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North Valley News

Volume 3, Number 19 October 3, 2025

Serving Porter Ranch, Northridge, Granada Hills & Chatsworth

News in Brief

Starbucks Closing Several Local Stores

As part of Starbucks' $1 billion restructuring plan to address financial challenges and changing consumer habits they are closing many of their "mobile-only and pick-up only" stores. The intent seem to be to leave only those outlets with a drive-thru as well.

They plan to close 400 stores nationwide, and over 150 of those are in California. Stores to be closed in the north valley include Devonshire and Mason, Reseda and Plummer and Tampa and Victory.

Chatsworth's Pioneer Day October 5

The Chatsworth Historical Society will hold their 33rd annual Pioneer Day on Sunday, October 5, from 11 am to 3 pm. Enjoy old fashioned fun with panning for gold, a blacksmith, leather crafts, chores and games of yore, woodcarvers, spinners, quilters and more. Tour the Chatsworth Museum and 1911 Homestead Cottage. Tickets are $5 for adults and $1 for children, free for under five. The event takes place at Homestead Acre, 10385 Shadow Oak Drive in Chatsworth. Park at the Chatsworth Train Depot. For more information visit chatsworthistory.com.

SOLID's Pasta Dinner to Support LAPD

SOLID (Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire) will hold their 28th annual "All You Can Eat" pasta dinner on Friday, October 10, from 5 to 8 pm. Cost is $17 per person and proceeds will be used to buy non city-supplied equipment for officers. The dinner will be held at St. Nicholas Greek Church at Balboa and Plummer.

Congressman to Host Town Hall

Congressman Brad Sherman will host a Telephone Town Hall on Wednesday, October 15, at 7 pm. The event will be held even if the government shutdown is still in place. A Telephone Town Hall operates like a large conference call, where you will hear Sherman's opening remarks and then ask questions on any issue facing Congress. To RSVP or submit a question visit bradsherman.house.gov/RSVP. Sherman has served in the House of Representatives since 1997. He has held over 250 Town Hall meetings during his time in Congress.

Hope the Mission Shines With Mayor and Celebrities

Hope the Mission was part of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass' ShineLA celebration last Saturday.

Bass, along with Dave Grohl of the Foo Fighters and Jeff Probst from *Survivor* all joined in to make almost 70,000 meatballs for those in need. Councilman John Lee donned an apron and joined in as well.

Hope the Mission's goal is to prevent, reduce, and eliminate poverty, hunger, and homelessness by offering immediate assistance and long-term solutions such as shelters, resources and food distribution to the hungry. For more information visit hopethemission.org.

Mayor Bass started ShineLA., a movement that strengthens communities by bringing Angelenos together from across the city to beautify LA neighborhoods. For more information visit mayor.lacity.gov/shinela.

Hope the Mission's Ken Craft, left, with Councilman John Lee.

L.A. Mayor Karen Bass with Dave Grohl of the Foo Fighters at the event.

Ken Craft with Mayor Karen Bass celebrating her ShineLA initiative.

COMMUNITY

Have an Event in the North Valley? Let Us Know!

Email northvalleynewspaper@gmail.com

Community Calendar

NORTHRIDGE: The Village at Northridge is hosting a Fall Festival of Wines on Tuesday, October 7, at 1 pm. Come visit the senior living community that offers fitness, spa, and personal beauty services you would find at a five-star luxury resort, plus live music, onsite cinema, an arts and crafts studio, learning and entertainment options for every style and curiosity. All curated and programmed by a dedicated onsite concierge. It is located at 9222 Corbin Avenue. For more information visit thevillageatnorthridge.com or call (818) 740-5836.

SIMI VALLEY: Parents Against Santa Susana Field Laboratory will stage a symbolic funeral to protest the threatened death of a promised comprehensive cleanup at the Santa Susana Field Lab. The wreath ceremony will be at Boeing's Van Nuys facility, 8045 Woodley Avenue at 3 pm and the faux funeral at 5:30 pm at Rancho Santa Susana Community Center, 5005 E. Los Angeles Avenue. For more information visit parentsagainstssfl.com.

GRANADA HILLS: The Granada Hills Branch Library will present The Peruvian Ensemble, bringing music from Peru for the entire family. They will perform on Saturday October 4, at 3:30 pm. The library is located at 10640 Petit Avenue.

NORTHRIDGE: The Oakridge Estate at 18650 Devonshire Blvd., has an additional tour planned for Sunday, October 11, at 12:30 pm. Docents will lead the 75-minute tour of the home that was built for Barbara Stanwyck. There is a rich history to learn about this historical landmark. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. 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 entrance.

GRANADA HILLS: California Hispanic Alliance will honor "Angel Families" - whose loved ones have been killed by illegal immigrants, at an event on October 9 at 6 pm. Tickets are $75 general admission or $150 VIP. It will be held at Knollwood Country Club, 12040 Balboa Blvd. For information and tickets email eileenberkowitz@gmail.com.

PORTER RANCH: The Porter Ranch Branch Library offers sensory, small group storytimes. This is an alternative to the popular morning storytimes. This smaller, more intimate program is perfect for children who may get overwhelmed by large crowds. Visit the library on Wednesday, October 8, at 4 pm for this special time. The library is located at 11371 Tampa Avenue.

People in the News

Granada Hills resident and author **Gina Romero,** above, has just released her new book, *Welcome Home: A Guide to Homemaking, From the Heart*, The faith-infused lifestyle guide reimagines homemaking as both a joyful calling and a practical art. Blending timeless wisdom with modern inspiration, *Welcome Home* offers readers seasonal guidance, creative ideas, and heartfelt encouragement for cultivating a home that nourishes body, spirit, and relationships. From everyday routines to holiday celebrations, the book provides a companion for those seeking to create welcoming spaces filled with love and intention.

"Homemaking is more than chores or checklists- it's an expression of love," says Romero. "Through this book, I hope to encourage readers to embrace the beauty of ordinary moments and see their homes as a reflection of their hearts." Highlights include creative inspiration for meals, gatherings, and memory-making, practical guidance for organizing, decorating, and hosting and faith-based encouragement for building Christ-centered homes. Romero draws from her own experiences as a working mother, homemaker, and creative to provide a resource that is as uplifting as it is practical. With its blend of storytelling, encouragement, and hands-on ideas, *Welcome Home* makes an ideal gift book, coffee table companion, or daily devotional for anyone who desires to nurture a warm and meaningful home life.

Welcome Home: A Guide to Homemaking, From the Heart is now available on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com

Kennedy High School's varsity football program is celebrating a rare and remarkable moment this season as three brothers suit up together to represent the Fighting Cougars on the field.

They are senior **Jayvon Carter**, #12, sophomore **Jayden Carter**, #84 and freshman **Jaycoby Carter**, #23.

All three brothers are standout athletes in their own right, but their shared presence on the varsity roster makes this season especially meaningful for the Carter family and the Kennedy community. The trio's parents, Jason and Josie Carter of Mission Hills, are proud to see their sons carry on the family's commitment to teamwork, determination, and Cougar pride.

"This is more than just football," said Coach Cassidy. "Having three brothers competing together at the varsity level is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and it speaks to their talent, discipline, and family bond."

The Carter brothers are ready to make their mark this season, inspiring their teammates and setting an example for younger athletes in the Kennedy program. Fans are encouraged to come out and witness this unique chapter in Kennedy football history.

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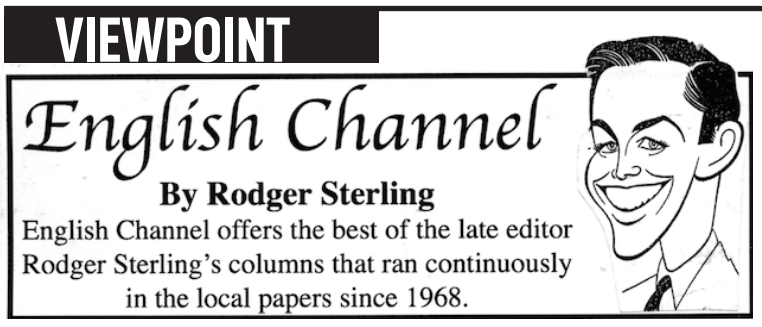

• Middle age is when your age starts to show around your middle.

• Didja know that Google's name was derived from the term "Googol," coined by the mathematician Milton Sirotta to describe the number 1 followed by 100 zeros? Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin originally called their new search engine "Back Rub" after its ability to analyze the "back links" connecting to a website.

• Today at the bank, an old lady asked me to check her balance... so I pushed her over.

• Our old pal Meghan Montoya tells the yuck-yuck that when the police pulled her over, and the officer came up to the window and said, "Papers?" she said, "Scissors, I win!" The cop wasn't amused...

• The other day I bought a thesaurus, but when I got home and opened it, all the pages were blank...I have no words to describe how angry I am.

• A woman walks into a library and asks if they have any books about paranoia. The librarian says, "They're right behind you!"

• Sometimes your life is a 52 card pickup. Your day depends on which cards you choose to pick, and which you leave lying on the table.

• Another great word of wisdom: "Stop 'shoulding' yourself."

• Marriage means commitment. Of course, so does insanity.

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Word on the Street

----------From Kathleen Sterling

"What's in a name?" asked Shakespeare.

Turns out, everything.

Identity, longevity, history, connection.

If I say "Winston," you know exactly who I mean.

If I say "Xerox," a host of associations come up - the machine, copying, paper.

If I say "LAWA" do you know what I'm talking about?

Anyone? Crickets?

Last week's business article from Miri Rossitto talked about the dangers of rebranding - changing your name and logo because corporate heads far removed from the real world thought of a brilliant makeover. She cited the disaster of Cracker Barrel, who changed their iconic logo and faced not only a social media backlash but a drop in revenue.

Now, when I say LAX what comes to mind?

Of course, our world-renowned airport with its iconic Theme Building and huge letters spelling out LAX as you enter.

The entire world knows what LAX stands for (the "X" actually means international).

But again, somewhere in advance of FIFA, the Super Bowl and the Olympics coming to our fair city, someone way above the terminals, and probably way above the Theme Building, decided a name change would be an excellent idea.

Their official press release reads, "Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) today unveiled a new identity and narrative at Los Angeles International airport (LAX). This will infuse all elements of LAX with the spirit of Los Angeles, better reflecting the region's culture, neighborhoods and creative energy. These enhancements will provide employees and passengers with an improved experience, unite the multi-faceted and ongoing $30 billion Capital Improvement Program, and evolve LAX from a point of transit to a destination that feels welcoming, intentional and distinctly L.A.

As we prepare to host major global events, we must ensure that visitors experience the diversity of every neighborhood from the moment they arrive in Los Angeles at LAX," said Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass. "I want to thank Commission President Karim Webb and LAWA CEO John Ackerman for leveraging this investment, bringing LA's rich cultural identity front and center on the world stage."

Okay, someone with a higher IQ than my own explain to me what all that means. What cultural narrative? And don't get me started on "experiencing the diversity of every neighborhood" given the state Los Angeles is in right now.

Just for fun, I went to the American Airlines, British Air and Delta Airlines reservations website, and for departure city plugged in "LAWA." It came up Zimbabwe.

If you haven't read the above closely - and my guess is you haven't - they are proud of the new moniker LAWA for "L.A. World Airports."

You tell me how that says anything more than Los Angeles INTERNATIONAL (which already says "world," obviously).

Now it's not just me who is baffled. I asked multiple friends, neighbors and countrymen what they thought, and to a person, they hadn't heard of LAWA and thought it a ridiculous waste of money.

Oh, didn't I mention. I just flew in and out of LAX and everything inside is being rebranded to LAWA, which is great if you're an LAX C-Suite suit walking through the airport, but confusing to every other passenger.

Just for fun, I went to the American Airlines, British Air and Delta Airlines reservations website, and for departure city plugged in "LAWA."

It came up Zimbabwe.

Now, I've been told that LAX will remain the call letter for booking. So why the name change? Why spend a lot of money on rebranding to be culturally inclusive, whatever that means?

According to the press release, it means this. "Architecture and design focused on delivering LA-themed terminals that pay homage to culture, history, seasons, sports and more.

Retail and dining offerings and amenities that reflect the rich flavors, bold styles and unique tastes across Los Angeles, showcasing local favorites and globally recognized brands alike.

Branding that distinguishes LAX as a modern, world-class destination and leader, representing the people, places and things that reflect the vibrancy of the region."

Why not spend the money on getting the damn Metro line into the airport?

I've never understood that. We are the only major city in the world where public transportation doesn't reach the airport. And when they originally built it - it stopped a mile from LAX. Projections are it will now open in 2026.

I do believe passengers would be happier being able to get to the airport on time than admiring a new logo on the side of a luggage cart.

The "X" has already been taken down from the entrance to the airport. Officials say it's being "stored" because of space and will be relocated during the changeover.

We've heard that before right here at home, when Westfield took down the signature brass bells from The Promenade and promised to use them in a new center. Anyone hear bells from The Village?

The only saving grace in all this is that it's not city money. The whopping $23.9 million contract to update signage and more is paid from fees and taxes generated at the airport.

But no one asked Los Angelenos what they thought about changing ***our*** airport's name.

I really think they should have.

Need to Pick Up a Paper? Visit These Merchants

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- Chatsworth Library
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- Albertsons
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- Handel's Ice Cream
- PorterValley CountryClub
- Knollwood Pharmacy
- Los Toros
- Ihop – Reseda
- Whole Foods Cafe
- Rosies BBQ
- La Fitness
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- Aldi Northridge
- Premier America

Celebrating the Past: The Canoga Park Museum

L.A. has some pretty famous museums that showcase master artwork and history from around the world. But what about our own history? In our continuing series on small museums of the valley, we visited the Canoga-Owensmouth Historical Society Museum in Canoga Park.

Step back in time to when the valley was nothing but orchards, and Canoga Park was named Owensmouth. Originally, the town was called Canoga in the late 1800's, when the railroad came through and named it. Around the turn of the century it was renamed Owensmouth, but gained such a reputation as the wild, wild west that Mary Logan Orcutt (of the Orcutt Ranch Fame) and the Women's Club, which was formed in 1914, decided to rename it Canoga Park.

Women's Club members are the ones who began gathering photos, memorabilia and artifacts for the museum, which officially opened in 1987.

It was preserved and the museum organized and funded by the club, Pastor and Honorary Mayor of Canoga Park Glen Kirby, and $30,000 in donations from local individuals and organizations.

It is housed in the old 1931 fire station, and still retains its grand old ceiling. Inside you'll find the history of not only Canoga Park, but the west valley. Permanent and rotating displays depict life in the San Fernando Valley from the days of the Chumash Indians through the Mexican Rancho and dry-farming, grain-growing eras to the transformation brought about by the arrival of the aerospace industry in the late 50's and 60's. Packing crates from various growers who were members of the San Fernando Citrus Association line the walls, with photos of original growers and laborers.

There are photos of Canoga Park's first families, from the Espinozas to the Orcutts, Knapps, Carlsons and Martindales. Many families that located here actually came to work the orchards and fields, and stayed on.

There are historical documents, and the first newspapers of the area – all displayed so you can read them and be amazed at the news of the day – and the prices!

Display cases show old kitchen tools, typewriters and more. The history of Canoga Park High School is there in photos and memorabilia, as well as bottles from the old Giacapuzzi Dairy that hung around on Fallbrook through the early 80's. There are scrapbooks, oral history tapes and maps in the one-room museum and photos of the famous – and infamous – who visited Canoga Park, including royals, mobsters, one of the Manson family and notable veterans.

It's small enough to take in the overall displays in an hour or so, but holds enough in terms of written history, books and clippings that you could spend much more time perusing the material. Docents Ed Barkett, President of the Canoga Owensmouth Historical Society, and Bill Ratner, VP of Programs, took several hours to show me the highlights and let me flip through the old newspapers and photos on display.

The Canoga Owensmouth Historical Society Museum is open the second and fourth Sundays of the month from 2 to 4 pm and by special request. It is located at 7248 Owensmouth Avenue, just above Sherman Way, with plenty of free parking in the rear of the building.

VALLEY ENTERTAINMENT

Les Mis Returns to L.A. at Pantages Theatre

One of the world's most popular musicals returns to Los Angeles at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre in Hollywood October 7 to 19.

Cameron Mackintosh presents the acclaimed production of Boublil and Schönberg's Tony Award- winning musical phenomenon, *Les Misérables*.

This brilliant staging has taken the world by storm and has been hailed as "a reborn dream of a production" (*Daily Telegraph*).

Set against the backdrop of 19th century France, Les Misérables tells an enthralling story of broken dreams and unrequited love, passion, sacrifice and redemption–a timeless testament to the survival of the human spirit. The story centers on Jean Valjean, a prisoner released after 19 years for stealing bread, who struggles to find a place in a society unwilling to forgive him. It is based on Victor Hugo's 1962 novel, *Les Misérables*.

With music by Claude-Michel Schonberg, book by Schonberg and Alain Boublil and lyrics by Boublil and Jean-Marc Natel, the magnificent score of *Les Misérables* includes the songs "I Dreamed a Dream," "On My Own," "Bring Him Home," "One Day More" and many more.

Upcoming productions of Broadway in Hollywood's fall season include *Hadestown* October 21 to November 2, *Moulin Rouge the Musical* November 4 to 16, *Suffs* November 18 to December 7 and *Stereophonic* December 9 to January 2.

The Pantages Theatre is located at 6233 Hollywood Blvd. For complete schedule and tickets visit broadwayinhollywood.com.

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UCLA Health Opens Porter Ranch Pediatrics Clinic

UCLA Health has opened a new pediatrics clinic in Porter Ranch in response to the area's growing demand for the health system's world class care. The new UCLA Health Porter Ranch Pediatrics clinic provides general pediatric care as well as specialty services including pediatric surgery, endocrinology and behavioral health. The new pediatrics clinic is located at 20179 Rinaldi Street, Suite 100 (The Vineyards).

Previously, general pediatric services were provided at the UCLA Health Primary & Specialty Care Clinic located nearby at 19950 Rinaldi Street. The relocated and expanded clinic will make it easier for Porter Ranch-area residents to access UCLA Health pediatric care as all services, including a laboratory, are under one roof and the new location has ample free parking. The new clinic space is significantly larger, with 11 exam rooms and several new pediatricians available to provide care to infants, children and adolescents. General pediatric services offered include routine check-ups, sports physicals, immunizations, care for minor illnesses and injuries and ongoing care for long term chronic illnesses such as asthma, ADHD and obesity. Specialty services offered include in-person and telehealth counseling and mental health services and diagnostics and treatment for metabolic conditions.

The UCLA Health Pediatrics Clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. To make an appointment or for more information, visit UCLA Health Porter Ranch Pediatrics or call (818) 341-1020.

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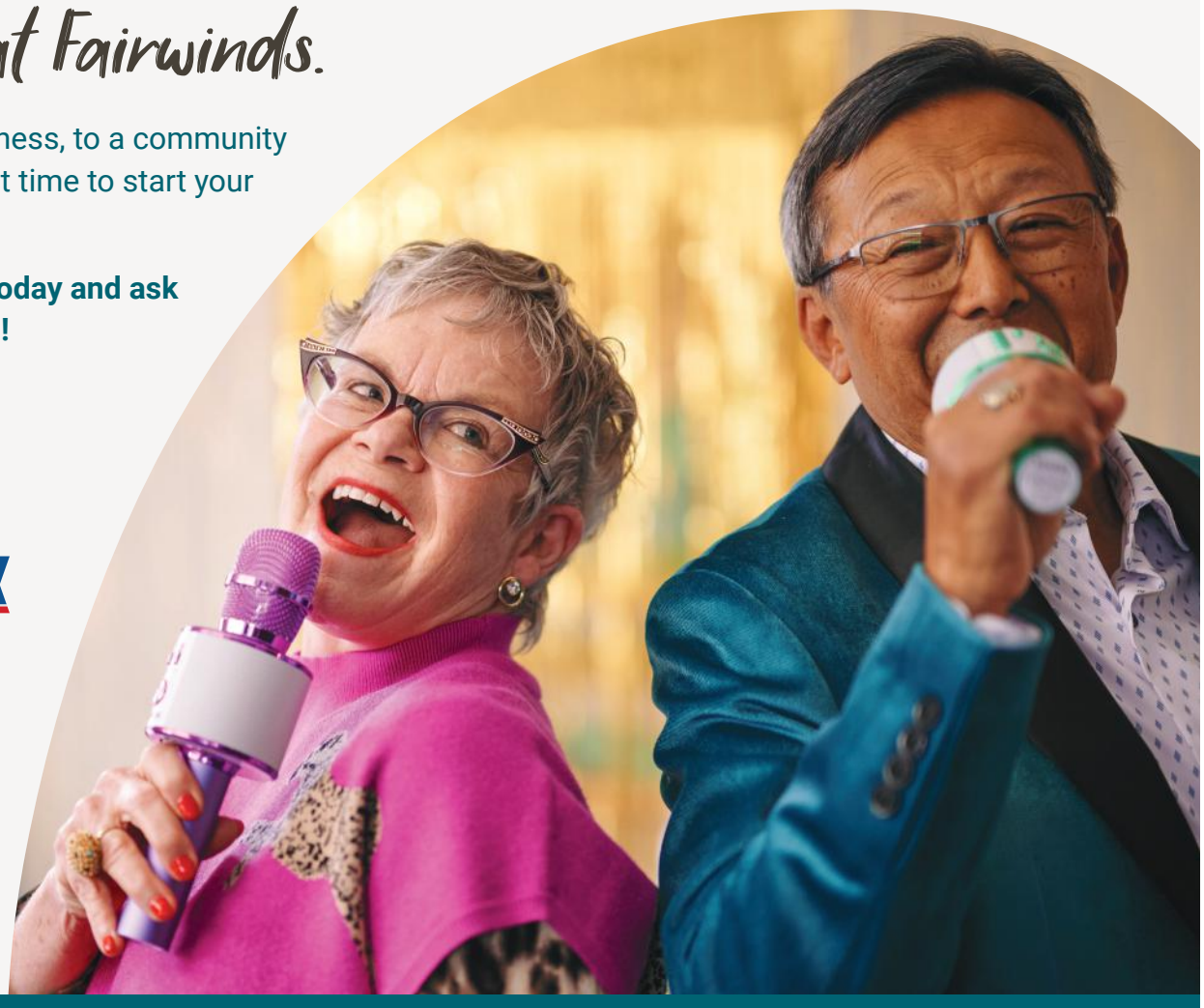

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KEEP ON WRITING COMEBACK STORIES

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UCLA Health

Keep on rising

Nighttrek Report: What to See in the October Sky

By Neill Simmons

The highlight of October is the Orionid meteor shower which peaks on the nights of the 20th and 21st. These meteors are fast moving and leave a glowing trail. Sometimes, if you are lucky, there will be a fireball lasting over four seconds.

The Orionid meteor shower is caused by Earth's passage through the debris stream left behind by the famous Halley's Comet. Halley's Comet was last visible in 1986 and will return in 2061. Find a location far from the city and street lights for best viewing and give your eyes time to adjust.

The full moon on Monday, October 6, is known as the Harvest Moon and the Hunter's Moon. This event is special because it will be the year's first Super Moon appearing larger and brighter than other full moons. A Super Moon occurs when it coincides with perigee—the closest point that the Moon comes to the Earth in its orbit. The full moons of November and December will also be Super Moons.

Mission Specialist Christina Koch, the first woman planned to go to the Moon.

Big news out of NASA: A planned Moon mission with four astronauts is scheduled on February 5, 2026. On board will be the first woman to go to the Moon, Mission Specialist Christina Koch. This mission will be the first cleared flight to circle the Moon since the Apollo program's final launch in 1972.

Upcoming crewed missions include NASA's Artemis program, with Artemis III planned to return humans to the lunar surface in 2027. The focus of this mission will be to study the Lunar South Pole. Each year, NASA adds 10 new recruits who will be trained to be future astronauts. These 10 are chosen from over 8,000 applicants. Six women and four men were added this year.

Last bit of NASA news: It was recently announced that over 6,000 exoplanets have been discovered to date. An exoplanet is essentially a planet, but one that orbits a star other than our own Sun.

The constellation of Cassiopeia, the Queen, is visible this month in the northeast sky. Cassiopeia was one of the 48 constellations detailed by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy in the 2nd century CE. The constellation is most notable because of its W shape, which is said to represent the Queen sitting on her throne.

Look to the west, near the sunset direction, to find Mercury shortly after dark. Mercury will be near Mars with the two planets being closest on October 20th and 21st. Due to its lack of atmosphere and proximity to the Sun, Mercury experiences the most extreme temperature fluctuations in the solar system, with daytime temperatures reaching up to 800°F and nighttime temperatures dropping to -300°F.

If you are planning a trip to Rome, Italy, an unique and interesting place to visit is the Vatican Observatory located at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, just outside of Rome. It is one of the oldest active astronomical observatories in the world, with its roots going back to 1582. The Vatican Observatory and the Vatican Museums have developed a visitors' center and now offer tours to the telescopes atop the Papal Palace as an option for those touring the Palace and Secret Garden. If you can't make it to Rome, there is a Vatican Observatory located in Safford, Arizona. Advanced reservations are required. For more information, check the website: vaticanobservatory.org.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 4 at Paramount Ranch in Agoura Hills. There will be an "International Observe the Moon Star" party at 7 pm. Many telescopes will be available for viewing the night sky. Nights are starting to cool so dress accordingly. Observing area is gravel and dirt. Comfortable shoes are a must. This is a FREE event!

When not stargazing, Simmons, is an Investment Executive with LPL Financial. If you have any astronomy or financial questions, he may be reached at (818) 936-2626 or neill.simmons@lpl.com.

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Are you outliving your home?

Discover how downsizing can open your door to greater freedom, peace of mind and more fun!

- *Tired of maintaining your home and feeling isolated?*
- *Are you concerned about having to climb stairs daily?*
- *Learn how to transition to Senior Living with confidence.*

Join our free seminar for real answers, simple tips, and some friendly advice!

November 20, 2025 11:30am-2pm

Kevin Pike
(818) 571-1508
Senior Real Estate Specialist
CalDRE #01990544

Kevin Pike is a Certified Real Estate Specialist (SRER) with years of experience helping seniors successfully navigate the often confusing waters of retirement!

Kevin will answer your questions about the possibility of selling your home and the best ways of moving forward with your retirement plans.

Reserve your seat and Free Lunch TODAY!
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