey Road
Glendale, CA

For all questions, please email:
WMSBOXOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

The Addams Family is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide
180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036
www.theatricalrights.com

Nominations Sought for the 2024 La Cañadan of the Year

The Kiwanis Club of La Cañada announced that nominations for the La Cañadan of the Year will open on Friday, Jan. 31. The general public is invited to submit the name of an individual, or a couple, who has provided exemplary service to the La Cañada Flintridge and foothill neighborhoods. For over 70 years, the award has been presented to past recipients such as Gil Smith, Dr. William Pickering, Michael Davitt, Sheri Morton and, most recently, Katherine Markgraf, to name a few.

La Cañadan of the Year Nominating Committee Chairperson Joe Radabaugh said, "The La Cañadan of the Year honor has been awarded to many of the who's who of La Cañada Flintridge. Our community is fortunate to have so many people who take service to heart and give back for the betterment of our city and children. I encourage everyone to submit a nomination for those they believe should be acknowledged and recognized for their volunteerism. Typical criteria for selection can include such things as: depth and breadth of community service, demonstrated leadership

and initiative, as well as the positive impact they have on the community."

La Cañada Kiwanis President Alice Perez said, "I urge everyone to consider their friends and neighbors and submit an application to our long-standing event for those deserving individuals who have performed dedicated service in our great community!"

The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday, Feb. 28. A noon-time luncheon celebration will be announced with the final date based on the recipient's availability.

Nomination forms may be picked up at the La Cañada Flintridge City Hall at the LCF Chamber of Commerce counter. The application submittal forms may be requested by emailing Joe Radabaugh at LCOY@lacanadakiwanis.org.

Completed forms must be submitted by email to LCOY@lacanadakiwanis.org or mailed to Kiwanis Club of La Cañada - La Cañadan of the Year, c/o Joe Radabaugh, P.O. Box 33, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91012. Those who have questions can call Joe Radabaugh at (626) 975-6411.

JUST FOR FUN

CALENDAR this

GLENDALE KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale meets on Fridays at noon. The program on Jan. 31 are members of the USC-VHH Nurses Magnet Program. The cost to attend Friday meetings, which includes lunch and program, is \$25. All are welcome.

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

DANCING AS EXERCISE

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

There is live music every Friday (note new day) from 10 a.m. to noon in the Park's building at 3901 Dunsmore Ave. in La Crescenta. Note that due to the wildfires dances are postponed until February.

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.

ANNUAL JAZZ GUEST ARTIST CONCERT AT CALTECH

The Caltech Jazz Band, under the direction of Barb Catlin, presents the annual Jazz Guest Artist Concert featuring the music of Patrick Williams with performers Peter Erskine, Chuck Berghofer, Wayne Bergeron, Kirsten Edkins and Mike Dana on Saturday, Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. in Beckman Auditorium. Tickets are \$7 for students, seniors and faculty; \$15 for general admission, and can be purchased by calling the Caltech ticket office at (626) 395-4652. Parking is free.

Y 'FOOTHILLS STRONG' HOLDING LA FIRE RELIEF - COMMUNITY EVENT

The Crescenta-Cañada YMCA is having a community outreach on Sunday, Feb. 2 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. to provide essential supplies and services, including clothing, food, toiletries, toys and more, to aid affected families and first responders of the wildfires. California strong, powered by the

Southeast Ventura County YMCA in partnership with Proactive Sports Performance and YMCA of the Foothills.

Financial donations can be made at californiastrong.org.

For more information, email dhutchison@sevymca.org.

'THE ADDAMS FAMILY' COMING TO WOODROW WILSON THEATER

Tickets are available for Woodrow Wilson Theater Dept.'s presentation of "The Addams Family" on Wednesday, February 5 at 7 p.m.

General admission tickets are \$10 presale, \$12 at the door. Reserved seating is available for \$20.

For more information, email wmsboxoffice@gmail.com.

Woodrow Wilson Middle School is located at 1221 Monterey Road in Glendale.

FRITZ COLEMAN'S SHOW EXTENDS AT THE EL PORTAL

"Unassisted Residency," the

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

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

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

seating.

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

PARROTS IN THE CRESCENTA VALLEY

Look to the skies any afternoon in our Crescenta Valley hillside communities and most likely flocks of brightly colored, squawking birds will be seen overhead.

see CALENDAR THIS on next page

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Provided by horoscope.com

January 27, 2025 - February 2, 2025

ARIES March 21 - April 19

Your ideas may be incredibly creative now, particularly as they relate to any kind of communication. You could be inspired to write a book about your experiences and find that it practically writes itself! You're being divinely guided now, and just need to make sure you're getting enough sleep, food, and water so you can continue. And while you're creating your masterwork, it's doubly important that you leave time for practical things.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

It's never been your strong suit to sit back and acquiesce, and that may go double this week. Unsupportive aspects will create waves. Try to bring warring factions in your social network back to the peace table as you take charge of debt matters or property you own with another person. Leaving it to them won't yield the best results now. You know what's best for both of you.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

You're caught in a tense situation this week. Your masculine and feminine sides may both have to be addressed when considering a new way of earning, saving, or spending your cash. Think like a pragmatist while appreciating and enjoying the finer things in life and you'll find that you might be able to get used to this.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

You may be busier than usual at work this week as other people's responsibilities are tossed on your desk. In the midst of the madness, get in touch with your raw ambition. How high do you want to climb on this particular ladder? If it isn't that much higher, you have plenty of ideas. Maybe you'd prefer to sink a little money into starting a new business. Education, publishing, metaphysics, and the law all look probable.

LEO July 23 - August 22

This week you need to remember what you bring to the table. Your debt picture is about to get rosier because it's possible to gently and realistically establish payment plans with banks and creditors. But you may not get all the support you want from your social network. Rather than selling yourself short, remember what you have to give. They're better off for knowing you, even if that isn't apparent now.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

It's a complicated week for you, though things may look great, particularly when it comes to your relationship. You're moving ahead with personal and professional unions, and it's all good on that front. But aspects affecting your career make it hard to see the forest for the trees. Take the time you need to establish a clear path to your goals.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

There are some issues when it comes to debts and property you own with other people. You may be operating under one belief while your creditors have another. Best to sort it out calmly and without blame. You may have a wonderful insight on how to get debt paid down more quickly - take advantage of it! Meanwhile, love lights up your family life. Spending time with loved ones makes it all worthwhile.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

There are some issues when it comes to debts and property you own with other people. You may be operating under one belief while your creditors have another. Best to sort it out calmly and without blame. You may have a wonderful insight on how to get debt paid down more quickly - take advantage of it! Meanwhile, love lights up your family life. Spending time with loved ones makes it all worthwhile.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You have some thinking to do about your home. From decorating it to furnishing it to organizing it, you have a lot on your plate there. But there's some confusion in your closest relationships. Whether they're personal or professional, communication needs to be clear and concise lest you be misunderstood. A lot is riding on this.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

This week you may take one step forward and two steps back. You may have been thinking about your purpose in the world and found that you're no closer to figuring it out. Advice comes from your siblings. Listen to the wisdom you receive from trusted confidantes. Just make sure that you double-check any facts now, since the results will affect your work sector - and potentially your paycheck!

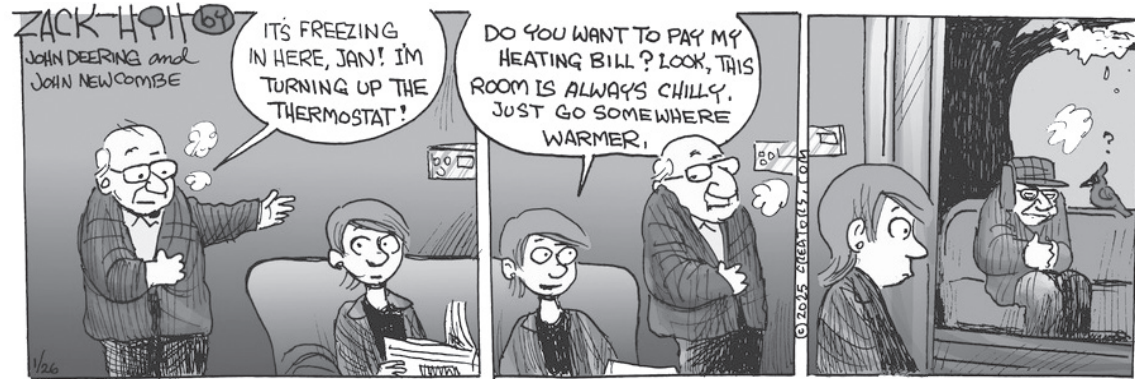
AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Right now, you're probably thinking more about what you can buy than how you can save. That's only natural. But with so much positive energy concentrated in your money sector, it's best to think about putting at least a little of your hard-earned dough into a savings account. Factor in a disharmonious aspect affecting romance, kids, family, and fun, and it's time to curb what's become the financial norm.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20

You're heading into a fortunate time. Not only are you feeling more attractive now, but you also have a pleasant confidence that other people find magnetic. This will last for the next few weeks, so make sure you give yourself the star treatment during that time. You're seized with creative ideas around your home. Just make sure your plans don't exceed your budget, or at least factor in a contingency plan in case you do go over.

ZACK HILL BY JOHN DEERING AND JOHN NEWCOMBE



1.30.25

ACROSS

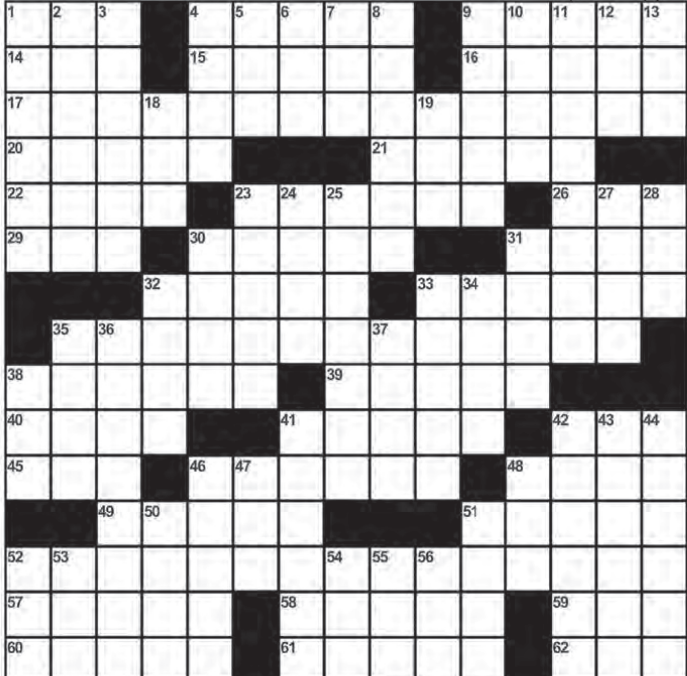
- 1) Beaver-built barricade
- 4) Definite Mensa reject
- 9) Medieval clubs
- 14) Stretch of history
- 15) Swahili or Zulu
- 16) Cather's "___ Lady"
- 17) Weather vanes?
- 20) Trumpeter Armstrong
- 21) Short and sweet
- 22) Immediately, on memos
- 23) Ness adversary
- 26) Ram's partner
- 29) Campaign pro
- 30) Weighted lassos
- 31) Short news clip
- 32) Surface- missile
- 33) Regional populations
- 35) Certain look-alike
- 38) Reactions to bad jokes
- 39) "Fear of Flying" author Jong
- 40) Ponies up
- 41) Not-so-pretty snow
- 42) Doctor's letters?
- 45) "___ more time!"
- 46) They're the pits
- 48) Winglike
- 49) Nasal passages
- 51) Work one's fingers to the bone
- 52) Times when the sun is southernmost
- 57) Some cookies
- 58) now and again
- 59) John Lennon's quartet?
- 60) Insects with stingers
- 61) Dogpatch first name
- 62) Hog's haven

DOWN

- 1) Fold of skin under the throat
- 2) Melodic composition
- 3) Instruction book
- 4) Large wading bird
- 5) Castellaneta who voices Homer Simpson
- 6) Officeholders
- 7) Legendary Giants slugger Mel
- 8) Supercharged engines
- 9) '50s first lady
- 10) Windward's opposite
- 11) New Year's Eve shower
- 12) Slow or fast ender
- 13) Elm and Downing (abbr.)
- 18) Ice-cream serving
- 19) Museum decoration
- 23) Articles on a rack
- 24) Et ___ ("and others")
- 25) Mailed boxes
- 27) Cut off gradually
- 28) Swimming center?
- 30) City on the Rhine
- 31) Hawkeye State
- 32) Brewed beverages
- 33) Cloud-nine feeling
- 34) Scratcher's target
- 35) Republic on the Caspian
- 36) Woman who are senior members of a group
- 37) Sagolike starch
- 38) Fed. documents producer
- 41) Teases with backtalk
- 42) "___ to go, people to see"
- 43) "I ___ a clue!"
- 44) Formal
- 46) Salad greens
- 47) Feminine pronoun
- 48) 1996 Olympic torch lighter
- 50) Up above
- 51) Ocular annoyance
- 52) Utterance of amazement
- 53) CPA's recommendation
- 54) Reproductive gametes
- 55) Headed up
- 56) ___ Lanka

THREE CONSECUTIVE VICTORIES

By Jill Pepper



ANSWERS on page 17

PROBLEM SOLVED » BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Can PayPal keep my refund and my broken Acer Chromebook?

The screen on Laura Eichenhorn's new Acer Chromebook is warped. But when she returns it, PayPal keeps her money – and the merchant keeps her computer. Is that allowed?

Q I bought an Acer Chromebook through eBay recently. When I received it, I saw that the screen was warped so I returned it to the seller.

I filed a report with PayPal that the item was not as described and requested a refund. However, during my discussions with PayPal a representative suggested that I also file a credit card chargeback to get a refund for my shipping costs.

PayPal then closed my case and allowed my bank to take over. My bank sided with the merchant who had sent me the warped laptop and now PayPal has my \$190 and the merchant has the damaged laptop computer. Can you help me?

–Laura Eichenhorn, Southfield, Massachusetts

A: You shouldn't have filed a credit card dispute. A credit card dispute, or chargeback, is your last resort for recovering your money. I describe how and when to use it in my free guide to credit card disputes on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org.

The PayPal representative you spoke to gave you incorrect information. But are you out of luck?

It sure looks that way. The merchant has the computer. PayPal has your \$190. And you have nothing.

Parenthetically, you might reconsider your relationship with your bank. It should have either asked for more information on your claim or sided with you in this dispute. In my experience, the best banks will try to resolve

this outside the formal dispute process – by contacting the merchant directly and finding some middle ground – mostly because it's less expensive for everyone. Also in my experience it leads to a fairer outcome.

You needed to get the attention of someone who could fix this. I publish the names, numbers and email addresses of the customer service managers at PayPal on my consumer advocacy site Elliott.org. I think you had to get your case in front of a supervisor who could listen to the calls and make sure PayPal didn't mislead you – and if it did, to fix it.

This is one reason why I never trust anything an employee says unless it's in writing. It's just too easy to say something and then forget it. The newest version of Apple's iOS allows you to

record and transcribe your phone conversations. But state privacy laws make it difficult to use the feature so it's just better to get any promise in writing.

I asked PayPal to take a look at your problem. It reviewed your phone calls and it apologized to you for "any incorrect information you received from our team."

PayPal credited your account the full amount of your purchase, including an extra \$21 to cover the cost of shipping.

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/.

CALENDAR THIS from previous page

These parrots are not "native" birds but they have been part of the lives of locals for the past 20 years. Where did they come from? Where are they going? How have they changed genetically to adapt to their new urban habitat?

All are invited to Bolton Hall Museum at 1 p.m. on Feb. 8 to get the answers from the guest speaker for this 2nd Saturday program, Brenda Ramirez. Ramirez is a researcher working on LA's Free Flying Parrot Project at Occidental College's Moore Laboratory of Zoology.

This event is free and open to the public and 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 or visiting BoltonHall.org or emailing llhs@boltonhall.org.

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. Spotighting each of the area's public schools, the exhibit features vintage yearbooks, textbooks, photographs and more.

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

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

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

CELEBRATE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTING MONTH

Community members are invited to join the Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club, a community of stamp enthusiasts

that meets regularly to share their passion for this timeless hobby.

The Glendale/La Crescenta Stamp Club meets every third Tuesday at the LA County Library - La Crescenta located at the corner of La Crescenta Avenue and Foothill Boulevard, 2809 Foothill Blvd., at 7 p.m. in the second floor community room.

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

ACTIVITIES AT SUNLAND SENIOR CENTER

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

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

CONTACT US

Robin Goldsworthy
Robin@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Publisher/Editor

Rachelle Miller
Rachelle@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Office Manager

Lisa Stanners
Lisa@CVWeekly.com
818.523.1234
La Cañada
Montrose

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

Jon K
Jon@CVWeekly.com
818.248.2740
Toluca Lake and surrounding

ANSWERS for page 16

1	D	A	M		4	I	D	I	O	T		9	M	A	C	E	S
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LEGALS

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta Cloud Ave 4441 Cloud Ave La Crescenta CA 91214 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 2/20/2025 at 10:00 AM. Noah Mark Perez; Jason C Ingham; Susan Yeart Han. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 30, 2025.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - La Crescenta 4454 Lowell Avenue La Crescenta CA 91214 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 2/20/2025 at 10:00 AM. Michael John Crosby; Medardo Diaz Diaz; Gregory O. Smith ACCT Corp/Gregory Oliver Smith; Henry Runge (2 units); Jack Kiredjian. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 30, 2025.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Montrose 3708 Clifton Place Montrose CA 91020 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagecenters.com on 2/20/2025 at 10:00 AM. Carol Camphouse Ayers; Alexander Enrique Espinoza. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. Published in the Crescenta Valley Weekly January 30, 2025.

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ROBIN from page 2

empty lots that once held people's homes and chimneys that indicated where a house once was. Particularly disturbing was seeing a house in apparent perfect condition standing next door to the shell of a house. Another jarring example of the devastation surrounding the Eaton Fire was seeing a Little Library box that looked perfectly fine standing in front of ... nothing. The house was gone.

I'm sure questions abound regarding recovering from the fires and other matters that can be answered by our Sacramento representatives. Tonight, Thursday, Jan. 30, the Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce is hosting Assemblymember Nick Schultz - District 44 who will be speaking on an assortment of issues. He will be available to answer questions from the audience, too. His free presentation will be held at 6 p.m. at Sadler Hall on the campus of St. Luke's of the Mountains, 2563 Foothill Blvd. in La Crescenta.

WEATHER from page 2

Below are the FHAs stats for following years. These numbers are for automobiles only:

1901 recorded 14,800 automobiles; 1902 there were 23,000; 1903 there were 32,920; 1904 there were 54,590; 1905 there were 77,400; 1906 there were 105,800; 1907 there were 140,300; 1908 there were 194,400; and in 1909 there were 305,950. In 1927 there were 20,193,333 automobiles registered. (For the full FHA list, visit <https://tinyurl.com/j4xuju2c>.)

According to Consumer Affairs, "In 2022, American drivers spent an average of 60.2 minutes driving 30.1 miles per day. The mounting costs of purchasing and maintaining a vehicle - including historically high auto loan interest rates and rising auto insurance premiums - have caused new auto sales to steadily decrease from 2018-2022. Despite a slight uptick in 2021, sales in 2022 were the lowest in a decade. However, the overall number of cars on the road has grown modestly, increasing from roughly 276 million in 2020 to 282 million in 2021. And in 2022, 255 million driving Americans spent a total of 93 billion hours on the road."

Again, my point was simple: The more vehicles that burn fossil fuels the more pollutants are in the air, which are more greenhouse gases.

Note: California leads the nation in vehicle registrations for electric vehicles as of Dec. 31, 2023. Of all of the electric vehicles in the nation, California had the greatest number at 35% - 1,256,646 electric vehicles. Florida had the second highest count at 254,878 followed by Texas with 230,125, according to the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

Our weather is going to be pretty calm compared to the last few weeks. Temperatures from now through Friday will be cool with highs in the upper 50s. The weekend will see warmer temperatures with highs in the low to mid 70s. Monday's high is expected to be 74 with rain expected Tuesday through Thursday of next week.

The rain does not look significant for mud flows, said Ryan Kittell, meteorologist with NOAA.

No Santa Ana winds are in the short term future though there may be some slight winds during the rains but nothing significant.

LIBRARY from Cover

It burned along the Angeles National Forest. It affected the foothills' community including La Crescenta, La Cañada Flintridge and Sunland-Tujunga. The Station Fire burned 160,577 acres.

"So, 15 years later and we're beginning our recovery from the Eaton Fire," she added.

She thanked everyone for their support and for making the "La Crescenta Library vibrant, beautiful and wonderful."

"When we opened the library we were 14th [in checkouts] in our [then] 89 [library system]. Today we are number two in checkouts in our [present] 86 library system," Wiggins said. "I am so proud and pleased to be part of this community."

The La Crescenta Library has had many outreach events over its 15 years including art contests, a chili cook-off and a very popular afternoon tea. Magician Dave Skale was an entertainer at the library on Saturday. He brought a lot of laughter to kids as he performed

Library workers served cookies and cake in celebration of the library's 15th anniversary.



his amazing sleight of hand magic while keeping the young kids in his audience guessing and giggling.

Skale called up young helpers who were surprised as coins appeared from their ears and even

from the magician's nose.

The La Crescenta Library is located at 2809 Foothill Blvd. at the northwest corner of Foothill Boulevard and La Crescenta Avenue.

Upcoming events can be found at the La Crescenta Library at lacountylibrary.org. For information on magician David Skale go to <https://davidskale.com/home/index.html>.

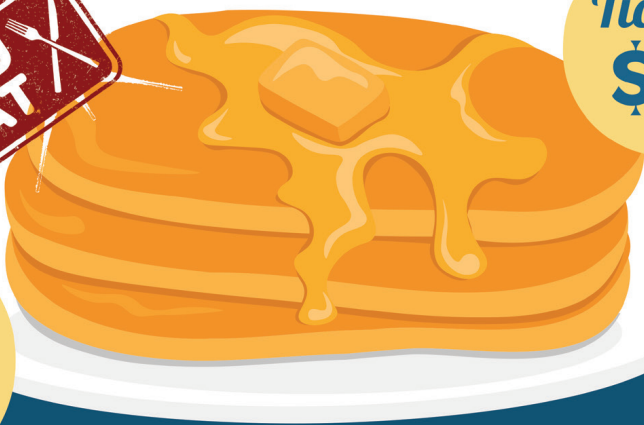
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