John Lee Invests in Solar Streetlights in Granada Hills

See page 13

Galpin Donates New Car to Granada Hills Charter- Page 8

Community Spirit Shines at Stoney Point

See page 6

North Valley News

Volume 3, Number 20 November 6, 2025

Serving Porter Ranch, Northridge, Granada Hills & Chatsworth

News in Brief

Suspect in Custody After Chatsworth Double Stabbing Murder

A suspect is in custody after two men were found dead of stab wounds in a Chatsworth home Tuesday. The men, described as 50 to 60 years old, were declared deceased at the residence in the 21600 block of Stonewall Street.

Police initially responded to the home just after 12:30 pm on November 4, responding to a call of assault with a deadly weapon. More information about the motive was not available.

Valley Art Fair Sunday, November 9

By Ken Ross

The Valley Art Fair will again be held on the spacious grounds of the Museum of the San Fernando Valley and Rancho Cordillera Del Norte (corner of Nordhoff St. and Wilbur Ave.) on Sunday, November 9. Sixty-five local artists (nearly double from last year) will each have a table to display and sell everything from painted jewelry to canvas art. Early holiday shoppers will be able to purchase one-of-a-kind colorful gifts, costing anywhere from a few bucks to expansive discounts.

(Continued to page 2)

Californians Pass Prop 50

California voters on Tuesday overwhelmingly passed Prop 50, which allows redistricting to redraw political lines in favor of Democrats. The measure, backed by Governor Gavin Newsom and powerful state Democrats, will redraw the state's congressional districts in an effort to make five Republican-held congressional districts more favorable to Democrats in next year's elections. The measure was drafted to try to offset the redistricting efforts in Texas that flipped five Democratic House seats to Republicans. Prop 50 allows California Democrats to circumvent the independent commission that controls the redistricting process, allowing Democrats to form more partisan districts. Republican lawmakers said they will still challenge Democrats in the next election. "Even under this new map, Republicans have clear opportunities to flip seats because Californians are fed up with Democrat chaos," National Republican Congressional Committee chairman Richard Hudson said in a statement. When declaring victory for Prop 50 Governor Newsom said, "We're proud here in California to be part of this narrative this evening. We're proud of the work that the people of California did tonight to send a powerful message to a historic president. Donald Trump is an historic president, he is the most historically unpopular president in modern history."

Volunteers Cleaning Communities Celebrates Five Years of Cleaning, Caring and Community

Volunteers help clean streets throughout the Valley.

This month, Volunteers Cleaning Communities (VCC) celebrates five years of turning trash pick-up into a movement — and a family.

Founded during the isolation of the pandemic, when Chatsworth resident Jill Mather began collecting bags of litter on her daily walks, VCC has grown from a one-woman effort into a region-wide network of volunteers. What started as "Volunteers Cleaning Chatsworth" now stretches across the San Fernando Valley through the group's Adopt-A-Highway program and city-street cleanups from North Hollywood to Ventura Boulevard.

Mather calls herself a coordinator, but volunteers say she's the driving force. "Jill does the work of five people," one longtime member noted. Her leadership — and her knack for making cleanups social with post-event coffee meetups — has built a corps of people who return again and again. Some have been showing up every week for four years.

The all-volunteer crew of Volunteers Cleaning Communities.

The results speak for themselves: since 2020, VCC's volunteers have removed more than 46,000 contractor bags of trash — about 650,000 pounds — plus illegal dumping debris, graffiti and abandoned encampment materials. The group also runs school litter-scavenger hunts, environmental awareness days and large-scale cleanups for churches, civic groups and businesses.

This coming Saturday, November 8, from 9 to 11 am, VCC will host a community litter pick up event on all of Tampa Avenue, from Rinaldi to Ventura Blvd.

Volunteers are needed - come as an individual or create a team. You must register for the event; sign up at volunteerscleaningcommunities.com.

Recognition has followed. VCC was named "Nonprofit of the Year" in 2022 by State Senator Henry Stern, received multiple honors from city and county officials, and Mather herself was named one of the San Fernando Valley's "Inspirational Women of the Year" in 2025.

VCC is hosting a community cleanup of Tampa Avenue this Saturday, November 8.

Yet the organization insists the spotlight belongs to its volunteers. People come for the exercise, the chance to give back, and the sense of

(Continued to page 2)

COMMUNITY

Community Calendar

Neighborhood Watch Mtg & Pot Luck

LAPD Devonshire Senior Lead Officers will hold a neighborhood watch meeting and their annual pot luck dinner on Tuesday, November 18, at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at St. Eurphrasia Catholic Church, 11779 Shoshone Avenue, Granada Hills. Enjoy casual conversation with the SLOs and your neighbors. Bring an appetizer, salad, main or dessert for six to 10 people to share. For more information contact SLO John Parker at 36560@lapd.online.

Valley Art Fair to be Held Sunday

(Continued from page 1)

Since this used to be called "Family Fun Day," there will be kids face painting and sculpturing. Kids can even help paint a huge mural entitled "Faces of the San Fernando Valley." Sandy Chukhadarian, the co-chair of the Museum's Public Art Initiative, explained, "We want to bring the Valley community together to celebrate diversity throughout." She anticipates that this free admission, family fun and creative art event will draw more than the 200-250 Valleyites who attended last year's inaugural fair. Seeking more volunteers and sponsors (for this non-profit entity), Sandy wants to "put on more multi-cultural events throughout the year." And, by featuring prominent sculpturers like Charles Sherman, Chukhadarian hopes to jump-start her museum's monthly "Artist Speaker Series."

"So, like last year, I'm hoping you readers will come by my own table on Sunday. Besides bringing some of my "multi-perspectism" canvases and "blended streak technique" painted jewelry, I'll have lots of vintage sports cards and memorabilia. So, come by and give me feedback on my articles and let me know what topics are on your mind."

Community Cleanup Saturday

(Continued from page 1)

community — and stay because it's fun. "We supply the equipment," Mather said. "All you need to bring is your willingness to help."

Want to join? VCC welcomes anyone, especially retirees looking for light exercise and new friendships. Each cleanup ends with a coffee break where volunteers relax, chat and build connections — one of the group's most cherished traditions. Schedules for the next two weeks of cleanups are posted on the VCC website under "Schedule of Events." Show up a few minutes early, grab a litter picker, and discover how good it feels to make your neighborhood cleaner while making new friends.

People in the News

Andreas Farmakalidis, an accomplished business owner, college professor, veteran, and award-winning musician, has officially announced his candidacy for the California State Assembly representing District 40, which covers Castaic, Hasley Canyon, Santa Clarita, Stevenson Ranch, Valle Verde and a swath of Los Angeles.

With a background that bridges politics, education, business, and the arts, Farmakalidis brings a unique and deeply community-rooted perspective to the race.

A triple scholar with degrees from Harvard University, Brandeis University, and Berklee College of Music, Farmakalidis has combined academic excellence with real-world experience. As a consultant for EU and local government projects, he advised on technology policy, education reform, and economic development, helping build bridges between the public and private sectors to promote sustainable growth.

As President of the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, Farmakalidis has been a tireless advocate for small business development and economic opportunity in the Valley.

His entrepreneurial spirit shines through his founding of California MusicBox and MusicBox MusicShop, which have grown into thriving community hubs recognized with a California Business of the Year Award. Through his podcast, Speak Up for the Valley, he has connected residents with policymakers, tech leaders, and entertainment figures—amplifying local voices and building civic engagement.

Farmakalidis's platform centers on public safety, education, environmental protection, and economic opportunity—four pillars he believes are essential to building a stronger, safer, and more prosperous California.

On October 17, UCLA Health proudly hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the brand-new Pediatric Clinic at The Vineyards in Porter Ranch, shown above. The event was attended by UCLA Health leadership and staff, along with representatives from the offices of US Representatives Brad Sherman, George Whitesides, and LA City Councilmember John Lee, who presented certificates in recognition of this milestone.

Porter Ranch Pediatrics, previously located across the street in the UCLA Health primary and specialty care suites at 19950 Rinaldi Street, officially opened for patients on June 30 at their new location: 20179 Rinaldi Street, Suite 100. With a focus on wellness, prevention, and personalized care, UCLA Health is proud to offer world-class pediatric services—including pediatric endocrinology and behavioral health—to the heart of this vibrant community.

For more information visit https://www.uclahealth.org/locations/porter-ranch-pediatrics.

Los Angeles Jewish Health...Energizing Senior Life!

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Senior Behavioral Health
- Short-Term Rehabilitation
- Skilled Nursing
- PACE
- Hospice & Palliative Care
- Nursing School
- Geriatric Health
- Memory Care

Nonprofit Los Angeles Jewish Health, formerly Los Angeles Jewish Home, is committed to excellence in senior care for all.

Our comprehensive selection of living options and award-winning care meets seniors where they are in life, providing individualized services focused on mind, body, and spirit.

LAJHealth
LOS ANGELES JEWISH HEALTH

Scan Me!

Call (855) 227-3745 or go to LAJH.org

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.

• Steve Bercsi checks in with this joke...A woman who lost four husbands through the years was married first to a banker, then an actor, then a preacher and finally and undertaker. When asked about the unusual lineup in her spouse's occupations, she replied, "One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go."

• Connie Hein says to be sure to bring up politics at Thanksgiving dinner. It's going to save you money on Christmas gifts.

• Conversation with my wife:

Me: "Hey baby, I think we have been drinking too much wine. Let's cut it back to one glass a week.

Wife: "You're starting to sound a lot like my ex-husband."

Me: "You were married before?"

Wife: "No."

• Along the lines of getting out and doing something...remember that a procrastinator is a man with a wait problem.

• Piece of the past...how many remember that the Calabasas Inn was once the California, owned by Lana Turner's daughter Cheryl Crane? Or that Warner Center was really owned originally by Harry Warner of Warner Bros, whose ranch was where the present day condo complex The Met is located.

• Didja' hear about the two snails that were mugged by a turtle? When taken to the police station to be questioned about the crime the snails couldn't help the police - they said it all happened so fast!

Rantz & Ravez from Dennis P. Zine

I am going to take you on a short walk down my memory lane. My history as an American and native of Los Angeles.

Large cities and friendly small towns across America are slowly changing and it concerns me how the change is taking place.

I was born and raised in Hollywood, and have enjoyed my life, family, education and employment along with the many opportunities and blessings I have received along the way. As a youth, I played at the local parks in Hollywood and even rode my bicycle on city streets. I rode my bicycle when I delivered the *Los Angeles Herald Express* and *Herald Examiner* newspapers and even sold the *L.A. Times* from a wooden wagon on Sunday mornings. I remember the Helms Bakery truck driving in the neighborhood and purchasing donuts and those great cream puffs for a few coins. I only had a handful of quarters and dimes from chores I did for my mom and neighbors.

Those great times many years ago we were listening to Los Angeles AM music stations… KRLA, KFWB, KHJ and Wolfman Jack on the transistor radio I borrowed from my mom. FM radio was for all the old people and classic music. Those memories take me back to a time when life was simple and happiness consumed must of our time.

Looking back, those days felt much safer and more carefree than what we now see. There was a strong sense of community and neighbors looked out for one another. It made the city feel more like a close-knit family.

The politicians were elected it seemed for life. Since there we no term limits, politicians would be in office for many years. Sometimes they would run for another office and continue with one re-election after another. It became a career for legends like Tom Bradley who went from the LAPD to L.A. City Hall, and Zev Yaroslavsky, where they remained in elected office many years. Term limits came about and changed the political process for future years.

We now have term limits in Los Angeles and other cities across the country. What has now happened in New York has set a new and frightening process in American politics and history.

The people of New York have elected Zohran Mamdani the next Mayor of New York. Mandani is a member of the DSA, Democratic Socialist of America. This is a growing political movement that is far left of center. They have an agenda and it includes the following plans….* Extend voting rights to non-citizens. * Disarm law enforcement officers and abolish prisons. * Nationalize businesses like railroads, utilities, and critical manufacturing and technology companies. * Prohibit any new fossil fuel projects from bring authorized or built. * Provide free abortion on demand. * Destroying the USA. *Supporting terrorist groups and a long list of changes to the current process of working and paying for goods and services and raising a family. The plans remind me of a frightening movie that will change living in New York for years to come.

We will see how New York moves forward with the Mandani administration. My guess is that FREE will only go so far then there will be rebellion and hell will break lose. With fewer NYPD to protect the people of New York, it will be an interesting situation. Stay tuned for developments as they occur.

Talk about another TOTAL senseless waste of L.A. County tax-payers dollars.

Current L.A. County Chief Executive Officer Fesia Davenport is a 27-year county employee. Davenport filed a suit when county VOTERS supported a measure to establish an elected county manager. Davenport would need to run for the office to keep her current job. Davenport believed that the measure would impune her reputation. The county paid Davenport $2 million to resolve the matter. Davenport remains a county employee earning her salary and all benefits.

The LAPD continues to SHRINK.

The November 1, 2025, LAPD Citywide profile shows the Sworn Department strength at 8,646 personnel. This includes all sworn LAPD ranks

(Continued to page 10)

Valley News Group

Warner Center News · Valley Vantage · Las Virgenes And Calabasas Enterprise · North Valley News · Encino Enterprise

PUBLISHER
Kathleen Sterling
EDITOR
Katie Sterling
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Connie Hein
BUSINESS EDITOR
Miri Rossitto
EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD
Dan Brin
Joyce Fletcher
Martin Cooper
Rickey Gelb
Brad Rosenheim
Miri Rossitto
Richard Sherman
Scott Silverstein
John Walker
Diana Williams
Dennis Zine

PHONE 818.313.9545 FAX 818.302.1417
Email: ValleyNewsGroup@gmail.com
22025 Ventura Blvd. #303 Woodland Hills CA 91364
www.valleynewsgroup.com Facebook.com/valleynewsgroupwoodlandhills

Valley Vantage, Warner News, Calabasas Enterprise and Encino Enterprise are published weekly by Kathleen Sterling. Opinions expressed in articles are those belonging to the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Publisher or its advertisers. Submissions are welcome and must include name, address and phone. All submissions become the property of the Publisher. Valley Vantage is a legally adjudicated newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles by Superior Court Decree No. SFC 858.

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
Northridge Urgent
Aldi Northridge
Premier America

Get a Free Subscription!

Email valleynewsgroup@gmail.com and say "REGISTER ME!"
with which paper you want to receive.
You'll get the paper Thursday night in your email!

VALLEY VANTAGE/WARNER CENTER NEWS • CALABASAS ENTERPRISE
ENCINO ENTERPRISE • NORTH VALLEY NEWS
CALIFORNIA NEWS PUBLISHERS ASSN

Q4 Panic: Turning End-of-Year Overwhelm into Strategic Momentum

By Miri Rossitto

Every business owner knows the feeling.

As soon as the calendar flips to October, the Q4 panic creeps in. Suddenly, there are only a few weeks left to hit your annual goals, wrap up client projects, finalize budgets, and somehow prepare for the holiday marketing marathon ahead. Between Black Friday campaigns, Small Business Saturday promotions, Giving Tuesday donations, and year-end reporting, even the most organized teams can feel stretched thin.

According to a 2024 QuickBooks survey, over 60% of small-business owners say Q4 is their most stressful quarter, with marketing planning, cash flow, and staffing topping the list of stressors. But here's the thing: panic isn't a strategy. With the right framework, this can actually become your most productive and profitable quarter, setting you up for a smarter, stronger start to the new year.

Marketing Strategy & Budget Review

Take a breath and look back. Start by evaluating what campaigns and marketing efforts actually worked this year. Identify the initiatives that generated measurable ROI or engagement, and be honest about the ones that drained time, energy, or budget without meaningful results. Understanding where your best leads come from will help you focus your resources more effectively next year.

It's also important to reassess your goals. Perhaps your focus has shifted from aggressive growth to retention. Clarifying these priorities now ensures that your Q1 plan builds on solid insight. Creating a simple "keep, cut, or improve" list helps you visualize what deserves more attention and what can be streamlined.

Website & Digital Presence

Your website is your digital storefront, and like any storefront, it needs regular maintenance. Make sure your team page, service listings, and contact information are current. Verify that your site loads quickly and functions seamlessly on mobile devices; over 70% of users now browse on their phones, so slow or clunky design can cost you valuable leads.

Double-check your analytics tools. A quick audit ensures you're still collecting accurate data and can continue measuring your success into 2026.

Content & Copy Audit

As your brand voice evolves, so should your content. Review your blog posts, case studies, and social media content to make sure they still align with your company's values, tone, and expertise. Revisit key website pages to confirm that the messaging is clear, accurate, and optimized for search engines.

Take the opportunity to replace any outdated images, statistics, or videos that no longer represent your brand. Fresh, consistent content enhances SEO performance and reinforces credibility and trust with returning clients and new visitors alike.

Design & Collateral Refresh

Consistency builds credibility, especially when it comes to your visual identity. Review your sales decks, proposals, and business cards to ensure they reflect your current branding. Even subtle updates make a significant impact on how your brand is perceived.

Client & Community Connection

Q4 isn't just about closing deals; it's also about strengthening relationships. Take the time to personally thank your clients, partners, and team members for their contributions this year. A small gesture of appreciation goes a long way toward nurturing long-term loyalty. Beyond goodwill, these actions reinforce your company's values and make your clients and collaborators feel genuinely valued.

Systems & Scalability Check

Behind every thriving business is a foundation of reliable systems. As you prepare for the new year, assess whether your marketing processes are efficient or overly dependent on one person's expertise. Identify any bottlenecks or areas where technology could improve productivity.

Now is a good time to evaluate your vendor relationships and support networks. Do you have trusted partners ready to help with next year's workload? If not, consider where outsourcing, automation, or delegation could free up your team's bandwidth.

Planning for 2026

Once the dust settles, shift your focus forward. Start by defining what success will look like next year. Each goal requires its own strategies and metrics.

Explore which new marketing channels or tools might help you get there. Set measurable goals tied to clear KPIs. A proactive plan now ensures you enter 2026 with confidence and clarity rather than playing catch-up in January.

Yes, Q4 can be chaotic. But it's also a rare opportunity to reflect, refine, and realign before the new year begins. Instead of reacting to the rush, use it to reset your strategy, strengthen your systems, and reconnect with your community.

By approaching these final months with focus rather than fear, you'll turn Q4 panic into Q4 power… and step into 2026 ready to grow with confidence.

Miri Rossitto is the founder and CEO of Cowe Communications.

Follow them on social @ CoweOfficial or visit the website at cowe.com.

Transform Your
Business

Our Expertise is Your Secret Weapon

Whether you're looking to boost brand awareness, dominate digital spaces, or engage audiences in ways that matter, we challenge the status quo and deliver results that last.

+ BUSINESS MARKETING & STRATEGY
+ BRANDING & REBRANDING
+ PUBLICITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS
+ SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING
+ WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT
+ GRAPHIC DESIGN
+ PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY
+ COPYWRITING
+ NONPROFIT DEVELOPMENT

COWE COMMUNICATIONS
BUSINESS & BRAND DEVELOPMENT

COWE.COM | 800-527-3646

It's Easy to Earn More

8 Month Certificate
6.00% APY

- Exclusive for new members
- $5,000 maximum deposit

Federally Insured by the NCUA

Name Your Term
4.00% APY
7 and 13 Month Certificate

UPDATED OFFER

- Great fixed rate
- Guaranteed return
- No maximum deposit

Save Smarter

888.413.6509 FPCU.org/wcnews

Visit your local branch at 6250 Topanga Canyon Blvd, (next to Susie's Cakes).

FINANCIAL PARTNERS CREDIT UNION

APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates as of 01.21.2025 and subject to change, be revoked, or end at any time. Financial Partners Credit Union membership required. Name Your Term Certificate: Minimum deposit $1,000. New money required; source of funds deposited may not be from an existing Financial Partners Credit Union account. 8-month certificate: Minimum deposit $1,000, maximum deposit $5,000. Limit one per new member. Offer available to new members only in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, or San Diego County; the city of South San Francisco; and the city of Alameda, California. Fees could reduce earnings, penalty for early withdrawal/early closure. © 2025 Financial Partners Credit Union. All rights reserved.

Federally Insured by NCUA

FPCU.org • 844.TRY.FPCU

VALLEY ENTERTAINMENT

Community Spirit Shines at Stoney Point

By Mark Hovater

The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CNC) hosted Rocktober on Saturday, October 25, bringing more than 100 volunteers to Stoney Point for a morning of graffiti removal, cleanup, and restoration. Neighbors, families, and students rolled up their sleeves from 9 am to noon to help preserve one of the Valley's most iconic and historic landmarks. The event, held at 11012 Topanga Canyon Blvd., celebrated community pride and environmental stewardship as residents joined forces to refresh this treasured natural space.

The idea for the event came from newly elected CNC member Jett Dunlap, who wanted to "bring back this iconic place to its glory days." When Dunlap shared his vision with CNC President Kristen Shubert , she immediately embraced it and worked tirelessly with the City of Los Angeles to get approval for the project.

"This is a sacred site for the Chumash and Tonga Indians dating back over 6,000 years," Dunlap said, "and we have a responsibility to honor and protect it." Thanks to their determination, the community's vision became a reality.

Volunteers spent the morning cleaning, painting, and removing graffiti from the rocks — transforming Stoney Point back into a place of natural beauty. "We're lucky in Chatsworth to have such a beautiful landscape, and we want to preserve it for future generations," said volunteer Trevor, brush in hand. By the day's end, Stoney Point looked refreshed, and so did the smiles of those who came together to make a difference. As one participant said, "This is what community looks like."

PHOTO: MarkHovater

Graffiti at Stoney Point, above, was removed by teams of volunteers, like the crew below.

Paranormal Activity is Set to Haunt the Ahmanson

Paranormal Activity is set to haunt the Ahmanson Theatre from November 13 to December 7, bringing the hit horror movie franchise to life in a brand new story live on stage.

James and Lou have moved from Chicago to London to escape the past…but they soon discover that places aren't haunted, people are.

An original story set in the world of the terrifying *Paranormal Activity* film franchise, this thrilling new play is from celebrated playwright Levi Holloway (Broadway's *Grey House*) and originally directed by Punchdrunk's Felix Barrett *(Sleep No More*) with illusions by Tony Award-winner Chris Fisher *(Stranger Things: The First Shadow, Harry Potter & The Cursed Child*).

James will be played by Patrick Heusinger and Lou will be played by Cher Álvarez. By arrangement with Paramount Pictures and Melting Pot and a co-production with Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Shakespeare Theatre Company, and American Conservatory Theater.

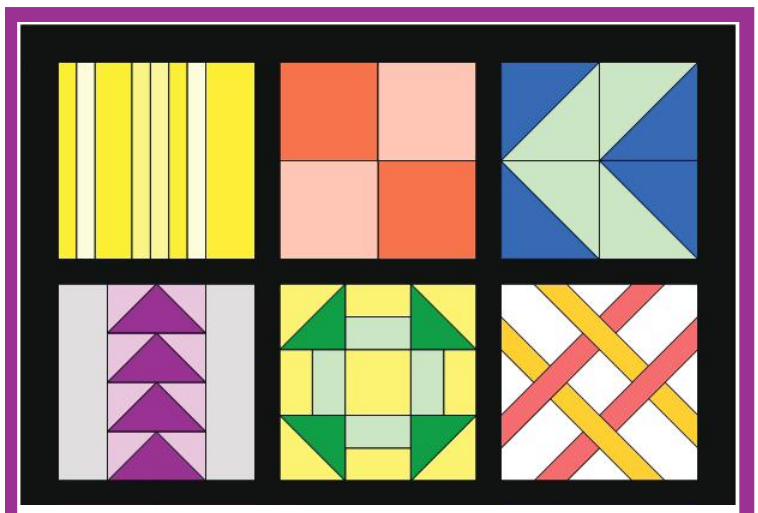
"Writing *Paranormal Activity* for the stage, collaborating with Felix Barrett in London—working to create an actual nightmare—has been a dream. We strived to create something impossible, mixing the

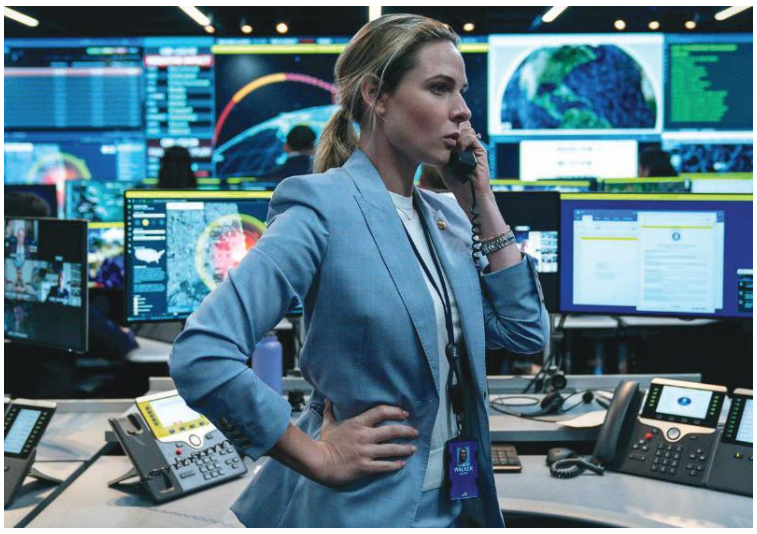
Places aren't haunted, people are...

familiar with the uncanny, heart with horror, right alongside all the mischief we've made to trouble their sleep," said playwright Levi Holloway.

Tickets for *Paranormal Activity* start at $40.25 and can be purchased at centertheatregroup.org. The Ahmanson Theatre is located in The Music Center at 135 N Grand Ave in downtown Los Angeles.

The play is rated R for disturbing content and horror. Thhis world premiere play will haunt you long after the lights go out. *Yorkshire Times* writes, "Make sure you have someone's hand to hold."


QUILTILLION
NOW OPEN!
Fabric - Thread - Batting - Patterns - Notions - Tools
Classes - Longarm Services - Custom Quilts
(818) 488-1011
quiltillion.com
17537 Chatsworth St.
Granada Hills CA 91344



Rebecca Ferguson as Captain Olivia Walker, the most senior officer in the White House Situation Room.

A House of Dynamite is a Terrifying Take on Nuclear War

By Katie Sterling

There are some films that are able to create an obvious boundary between fiction and reality. Then there are the films, that while watching, feel as if the viewer is seeing events unfold in real time. *A House of Dynamite* expertly falls into the latter category.

Recently released by Netflix, *A House of Dynamite* follows a group of high-level Washington executives as they attempt to shoot down a nuclear missile whose trajectory is set on the United States. Set in distinct chapters, the movie shifts perspectives so that audiences can face the issue from various sectors of the government, including the President himself. While the movie is approximately two hours, the narrative itself is focused on just 18 minutes – from the discovery of the impending missile to the projected time of impact.

Not only is there the threat of impact, but the additional dilemma of whether there is a need to retaliate against the potential adversaries who may have initiated the attack. It's not a black and white issue, but rather one that could have potentially catastrophic repercussions if not handled correctly. Thanks to the manner in which the film is divided into parts, just when you think you might be getting a clue to the solution, the narrative jumps back in time to shift the perspective on how a different sector of the government came to find out about the missile strike. It's only in the last chapter of the film where viewers finally even get a visual on the President, having solely been weaved throughout the narrative only in prior voice calls.

A House of Dynamite is a puzzle of sorts, allowing viewers to slowly pick up the pieces as more of each chapter is revealed. Thanks to this editing style, and a tension-filled soundtrack by composer Volker Bertelmann (who scored *Conclave*), the anxiety radiates through the screen.

Written by Noah Oppenheim, directed by Kathryn Bigelow and chock full of A-listers and familiar faces, there is no doubt that this movie will make a stir. Perhaps not for the reason of Idris Elba as President (we wish, right?) or

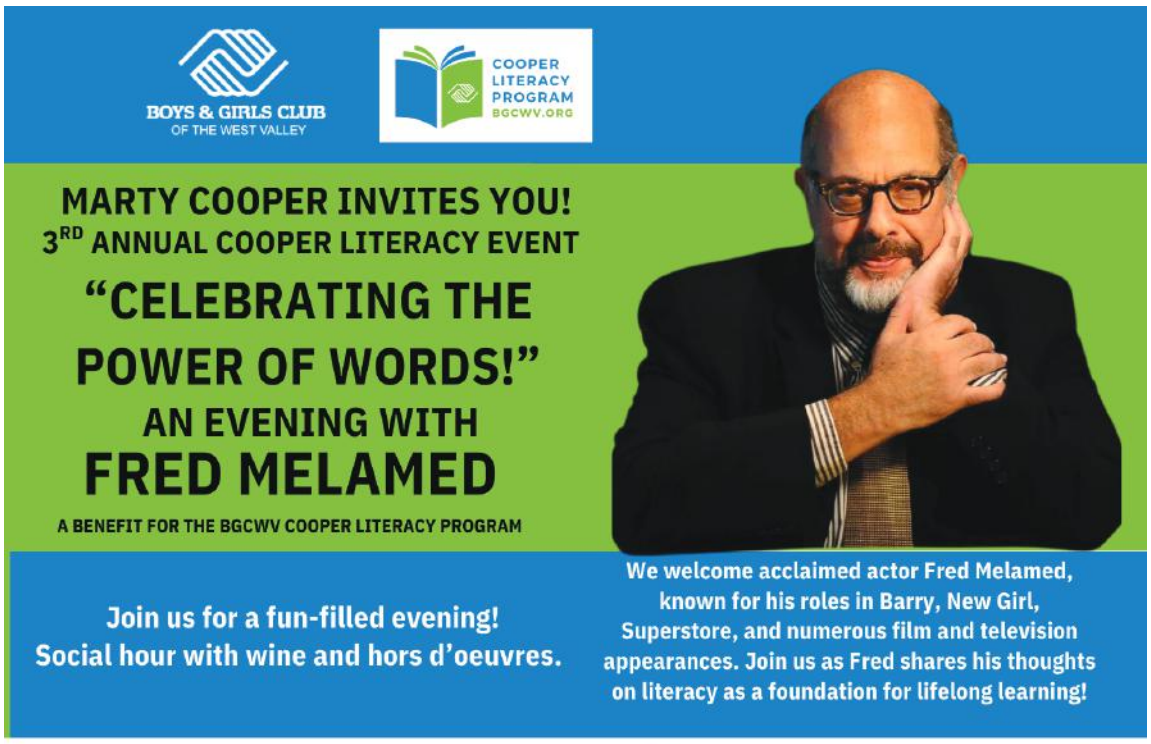
It's a controversial topic, perhaps even more so in this day-and-age, and the Pentagon itself even released a statement reprimanding the movie.

a female director tackling such a topic, but the subject of a missile strike itself.

It's a controversial topic, perhaps even more so in this day and age, and the Pentagon itself even released a statement reprimanding the movie. Sure, it may not be as hyper-realistic as possible, but there's an argument here that it doesn't need to be. In a world of staged press conferences and highly-edited statements, *A House of Dynamite* shows the messier, grittier reality of having to make impossible decisions that will have global repercussions. How the government must play chess with both their adversaries and their allies in an attempt to keep a somewhat stable playing field, at best. The pressure can be so suffocating, the tension so high that well, the title of the film is a not-so-subtle nod to the environment they find themselves in.

It's a time when the general public should be looking at the government, their power and what they choose to do with it. Yes, it's a Netflix movie at the end of the day, but whether you love it or hate it, you can't deny that it's creating some much-needed dialogue. The uncertainty of war is always a looming threat.

A House of Dynamite shines a light on the fact that even the most prepared authorities can come undone under chaos.



You are not alone.
24 / 7
Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline
818-887-6589
haven hills
LIFTING UP SURVIVORS

www.havenhills.org Office: 818-887-7481

Do you know a senior who struggles with any activities of daily living?
Do you know someone who needs help getting to appointments or grocery shopping?
WE HAVE SOLUTIONS.
SR 65+
I can help!

Complimentary needs assessment
FREE guided tours of homes and communities
Hourly caregivers or companions
Senior Resources, Inc.
Compassion. Care. Dignity.
Sandy Rosenholz • Office 818-400-1700 • Mobile 818-359-2125
Email SR@SeniorResourcesCA.com • www.SeniorResourcesCA.com

GOOD FRIENDS.
GOOD FOOD.
GOOD TIMES.
Being together has never meant more. And Fairwinds – West Hills gives residents enriching and soul-filling social connections—from a warm and caring staff, to daily group events, and friend-making moments. All tailored to each individual, in the safest environment possible.
Fairwinds – West Hills. A place to be you.
FAIRWINDS
WEST HILLS
—A LEISURE CARE COMMUNITY—
8138 Woodlake Ave | West Hills, CA 91304
727-293-3613 | fairwindswesthills.com

Vehicle unveiled during GHC's Homecoming celebration, symbolizing innovation and partnership in education.

Galpin Motors Donates New Ford Lincoln Aviator to Granada Hills Charter's Advanced Auto Tech Class

Granada Hills Charter (GHC) proudly announced the donation of a new 2023 Ford Lincoln from Galpin Motors, presented to the school's Career Technical Education (CTE) program's Advanced Auto Technology class.

The vehicle was unveiled during the Highlanders' Homecoming Game on Friday, October 17, in front of thousands of students, families, alumni, and community supporters—2,181 to be exact.

This generous contribution enhances hands-on learning experiences for students enrolled in GHC's Advanced Auto Technology class—one of several pathways in the school's nationally recognized CTE department that prepares learners for careers in business, science, technology, engineering, and skilled trades.

With more than 9,000 technician job openings in California alone, the new car will provide students with access to cutting-edge automotive systems, diagnostics, and technologies used in today's vehicles.

"Galpin Motors' investment in our students' future represents the very best of community partnership," said Brian Bauer, CEO/Superintendent. "At GHC, we believe that learning should be relevant, innovative, and connected to the world students will lead. This vehicle is not just a teaching tool—it's a symbol of opportunity and the power of public education when schools and local businesses work together."

Before kickoff, Galpin Motors owners and representatives joined Bauer and High School Administrative Director Julia Howelman at midfield for the ceremonial coin toss, officially opening the Homecoming game.

"This donation underscores a shared commitment between education and industry to prepare students for meaningful, high-demand careers," said Beau Boeckmann, President and CEO, Galpin Motors. "I hope it helps GHC's CTE students gain practical skills that go beyond the classroom—they're learning problem-solving, teamwork, and innovation that will drive the future of the automotive field."

Abe Saenz, GHC's Advanced Auto Technology Instructor, expressed enthusiasm about integrating the new vehicle into classroom instruction. "This vehicle will immediately become a cornerstone of our curriculum, allowing our students to move beyond theoretical concepts and gain hands-on experience with the advanced technologies found in today's vehicles, such as modern computer diagnostics, complex wiring systems, and new engine management controls. This practical exposure is critical for preparing them for successful careers in the evolving automotive industry."

Galpin Ford, a longtime supporter of education and workforce development, has maintained a legacy of connecting with schools to spark student interest in automotive careers. This partnership reflects a shared vision of preparing young people with the technical knowledge and hands-on skills needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving industry.

Through collaborations like this, Granada Hills Charter continues to provide a dynamic educational experience that merges academic rigor with career readiness—empowering students to graduate with both a diploma and a direction.

For more information about GHC'sCareerTechnicalEducation programs, visit ghctk12.com.

Granada Hills students and staff with Galpin Ford donors.

UCLA Health | Medicare ADVANTAGE PLAN

A Medicare Advantage Plan designed by UCLA Health doctors for Angelenos

Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period is here

It's time to ensure you have affordable, quality health coverage that puts your needs first. UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan is built on physician-led care with 7,000+ premier in-network providers and specialists across LA County. Your doctor may already accept our plan.

Real benefits and cost advantages for Angelenos:

- $0 or low monthly premium[1]
- $0 copay for preferred generic drugs
- Comprehensive dental, plus hearing and vision benefits
- Spending allowances up to $1,100/year[2]
- Fitness programs and acupuncture care
- Uber Health rides to medical appointments[3]

Call or RSVP for a seminar to learn more and enroll

Speak with a Local Licensed Agent and enroll in the plan that's right for you

Call 855-764-1678 (TTY 711)
8:00 am – 8:00 pm, 7 days a week

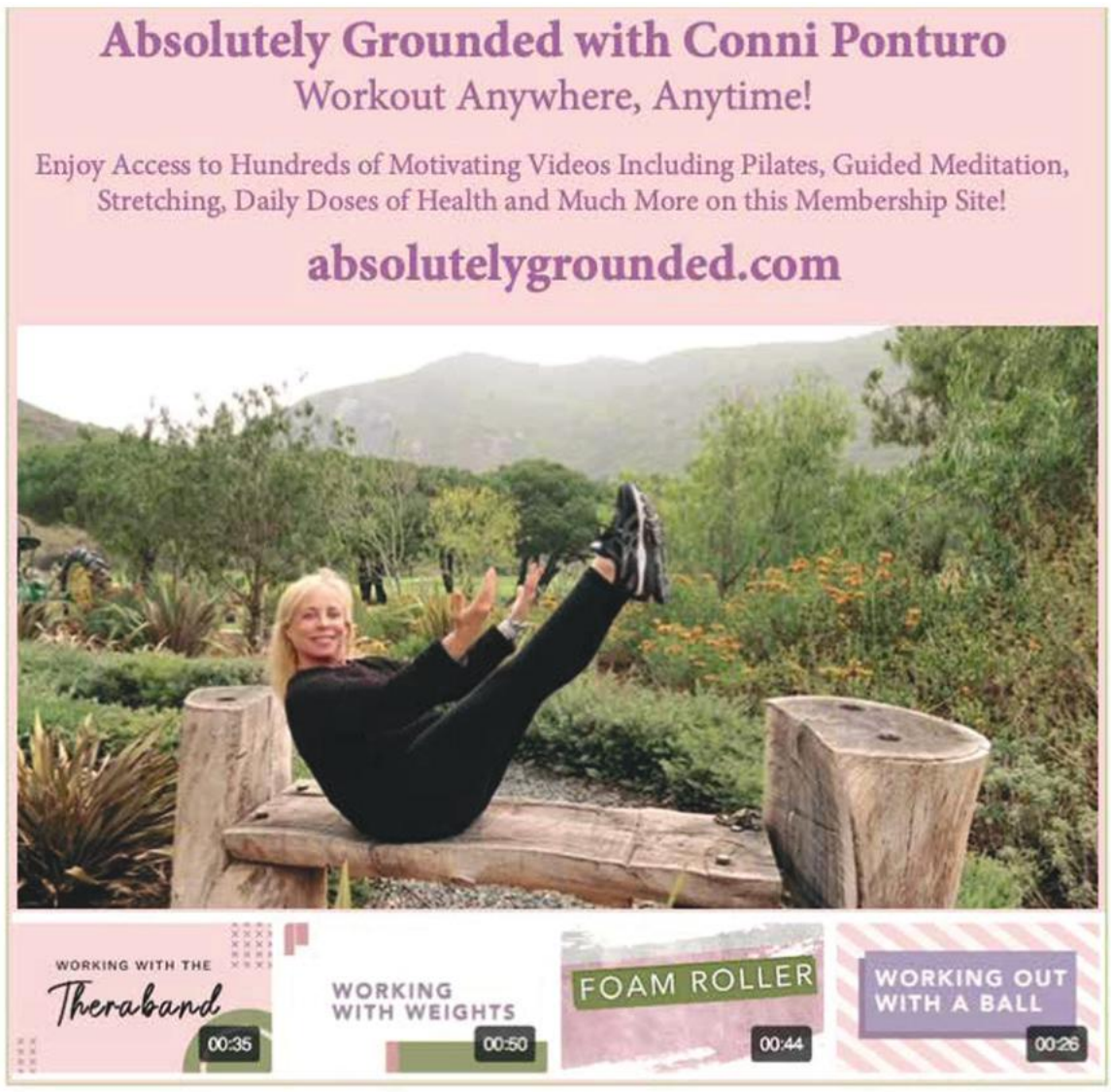
Visit DoctorDesignedMA.com/NVN
for seminar dates and a free information kit

[1]$0 monthly premium with Principal Plan and $45 monthly premium with Prestige Plan. [2]$740 with Principal Plan and $1,100 with Prestige Plan. [3]Does not require the Uber app and the number of allowable rides varies by plan. 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 monthly plan premium, you must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings, call 855-764-1678 (TTY 711). Uber Health brand names, product names, or trademarks belong to their respective holders.

© 2025 UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan

H4647_26AEP_GENROPAD1EN_M accepted

HEALTH & BEAUTY



West Valley Boys & Girls Club CEO Geovanny Ragsdale, kneeling, with the Neiman Marcus team.

Neiman Marcus Woodland Hills Doubles Book Donations for Local Youth

Boys & Girls Club of the West Valley is proud to recognize Neiman Marcus Woodland Hills as a Corporate Champion for Literacy.

This year, Neiman Marcus associates collected and donated 211 books to support the club's Cooper Literacy Programs — more than doubling their contribution from last year's gift of 100 books.

This is the second consecutive year Neiman Marcus Woodland Hills has partnered with the club to help inspire a love of reading among local youth.

The books will be distributed to members participating in the club's year-round literacy initiatives, providing access to quality reading materials that strengthen academic confidence and imagination.

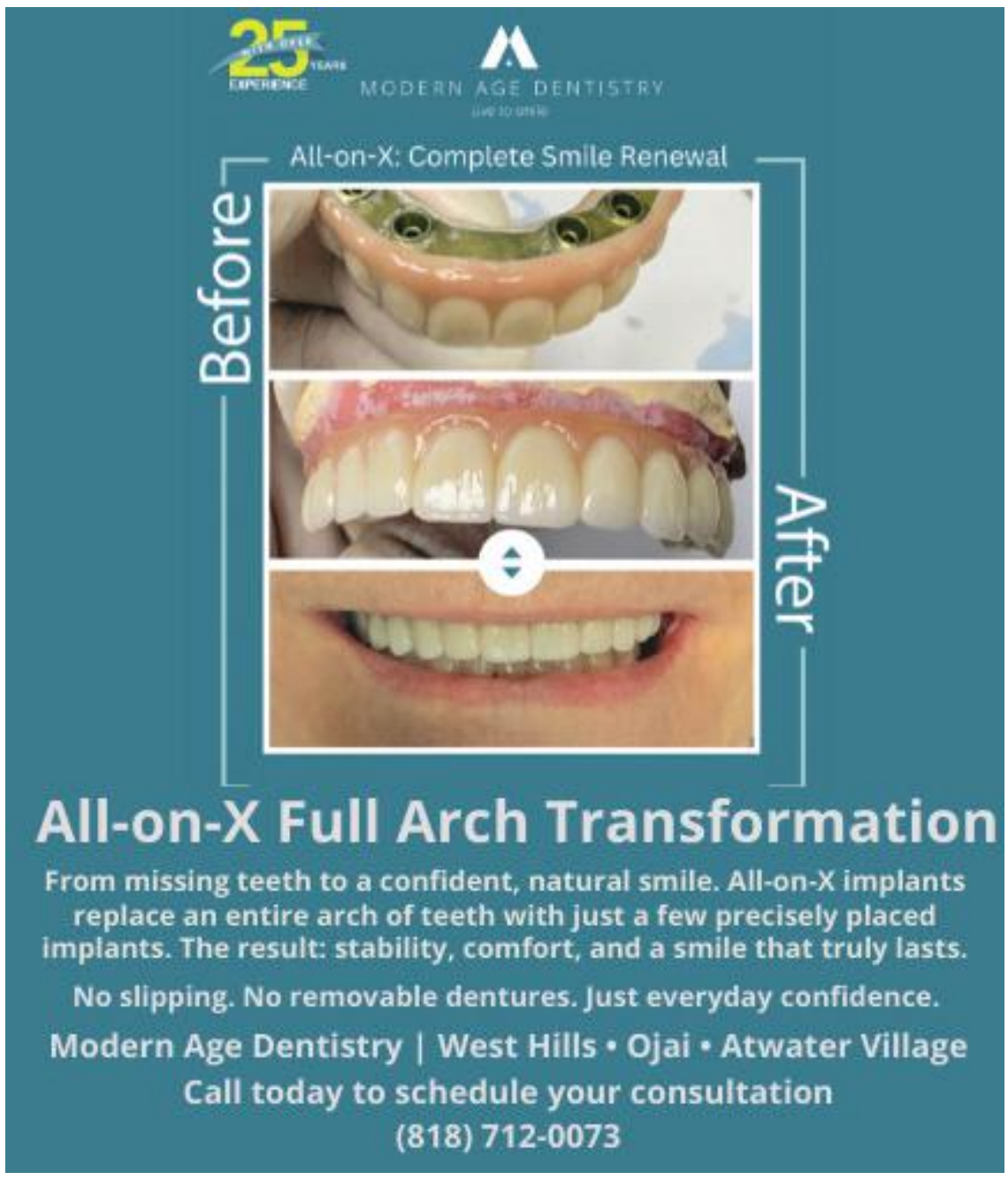
"We are so grateful to the Neiman Marcus Woodland Hills team for their continued commitment to literacy," said Geovanny Ragsdale, President & CEO of Boys & Girls Club of the West Valley. "Their generosity helps our members discover the joy of reading and build skills that last a lifetime."

This show of support comes as the club prepares for itsthird Annual Cooper Literacy Event on November 13, featuring actor Fred Melamed as the evening's guest presenter. Community members and businesses are invited to sponsor the event or attend in support of youth literacy programs. More information is available at bgcwv.org/clp2025.

In addition, the club is gearing up for its 19th Annual Cooper Reading Challenge, aiming to sponsor 260 young readers — 20 from each of the club's 13 sites across the West San Fernando Valley.

Boys & Girls Club participants who complete their reading goals will earn a special trip to Barnes & Noble, where they can personally select and purchase a new book valued up to $25.

To learn more or sponsor a young reader, visit bgcwv.org/cooper-literacy-program.



Rantz & Ravez from Dennis P. Zine

(Continued from page 4)

from the Chief of Police to the recruits in the academy. Stats continue to show month after month that LAPD recruitment efforts are not improving. With major events approaching Los Angeles in the next few years someone at city hall should wake up and pay attention to this serious public safety situation.

The Rats have invaded Los Angeles. We are #1.

Orkin has declared that Los Angeles is the "Rattiest City in America." We are number one. This should not be a surprise with all the homeless camps spread throughout Los Angeles. I have said before that the Angels have left Los Angeles and the rats have taken over.

Chicago is 2nd, New York 3rd and San Francisco 4th.

Congratulations to former LAFD Deputy Chief Jaime Moore who has been selected by the Mayor as the new Los Angeles Fire Chief. I have known Jamie for many years. He is very professional and well prepared to lead the men and women of the LAFD in future years.

Dennis P. Zine is a retired law enforcement supervisor, current Reserve Officer and retired member of the Los Angeles City Council. Zine can be heard on KABC Radio, and Channels 5, 11 and Spectrum TV with police related features.

FDA Issues Drug Recall; Blood Pressure Meds, Cholesterol and Tylenol Affected

The FDA recently announced multiple nationwide drug recalls of products that could be in your medicine cabinet

Approximately 3,000 bottles of Tylenol were recalled due to "defective containers" and were given the second-highest risk level, Class II, meaning that the medicine may cause "temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences." They can be identified by the lot code "EJA022," with an expiration date of April 30, 2028 and the description "Tylenol, Acetaminophen, Extra Strength, 24 caplets, 500 mg each."

Additionally, the FDA issued a nationwide recall of more than 140,000 bottles of Atorvastatin Calcium tablets. This prescription cholesterol medicine has also been classified as a risk level Class II and has been recalled due to "failed dissolution specifications." This generic version of Lipitor was found to not dissolve as expected, and thus could be less effective. For a full list of batches affected, visit accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/ires/?Event=97639.

Lastly, Teva Pharmaceuticals and Amerisource Health Services have recalled select bottles of prazosin hydrochloride capsules due to higher-than-acceptable levels of a carcinogenic nitrosamine impurity found within them. This is a Class II risk level and affects approximately 588,042 bottles of blood pressure medication. For a full list of products recalled, visitaccessdata.fda.gov/scripts/ires/?Product=216676.

If anyone is in posession of these affected products, they are advised to call their healthcare provider for an appropriate replacement. It is not advisable to immediately stop taking the medication, except for the affected Tylenol. Those in possession of the recalled Tylenol are advised to either throw the bottle away or return to the place of purchase for a refund or replacement.

KEEP YOUR BUSINESS HEALTHY!
ADVERTISE WITH VALLEY NEWS GROUP'S PAPERS
Valley Vantage • Warner Center News • Calabasas Enterprise
North Valley News • Encino Enterprise
Call 818.313.9545 valleynewsgroup.com

LOCAL NONPROFITS IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OF US

Receive a tax benefit and support the charities that support your values.

Open a Donor Advised Fund today with the Community Foundation of the Valleys

Community Foundation of The Valleys

5121 Van Nuys Blvd., Ste 200
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
818-377-6386
www.valleygiving.org | info@valleygiving.org

The Fountain of YOU.

This is more than a place to live,
it's a place to come alive.
Discover senior living that creates a space for you
to feel liberated, celebrated, and authentic.

SENIOR LIVING, *redefined.*

Call to join us for our annual ***Home for the Holidays Open House*** *event:*
TASTES OF THE SEASON | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13th • 11AM-2PM

THE VILLAGE
AT NORTHRIDGE

9222 Corbin Avenue, Northridge
THEVILLAGE*atNorthridge*.COM | 818.740.5836

AN SRG SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY RCFE #197608838

KEEP ON WRITING COMEBACK STORIES

We see our success in the lives we help turn around. For us, winning comes from the many futures returned and families made whole. That's why, from performing over 2,700 heart transplants to the first human bladder transplant, our story is about more than breakthroughs. It's about all those we help to write more chapters of their own.

UCLA Health

Keep on rising

John Lee Invests $300,000 to Install Solar Streetlights in Granada Hills

Los Angeles City Councilmember John Lee announced a $300,000 investment to install more than 50 new solar-powered streetlights around several residential intersections in Granada Hills to improve neighborhood safety and visibility. The installations, which begin today, will take place at Tribune Street and Lindley Avenue, Tuba Street and Lasaine Avenue, Dempsey Avenue and San Jose Street, and Ruffner Avenue at Armstead and De Celis Place.

These areas have been impacted by repeated incidents of copper wire theft, which have left many streetlights dark and neighborhoods vulnerable. The new solar-powered lighting systems will operate independently of the traditional electrical grid and use theft-resistant materials, reducing both the risk of wire theft and the cost of long-term maintenance.

"Every neighborhood deserves well-lit streets where families feel safe walking at night," said Councilmember John Lee. "Granada Hills has seen far too many instances of copper wire theft, and this investment is about restoring a basic sense of security and peace of mind for our residents. We are also looking at smarter, more sustainable ways to keep our streetlights working and protect public infrastructure from theft and vandalism."

This effort is part of Councilmember Lee's broader push to strengthen local infrastructure and improve quality of life across his district. Through initiatives like his Street S.M.A.R.T. program, which repairs broken sidewalks and removes long-neglected tree stumps, he continues to prioritize restoring essential public services for residents. Earlier this month, the City Council approved a motion he previously seconded to create a citywide reward program for information leading to arrests in metal theft cases, further advancing efforts to protect vital infrastructure citywide.

REAL ESTATE IS VOTED
THE BEST LONG-TERM INVESTMENT
12 YEARS IN A ROW

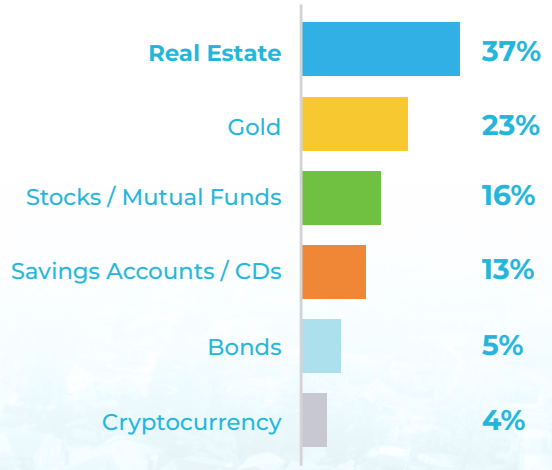
Why Real Estate is Still #1

Even with price growth slowing down, ongoing affordability hurdles, and uncertainty in the economy, a home is an asset that typically grows in value over time. As that happens, it gives your net worth a boost.

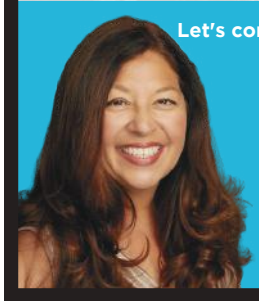
A home is more than just a place to live-It's often a family's most valuable financial asset and a cornerstone to building long-term wealth.

Sam Williamson
Senior Economist, First American

America's Choice for the Best Long-Term Investment



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.**

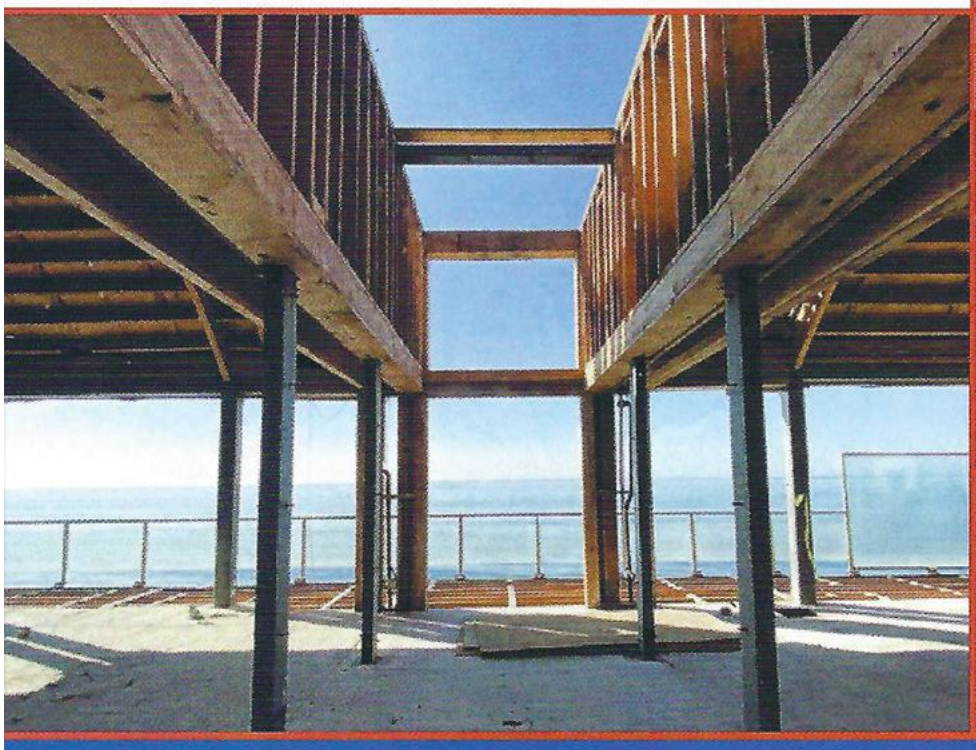


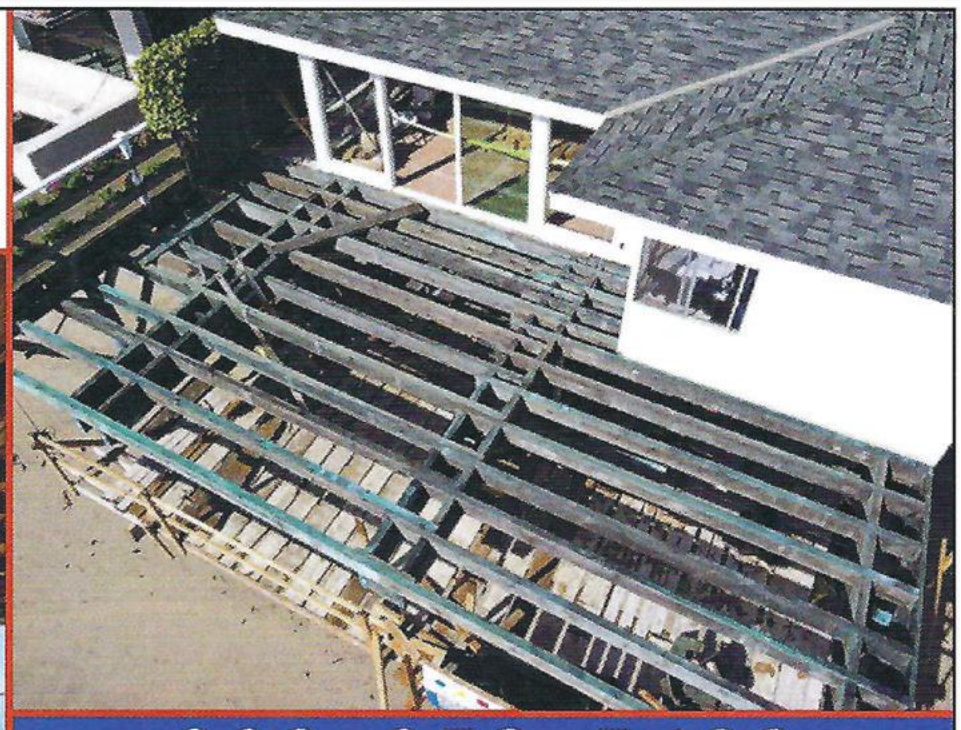
Let's connect so you have expert advice on how to reach your homebuying goals this year.

Jessica Miller
REALTOR® DRE Lic. #02088743
310.592.7361
JessicaMillerRE@gmail.com

PINNACLE ESTATE PROPERTIES, INC.

ALPHA STRUCTURAL INC.
LIC. #663409 www.alphastructural.com info@alphastructural.com





323-258-5482

#1 Design / Build Firm In SoCal For Over 30 Years!

Engineering / Design | Permit Acquisition | Construction

- Landslide Repairs
- Foundation Repair
- Balcony Repair
- Hillside Decks
- Spall Repair
- Drainage

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Cindy Royall Libonati

Serving my real estate clients since 1976.

818.421.4468
CindyAgent.com
CindyAgent@aol.com

Your Local Area Professional Realtor ®
#1 Selling Agent
Calabasas Brokerage

DRE#00582036

Operated by Sotheby's International Realty, Inc. Real estate agents affiliated with Sotheby's International Realty, Inc. are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Sotheby's International Realty, Inc.

Can Downsizing for Your Retirement Really Be Stress-Free?

By Kevin Pike

Can downsizing for your retirement be stress-free?

Yes! As a certified senior real estate specialist I've worked with seniors for years and the biggest fear my clients feel is not knowing where to begin.

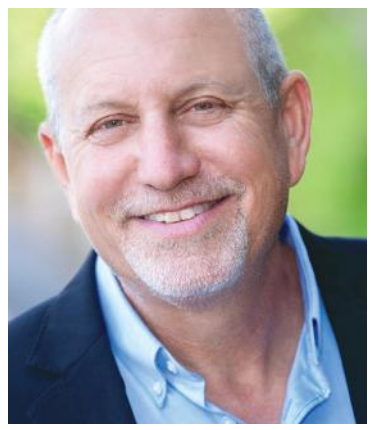
When thinking about moving to a more suitable home, they often fear that they simply can't deal with the stress, therefore they procrastinate and continue living in their home, which may be too large and even unsafe at their age.

My job is to help educate senior home owners to let them know that the process of moving doesn't have to be full of stress and can actually be smooth with the right information and guidance.

Whether moving to a smaller, single-level home or condo, or an assisted living home, I've been able to make their experience easy and as effortless as possible. I have found that knowing the real issues seniors face when confronted with moving out of their homes really allows them to move forward and begin enjoying that next stage in their lives, one often filled with more happiness and enjoyment than when they were living alone in their older homes.

If you are living in an older home with your spouse or possibly alone, you may want to gain more information on how you can move forward and begin thinking about moving into a better living environment, more suited to your happiness and safety.

If you fall into this group, you may like to come to my next seminar focusing on downsizing for your retirement. This seminar will cover most of the issues raised by my clients in the past as to what their needs have been to



Kevin Pike

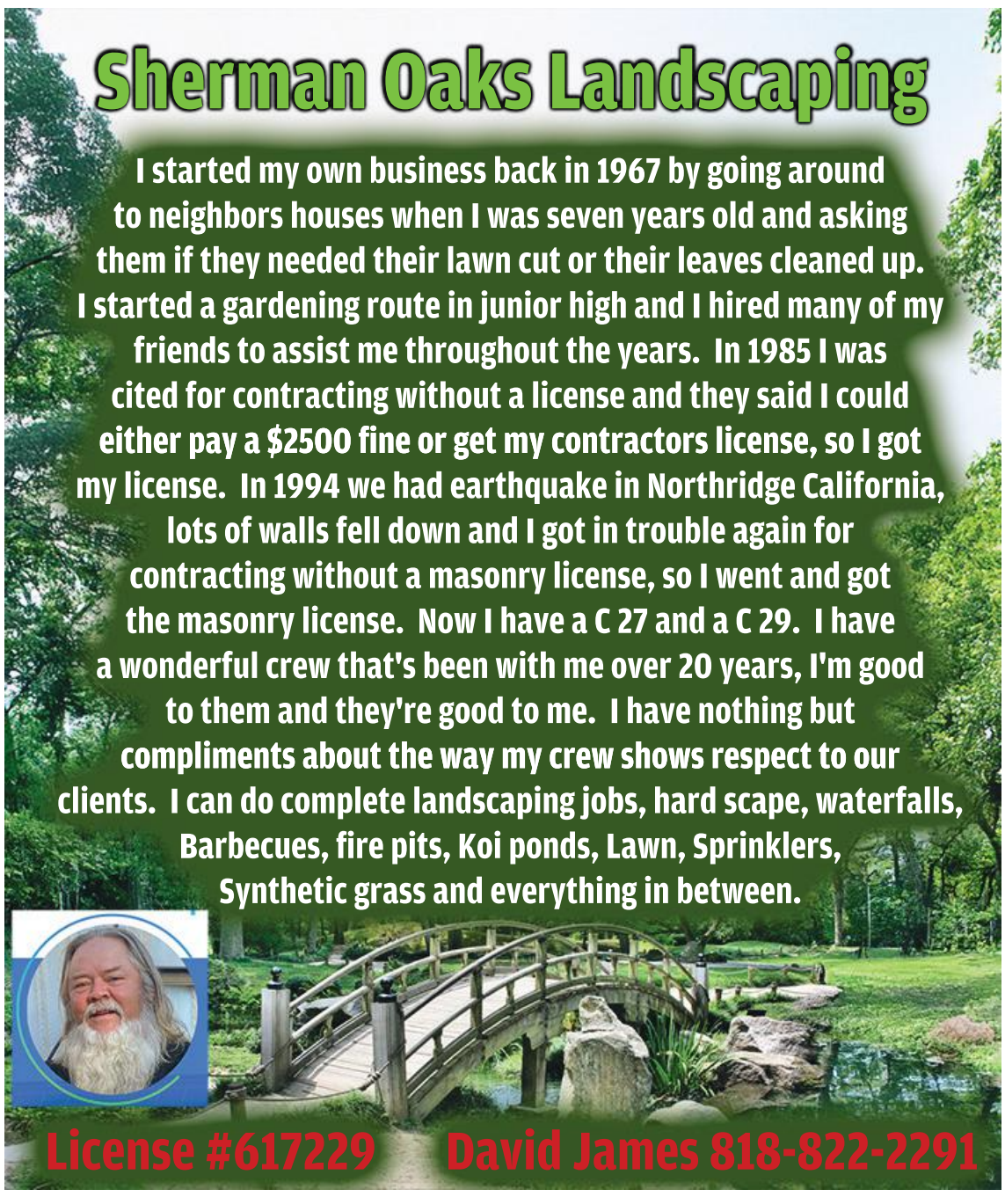
make their move successful and truly stress free.

I always love meeting people who have felt stuck in their homes not knowing how to make their move to a better living situation. Helping people has been so rewarding and seeing them happy and enjoying life more after their move has given me great satisfaction.

The process of moving doesn't have to be full of stress and can actually be smooth with the right information and guidance.

It is true that seniors can move while making it a stress-free experience, when working with someone experienced with their needs throughout the entire process.

Kevin Pike is a Realtor and Senior Real Estate and Probate Specialist with Coldwell Banker Exclusive. He is a published author, and is hosting a seminar on downsizing for your retirement on November 20, 2025 in Northridge. To reserve your space at this seminar and enjoy a free lunch as well, call Pike at (818) 571-1508.



Nighttrek Report: What to See in the November Sky

By Neill Simmons

Monday night, November 17, brings the peak of the Leonid's Meteor Shower.

Tips for viewing are: Find a dark location, allow 30 minutes for your eyes to adjust, dress warmly and look up. This particular Meteor Shower is known for producing fireballs. A fireball is an exceptionally bright meteor lasting four to five seconds.

The November full moon will occur on the 5th and 6th. It will be a "Supermoon," which makes it appear larger and brighter than a typical full moon, and it is also the closest Supermoon of the year. The November full moon is called the Beaver Moon because it coincides with the time of year when beavers are busy building their winter dams and when trappers set their traps to get their thick winter pelts. The name comes from a combination of Native American and early colonial traditions.

One of the greatest sights in the November sky is the Pleiades star cluster. The Pleiades, also known as "The Seven Sisters," is an asterism, or pattern of stars, as well as an open star cluster, made up of more than 1,000 stars. It is located in the constellation of Taurus and is about 410 light-years from Earth. As a reminder, a light-year is not a unit of time, but a unit of distance that is equal to the distance light travels in one Earth year. Therefore, a light year is almost six trillion miles! Interesting fact: Subaru, the Japaneses auto company, uses the Pleiades in its logo highlight the six most visible stars. Next time you see one on the road, look for the stars in it's logo. The word "Subaru" in Japanese means Pleiades.

The best night to see the planet Mercury is on the 12th of November. Mercury is visible for a short time after sunset, appearing low in the west-southwest but you will need a clear view of the western horizon. Binoculars will help to spot not only Mercury but also a faint nearby Mars.

Every night in November, the ringed planet Saturn will be visible in the southeast. Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun and the second largest in the Solar System, after Jupiter. It is a gas giant made of about 96% hydrogen and 3% helium, with trace amounts of other gases like methane and ammonia. Extremely high winds, reaching up to 500 meters per second, cause the visible yellow and gold bands in its atmosphere. Saturn takes about 29 Earth years to orbit the Sun.

NASA reported that after sox months in the ISS, International Space Stations, many physical changes occurred. Astronauts experienced muscle and bone loss. Astronauts exercise for about 2.5 hours daily to combat these effects, but it may not completely prevent all muscle and bone loss. Without gravity, bodily fluids shift upward, causing a puffy face, congestion, and potentially affecting vision. Fluid shifts cause a puffy face and sinus congestion, and arteries can thicken, similar to aging. Astronauts cannot burp in space in the same way they do on Earth because the lack of gravity prevents the gas from separating from liquids and solids in their stomachs. Instead, attempting to burp in space results in a "wet burp," where the gas, along with a mixture of liquids and solids, comes up, leading to a vomiting-like experience.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 22. Griffith Park Observatory will hold a] free public star party from 2 to 9:45 pm. There will be lots of telescopes for viewing the sky and astronomers to answer questions.

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

Every night in November, the ringed planet Saturn will be visible in the southeast.

Free LUNCH & LEARN

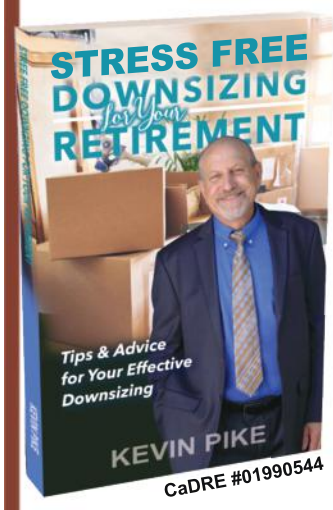
Are you outliving your home?

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



CaDRE #01990544

Kevin Pike
(818) 571-1508
Certified Senior Real Estate Specialist

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

You can also receive your own copy of his new book to help you plan for your own retirement.

Reserve your seat and Free Lunch TODAY!
Call: (818) 812-4600

The VILLAGE AT NORTHRIDGE
CARF-ACCREDITED INDEPENDENT & ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCES
TheVillageNorthRidge.com
RCFE# 197608838

9222 Corbin Avenue • NorthRidge, CA 91324

CELEBRATING **NOCHEBUENA'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY** WITH AN EXPANDED SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

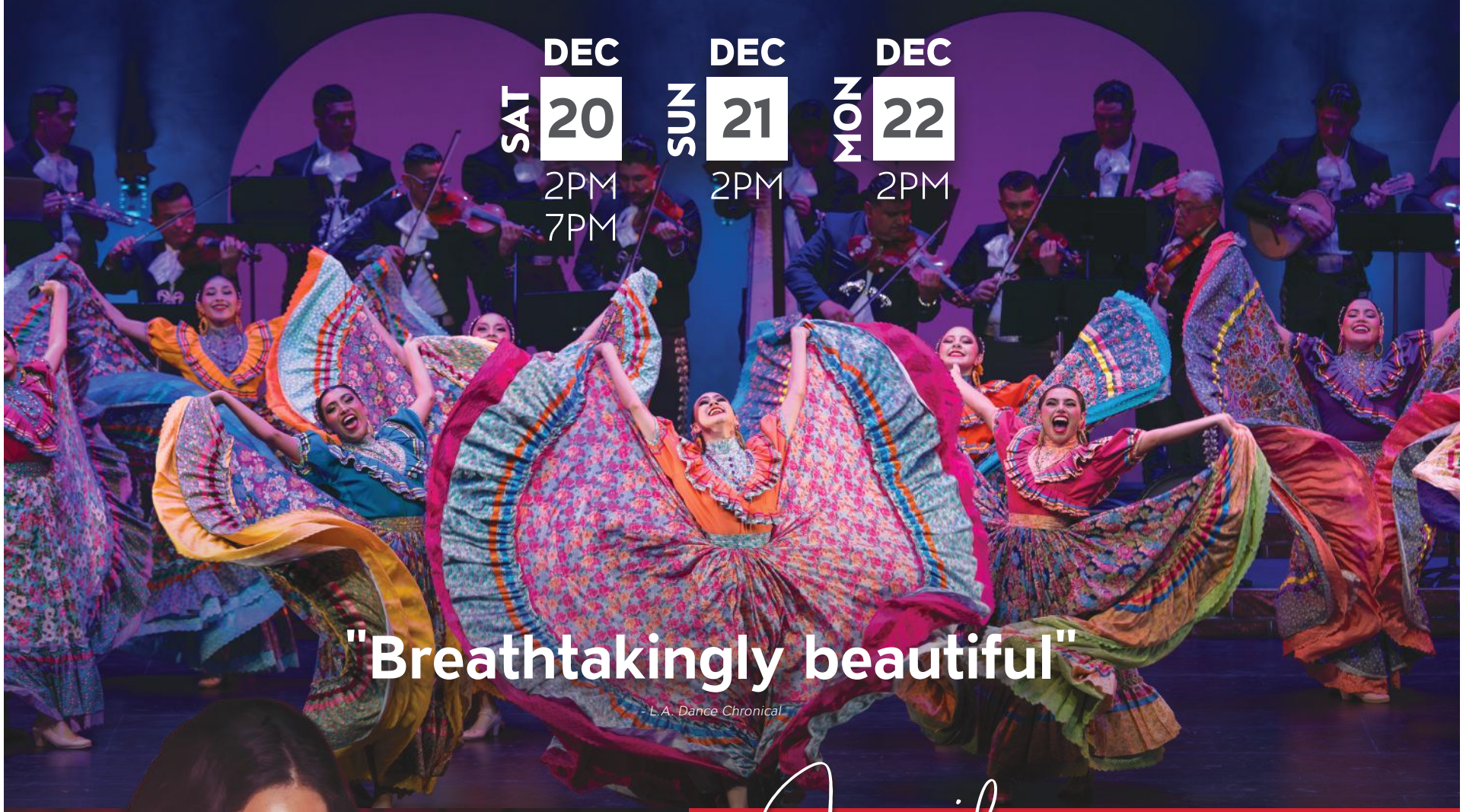
15 THE SORAYA

Nochebuena

A Christmas Spectacular

Featuring **Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles** and **Mariachi Pueblo Viejo**
With Special Guest **Ximena Sariñana**

SAT	SUN	MON
DEC 20	DEC 21	DEC 22
2PM 7PM	2PM	2PM



"Breathtakingly beautiful"
- L.A. Dance Chronical

Ximena Sariñana

Family FOUR PACK

4 TICKETS TO 1 SHOW

STARTING AT ONLY **$149**

Valid on select shows.
Scan QR code here to see available performances.

TheSoraya.org | (818) 677-3000 | @TheSorayaStage