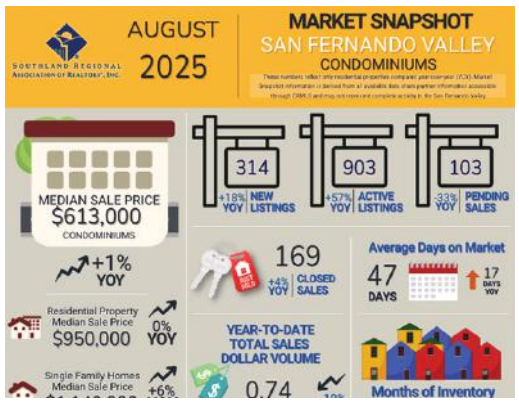
The Soraya Announces 2025-26 Concert Season

See page 6



Condo Listings Hit Six-Year High

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"Reel" History of the Valley - Don't Expect Perfection

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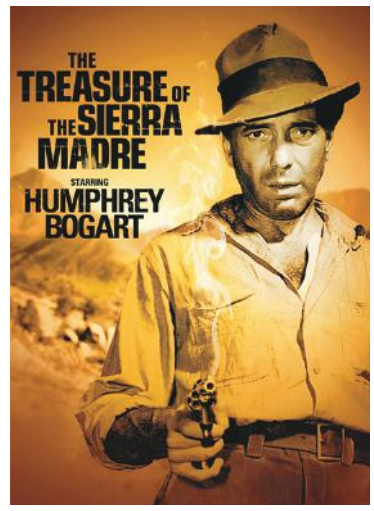


North Valley News

Volume 3, Number 18 September 19, 2025

Serving Porter Ranch, Northridge, Granada Hills & Chatsworth

News in Brief

Women Found Shot to Death at Apartment

LAPD Mission Division officers were called to a shots fired call on Tuesday. They went to an apartment at 9001 Orion Avenue in North Hills between Rayen and Nordhoff Streets. There they found a 26-year-old woman suffering from gunshot wounds. Paramedics were called and the victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Police are now investigating the incident. Anyone with information should call the Mission Division at (818) 838-9800.

ONEgeneration to Host Annual Touch a Truck Event Sept. 20

ONEgeneration will be hosting their family-friendly "Touch a Truck" event on Saturday, September 20, from 8 am to 12 pm at 17400 Victory Blvd. See, touch, and hear different types of vehicles! Climb in a dump truck, run the sirens on a police car and lift the hose of a fire truck. There will be a sensitivity hour with no sirens from 8 to 9 am. Plus, free children's activities like bubbles, face painting and crafts. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for children with all proceeds benefitting ONEgeneration. Buy them at zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/touch-a-truck-september-2025-onegeneration-family-event-in-encino.

United Chambers Hosts Mayors Lunch

United Chambers of Commerce will host their annual "State of the City" Mayors Luncheon on Tuesday, September 30. Confirmed participants include Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, Calabasas Mayor Peter Kraut, Burbank Mayor Nikki Perez and San Fernando City Mayor Mary Mendoza. KABC 790 AM's Frank Mottek will be the moderator. The event will be held at the Warner Center Marriott. Tickets are $100 for chamber members; $125 for non-members. Register at unitedchambers.org.

LAPD Deputy Chief to Be Honored

The "Cops & Cowboys" Gold Star Awards will be back at the Leonis Adobe Museum on Saturday, October 4, at 5 pm. Support the LAPD and the Mid-Valley programs. Gold Star Awards will be given to Deputy Chief Marla Ciuffetelli, a 27-year veteran of LAPD, currently overseeing the Valley Bureau, the largest command within the Department, and Nathan Fillion, star and Executive Producer of ABC's police drama *The Rookie* and DC Comic superhero Guy Gardner/Green Lantern, among others, along with Alexi Hawley, creator and showrunner of *The Rookie* series. For reservations call (818) 994-4661 or visit midvalleypolicecouncil.org.

Northridge Hospital Celebrates 70!

The year was 1955, and 36 physicians pooled together $27,000 to buy land for a new hospital.

Seventy years later, Dignity Health - Northridge Medical Center is celebrating on September 18, the same date the hospital was opened.

President and CEO Jeremy Zoch told a group of doctors, staff and community members that he learned today that the original name of Northridge was Zelzah, which means "oasis," and he was proud that the hospital is still an oasis for those needing treatment.

He pointed to all the changes

Northridge Hospital was built upon a profound commitment to excellence and compassion.

over the last 70 years, and the changes to come, including a new medical record system and expansion of programs like the Leavey Cancer Center, cardiovascular center, neuroscience center and pediatric intensive care unit, to meet the needs of the community. "Seventy years of service is a profound achievement, and it is entirely thanks to the heart and spirit of our exceptional doctors, nurses, and hospital staff who live our values every single day," he said. "They are the true heroes, bringing skill, empathy, and innovation to our patients. Their resilience is a constant source of inspiration, and we are deeply grateful for their commitment to our healing ministry."

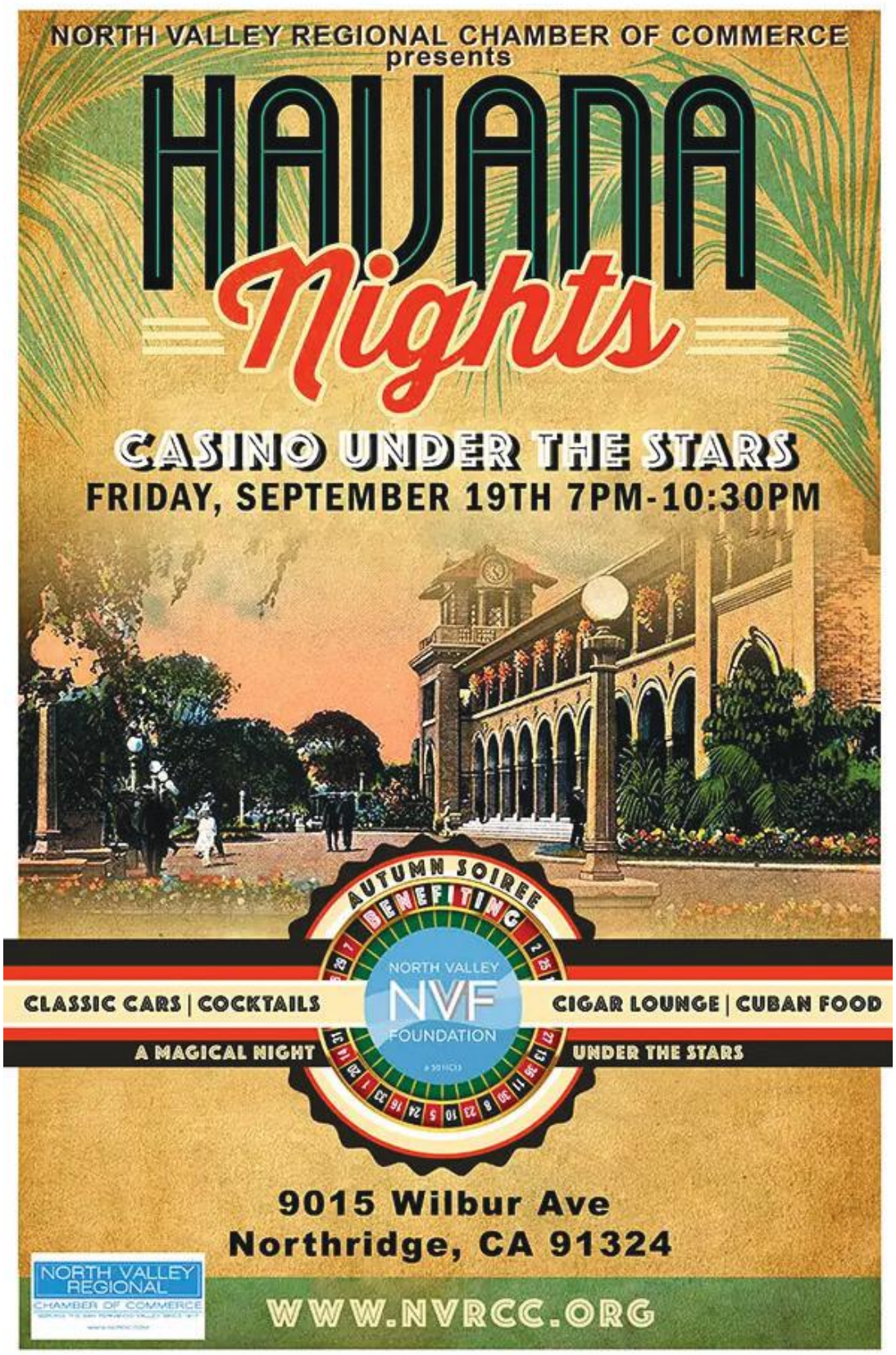
The original hospital in the 1950's, at right, and Dignity Northridge Medical Center today.

Northridge Hospital was built upon a profound commitment to excellence and compassion. An unwavering focus on patient well-being has been instrumental in the hospital's sustained success for 70 years. It consistently earns top ratings for safety and quality from accredited organizations like the Joint Commission, the Leapfrog Group, and *U.S. News & World Report*. Additionally, Healthgrades, a leading resource for consumers seeking healthcare providers, has rated NHMC among the top five in California for stroke, neurosciences, and pulmonary care.

Hospital President and CEO Jeremy Zoch

At the anniversary celebration a grateful patient from 40 years ago returned to offer gratitude and give his personal perspective on those who assisted in his healing and recovery.

"Forty years ago, a traumatic accident nearly ended my life. I was rushed to Northridge Hospital with a fractured skull and little chance of survival. Thanks to the incredible care of the nurses, doctors, and staff, I not only recovered but have been able to enjoy 40 wonderful years filled with love, family, and a meaningful career. I am forever grateful for the care that saved my life," said Bruce Ferrall. "My journey from a critical injury to a fulfilling life has shown me the incredible ripple effect of quality healthcare."



Community Calendar

CHATSWORTH: Community Helpers of San Fernando Valley, a 501 (c)(3) organization, previously known as Assistance League of SFV, is having a yard sale on Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20, from 7 am to 3 pm on both days. This sale includes holiday items for Christmas and Hanukkah, clothing, jewelry, household items, bookcases and shoes. It will be held at 10500 Fullbright Avenue, across from Mason Park, with plenty of parking. Proceeds go to fund their five philanthropic programs in the Valley.

NORTHRIDGE: Docents will lead the 75 minute tour of Oakridge Estate, the home that was built for Barbara Stanwyck. She bought the land with her agent Zeppo Marx and they both built homes there and started a horse ranch called Marwyck, which was a combination of their two names. She later married Robert Taylor and sold the house in 1941 to Jack Oakie who renamed it Oakridge. Comfortable walking shoes are required. Advanced registration is required and available at theoakridgeestate.org. Admission is $18 per person. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to check-in. Parking is up the hill at the driveway to the east of the park at 18650 Devonshire Street.

CHATSWORTH: On Monday, September 22, at 11:30 am, the Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council (CCCC) will hold their first meeting following the summer break. At this meeting participants from Chatsworth community organizations, schools, and religious groups are invited to introduce themselves, talk about their organizations and share information about upcoming activities and events. The meeting will be held at Chatsworth West United Methodist Church, 10824 Topanga Canyon Blvd. For more information visit chatsworthcommunitycoordinatingcouncil.com. If you or your organization is interested in joining the CCCC email: chatsworthcoordinatingcouncil@gmail.com.

GRANADA HILLS: The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at St. Andrews & St. Charles Episcopal Church on Sunday, September 28, from 9 am to 3 pm. The drive will be held at 16651 Rinaldi Street. For information on donating blood and platelets visit redcrossblood.org.

PORTER RANCH: The Northwest Valley Chamber will hold a networking breakfast on Thursday, September 25, at 9 am. The meeting will be held a Pillars Cafe, 19700 Rinaldi. Cost is $25 for members and $30 for non-members. Register at nwvchambrsfv.com.

NORTHRIDGE: First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills, 10400 Zelzah Ave., is sponsoring a non-perishable food drive for the CSUN Food Pantry on Saturday September 20 from 10 am to 1pm and Sunday September 21 from 8:30 to 11 am. This will really help CSUN students, many of whom are food insecure. Canned items as well as dry packaging such as pasta are needed. (Please no glass containers or expired items). Toiletries and feminine products are also appreciated.

COMMUNITY

People in the News

New Quiltillion Offers Everything for Colorful Quilting

What does a creative type do when he returns to his hometown village? Open a store that's perfect for a cozy hometown village!

That's what **Jon Russikoff,** at right, has done in the Old Granada Hills Village. His new store, Quiltillion, deals with everything for the old-fashioned - yet now super-trendy - hobby of quilting.

"I want this to be a place to share my understanding of color, good tools and good design," Russikoff said. "I want to create a quilting community here in my own community. I love to teach, and everyone is welcome!"

Quiltillion caters to everyone from a novice to an experienced quilter. "In my beginning class you don't need a sewing machine. You don't need to have ever cut a piece of fabric. You don't need anything except an eye for color. You can use all the tools of the store to get started," he explained.

Showcasing Russikoff's love of color, the shelves are stocked with bolts of fabrics, offering different tonals, textures and blends.

All sorts of tools and notions are available, including patterns, sewing accessories, ironing accessories, scissors and even true left-handed scissors.

For experienced quilters Quiltillion offers longarm services and custom quilts.

The store is located at 17537 Chatsworth Street in the heart of the Old Granada Hills Village. It is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday 12 noon to 4 pm and closed Monday. For more information call (818) 488-1011, email info@quiltillion.com, or visit quiltillion.com.

Northridge resident **Edward Navarrete**, above, stars as Fernando Valezuela in *Our Playground*, part of the World Premiere production of *Ferenandomania*, a ten-minute play festival celebrating Fernando Valenzuela. Written by Dr. Connie Valencia and directed by Vance Valencia, *Our Playground* is presented at CASA 0101 Theater in Boyle Heights through September 21, as part of their 25th anniversary season. The show, in English and Spanish with subtitles, features 16 actors playing 57 roles, helmed by four directors. Josefina Lopez and Maria Fernando Valenzuela are among the writers.

For tickets call the box office at (323) 263-7684.

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Here are a few ways to get started:

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Go online to download a free information kit and explore your coverage options

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8:00 am – 8:00 pm, Mon. to Fri.

Visit DoctorDesignedMA.com/NVN for more information

UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO) has a contract with Medicare and enrollment in the plan depends on contract renewal. UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan includes Part D drug coverage. To enroll in UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan, you must have both Medicare Parts A and B and reside in the plan service area Los Angeles County. In addition to your plan premium, you must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. Agents will only provide Medicare education at this time. No 2026 plan details will be shared until October 1.

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VIEWPOINT

English Channel

By Rodger Sterling

English Channel offers the best of the late editor Rodger Sterling's columns that ran continuously in the local papers since 1968.

• Jerry Humes wants to know:

- Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are dead?
- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

and...Why, if people evolved from apes, are there still apes?

• Thought for the day. A sharp nose indicates curiosity. A flattened nose indicates too much curiosity!

• Only in California could you see this sign on a license plate: "$600 moves you in; 6.8 moves you out!"

• We like this definition: Restaurant chains are cook-alikes.

• Didja' hear about the guy who went into the pet store to buy a parrot for Christmas? Asked how much the parrot cost, the salesjerk said it was $200. The guy said fine, send him the bill. The salesjerk apologized and said you have to buy the whole parrot. Duh!

• So many sayings we use every day come from the Bard. These are some of our favorites from dear old Shakespeare:

- Fight fire with fire.
- Wear your heart on your sleeve.
- Makes your hair stand on end.
- Set your teeth on edge.

And believe it or not, Knock knock! Who's there?

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Guest Editorial:

SB 79: a Seven to Nine Story Apartment Building Next Door to YOU

By Ken Ross

Senate Bill 79 is now on Governor Gavin Newsom's desk, after just being approved by the State Senate. Amazingly, a single day before that, it was approved by a single vote in the State Assembly. If the Governor approves it, it will become state law and start inflicting pain in the Southland extremely rapidly.

Too bad that very, very few homeowners even know how their lives may be horrifically changed with its passage. Those I spoke with don't believe that it's possible to even imagine such a law.

They said they would be shocked to look out their kitchen windows and find a seven- to nine- story apartment building blocking their view. Just how ruinous would that be to San Fernando Valley neighborhoods?

Well, just look what happened around the Coliseum and USC to those formerly lovely old neighborhoods. The erection of numerous multi-story apartment buildings instantly created traffic and parking nightmares. Pity those poor homeowners whose property values depreciated and will continue to tank. Or just maybe... YOU should be worried that YOU might be the next poor homeowner to be pitied?

What do you think that would do to YOUR property value if a five- to nine-story apartment building popped up next door, seemingly overnight? Well, guess what? When your next-door neighbor is offered 50% more than market value for her/his single-family dwelling, what do you think they will do? That's right. They will take the money and run, leaving you and your neighbors "holding the bag." Oh, and before construction even starts, as soon as the word gets out (in a flash), you think your home will sell for even half the going rate? That same contractor will not need to pay more than the depreciated value to build more monstrosities in your neighborhood.

This can't really be happening, right? It just doesn't make any sense. How could any reasonable person possibly want to destroy the American Dream of owning a home in a single-family neighborhood? Well, if you are a half mile from a bus transit stop, then lucky you, you actually will qualify for a next-door apartment monstrosity. And it WILL HAPPEN if/(when) our beloved governor signs SB 79 into law in the next few weeks. We know that Katie Porter, who is running for governor, supports it along with State Senator Wiener, the bill's author. State Senator Suzette Marinez Valladares also proudly said she favored its passage, but they aren't the only state senators (and assembly persons before them) who created this nightmare for homeowners all across California.

So, if this bill is so horrible for homeowners, why does it have any support? Well, in case you missed it, there is a real affordable housing shortage all over California. So, here's a get rich quick opportunity for developers who might appear to be solving the problem. While every new apartment building will house a small number of fortunate people, it unfortunately won't put a dent in our homelessness problem. Instead, they are creating an unbelievable problem for those neighborhoods directly affected (and also the surrounding ones) that will suffer parking and over-crowding issues instantaneously. Apparently, Senator Wiener didn't think it was important to include demands for greatly increased parking for every new apartment to be erected. Also, the SB 79 supporters, the self-named YIMBIES (i.e. "Yes In My Backyard") don't REALLY want one of these abominations next door to them. The more accurate name should be 'yiYbies" (i.e." yes in YOUR backyard'). Would a single YIMBIE really want a new next-door multi-story apartment building that had no allowance for more neighborhood parking?

Fortunately, CD 12 Councilmember John Lee has taken the lead on opposing SB 79. On August 20, he reported "Yesterday, the Los Angeles City Council passed the resolution I introduced to formally oppose this bill. But the power still rests with State Legislators, and they need to hear from YOU." So, while we appreciate the City Council support, please understand that it's ONLY Governor Newsom who now has the power to pass or veto SB 79.

Elections have consequences, so you may want to take note of who voted for and against this measure. Also, those without an actual vote may be staking their political futures on their own public pronouncements on this issue. For example, it's going to be a tough call if you like Katie Porter but can't stomach her support of SB 79. She probably won't be the only one to cause your head scratching.

For example, if Governor Newsom actually signs SB 79 into law, does that propel him into the White House in 2028? Hmmmm, perhaps a more likely outcome is that it ticks off homeowners all over California. And then he finds himself surrounded by outraged homeowners every time he delivers a campaign speech. So, would a tagline of "Nine-Story Newsom" perhaps derail a presidential run? Who knows? Maybe only a couple hundred protesters show up at each campaign rally.

That would be horrible for so many Democrats who are dreaming that Governor Newsom will actually become president. They envision him as the guiding light that could restore American (small "d") democracy and uphold the U.S. Constitution. I sincerely hope he turns out to be a great guy who has the decency and intelligence to veto this darned bill. Only time will tell. However, if any elected official can't oppose this obvious horror show for homeowners, are they going to really understand our future needs? Or will they pass more crazy laws to harm us irrevocably?

Be thoughtful, be democratic, be of ken.

Ken Ross sits on the Northridge East Neighborhood Council, where he has been both Second Vice President and First Vice President.

Need to Pick Up a Paper? Visit These Merchants

Northridge Library
Chatsworth Library
Nat's Diner
Brent's Deli
Ralphs Markets
Vons Markets
Albertsons
Logix Credit Union
Jon's Market
Starbucks Vineyard
IHOP
Soleil Hotel
Northridge Hospital
North Valley Chamber
Granada Hills Chamber
Handel's Ice Cream
PorterValley CountryClub
Knollwood Pharmacy
Los Toros
Ihop – Reseda
Whole Foods Cafe
Rosies BBQ
La Fitness
AAA
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Aldi Northridge
Premier America

When Rebrands Backfire: The Cracker Barrel Lesson

By Miri Rossitto

Rebranding is never just about a new logo. It's about recalibrating how a company presents itself in the market and to its customers. Done right, it sharpens relevance, builds loyalty, and drives growth. On the other hand, when done wrong, it erodes trust and alienates the very people who built the brand in the first place.

In August 2025, Cracker Barrel became the latest case study in how not to execute a rebrand. Under the new CEO, Julie Masino, the company invested nearly $700 million in a modernization strategy aimed at attracting younger audiences. On paper, it was smart. In practice, it was a cultural landmine.

Within days of unveiling a simplified logo and "All the More" campaign, loyal customers revolted. They didn't see modernization. They saw betrayal. Shares fell, headlines mocked, and the brand was forced into a hasty retreat.

The lesson is clear: nostalgia isn't fluff. Nostalgia is equity; once erased, it is expensive to rebuild.

Where Cracker Barrel Went Wrong

Cracker Barrel wasn't wrong to pursue modernization. Stagnating sales and an aging customer base are real business problems. The remodels, refreshed menus, and digital-friendly logo were, in theory, sound moves.

But here's the misstep: The company underestimated the emotional weight of its heritage. By stripping away Uncle Herschel and the iconic barrel, leadership removed more than imagery. They erased symbols tied to decades of family rituals, road trips, and comfort.

Customers didn't just dislike the new look. They felt abandoned. A YouGov poll revealed 76% preferred the old logo. Online conversations spiraled into political debates, turning the rebrand into a cultural flashpoint. Instead of sparking loyalty, the rebrand fractured it.

The Takeaways for Business Leaders

Cracker Barrel's stumble offers a playbook of "what not to do" and timeless lessons for leaders considering a brand refresh.

Start With Strategy, Not Cosmetics: A logo is not a strategy. Before you touch fonts or colors, define the business problem you're solving. If you can't articulate the purpose in one sentence, you're not ready.

Audit What Already Works: Not everything is broken. Some symbols, stories, and traditions carry deep equity. Keep what works and change the clutter.

Anchor in Your Core Values: A rebrand should feel like you, only clearer. If employees or customers don't recognize the brand after the shift, you've gone too far.

Pressure-Test With Loyal Customers: Your most loyal audience isn't a barrier to change. They're your compass. If they feel excluded, no amount of sleek design will save you.

Communicate the Why: Silence invites people to write their own stories. Explain the change, frame it as evolution, and pay homage to the past

The Hidden Cost of Missteps

Rebranding is expensive, far beyond design fees. It touches signage, packaging, websites, training, and culture. For Cracker Barrel, the price tag wasn't just the $700 million investment. It was nearly $100 million in market value erased in days, and, more damaging, a loss of trust.

When customers tie emotion to your imagery and rituals, those are not expendable assets. They are the cornerstone of loyalty.

But not all rebrands fail. Utilized effectively, it can:

Renew energy across teams and customers.

Differentiate the company in crowded markets.

Expand reach to new audiences and partners.

Build long-term adaptability and relevance.

The difference? Execution rooted in empathy. Starbucks didn't throw away its siren; it evolved her. That's the golden rule: protect the DNA, evolve the expression.

Cracker Barrel's story is a cautionary tale. The need for change was real. The strategy was logical. But by mishandling the emotional core of its brand, leadership turned modernization into alienation.

For leaders, the takeaway is simple: A successful rebrand feels new, relevant, familiar, and authentic. It's not a personality transplant. It's an evolution.

If you're asking whether it's time for your brand to evolve, you're already in the right conversation. The next step is not guessing; it's knowing. Test. Listen. And above all, fiercely protect the equity you've earned. Because once nostalgia bites back, the cost is far greater than a new logo.

Miri Rossitoo is founder and CEO of Cowe Communications. Follow them on social @ CoweOfficial or visit the website at Cowe.com.

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VALLEY ENTERTAINMENT

Graham 100 dances onto the stage October 4.

Soraya Announces 2025-26 Season

The 2025-26 season of The Soraya at CSUN journeys farther than any previous: the nightlife of Lisbon, Buenos Aires, and Mexico City; the daily life of West Africa; the spiritual realms of Alice Coltrane and Duke Ellington; the masterworks of Brahms and the mega hits of Quincy Jones; and much more. There is something for everyone and every family member from children to adults.

Tickets are now on sale for all concerts, but the best way to embark on this journey is with a Soraya membership. In addition to yearlong benefits and optimal flexibility, membership offers an insider's view into the art and artists, adding depth and dimension to the journey.

The fall schedule kicked off with *Fiddler on the Roof*, and continues with the CSUN Dept of Music - The Arturo Sandoval Story on Wednesday, September 24 and Mariachi Herencia de Mexico on Friday, September 26.

The dance company Graham 100 – with special Centennial creation by Bernstein, Rountree and Boykin featuring Wild Up takes the stage Saturday, October 4.

Disney and Pixar's *Toy Story* screens on Saturday and Sunday, October 11 and 12. Fly Me to the Moon – tribute to Quincy Jones plays Saturday, October 18.

Lila Downs Dia de Muertos shows Friday, October 24, with the Colburn Orchestra playing Sunday, October 26.

Ray Chen Onstage is already sold out for Thursday, October 30, but Mariza is on stage Thursday, November 6.

Saturday, November 15, Ballet BC Bolero X dances on to the stage while Momix Alice is the featured performer Saturday, November 22.

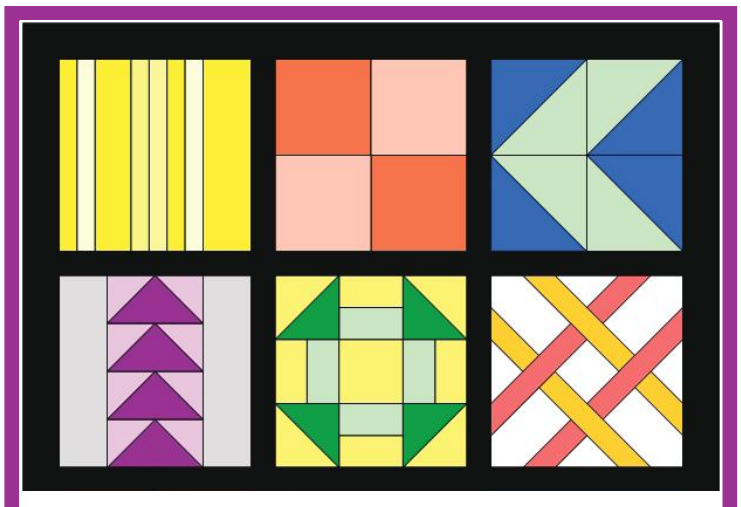
Gregory Porter entertains December 6.

Gregory Porter Christmas Wish kicks off the holiday season on Saturday, December 6, while The Klezmatics Happy Joyous Hanukkah bring their sound Sunday, December 7.

The Christian Sands Quartet is on stage Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13, while Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular closes out the year Saturday, Sunday and Monday, December 20, 21 and 22.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra performs Thursday, January 22 and then the Jazz at Naz series begins February 1.

The Soraya is located at 18111 Nordhoff Street. For tickets visit thesoraya.org, call (818) 677-3000 or email thesoraya@csun.edu.



The Reel History of the Valley

By Martin M. Cooper

Don't Expect Perfection

San Fernando Valley-based writer Paul Pumpian has a theory about films: If you really enjoyed a movie, don't see it more than twice. In his cinematic catechism, if you do, you're sure to see the flaws or continuity issues you missed in the first two viewings, and that will diminish your love for that film.

Every film lover knows the complexities of filmmaking, the time frames (often months) over which they are shot, and the hundreds of people (onscreen and off) who are involved, make bloopers or other errors nearly inevitable. But that doesn't diminish the fun in spotting them.

Take, for example, 1939's *Stagecoach*, one of the best Westerns ever, and shot partially on the Iverson Ranch in Calabasas and the RKO Studio Ranch in Encino. According to Pumpian, "Before the film's gun fight conclusion, there are two occasions where the travelers pull into resting places; in both, the stand-in stagecoach driver is a much thinner man than the much-more-portly Andy Devine, who drives the stage throughout the film.

"In *Stagecoach* there's a great deal of drinking, but not once is alcohol paid for. The boozy doctor is in the town saloon when he gets a free drink from the bartender. When the stagecoach is at its second rest stop, there is more drinking, but no paying. The same is true at the film's final saloon scene, where the villain and the doctor down shots."

Finally, Pumpian points out, during the classic chase scene, several of the Indians ride alongside the stagecoach without shooting arrows into the horses, an act that would have ended the chase. The first arrow that hit Donald Meek was an incredible shot, because the sound of the approaching Indians was still far behind the coach when it nailed him.

Western movies don't get much better than 1939's Stagecoach, directed by John Ford

Pumpian's second example is that classic, *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre* (1948), also partially filmed on the Iverson Ranch, as well as the Warner Bros. Burbank lot: "To disguise their intent of searching for gold, the three men head into the Sierra Madre on the pretext of being hunters, armed primarily with pistols. You can't do much successful hunting with pistols, but at the film's conclusion, the trio has amazingly accumulated numerous bundles of animal fur.

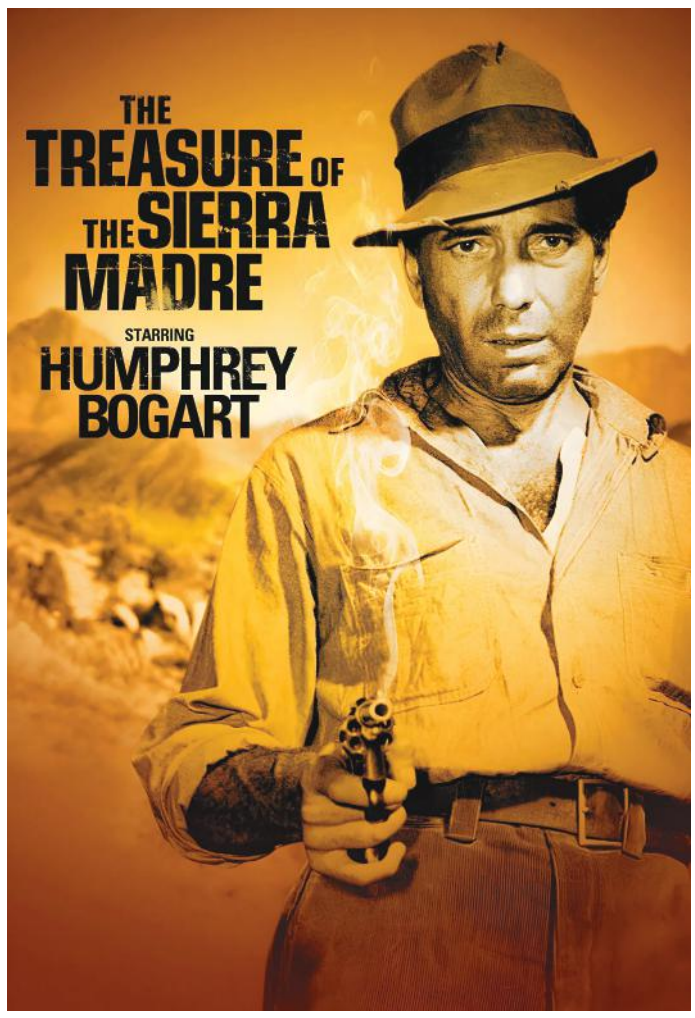
"Gold Hat's sombrero is missing the bullet hole that Bogart shot into it at the mountain confrontation previously. During the cantina fight with McCormick, the position of Dobbs' hat on the bar rail changes at least twice.

"When Howard is laid on a hammock, being served by Indian women, he has a little bunch of flowers on his left ear which disappear in subsequent shots."

Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003) was partially filmed on two Valley studio lots, Disney and Universal. The keen-eyed will spot a number of "goofs," as IMBb.com calls them. When Barbossa is shouting commands while chasing the Interceptor, in one shot his teeth are perfectly white, while in the rest of the movie they are decayed.

When Will Turner first shows up in the movie bringing the sword to Governor Swann, Turner is almost clean shaven; in the next scene, which occurs on the same day, he has a little goatee and almost full mustache.

Early in the film, when Jack Sparrow is standing on the sail of his sinking boat, he prepares to step onto the dock by raising and extending his right foot. The next shot shows his left foot taking the first step.



Humphrey Bogart starred in the classic The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948). In the film, his only weapon was a pistol, but he was portrayed as bagging lots of game.

During a shot of Jack Sparrow at the helm, the keen-eyed will spot a crew member in a T-shirt and cowboy hat at the far edge of the frame.

A fourth example is *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (2002). Much of the film was shot at Warner Bros.' studio in Leavesden, England.

The errors are nearly too numerous to recount. For example, when the bludger hits Harry's hand in the Quidditch scene, his arm guard is shown flying off his arm; the next time his arm is shown, the arm guard is still there.

While Harry and Draco are dueling, a camera operator is clearly reflected in the glass behind them. In another dueling scene, Professor Lockhart is knocked backwards by Professor Snape's charm, and his wand can be seen flying through the air. When he lands, however, the wand is still in his hand.

Nearly every film has these miscues or other issues. However, I'd still watch *Stagecoach, The Treasure of the Sierra Madre, Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets,* any time they show up on the large screen, because these are films too "big" to be viewed on an in-home monitor, no matter how large.

Martin Cooper of Cooper Communications supervised public relations for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences for 10 years.

His next book, The 'Reel' Hollywood: The San Fernando Valley, the history of motion pictures in the Valley, will be out later this year.

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PAWS 4 Kisses & Hugs Honors Local LAFD Firefighters in Memory of 9/11

The 10th Annual PAWS 4 Kisses & Hugs event brought love, gratitude, and healing to local LAFD stations as therapy dogs, volunteers, and community leaders honored firefighters in memory of 9/11.

The day began at 8:15 am at the Chatsworth Metro Station, where volunteers checked in, received name tags, gift bags, and hats, and were inspired by founder/director Aydiee Vaughn Dunson's pep talk on team assignments. Their first stop was LAFD Fire Station 75, where they were warmly welcomed by Captain Ming and his crew.

Community Liaison Mercy J. Alpert opened the ceremony with heartfelt words: "As we remember 9/11, we also celebrate the courage and resilience of our LAFD firefighters who put their lives on the line every day. This event is our way of saying: we see you, we thank you, and we stand with you."

The visit included a pinning ceremony, where volunteers honored firefighters while Aydiee Vaughn and jazz singer Gayle La Rone performed a moving song. Each LAFD Station was presented with a large, beautifully prepared gift basket, sponsored by community supporters including Darryl E. Smith (Desprod Inc. / Darryl E. Smith Productions), Gigi J. Kropfl (Gigi's Tools Rule), Everett Anderson (Filmnkey), and Christian Zuniga & Familia Zuniga.

Firefighters were visibly touched. Many expressed surprise and gratitude, noting they had never been recognized in this way. One firefighter shared: "During the horrific fires earlier this year, the community came out and was very generous, and it was overwhelming. But we've never been greeted by therapy dogs, honored with certificates, serenaded with song, and showered with gifts in this capacity. It means so much."

The event concluded with the presentation of the "Prince Bailey Mascot Crystal Award" by founder/director Aydiee Vaughn Dunson, honoring the legacy of her Shih Tzu therapy dog, Prince Bailey, whose solo visits to fire stations and community sites after 9/11 inspired the PAWS Movement. Over the last decade, PAWS has blossomed into a full movement supported by therapy dogs, community leaders, and volunteers. This year, the therapy dogs included: Ranger (3.5 years), Agoura Hills – Owner Nilly Smith; Diesel (14 years), Los Angeles – Owner Jess Manavian and Gizmo (12 years, retired), Woodland Hills – Owner Gayle La Rone Harris.

PetSmart Northridge and Canoga Park once again sponsored toys, gift bags, and doggy lunches for the therapy dogs—continuing a nine-year tradition.

GETTING MEDICARE RIGHT

Guest Speaker: Ann Marie Nagel
with American Republic Insurance Services

Tuesday, October 7th | 3:30–4:30 pm

Join us at Fairwinds – West Hills for *Navigating Medicare Plans & Options and Understanding Costs.* Tired of all the confusing news? Is your plan "making changes"? Paying too much for your prescriptions?

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Please RSVP to 818-713-0900 by October 6th.

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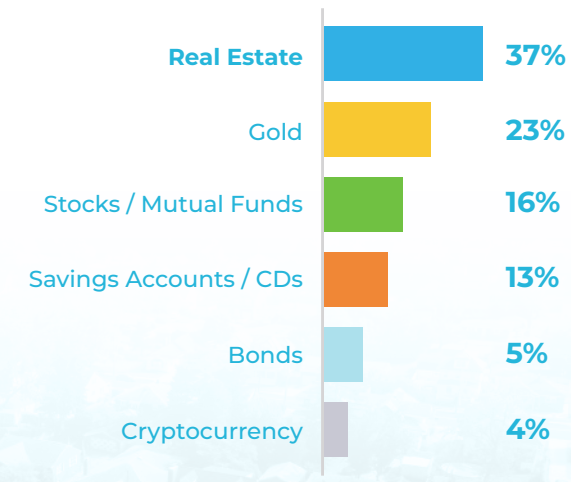
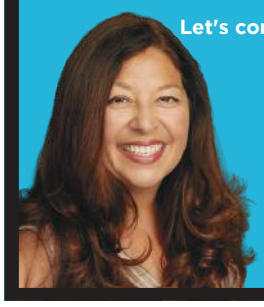


If you've been trying to decide if it makes sense to buy a home today, let this reassure you. **Homeownership wins in the long run.**

Let's connect so you have expert advice on how to reach your homebuying goals this year.



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CSUN Galleries to Showcase the City of Los Angeles

CSUN's art galleries are exploring the city of Los Angeles, particularly its unrecognized and under-appreciated parts, in its latest exhibition, "The Journey is the Destination: Recording Los Angeles."

Many of the areas highlighted in the exhibition have been historically neglected based on stereotypes, and the work shown in the galleries often calls attention to the impact of gentrification and depletion of environmental resources.

"The Journey is the Destination" will be on view in the Main Gallery through Thursday, November 6.

The art displayed includes a mix of photography, mixed-media pieces, site-specific installations and sculptures.

In the West Gallery, "The Warmth of the Sun: A Recent Survey of Tierra Del Sol Artists" runs through Wednesday, October 15. It is the first of three exhibitions in a series about local San Fernando Valley-based art organizations. The West Gallery exhibit also follows the theme of "Los Angeles, Place and People," displaying work about life in Los Angeles with topics such as food, neighborhood life and mapping, through paintings, drawings, textile works and other media.

The second part of the series in the West Gallery will be about Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural, running from Monday, October 27, to Thursday, December 11.

To learn more, visit csun.edu/mike-curb-arts-media-communication/art-galleries

LAPD Basic Car Watch Meetings

LAPD Devonshire Division will hold several "Basic Car" watch meeting to inform th ecommunity of crime trends and statistics.

Senior Lead Officer Gregory Andrachick will hold a Basic Car 17A49 meeting on Tuesday, September 23, at 7 pm at Granada Hills Charter Academy, 10535 Zelzah. For more information email 33829@lapd.online.

Another meeting will be held Wednesday, September 24, at 6 pm at Granada Hills Charter for Basic Car 17A95.

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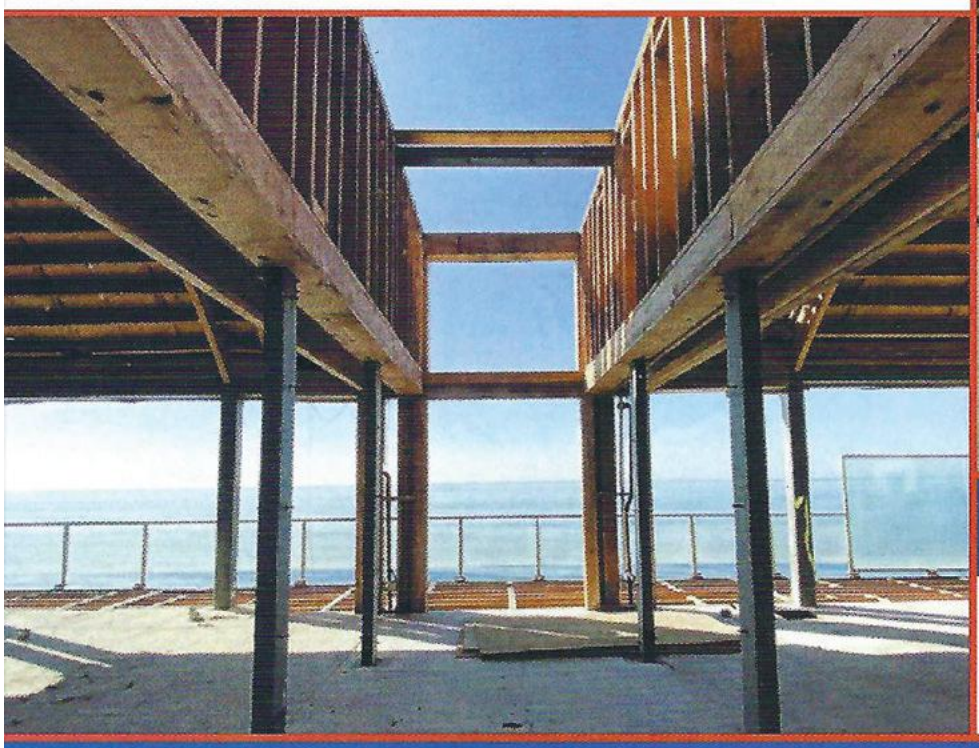

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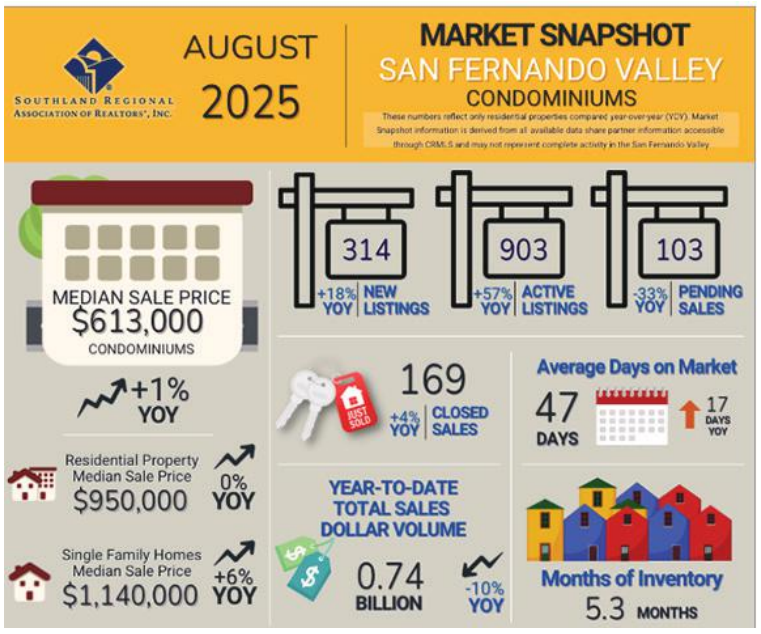

Condo Listings Hit Six-Year High

Condominium active listings in the San Fernando Valley during August soared to the highest level in six years while condo closed escrows posted the first increase in seven months, the Southland Regional Association of Realtors reported today.

There were 2,940 single-family home and condo active listings combined at the end of August, an increase of 20.6% compared to August 2024. That was down slightly from the last two months which were the highest tallies in 14 years.

The combined total also represented a 4.6-month supply at the current pace of sales, just shy of the 38-year average monthly supply of 5.3 months – which is viewed as indicative of a balanced market. For comparison, the monthly supply averaged 2.6 months from 2019 through 2024.

"Our members report that they are seeing fewer multiple offers and an increase in the time a property lingers on the market," said Anthony Bedgood, President of the 10,000-member Southland Regional Association of Realtors. "With a swelling inventory, sales typically also would increase, but some prospective buyers are hesitant because of the pervasive uncertainty clouding the home resale market and the national economy."

"Yet the increase in condo sales during August also means other folks who want to own a home see an opportunity, appreciate a wider selection, and jump at the added bargaining power," Bedgood said.

Local Realtors assisted the close of escrow of 169 condominiums last month, an increase of 3.7%. It was the first time since December that condo sales rose compared to the prior year.

The association also reported 465 single-family closed escrows, a decline of 19.3% from August 2024.

"A big dose of market certainty along with possible cuts in the interest rate for home loans could provide enough of a boost to pick up the pace of sales as the year draws to a close," said Valerie Biletsky, the Association's Chief Executive Officer. "At the moment, however, certainty seems elusive."

Our members report that they are seeing fewer multiple offers and an increase in time a property lingers on the market.

The median price of the 645 homes that changed owners last month was $1,140,000, up 6.5% from a year ago though down from the record high $1,150,000 set in June. The condominium median price of $613,000 increased 1.3% compared to a year ago. The record high of $660,000 was set in July 2024.

SRAR's income-to-loan guide for August calculated an income of $300,492 was needed to qualify for an 80% loan of $912,000 on a San Fernando Valley median-priced single-family home of $1,140,000.

With the national average interest rate at 6.83% last month, the income needed to qualify was up 5.6% from a year ago. The monthly PITI — principal, interest, taxes and insurance payments — totaled $7,512.

Chartered by the National Association of Realtors in 1920, the Southland Regional Association of Realtors is the voice for real estate in San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. With 10,000 members, SRAR serves as a trusted resource and partner to the real estate profession and valley community.

Seats Open on Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

There are three open seats on the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council board.

The last day to submit an application is Wednesday, September 24. Applications are available at chatsworthcouncil.org, and applications should be emailed to vote@chatsworthcouncil.org.

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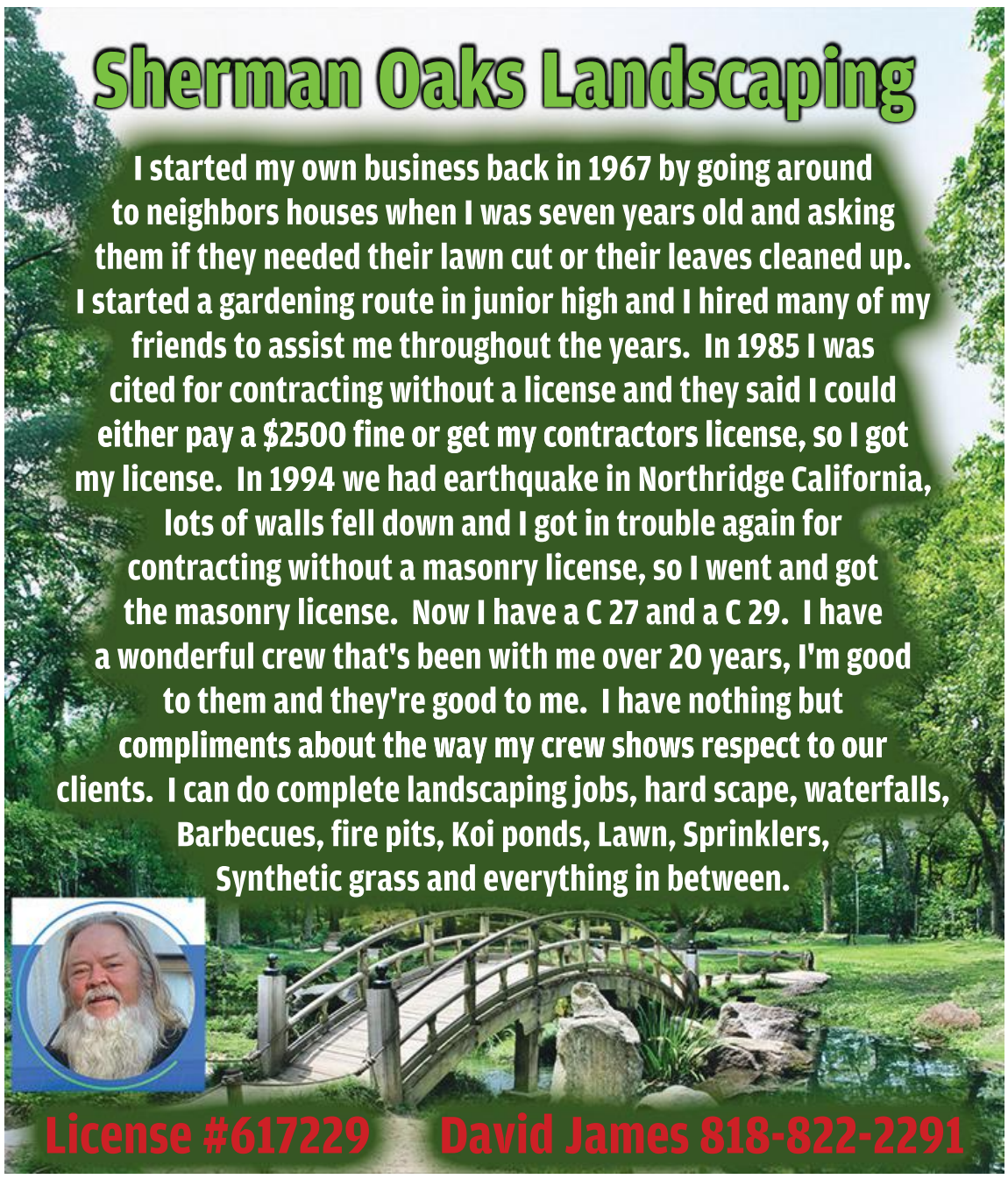
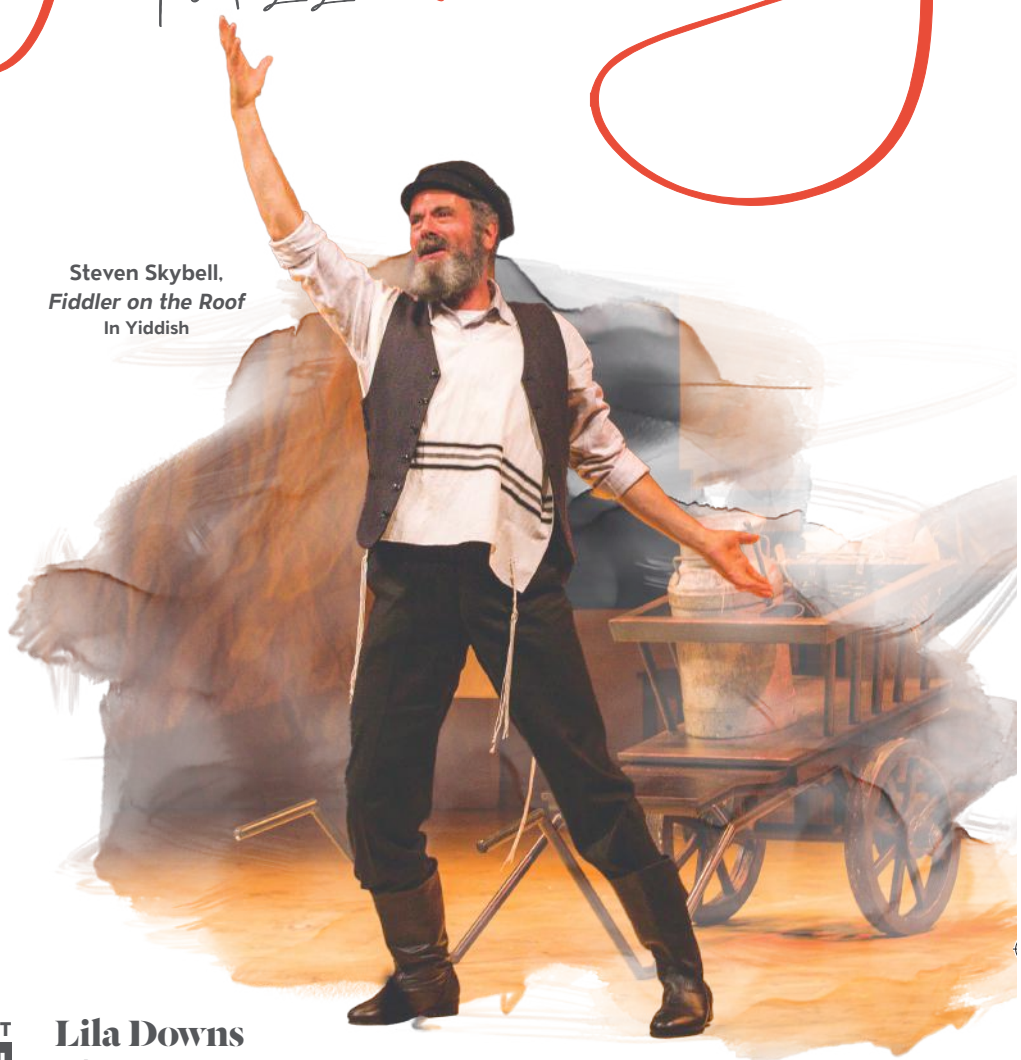


15 THE SORAYA

Journey

Fall 2025



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Featuring Wild Up

SAT OCT 11 3PM
SUN OCT 12 3PM

Disney and Pixar's
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Live-to-Film Concert

SAT OCT 18 8PM

Fly Me to the Moon
A Tribute to Quincy Jones
Featuring Pacific Jazz Orchestra
With Special Guests
Ms. Lisa Fischer and José James
Chris Walden, conductor

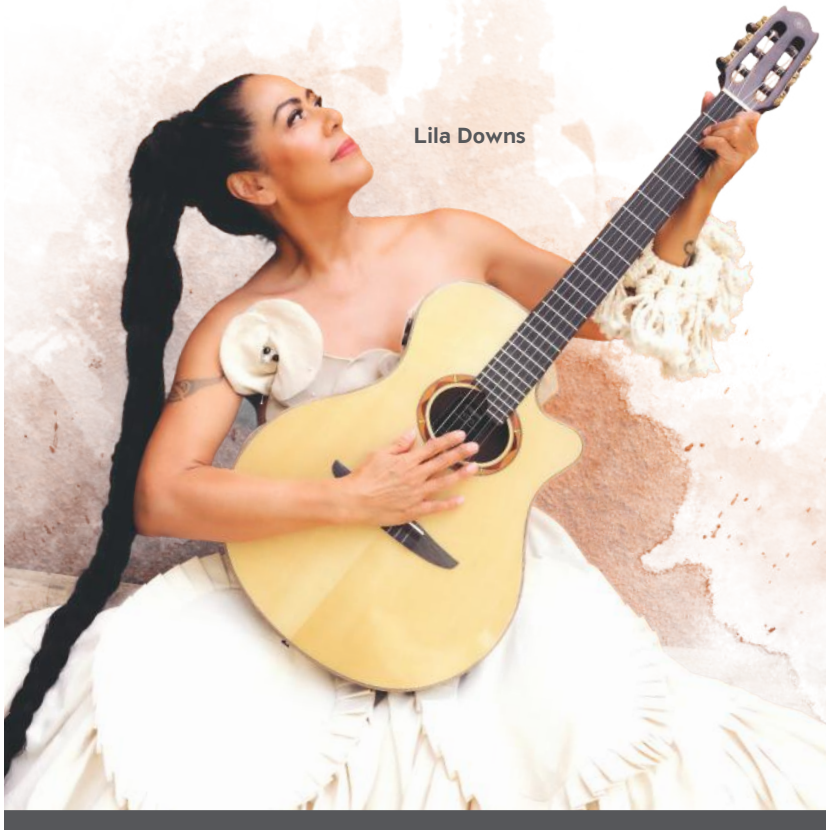
FRI OCT 24 8PM

Lila Downs
Día de Muertos

SUN OCT 26 3PM

Colburn Orchestra
Carlos Miguel Prieto, conductor
Zi Yang Low, violin

SCAN FOR TICKETS



Lila Downs

THU NOV 6 8PM

Mariza

SAT NOV 15 8PM

Ballet BC
BOLERO X

SAT NOV 22 3PM

MOMIX
Alice

Mariza

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