

# Claremont Post

YOUR GUIDE TO CLAREMONT LIFE & EVENTS



4TH OF JULY  
IN CLAREMONT!

MEET YOUR  
GRAND MARSHALL

WHAT TO DO WITH  
KIDS THIS SUMMER

SUMMER CONCERTS  
IN THE PARK



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# Celebrating the 4th of July in Claremont



When my family moved to Claremont in 2001, we were still learning the streets, the schools, and the rhythm of our new hometown. But it only took one Fourth of July celebration for us to understand something special about this community.

That first year, I arrived with three children in tow – a teenager, a five-year-old, and a baby – expecting a pleasant small-town holiday event. What I found instead felt almost impossible. Every American town hopes to create the kind of hometown Fourth of July people dream about, but somehow Claremont had actually done it.

From the moment we stepped into Memorial Park, the city felt alive. Community groups filled the booths, sharing ways to get involved, while food stands sold the perfect summer holiday treats. Everywhere I looked, neighbors were talking, laughing, and reconnecting. I wandered into the speakers bureau section and was amazed to see so many people genuinely listening and participating. Earlier that morning, many residents had already taken part in the city's 5K race and pancake breakfast. This wasn't just an event – it was a tradition that belonged to the entire community.

Then came the parade.

Before the official entries even began, there were nearly twenty minutes devoted entirely to children riding decorated bikes and scooters down the route. Some parents pulled wagons draped in red, white, and blue. Streamers fluttered from handlebars as children waved proudly at cheering crowds. I had never seen anything so charming in my life.

The parade stretched on for more than an hour, but no one seemed rushed. People settled into the day together.

That evening, families gathered at the Pomona College football field with blankets, picnic dinners, card games, and coolers. A live band played while children ran through the grass and adults danced beside folding chairs. We stayed for hours before darkness finally settled over the crowd and fireworks lit up the sky.

What struck me most that first year was how naturally people celebrated together. Community members seemed to truly know one another. There was a warmth to the day that could not be manufactured.

In the years that followed, the Fourth of July became our family's favorite day in Claremont. I volunteered at booths and participated in the parade for causes that were important to me. My children rode bikes in the parade and later marched with theater groups, Cub Scouts, and community organizations. Every year followed the same beloved rhythm: a quick dash home for macaroni and cheese and sub sandwiches prepared in advance, then piling blankets and coolers into the car before heading back to the football field, where we always ended up finding friends who had become family.

Nothing feels quite like the Fourth of July in Claremont.

It is more than a celebration. It is a reminder of what community can look like when people truly show up for one another.

It is magic.



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# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY



## FESTIVAL AND PARADE

📍 MEMORIAL PARK

## CONCERT AND FIREWORK SHOW

📍 POMONA COLLEGE STREHLE TRACK

|                        |                                             |                                                                                                                |                                                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7AM-10AM               | KIWANIS CLUB<br>PANCAKE BREAKFAST           | 6:30 PM                                                                                                        | GATES OPEN<br>TICKETS: \$15 PRESALE AND<br>AT GATE IF AVAILABLE |
| 7:15 AM                | SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB<br>1K KIDS FUN RUN      | 6:30 PM –<br>9:00 PM                                                                                           | KIWANIS CLUB BBQ                                                |
| 8:00 AM                | SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB<br>CLAREMONT FREEDOM 5K | 6:45 PM –<br>8:45 PM                                                                                           | POP VINYL<br>LIVE CONCERT (POP/DANCE BAND)                      |
| 10:00 AM               | FLAG RAISING CEREMONY                       | 9:00 PM                                                                                                        | FIREWORKS SHOW<br>BY PYROPESTACULARS                            |
| 10AM-1PM               | FESTIVAL                                    | FIREWORKS TICKETS GO ON SALE<br>JUNE 1 <sup>ST</sup> ONLINE AND AT THE<br>ALEXANDER HUGHES<br>COMMUNITY CENTER |                                                                 |
| 10:15 AM –<br>11:30 AM | T. WILLARD HUNTER<br>SPEAKERS CORNER        |                                                                                                                |                                                                 |
| 12:00 PM               | HONOREE RECOGNITION                         |                                                                                                                |                                                                 |
| 1:00 PM                | PARADE                                      | THANK YOU!<br>TO OUR CONCERT SPONSOR<br>THE<br>CLAREMONT<br>COLLEGES                                           |                                                                 |

\*Parade begins at Memorial Park, travels south on Indian Hill Blvd, west on Harrison, and concludes at Larkin Park.





Presented by  
The City of Claremont and  
Kiwanis Club of Claremont



# MONDAY NIGHT CONCERTS

2026

**MEMORIAL PARK, 840 N. Indian Hill Blvd.**

All Shows are *FREE* and begin at 7:00 PM

JULY  
6

**COLD DUCK**  
70's top 40

AUG  
3

**UPSTREAM**  
Reggae

JULY  
13

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**  
Country

AUG  
10

**ACOUSTICAL MYSTERY  
TOUR**  
Acoustical Beatles Tribute

JULY  
20

**80'Z ALL-STARS**  
80's

AUG  
17

**THE C BAND**  
Latin Party Band

JULY  
27

**HISTORY OF POP**  
Pop Hits from 60s to today

AUG  
24

**THE ANSWER**  
Classic Rock

*Come early to stake out a spot on the lawn!  
Don't forget to bring a blanket and/or low lawn chair.*

## SUPPORT CONCERTS THROUGH CONCESSIONS

The **KIWANIS CLUB** will be offering a variety of concessions each night starting at 6:30 PM.  
All proceeds go directly to benefit the concert series. Menu items include **HOTDOGS**,  
**HAMBURGERS**, and other **SNACK BAR FAVORITES!**

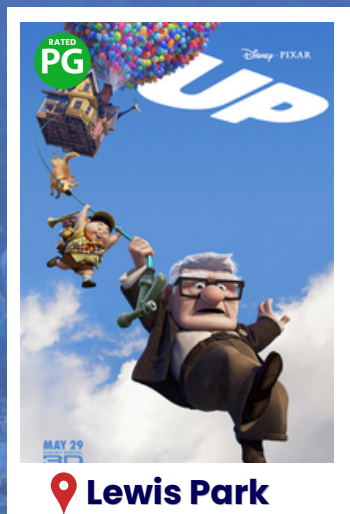
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**Presented by**  
The City of Claremont

Shows Begin at **DUSK!** • All Movies are **FREE!**  
Preshow activities for kids at 7:30 PM!  
Bring **Blankets and Refreshments!**



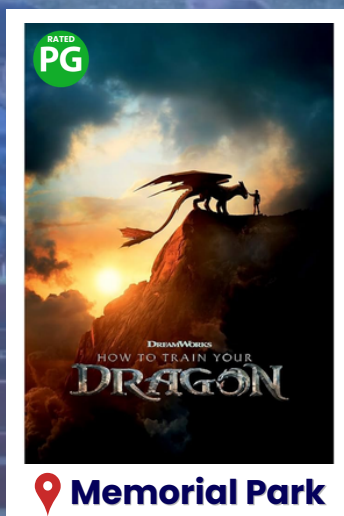
**WEDNESDAY**  
**JULY 8**



**THURSDAY**  
**JULY 16**



**WEDNESDAY**  
**JULY 22**



**THURSDAY**  
**JULY 30**



Claremont Police Department's

**2026 NATIONAL  
NIGHT OUT**

**TUESDAY  
AUGUST 4**

**JOAT PARK**

(formerly Cahuilla Park)

**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

CPD Vehicles ★ Booths ★ Displays  
Games ★ Prize for Kids

**ZOOTOPIA 2**  
WILL BEGIN AT DUSK!



# SUPPORT CLAREMONT

## BUY IN CLAREMONT

**The SPOT Café**

**15% OFF YOUR ORDER.**

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Barcode: 15% OFF YOUR ORDER

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Unlimited classes for \$99 the first month

2 semi-private personal training sessions \$10 off

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# Monthly Must-Do Events

## Moms Morning at The Spot Café – Third Thursdays

- Every third Thursday of the month, The Spot Café hosts a cozy morning just for moms and their little ones. Enjoy meaningful conversations with local moms while kiddos take part in a free craft and sip on complimentary hot cocoa or smoothies. It's a relaxed, welcoming space to connect, unwind, and build community.
- Every 3rd Thursday, 10 AM–12 PM.



## Claremont Village Art Walk – First Saturdays

- Every first Saturday, the Claremont Village Art Walk features local galleries, amazing artists, light bites, and refreshments from area eateries. A beloved monthly tradition that's great for all ages.
- 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM | FREE Claremont Village (Various Sites)



## The Psychedelic Furs & We Are Scientists – Live at Bridges Auditorium

- For more than 93 years, the Mabel Shaw Bridges Auditorium at Pomona College in Claremont has welcomed audiences to its stunning 2,400-seat venue – a stage that has hosted some of the most celebrated performers of their time. The Psychedelic Furs – post-punk legends known for hits like "Love My Way," "The Ghost in You," and "Pretty in Pink" – headline the night, with New York indie-rock band We Are Scientists as support.
- June 6, 2026 | 8:00 PM | Bridges Auditorium, 450 N. College Way



## Claremont Village Craft Beer Walk

- Claremont Village – Multiple Sites This annual sold-out event draws more than 1,500 guests who sample craft beer from local breweries, enjoy small bites from top local restaurants, and dance to live music at several outdoor sites. Guests receive a wristband and 12 beer tasting/food tickets usable at any of the beer stops, checking in at either the Claremont Depot or Shelton Park. Claremont Village Marketing Group
- June 13, 2026 | 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM | \$55 for General Admission | \$25 for food only



## Claremont Farmers & Artisans Market – Every Sunday

- Every Sunday from 8 AM to 1 PM, the Claremont Village fills with fresh produce, handmade goods, flowers, and friendly faces – a place to shop local, connect with neighbors, and support small farms and businesses. Discover Claremont
- Every Sunday | 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- FREE at Claremont Village







# Kiwanis®

COMMUNITY IMPACT · 2026 ANNUAL GRANTS

## Investing in *Claremont*

**\$30,000 Awarded to Local Nonprofits**

The Kiwanis Club of Claremont is proud to announce its 2026 community grant awards, supporting the organizations that make Claremont a remarkable place to live, learn, and thrive.

This year, \$30,000 has been distributed to eighteen dedicated local nonprofits serving our neighbors across every corner of the community.

### 2026 GRANT RECIPIENTS

*Congratulations to each of the following organizations for their commitment to serving the Claremont community.*

**Ability First**

**Claremont Meals on Wheels**

**Claremont Police Foundation**

**The Endless Foundation**

**Newcomers Access Center**

**Keystone Network**

**Aging Next**

**The Claremont Chorale**

**Service Center for  
Independent Life**

**Foothill Philharmonic  
Committee**

**Claremont Community School  
of Music**

**CLASP**

**Anthesis Services**

**Project Sister Family Services**

**Claremont Lewis  
Museum of Art**

**Bithiah's Family Services**

**Crossroads, Inc.**

**Sustainable Claremont**

*The Kiwanis Club of Claremont thanks our community for your continued support and extends its heartfelt congratulations to every grant recipient.*

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# Would you be open to let us tell your story?

**BEHIND EVERY BUSINESS,  
NONPROFIT, AND ORGANIZATION IS  
A STORY THAT MATTERS.**

At MTStein Media, we exist to shine a light on the people, places, and purpose that make Pomona and Claremont such amazing communities.

**We don't just promote businesses.  
We celebrate our community.**

Through our magazines, digital platforms, and community campaigns,  
**we connect locals with the businesses and organizations they trust—  
and help your story reach the people who matter most.**



#### **PRINT & PUBLISHING**

High-quality magazines, special sections, and custom publications that get noticed and kept.



#### **SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL CONTENT**

Engaging content and community-focused social platforms that build connection and drive visibility.



#### **COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS**

Purpose-driven marketing that brings attention to what's happening locally.



#### **EVENT PROMOTION**

From local events to grand openings, we help you fill the seats and spread the word.



#### **PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN**

Eye-catching visuals and creative design that bring your brand and story to life.



#### **RELATIONSHIPS THAT MAKE AN IMPACT**

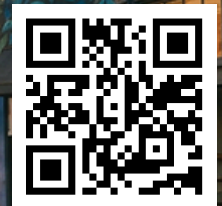
We're a local team that cares about our communities and the people in them.

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**Whether you're launching something new, growing your  
business, supporting a cause, or making a difference—  
WE WOULD LOVE TO HELP TELL YOUR STORY.**



**CLAREMONT & POMONA**  
*Our Communities, Our Story.*

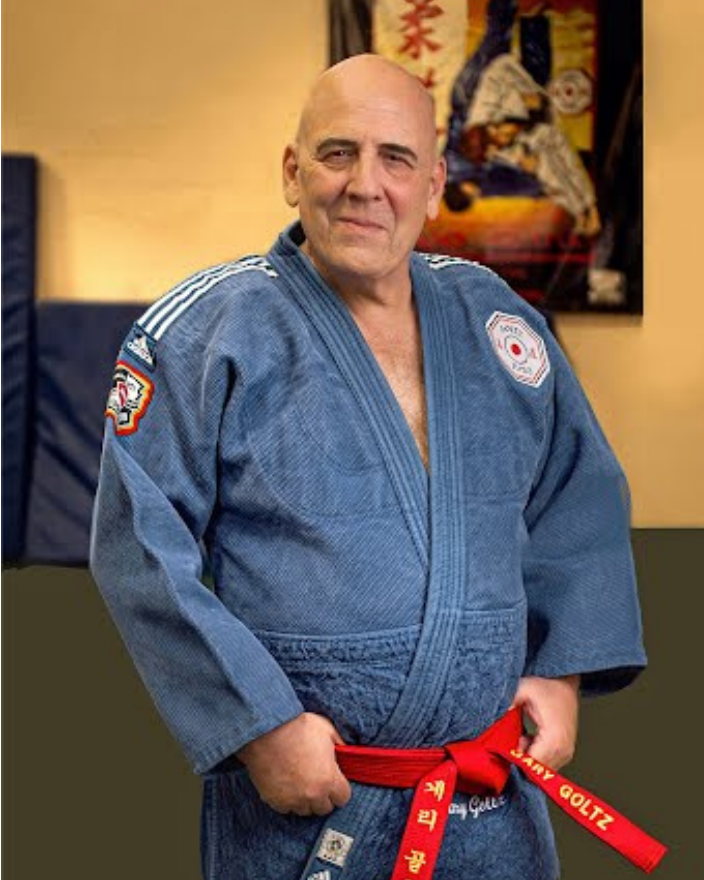


Let's connect and create  
something meaningful together.

**MTSTEINMEDIA.COM**



# The Long Road from Judo to Claremont Legacy



Before I had even met Gary Goltz, the Claremont 4th of July Parade Grand Marshall, I knew he was a natural talker and people pleaser. He was talking to one person when I parked the car in front of Pizza n Such, chatting with someone else before the crosswalk turned green, and was engaged with a third person when I introduced myself. We sat down outside The Village Grille to chat and have breakfast on a beautiful Spring morning.

Gary's Judo story begins in the mid-1960s in Squirrel Hill, a predominately Jewish suburb of Pittsburgh. He was a shy, non-athletic ten-year-old boy when he first watched Bruce Lee as Kato in *The Green Hornet* and became fascinated by martial arts. He followed a friend into a judo class at the local YMHA in Pittsburgh, expecting to find an ordinary instructor. Instead, he encountered Mr. Kim, a former Korean judo champion, whose charisma and presence immediately left an impression.

"I instinctively knew something was special," Gary recalled. "It felt like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

That instinct would shape the course of his life.

Judo became more than a sport. It gave him discipline, identity, and what he calls "stick-to-itiveness." Unlike traditional school sports where he often felt overlooked, none of the kids were too familiar with judo so Gary felt on equal footing. Over time, the lessons extended far beyond the mat.

One early turning point came as a teenager when Gary defended himself against a gang that was robbing local paper boys on payday. When two of the gang members approached him and demanded the money, Gary refused. "One guy threw a punch at me and I blocked it and gave him a front kick." Gary used a variety of Judo moves on another guy until they both ran back to the car and took off. The story made the local newspaper and instantly transformed his reputation at school. Looking back, he sees it as one of many moments where preparation met opportunity.

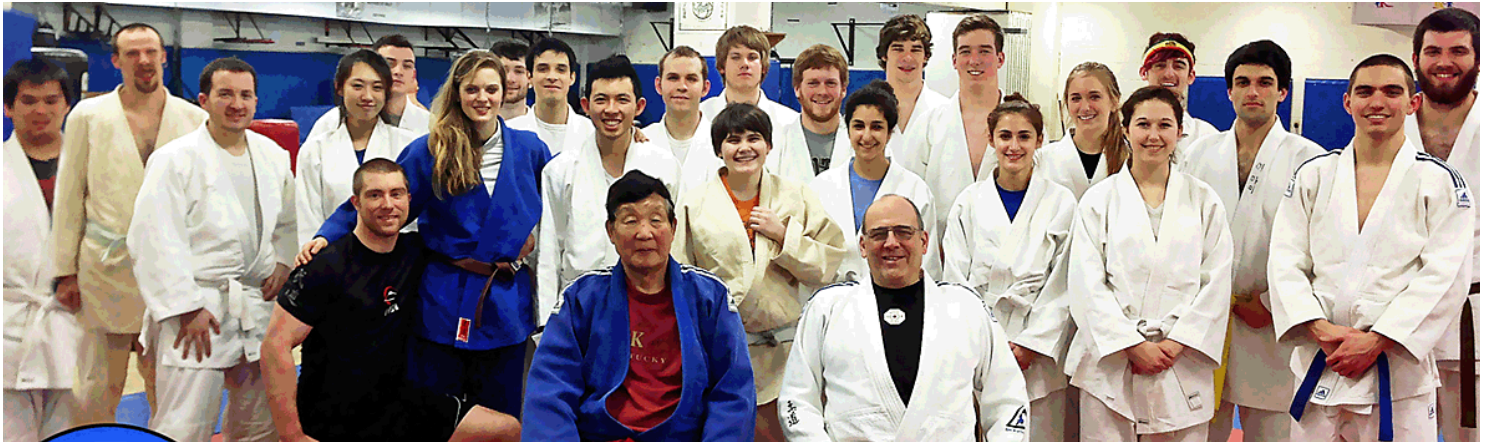
"Luck," he says, "is recognizing opportunity and taking advantage of it."

That philosophy followed him into business. After college, Gary entered the home medical equipment industry and quickly rose through the ranks. By his early thirties, he was managing multimillion-dollar operations, eventually helping grow a Chicago branch from five million to fifteen million dollars in revenue within a few years.

Despite his professional success, something felt missing.

While enrolled in Pepperdine University's prestigious President and Key Executive program during the late 1980s, a professor challenged Gary to identify what was absent from his life. The answer surprised him: judo.





He returned to the sport almost immediately, eventually teaching Judo in various locations around Claremont, including the old firestation on the corner of Indian Hill and Baseline.

What began as a personal reconnection soon evolved into a decades-long commitment to teaching. Gary eventually established one of the region's most recognized judo programs through Claremont Human Services, teaching generations of local children and families.

For Gary, judo has always represented more than martial arts. He frequently references the two central principles of judo established by founder Jigoro Kano: maximum efficiency with minimum effort, and mutual welfare and benefit.

"It's really about win-win," Gary explains. "You give to get, and get to give." That philosophy became deeply woven into his teaching, relationships, and community work.

Outside the dojo, Gary developed another passion: restoring a 1955 Buick Highway Patrol car inspired by the television show Highway Patrol. What began as a nostalgic hobby evolved into national media attention, documentaries, friendships with Hollywood figures, and appearances in publications ranging from the Los Angeles Times to the Wall Street Journal.

Yet through all the achievements, Gary remains grounded in relationships and community. He speaks warmly about Claremont, describing it as reminiscent of the educated, close-knit Pittsburgh neighborhood where he grew up.

"I feel at home here," he says simply.

It was obvious that Gary sincerely appreciated being recognized for his contributions to the community and being provided a chance to share some of his life lessons. You can learn more about Gary by looking up Goltz Judo or finding him around town and striking up a conversation.



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