

# BURBANK LEADER

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## Politics

### **Women in business lauded**

State Sen. Jack Scott and Assemblymen Paul Krekorian and Anthony Portantino will honor nine Glendale women next month as part of the eighth annual "Women in Business Awards."

The women will be recognized among 25 businesswomen and civic leaders for their contributions to the economic strength of Southern California.

Glendale's honorees are: Demetria Graves, a family law attorney; Margarit Mardirosian, a personal injury attorney; Candace Metzger and Mindy Allen, artists and part-owners of Gallery Ophelia, a fine arts company; Juanita Wells, a women's health coordinator at Kaiser Permanente; Denise Miller, an outpatient coordinator for occupational therapy at Glendale Adventist Hospital; Rubina Matevosian, a station personality on Jaam-E-Jam Persian television; Margy Feldman, president and chief executive officer for the Jewish Big Brothers Big Sister, Camp Max Strauss; and Debbie Kukta, chief executive officer for Trojan Rivet Corp.

The event will be held Sept. 28 at The Castaway restaurant in Burbank. For more information, call Wendy Gordon at (626) 808-7783.

Seven weeks past the constitutional deadline, a state budget is still nowhere in sight. But an opportunity for compromise is on the horizon. State assemblymen and senators reconvene Monday after a brief recess, and state-funded agencies throughout California will be watching closely to see if they pass a budget, which should have been done by June 30.

Reports of child care services, health care providers and educational agencies finding it difficult to carry on operations have been surfacing throughout the state, including in Glendale. The California Department of Housing and Community Development awarded \$2.6 million for housing projects to Assemblyman Anthony Portantino's 44th Assembly District, which includes a portion of Montrose, Portantino announced Monday.

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services and the city of Los Angeles were each given \$1 million, and the San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, which has projects in Glendale, was awarded \$600,000.

The funds are part of the CallHome Program, which promotes homeownership for first-time buyers through the acquisition of new or resale homes.