



**Blood Cancer
Breakthroughs
Through Modern
Technology**

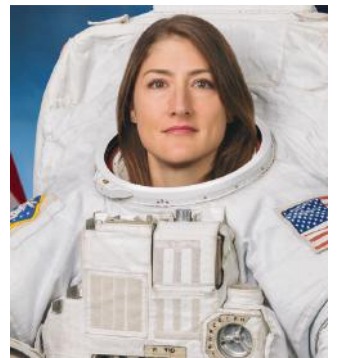
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Set Sail in Croatia – See Page 9

**Nighttrek:
What to See
in the
October Sky**

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ENCINO ENTERPRISE

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A Compendious Source of Information

October 3, 2025

NEWS IN BRIEF

City Council Upholds Approval of Proposed Apartments Complex in Encino

The Los Angeles City Council recently voted to uphold the approval of a proposed mixed-use apartment complex in Encino. The site, 16610 W. Ventura Blvd., would consist of a five-story building with 45 studio, one-, and two-bedroom units above 3,4000 square feet of commercial space and a two-level, 57-car underground parking structure. In order to build a complex larger than the current zoning rules would allow, the Planning Commission asked for eight of the units to be set aside for affordable housing. The Encino project is being led by Benelisha Group, Inc. and designed by GA Engineering with plans for a contemporary podium-type building clad in wood veneer and painted stucco.

Woman Followed by “Bank Juggers” and Robbed at Reseda Car Wash

A college student was targeted and robbed in broad daylight last week after leaving a Wells Fargo branch. Surveillance footage shows the young woman drying her vehicle at Luv Car Wash in Reseda before a white SUV with tinted windows pulled into the space next to her. As she attempted to enter the her own vehicle, a passenger of the SUV reached in and grabbed the woman’s purse. When she attempted to hold on to her belongings, the thief threw her to the ground before speeding off. Police believe it is the work of “bank juggers” or individuals who monitor banks and then follow individuals who they believe have recently made a cash withdrawal. According to the report, the license plates of the vehicle came back as fake and the primary suspect is an approximately 25-year-old Black male who was wearing a white shirt and black shorts.

Sherman Oaks Street Fair Set for Oct. 19

The 33rd annual Sherman Oaks Street Fair is back on Sunday, October 19, from 10 am to 6 pm. Attractions include two live stages, a cocktail lounge, carnival, food trucks, artists and local businesses, a pet zone, and more! The Sherman Oaks Encino Chamber of Commerce is inviting interested sponsors and vendors to take part in this community tradition that draws thousands of attendees. Whether you’re a small business, artisan, nonprofit or a larger brand looking to make a local impact – the chamber has sponsorship packages and booth options to fit your goals and budget. For more details, visit ShermanOaksStreetFair.org.

Local Leaders Announce Runs for Office



Bob Blumenfield for Senate

Los Angeles City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield has confirmed to *Valley News Group* that he will run for the California State Senate’s 27th district in 2028. The seat will be open as Senator Henry Stern is in his final term.

There are nearly one million residents of the 27th Senate District, which includes Calabasas, Woodland Hills, Tarzana, Encino, Canoga Park, West Hills, Moorpark, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, North Hills, Sylmar, Porter Ranch, Granada Hills, Chatsworth, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, North Hollywood, Valley Glen, part of Van Nuys, part of Northridge and part of Santa Clarita.

The main responsibilities of a state senator include creating and voting on state laws, adopting the state’s budget, representing the interests of their constituents, and confirming certain gubernatorial appointments.

Stern was first elected to the post in 2016, and his main priorities have been legislating

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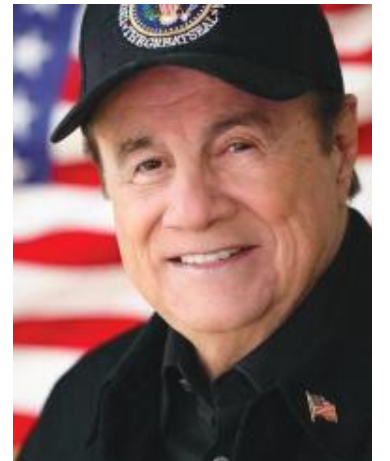
Josh Sautter for Congress

As President of the Encino Neighborhood Council, I’ve learned that leadership begins with listening. During the fires that threatened to cross Mulholland, the official alerts failed. Confusion spread and fear set in. I didn’t wait. I sent my phone number to every subscriber on our 10,000 member list, and soon my phone was ringing nonstop. Hundreds of neighbors reached out. Each time I said the same words: Evacuate now.

One of those calls came from a 95-year-old woman on oxygen. With her caregiver, we got her safely to her granddaughter’s home in Valencia. That night I saw what true community means: people helping people, neighbors protecting neighbors. Leadership in that moment wasn’t about politics or power. It was about action, compassion, and connection.

When the fire danger passed, the challenges didn’t end. Families returned to homes with no electricity, no water, and trash in the streets. Once again, neighbors turned to me.

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Larry Thompson for Congress

Larry Thompson, above, Republican candidate for California’s 32nd Congressional District, has officially announced his candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Thompson is challenging 15-term, 30-year incumbent Brad Sherman (D), offering voters a modern, forward-looking vision for California and America’s future.

“California has always been the land of dreams,” said Thompson. “But somewhere along the way, we lost that positive energy and promise. My campaign is about rekindling that vision—honoring our classic Hollywood legacy while launching bold, bipartisan solutions that no longer hold us down to the past 30 years status quo but launch us 30 years into the future.”

Thompson’s campaign will focus on uniting citizens of all political backgrounds around practical, future-driven solutions:

•Thompson unveiled an ambitious policy agenda to make the district more livable,

(continued to page 4)

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Community Calendar

- * The Encino Neighborhood Council will be holding their Public Safety meeting on Monday, October 13, at 7 pm at the Encino Community Center (4935 Balboa Blvd). For the agenda, visit encinonc.org.
- * The Sherman Oaks Encino Chamber of Commerce's Restaurant Group will hold their next in-person meeting on Monday, October 13, at 2 pm at Boneyard Bistro (13539 Ventura Blvd). The goal of the Restaurant Group is to provide marketing strategies, operational support, and to build a strong network of restaurant professionals. To RSVP, visit shermanoaksencinochamber.org.
- * Join the West Valley Regional Library for a hands-on bug experience! On Saturday, October 4, at 2 pm, kids will get up close and personal with live insects, learning fascinating facts while touching, holding, and interacting with a variety of amazing bugs.
- * The first Sunday of every month brings San Fernando Valley Audubon Society's Sepulveda Basin Bird Outing with the chance to see over 60 birds on a three-hour tour of the basin. This walk will take place on Sunday, October 5, from 8 to 11 am. For more details, including where to meet up, visit sfvaudubon.org.
- * The Sherman Oaks 33rd annual Street Fair is only weeks away! On Sunday, October 19, from 10 am to 6 pm, dozens of booths will line Ventura Blvd., from Kester to Van Nuys Blvd. It will be a day of local flavor, live music, food, art, and community.
- * Westfield Fashion Square, in partnership with the American Red Cross, will be holding a blood drive on Tuesday, October 14, from 10 am to 4 pm. To make a life-saving appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.
- * Do you have a teen needing community service hours or looking for leadership opportunities? The Encino Tarzana Library is hosting a Teen Council on Tuesday, October 7, at 5 pm. Younger teens (ages 11-13) are eligible to assist with library art and display work, as well as participate and earn hours in clubs and programs like HAM radio and geocaching. Older teens (ages 14-18) may be eligible to volunteer as program assistants, Rising STAR readers, and library collection task assistants. Visit volunteer.lapl.org for details.
- * The Reseda Neighborhood Council will hold their general board meeting on Monday, October 20, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. For the agenda, visit resedacouncil.org.calendar.
- * Valley Cultural Foundation and Councilmember Raman's office are sponsoring two upcoming concerts at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Recreation Center. These free community concerts will take place from 3 to 6 pm with Adelaide Pilar playing Latin Top 40 on Sunday, October 12 and New Romantics: A Taylor Swift Tribute taking the stage on Sunday, October 26.
- * The Encino Neighborhood Council will be holding their Planning and Land Use meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, October 14, at 7 pm. For the agenda and Zoom link, visit encinonc.org.
- * Tarzana Community and Cultural Center will be hosting a Faery Hunt and Halloween party on Sunday, October 12, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. A Faery Hunt is a delightful outdoor children's theater musical experience for toddlers through elementary school ages. Tickets available at afaeryhunt.com/product/kids-activities-near-me.
- * Tapia Bros pumpkin patch (5251 Hayvenhurst Ave.) is officially open for the season! Grab the family to find the perfect pumpkin, explore their corn maze, enjoy the petting zoo, ride the train and pick out fresh produce to take home. The patch is open Monday through Thursday, from 9 am to 6 pm and Friday through Sunday, from 9 am to 7 pm. Pony rides, petting zoo and the train ride are only open Saturdays and Sundays. The corn maze is closed on Mondays.

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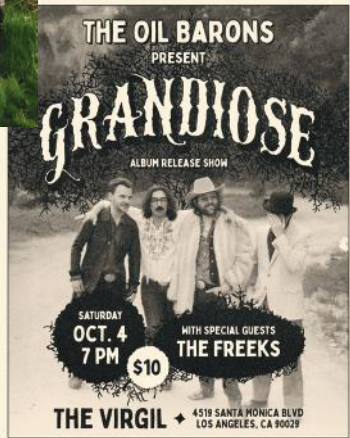
San Fernando Valley rock outfit **The Oil Barons** recently released a new album, "Grandiose," on September 26.

Ahead of the full-length album, they also released a new single and video, "Wizard."

"Wizard" follows the release of the single and video for "Gloria," which showcased the band's melodic, sentimental side. With its towering riffs and heavier edge, "Wizard" leans

hard into the band's stoner rock roots, embracing doom-tuned guitars and layers of distortion that raise the stakes for the forthcoming record.

The Oil Barons are Tarzana and Sherman Oaks residents Lou Aquiler (guitar),



Andrew Huber (bass, lead vocals), Jake Hart (drums), and Matt Harting (organ, acoustic

guitar) - a reprobate quartet forging their own volatile brand of 100-proof rock and roll laced with cosmic Americana, doom, and heavy psych.

The album "Grandiose" is fueled by love of amp worship and improvisation, pushing The Oil Barons into uncharted territory.

"We wanted to really lean into all the juicy, natural frequencies you can wring out of hot tubes," says Aquiler, "and introduced longer, less structured jams and instrumental breaks in major keys—something we just haven't really heard in this genre before. It created an entirely new flavor of heavy and psychedelic that felt untapped and ours for the plundering."

The band will play at The Virgil in Los Angeles on October 4.

Crime is down in record numbers, according to Bass, though she did say if you have been burglarized or your neighbor has been that that is hard to believe, and that she has made hiring more police a priority.

As to the homeless she said that a system is not in place to manage homelessness. "It's easy to get them off the street, but some people don't know they are sick, and some people should be hospitalized without their choice. Just putting someone in housing doesn't solve the problem."

PHOTO: ScottBogunia/StormLabs.



Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass (above) spoke at the

annual Mayors Lunch sponsored by the United Chambers of Commerce this past week.

She addressed the recovery from the recent wildfires, saying it was "on record for the fastest recovery" from a disaster ever in California.

She also stated that the city remained unified despite the ongoing ICE raids.

Bass said that "Shine LA" continues to clean up the city, but more importantly, "It's about bringing our city together" and blamed policies from years ago for the sanitation and trash problems throughout Los Angeles.

COMMUNITY

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.



• Booty and butt are synonyms. Call and dial are synonyms. But, a "booty call" and a "butt dial" are very different things!

• An astute librarian pointed out the fact that tablets were replaced by scrolls, scrolls were replaced by books and now, now we scroll through books on tablets.

• 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.

• 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.

• 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...

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Blumenfield

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sustainable practices and protecting California’s natural resources.

Bob Blumenfield served in the State Assembly from 2008-2013 and was elected three times to represent the West San Fernando Valley on the LA City Council for the third district, which covers Woodland Hills, Winnetka, Tarzana, Reseda and Canoga Park.

In September 2018, Blumenfield proposed an ordinance supported by animal rights organizations and activists to ban the sale and manufacture of new fur products in Los Angeles. The ordinance was approved by the City Council and Mayor Eric Garcetti in 2019, making Los Angeles at that point the largest city in the United States to have banned fur sales. The law went into effect in 2021.

In December 2024, amid a housing shortage in Los Angeles, Blumenfield voted against a proposal to allow mid-sized mixed-income and affordable housing apartment buildings near public transit stations in some neighborhoods exclusively zoned for single-family houses. He said, “I worry about the solutions that are proposed as being a little bit too one-size-fits-all.” He opposed the construction of 220 affordable housing units in Reseda, arguing “large scale apartments should not be wedged in-between single family homes by right.”

Before serving in public office, he worked for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and was a longtime staffer to Congressman Howard Berman. For decades he also served on many non-profit boards including the Anti-Defamation League and the LA League of Conservation Voters.

Asked why he was running for the State Senate, Blumenfield said, “I think bringing a local approach to Sacramento will be invaluable as we continue to address affordability, homelessness and so many other critical issues.”

Sautter

(continued from page 1)

I called the Mayor’s office, our City Council office, CAL FIRE, and state representatives until basic services were restored. I had no budget or staff, only the determination to listen and act.

That is the kind of leadership I want to bring to Congress.

I’ve seen what’s possible when a community comes together. I’ve been invited into people’s homes after burglaries, hearing their fears face to face. I’ve walked the streets along Ballina Canyon Drive, where rust-colored water pours down one side of the road and trucks race through stop signs at the other, turning a quiet street into a dangerous thoroughfare. These are not abstract issues. They are the daily realities of my neighbors, and they are the problems I’ve fought to address.

We’ve also created moments of joy. We’ve held block parties and movie nights where hundreds of families gathered under the stars. At one event, a mother told me it was the first time in weeks she felt safe being out with her children. That’s the power of connection. That’s the spirit we need in Washington.

Our country faces real threats. Donald Trump and his enablers in Congress continue to divide us, weaken our institutions, and offer nothing but blame and chaos. They love to divide us, but the American people don’t like what they see. They know this do-nothing Congress has failed to deliver on the basics: jobs, affordability, and safety. Families in the Valley feel it every day when the rent is due, when groceries cost too much, and when their kids struggle to find work.

Meanwhile, our current Congressman, Brad Sherman, has been in office for 30 years. Serving in Congress is an honorable act, and I respect his service. But three decades in Washington have not translated into the leadership we need now. It is time for the aging Democratic Party establishment, embodied by people like Congressman Sherman, to step aside and give way to a new generation of leaders. Leaders who listen closely, act decisively, and put our communities first.

We need to make sure this is a place where people can get jobs. Parents want their kids to be able to build careers and stay in the communities where they grew up. What has Congress done to make that possible? What has it done to make it easier for a family to afford a mortgage, groceries, or childcare? The cost of living is crushing families here in the Valley. I hear it every day, and I am fighting for solutions.

I’m not running to be the candidate of Washington insiders. I’m running to be your candidate. My campaign is about us, our families, our neighborhoods, and our shared future. I believe deeply in the Jewish principle of tikkun olam, repairing the world,

and that is the spirit I will carry with me to Congress.

My vision is simple: stronger communities where kids ride bikes, families gather for Little League, neighbors share block parties, and people feel safe on their own streets. Communities where working families can afford to live, and where good jobs are not the exception but the rule. That’s the life we deserve. That’s the promise of America we must restore.

I’m grateful to the Encino Enterprise for giving me the opportunity to write op-eds here over the past two years. Through these columns, I’ve found my voice in local politics. And I plan to continue writing as I find my voice in national politics. I want to lead from the ground up because change begins closest to the people.

This will be a tough race. But when the message is right and the wind is at our back, candidates like me can and do win. I am the outsider candidate in this race, and I believe we can build a movement that brings real change to Washington.

This campaign is for us...For a change. Because if it’s not about us, then what are we doing?

Thompson

(continued from page 1)

affordable, and safe.

•PreservingHollywood’s Legacy – Supporting cultural and historical initiatives that honor our entertainment capital of the world while inspiring the next generation of dreamers and creators.

• Stars for America – Establishing a nonprofit organization that invites celebrities and influencers across the political spectrum to serve as ambassadors, freely supporting candidates and causes without fear of retaliation and connecting them directly with the Washington elect, ensuring Hollywood’s role as a beacon of free expression.

• Embracing Financial Freedom – Actively promoting Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies as engines of economic opportunity.

• Next-Generation Transportation – Advocating for an above-the-ground rail transit system connecting the San Fernando Valley and West Los Angeles along the Sepulveda Corridor.

• Welcoming the LA28 Olympics

• Ending One-Party Rule – “One-party dominance, no matter which party, ultimately leads to stagnation and corruption,” stated Thompson.

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