March 5 election.

Three seats on the West Hollywood City Council will be decided in the

City Council candidates
discuss eastside issues

BY LUKE HAROLD

Homelessness, public safety and policing West Hollywood’s east side were the focus of last week’s candidate forum, with elections to fill three City Council seats less than a month away.

Eight of the 11 candidates who will appear on the ballot gathered at the Gateway, near the intersection of La Brea Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard, for the event, organized by the Eastside Neighborhood Watch Group and moderated by WeHoville.com’s Henry Scott.

WeHo mayor faces more allegations

BY LUKE HAROLD

John Duran, a longtime chorus leader, with a few other members.

West Hollywood Mayor John Duran faces allegations of sexual assault from Gay Men’s Chorus members that emerged publicly last week, and have led to three West Hollywood City Council members calling for Duran to step down as mayor.

Three years ago, West Hollywood paid a $500,000 settlement to a former city employee over sexual harassment claims against Duran. The newly released allegations have renewed concerns about the attention he’s drawing to the city.

Not all the recent revelations about sexual harassment accusations within the chorus involve Duran. Fiberon said his complaints within the organization about Duran and another member who allegedly sexually harassed him in a physical manner were ignored. Asked about Fiberon’s account of that 2015 per-

Irmas Pavilion starts new era

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Wilshire Boulevard Temple’s domed sanctuary, a landmark on Wilshire Boulevard since 1928, will soon be joined by a new eye-catching structure, the Audrey Irmas Pavilion.

Construction is underway on the new pavilion at Wilshire Boulevard and Harvard Street which will serve as an event space and banquet hall, and a place for special programs. The three-story building will have an arched interior on its first and second floors, and a rooftop ter-

L.A. City Council approves law requiring contractors to disclose ties with NRA

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council approved an ordinance on Feb. 12 requiring new contractors seeking to conduct business with the city to disclose any ties they have with the National Rifle Association.

The ordinance was spearheaded by Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, who said the new law will “daylight” the NRA’s influence on private companies and organizations.

O’Farrell’s motion cited a Center for Responsive Politics report stating, “The NRA’s spending on political activities from 1998-2017 aggregated to over $200 million.” The law was approved two days before the 1-year anniversary of a mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, in which 17 people died.

“There are still many questions in how this is going to work,” said O’Farrell. “We must continue to keep in mind that the NRA spends millions of dollars at every level of government to block any type of gun safety legislation,” O’Farrell said. “Our residents deserve transparency related to any ties the NRA may have to the city of Los Angeles.”

O’Farrell joined anti-gun violence advocates at a rally outside City Hall on Tuesday, prior to the council
Seniors dance
Seniors ages 55 and older are invited to dance the afternoon away at West Hollywood's 23rd annual Valentine's Day Dessert and Tea Dance on Thursday, Feb. 14, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Plummer Park's Fiesta Hall. Admission is $3 per person with a two-ticket maximum. Priority will be given to West Hollywood residents. 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. (323)848-6209, or email recreation@weho.org.

Indie films
Indie film fans won't want to miss screenings of “The Mastero” and “Dunmbrook” running from Friday, Feb. 15, through Thursday, Feb. 21, at Arma Cinelounge. “The Mastero” follows the life of film composer Jerry Herst, who moves to Hollywood during World War II to study with master teacher Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. “Dunmbrook” is a drama in which two men prepare to compete in a legendary bare-knuckle fight with the winner getting $100,000. Admission is $15. Showtimes vary; see schedule. 6464 Sunset Blvd. (323)924-1644, armanominated.com.

The Groundlings open house
Learn about The Groundlings improvisation and sketch comedy theater group at an open house on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at The Groundlings School. The open house offers potential new students learn about school and enjoy fun, food and the community. Attendees are invited to take up to three $10 improv classes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and join “Success” festivities in the school parking lot. Improve classes will begin at 10 and 11 a.m., and noon, on topics such as finding and deepening characters, special effects, writing a sketch, queue-prov and more. 7280 Melrose Ave. (323)934-4747, groundlings.com.

‘The Vagina Monologues’
In commemoration of the 21st Anniversary of V-Day, The West Hollywood Council Chambers. More than two decades ago, Eve Ensler’s play gave birth to V-Day, a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. “The Vagina Monologues” is performed during February to raise awareness and funds for the production tells the story of a woman who is float- ing in life. His marriage is over, his job is mundane and the best years of his life appear to be behind him. A move from the cot in his ex-wife’s garage to his own apartment opens up new possibilities for love, sex and maybe a taste of redemption. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 6:30 p.m., Sunday. Tickets start at $30. (213)628-2777, centertainmentgroup.org.

Donnybrook
Donnybrook is a drama in which two men prepare to compete in a legendary bare-knuckle fight with the winner getting $100,000. Admission is $15; proceeds benefit The Groundlings School. The open house offers potential new students learn about school and enjoy fun, food and the community. Attendees are invited to take up to three $10 improv classes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and join “Success” festivities in the school parking lot. Improve classes will begin at 10 and 11 a.m., and noon, on topics such as finding and deepening characters, special effects, writing a sketch, queue-prov and more. 7280 Melrose Ave. (323)934-4747, groundlings.com.

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Malcolm Le Grice
Los Angeles Filmforum presents “Malcolm Le Grice, Here and Now;” on Sunday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood. The ephemeral existence of reality has played an ongoing role in Le Grice’s body of work and he has used ever-changing technologies and strategies to explore subjectivity, the mediation of experience and the complex fragility of recording. The program at Los Angeles Filmforum will span Le Grice’s career, from his first film “China Town” (1965) to the world premiere new edit of his piece “FINITI” (2010). Admission is $10. 6712 Hollywood Blvd. (323)377-7258, logeboxoffice.com.

Petersen Museum cruise-in
The Petersen Automotive Museum invites auto enthusiasts to the “Rosso-25 Years of PCA/SW Cruise-in” on Sunday, Feb. 17, from 8 to 11 a.m. The museum celebrates 25 years of PCA/SW with the sixth annual Ferrari cruise-in. Cars will be displayed on the third floor of the museum’s parking structure. 6060 Wilshire Blvd. (323)964-6331, petersen.org.

Sundays Live at LACMA
Classical music fans won’t want to miss a performance by the Los Angeles Virtuosi Orchestra on Sunday, Feb. 10, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Director Carlo Ponti will lead the orchestra in a performance of Mozart’s Violin Concerto No. 1 in B-flat major, K. 207 (Roberto Cani, soloist), and Bartók’s Divertimento for Strings. The concert is part of LACMA’s Sundays Live series. 5905 Wilshire Blvd. (323)857-6010, lacma.org.

CALENDAR
In preparation for next year’s reconfiguration, Beverly Hills students are making 360-degree video tours for their peers who are changing schools, as the school board, advisory committees and district administration prepare to open two K-5 schools and a middle school.

As part of the move away from the district’s longtime four K-8 school model, K-5 students in El Rodeo School will be moving to Hawthorne School, Beverly Vista K-5 students will move to Horace Mann School and El Rodeo will close for two years of construction. All 6-8 grade students will move to Beverly Vista, which might undergo a name change, pending the input of a Brand Identity Transition Advisory Committee comprising parents from each school.

A steering committee of school board members Rachelle Marcus, Mel Spitz and Superintendent Michael Bregy are also helping to guide the transition.

The long-term future of the K-5, 6-8 configuration will be evaluated when El Rodeo is close to reopening. It could become a third K-5 school, or part of another configuration the board wants to consider.

Declining enrollment and statewide changes to funding for public schools have contributed to the cuts in programming in recent years. District administration also cites declining enrollment and a resulting overstaffing of teachers as one of the main factors limiting academic offerings, particularly in the middle school grade levels. The new configuration is designed to address those issues.

“All conversations begin and end with what’s best for kids,” Kevin Allen, who will be the new middle school’s principal, said in a statement.

L.A. controller calls on city to untangle web of special funds

L.A. Controller Ron Galperin released a report calling on the city to reform the way it handles more than 700 special funds that hold $4 billion.

Special funds are used for particular projects or purposes, like creating parks, building bridges and constructing affordable housing. The balances of these funds make up roughly half of the city’s treasury, yet nearly 600 special funds are not included in the yearly budget.

Galperin points out that the city currently lacks standard rules on how to create or use special funds, resulting in tens of millions of dollars sitting unused that could pay for vital city services. For example, in fiscal year 2018, the city spent just 1.4 percent (or $254,000) of an $18.2 million special fund dedicated to improving parks and recreation centers.

Another fund for the city’s bicycle plan saw just 3.3 percent of its $1.7 million balance spent that year; and there were zero expenditures from one $1.7 million fund to improve public safety.

“We need to untangle the web of special funds to determine how billions in taxpayer dollars can be better used to achieve the city’s priorities, like building more parks and investing in affordable housing,” Controller Galperin said.

“This is an opportunity to be more transparent with our finances and allocate unspent money to meet neighborhood needs. The city has taken steps in this direction based on recommendations I’ve made in recent years, but we need a more comprehensive approach to address the magnitude of the issue.”

Read the special funds report and check out the webpage at lacontroller.org/specialfunds.

Beverly Vista could see name change as part of reconfiguration

Mira Loma Women’s Jail Plan rejected by county supervisors

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors approved a motion, read in by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, canceling county plans for a proposed women’s jail at Mira Loma.

In January, when the motion to move Mira Loma forward came to the board, it was postponed for deeper consideration. At the time the Board postponed the vote, Supervisor Kuehl said that the Mira Loma location posed “insurmountable obstacles to our goal of creating a women’s jail that is the centerpiece of a gender-responsive corrections system.” The proposed facility, located in the Antelope Valley, would have required visiting families to travel three hours one way on public transportation.

Most of the women in L.A. County custody are mothers and the value of visitation and maintaining family ties for incarcerated women as well as their children is widely recognized. The action is a final rejection of Mira Loma.

In a related action, the Board of Supervisors also voted to hire expert consultants on gender-responsive programming for Century Regional Detention Facility, the current women’s jail; and to help design, develop and program a new women’s jail to replace the now-canceled Mira Loma facility.

Historically, jails were designed to house men who were the only population assumed to be filling them. Today, however, women are becoming the fastest growing population in American jails, their numbers increasing more than 14-fold between 1970 and 2014. Additionally, women’s life experiences and needs are significantly different than men, and L.A. County hopes to design a more gender-responsive justice system for the approximately 2,000 women currently in its custody.

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Defendant receives two life terms for 2017 murders

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 27-year-old man was sentenced to two consecutive life terms in prison without the possibility of parole on Feb. 8 for the January 2017 murders of a gas station clerk in the Los Feliz District and an employee at a medical marijuana dispensary in Mar Vista.

Kayshon Moody has been in custody since Jan. 20, 2017, after detectives arrested him outside his residence in West Los Angeles. Authorities used DNA evidence to link Moody to the murders, as well as two separate robberies in West Los Angeles and Glendale.

Moody’s crime spree started during the early morning hours of Jan. 17, 2017, when he robbed a fast food restaurant in West Los Angeles. He fled, and at approximately 3:35 a.m. entered a Chevron gas station at the corner of Los Feliz Boulevard and Vermont Avenue. Police received a call from a clerk, Mohammed Rahman, during a second robbery. Moody then robbed a small grocery store in Glendale later the same day.

The crime spree continued on Jan. 18, 2017, when Moody shot and killed Orvik Oganesyan during a robbery at a medical marijuana dispensary in the 12400 block of Venice Boulevard in Mar Vista.

Det. Sid Rodriguez, of the Los Angeles Police Department’s Northeast Division, said forensic evidence and security camera footage led them to Moody and an accomplice, James Eastland, who was only implicated in the Glendale and Mar Vista crimes. Eastland became a witness for the prosecution after he arranged a plea agreement with prosecutors that resulted in a 40-year to life sentence. Moody fired the shots in both murders.

Rodriguez said one of the suspects dropped a baseball cap at the robbery in Glendale. Testing found DNA belonging to both Moody and Eastland on the cap.

The crimes occurred in neighborhoods where Moody either currently or formerly lived. The motives in each crime were robbery.
Los Angeles County poised to provide additional community-based services for youth diversion

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a historic public-private partnership between the Los Angeles County Probation Department and two of the county’s leading grant-makers—the Liberty Hill Foundation and the California Community Foundation.

This landmark collaboration will dramatically increase services and opportunities delivered by local community-based organizations to youth currently in the probation system and to at-risk youth so they enter the system earlier.

The Probation Department will allocate $3.2 million from the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds to the respective foundations who will in turn set up a grant process for grassroots and emerging community-based organizations. This will allow for faster distribution of the funds and an opportunity for smaller organizations to access these funds that may not normally have had the infrastructure to compete for county contracts.

The grants distributed through this partnership will expand opportunities and resources for programs that keep vulnerable youth out of the justice system and help those in the system transition back into the community. These programs provide critical socio-emotional support that is proven to successfully prevent many youth from entering the juvenile justice system, while also cutting the recidivism rates of those who have.

With this new partnership, Los Angeles County will continue to be the nation’s leader for demonstrating how an effective community-based model focused on prevention and treatment not only decreases the number of youth incarcerated, but also improves chances for more young people to earn their high school diplomas, become gainfully employed, and decrease the likelihood of being incarcerated as an adult. The services made available via this collaboration will be provided within the youths’ own communities thus making it easier for the families to access.

With a shared goal to provide youth rehabilitative programs centered on healing, learning and opportunity, grantees will receive funding for their critical work advancing education, mental health, cultural and workforce programs. The grantees will also benefit from Liberty Hill’s proven track record of coalition-building, training and support to build organizational capacity for growth and success. Grantees will develop capacity-building plans, and have access to individualized coaching and cohort-based training to help them move more quickly to end dependence on fossil fuel, and that’s what [this] is all about.

The decision to phase out the plants – which represent 38 percent of the city’s current natural gas portfolio – will accelerate L.A.’s transition to 100 percent renewable energy and put the city on track to meet its carbon-neutral target of 2050, Garcetti said. To more quickly identify clean options to replace power generated by the three plants, Garcetti directed LADWP to shift focus from its previous Strategic Long Term Resource Plan to the current 100 Percent Renewable Energy Study — a $10 million, comprehensive analysis launched in 2017 with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to determine a feasible path to clean energy.

LADWP will also allocate financial resources to explore innovative alternatives including public-private partnerships, new and upgraded transmission and distribution systems, microgrid technologies, and enhanced energy storage projects.
L.A. City Council approves ban on sale of fur products

The Los Angeles City Council approved an ordinance on Feb. 12 to ban the sale and manufacture of new fur products.

Councilman Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, authored the motion, which was co-presented by Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, and seconded by Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District.

Blumenfield noted that Los Angeles is the largest city in the United States to ban new fur products.

“This arcane and inhuman practice must end and we said loud and clear, fur will not have a future in Los Angeles,” Blumenfield said. “I am proud that our city made a giant step in ending the unnecessary killing of animals, but we must continue towards finally eliminating the sale of fur.

The ordinance will take effect on Jan. 1, 2021. It prohibits the sale of new fur products, including coats, handbags, shoes, hats, earmuffs and jewelry.

“The sale is solely cruel and brutal to animals,” Koretz said. “The fur industry manufactures and retails fur products, none of which are good for the animals’ well-being. The world looks to Los Angeles for fashion trends and this will be one we can be proud of.

More than 50 million animals including foxes, chinchillas, minks, raccoons, dogs and rabbits are killed for their fur every year, according to the councilmen. Animals cultivated solely for their fur often spend their lives in cramped cages and are subject to deplorable living conditions.

As cities and countries pass restrictive legislation, more companies will stop using fur and alternatives will continue to improve. Considerations for the sale of fur products do not justify the unnecessary killing and the cruel treatment of fur-bearing animals.

Most recently, fashion companies such as Michael Kors, Jimmy Choo, Versace, Gucci, Burberry, Dune von Furensteng and Chanel have committed to restoring fur from product lines. Cities such as West Hollywood, Berkeley and San Francisco previously adopted similar bans on the sale of fur products.

Some opponents of the fur ban claimed the ordinance is based on false data.

“The Los Angeles City Council failed to exercise proper due diligence here with little or no response or consideration given to objections by the fur industry to educate council members with a detailed rebuttal to the comments made in a [Flame LA瘦体 scent] document, facts about fur production, the fur industry, and the sustainability of fur, the environmental threats posed by fake fur alternatives and the fact that the ban has never had a stronger, more meaningful impact on animal welfare globally,” said Nancy Daiglemaun, vice president of the International Fur Federation. “Instead, council created public policy driven by personal agendas and political expediency rather than facts and truth. This should be of great concern to the citizens of Los Angeles.”

Councilman Greig Smith, 12th District, cast a lone dissenting vote on the ordinance, citing its potential detrimental effect on businesses and the local economy.

Because there was a single dissenting vote, an additional procedural vote is needed before the ordinance is sent to Mayor Eric Garcetti to be signed into law.

The Los Angeles Dinner-Mayor Eric Garcetti With Vera and Paul Guerin, USHMM National Leadership Award Recipients.

Los Angeles Dinner-Mayor Eric Garcetti With Vera and Paul Guerin, USHMM National Leadership Award Recipients.
Vanilla Fair will host its annual post-Academy Awards Party along the 400 block of North Crescent Drive on Sunday, Feb. 24.

As crews begin work to assemble the stage and venue directly on the west side of City Hall, Crescent Drive between North Santa Monica and South Santa Monica boulevards will be closed through Thursday, Feb. 28. All merchants on Crescent Drive are open and accessible during the partial closure. Motorists are urged to use alternate routes and heed all directional signage. For information, contact the city of Beverly Hills Film and Special Events Office at (310) 285-2408.

Hollywood street closures announced for Oscar week

To ensure public safety, support security strategies and facilitate the production of this year’s Oscars, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the city of Los Angeles have finalized street closure plans around the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood and Highland Center in Hollywood.

To accommodate the construction of press risers, fan bleachers and pre-show stages along the Oscars red carpet, Hollywood Boulevard will be closed between Highland Avenue and Orange Drive beginning at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 17, and remain closed until 6 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 27. Subway trains will bypass the Hollywood and Highland station after the last regularly scheduled train on Saturday, Feb. 23, until Monday, Feb. 25. Additional streets and sidewalks will be closed for varying periods. Details of the closures and maps of affected areas are available from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, the 6th and the 13th District City Council field offices, and on the Academy’s website at oscars.org/closures. The 91st Oscars will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood and Highland Center in Hollywood and will be televised live on ABC. The Oscars also will be televised live in more than 225 countries and territories worldwide. For information, visit oscars.org/press/latest-academy-news.
Prostate Cancer Foundation kicks off TRUE Love contest

The Prostate Cancer Foundation kicked off its second annual TRUE Love contest that honors family and caregivers for their tireless work in caring for their loved ones living with prostate cancer.

TRUE is a tribute to the unsung heroes, whether they are spouses, partners, parents, siblings or children or friends. The foundation will accept TRUE Love stories from caregivers who reflect love, honor and care for prostate cancer patients throughout the months of February. The most inspiring story will be announced by the foundation on Feb. 28 via social media, and the winner will receive a special care package from award-winning actress Kristen Bell.

“She understands the significant impact caregivers provide making them an essential part of our support system,”” Bell said. “There is something particularly beautiful about the love shared between patients and caregiver. That is why we want to recognize the admirable dedication that caregivers provide to those battling prostate cancer – during this Valentine’s Season – to show our gratitude for their selfless work.”

To submit, visit pcf.org/true and upload a written story and photo describing a unique caregiving situation. Select stories will be featured on the foundation’s website.

In the United States, one in nine men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. For African-American men, one in six men will develop the disease. African-American men are 76 percent more likely to develop prostate cancer than a white man, and more than twice as likely to die from the disease. It is estimated that more than four million American men are living with prostate cancer. One new case occurs every three minutes and a man dies from prostate cancer every 17 minutes.

“This is the second annual TRUE Love contest and it is a special honor to be able to kick it off in February,” Bell said. “Our hope is that the campaign will raise awareness about prostate cancer and the critical role caregivers play in the Patient旅程.”

The foundation will also be giving away a special care package to the winners with the most moving story. The Prostate Cancer Foundation TRUE Love contest is a tribute to the unsung heroes, whether they are spouses, partners, parents, siblings or children or friends. The foundation will accept TRUE Love stories from caregivers who reflect love, honor and care for prostate cancer patients throughout the months of February. The most inspiring story will be announced by the foundation on Feb. 28 via social media, and the winner will receive a special care package from award-winning actress Kristen Bell.

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the West Hollywood Historical Preservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following item:

**TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:**
Monday, February 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 and 6
7377 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90046

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:**
Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15331 (Historic Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation).

The staff report will be available on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, the W.H. Library, 825 N. San Vicente Boulevard, and on-line at www.weho.org.

**IF YOU CHALLENGE** this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in the written correspondence delivered to the West Hollywood Historic Preservation Commission, via the Planning & Development Services Department, or to the Public Hearing.

**To comply with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) will be available for checkout at the meeting. If you require special assistance to participate in this meeting (e.g., a signer for the hearing impaired), you must call, or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6409 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TDD line for the hearing impaired is (323) 848-6496.

Special meeting related accommodations (e.g., transportation) may be provided upon written request to the Office of the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

For information on public transportation, call 1-323-GO-METRO (323/466-3876) or go to www.metro.net.

**ALL INTERESTED PERSONS** are invited to attend said Public Hearing to express their opinion in this matter.

For further information contact Roger Rath, Assistant Planner in the Planning and Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475, or via email at: rrath@weho.org

Yvonne Quarker
City Clerk
Metro to offer updates on subway progress

Metro is planning two upcoming meetings on the Purple Line Extension subway construction project.

Updates on the Wilshire/Rodeo and Century City/Constellation subway stations will be presented on Thursday, Feb. 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Century Park Plaza, 2029-2039 Century Park East, Concourse Level D, Conference Room A. Additionally, updates on the Wilshire/Rodeo and Wilshire/La Cienega subway stations will be provided on Wednesday, March 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the second floor municipal gallery at Beverly Hills City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive.

Metro is continuing advance utility relocation work around the future Century City/Constellation subway through 2020. Near the Wilshire/Rodeo station, construction continues at a staging yard at 9383-9393 and 9395-9399 Wilshire Blvd. in Beverly Hills. The work includes the demolition of existing buildings and the installation of a sound wall around the property. An adjacent sidewalk will be closed from Feb. 18 through March, and temporary lane closures will be necessary on Wilshire Boulevard.

At the east end of the project at Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue, excavation, concrete work and street maintenance is occurring. Northbound Manhattan Place will be closed intermittently just north of Wilshire Boulevard. Intermittent single lane closures will also be necessary on Wilshire Boulevard between Western Avenue and Manhattan Place. Work hours are generally from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Tunneling preparation and support is also ongoing near Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue, and from a staging area in the middle of Wilshire Boulevard east of Sycamore Avenue. Through Saturday, Feb. 16, eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to one lane between Sycamore and Mansfield avenues and left turns from Sycamore Avenue will be restricted to support deliveries to a work zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard.

Near Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue, instrumentation, environmental testing and street maintenance is ongoing. Intermittent lane reductions on Wilshire Boulevard and side streets around the station construction near Ogden Drive may be necessary. Excavation, hauling, instrumentation and street restoration also continues from the construction staging yards at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale. North Gale Drive will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard.

For questions and concerns, call the 24-hour project hotline at (213)922-6934, email the project team at purplelineext@metro.net or visit metro.net.

IsraAID to hold disaster relief training

The IsraAID Humanitarian Professionals Network is training dozens of residents in disaster relief after launching in January.

Professionals from the health care, mental health and engineering fields are attending monthly sessions with organizations to learn more about humanitarian aid and disaster relief at home and abroad. Participants are being sought for the next session titled “The Day After the Disaster: The Next Steps of Humanitarian Aid” on Thursday, Feb. 21, at a private home in the Wilshire area. The address and other details will be provided upon RSVP.

Founded in 2001, IsraAID is an Israel-based international non-governmental organization that has worked in emergency and long-term development settings in 47 countries.

Last month, IsraAID launched the Humanitarian Professionals Network, an initiative to address the needs of populations affected by disasters worldwide.

The February event will feature a presentation by Tim Burke, a Ph.D. student in urban and regional planning at the University of Michigan. Burke lived in South Sudan for more than five years overseeing public health, disaster response and sustainability initiatives.

For information, visit israaid.org.
Mayor touts new entrepreneurs-in-residence

Mayor Eric Garcetti has announced that Theresa Kang and Amir Shahkhalili, partners at WME, and Kevin Iwashina, senior associate at Endeavor Content, will participate in Los Angeles’ 2019 Entrepreneur-in-Residence program, an initiative that enlists some of the city’s most accomplished business figures to build stronger industries.

The Endeavor team will leverage its institutional knowledge and relationships with leading artists and content creators to expand Garcetti’s Evolve Entertainment Fund, a public-private partnership that creates new career opportunities for communities that have been historically excluded from the entertainment industry.

“Endeavor is at the center of a global network that will help strengthen my office’s work to build a more inclusive entertainment economy,” Garcetti said. “Theresa, Kevin and Amir will bring new ideas and energy to our efforts to provide young people in underserved communities with opportunities to follow their dreams in Hollywood.”

The three recently began their entrepreneur-in-residence appointments at the Sundance Film Festival, where they raised awareness about the Evolve Entertainment Fund and recruited new partners.

Funds awarded for innovative housing programs

The Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative recently announced the winners of the inaugural Housing Innovation Challenge, a call for proposals that has awarded $4.5 million in Measure H funding for permanent housing.

The Housing Innovation Challenge made four $1 million awards and one $500,000 award for faster, cost-effective construction, rehabilitation and creative finance models to produce permanent housing for the county’s most vulnerable residents.

“Everyone who calls Los Angeles home should live in communities that afford them dignity and worth,” said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District. “This award and best practice solutions will allow the county and its private sector partners to scale up compassion and innovation in a thoughtful manner. This is truly Measure H at work.”

At a time of heightened collaboration in the region, the effort was aimed at creating new partnerships and creative strategies to contribute sustainable solutions to homelessness. The challenge received more than 50 proposals, which were evaluated by a panel of experts in urban planning, real estate development, affordable housing and architecture. Each awarded project will result in the production of permanent housing for homeless families or individuals.

The awardees include Brooks + Scarpa Architects, Inc., who received $1 million for “NEST,” a prefab modular, sustainable kit of parts that can be assembled on any 50-by-150 parcel; and Flyaway Homes, LLC, which received $1 million for a project titled “Modular Permanent Supportive Housing Communities” to scale its model of leveraging private equity to develop supportive housing faster and at a lower per-tenant cost. Additional awardees were LifeArt, SPC, which received $1 million for LifeArt Micro-Communities, a building system that is developable on any lot size or shape, and United Dwelling, which received $1 million for “Detached Garage Conversion into Affordable Studios,” a program for its institutional development of garage-converted accessory dwelling units. Additionally, Restore Neighborhoods Los Angeles received $500,000 for its South L.A. Bungalow Project using a neighborhood-shared equity model for accessible units built by-right in a traditional bungalow-style courtyard.

“The challenge was issued at a critical juncture in the countywide movement to combat and prevent homelessness,” said Phil Ansell, director of the L.A. County Homeless Initiative. “While our collective efforts are moving in the right direction, this was a unique opportunity to solicit new approaches and continue to advance our efforts to help people move from homelessness to housing.”

For information, visit housinginnovationchallenge.com.

Windsor Village resident and Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council member Julie Stromberg recently completed a 2-year term on Councilman David Ryu’s Discretionary Funds Task Force. The nine-member task force reviews requests for funding and makes recommendations to the councilman. The task force meets to quarterly. For information and to apply to become a member of the task force, visit davidryu.lacity.org.

Community invited to Wilshire Division advisory board meeting

The Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division is inviting community members to its monthly Community Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. in the police station’s community room.

The LAPD’s Communications Division will give a presentation titled “911 & You” on the capabilities of the 911 Public Safety Answering Project System. An LAPD police service representative/911 dispatcher will provide information and answer questions. The Wilshire Division is located at 4861 West Venice Blvd. For information, call (213)473-0200.

Local leader completes term on Ryu’s funding task force

Launches last February with filmmaker Ava DuVernay and more than 60 companies, the Evolve Entertainment Fund is dedicated to building career pathways into film, television and music for women, people of color and low-income residents through paid internships, mentorship and an ongoing series of workshops and panels. The program has secured 140 internships and three full-time offers for L.A. residents and aims to serve 1,000 Angelenos by the end of 2020.

“It is an honor for us to function as EIRs for Mayor Garcetti and the city of Los Angeles on their year-long concentration on diversity and inclusion in entertainment,” Shahkhalili said. “We are incredibly eager to provide young Angelenos access and exposure to the entertainment industry. We look forward to bringing the Evolve Entertainment Fund to the forefront of conversation as we address systemic change that will impact the future of our industry.”
The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County presents this season’s First Friday events beginning Friday, March 1. Featuring the theme of “Forces of Nature,” the series will include discussions about fires, floods, droughts and earthquakes moderated by award-winning Los Angeles Times writer Patt Morrison.

After the evening’s discussion, participants can sip cocktails in the DJ Lounge, explore the museum at night and hear bands perform in the diorama halls.

This year, the museum has added a new First Fridays experience, “Secrets from the Vaults” conversations, which will be held at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Performances for the event include DJ Novena Carmel at 5 p.m., KCRW guest DJ Aaron Byrd at 6 p.m., rock band Pinky Pinky at 8 p.m. and Shannon Shaw at 9:15 p.m.

The April event will focus on droughts, the May event will discuss floods and the June event will highlight earthquakes. Tickets for nonmembers are $20 for the First Friday events from March through May and are $25 in June. Admission is free for museum members.

The Natural History Museum is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information and tickets, visit nhm.org/firstfridays.

The Craft in America Center plans expansion

The Craft in America Center has embarked on a project to expand its space at 8415 W. Third St. Located in the heart of the West Third Street Business District, the Craft in America Center has become a nationally recognized destination for exploring craft. The center was established in 2009 as an outgrowth of the award-winning “Craft in America” PBS documentary series, which first aired in 2007.

Over the past ten years Craft in America has produced over 50 exhibitions, 85 talks and discussions, 35 workshops, 45 concerts and over 100 other events including screenings, receptions, pop-up exhibitions and more.

Due to its growing reputation, the center consistently reaches or exceeds capacity at public events and workshops. The Craft in America Center will increase its physical presence to better serve the number of visitors, program participants and students in the Craft in Schools program. A redesigned venue will allow a larger public audience to experience artworks, artist talks and artmaking in person, as well as provide more gallery space to display the center’s growing permanent collection.

The Craft in America Center is a library, workshop, storage and staff workspace. The acquisition of additional space donated by Freehand Gallery will enable the Craft in America Center to better fulfill its mission to promote, exhibit and teach the artistry of crafts. It also allows for an improvement and upgrade on equipment, technology and accessibility. Freehand Gallery will also be renovated.

For information, visit craftinamerica.org.
Clothing drive helps people gain employment

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, is holding a collection drive for Clothes the Deal, a program that helps people find employment by providing professional clothing for people in need. Clothes The Deal provides low-income job seekers a professional image and sense of support. O’Farrell’s office is collecting gently-used suits, shirts and ties through Feb. 20. Donations can be made at the councilman’s district office at 1722 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit cd13.lacity.org or clothesthedeal.org.

L.A. Master Chorale to perform in premiere of ‘The Sacred Veil’

Three years ago, after a visit from his longtime collaborator and friend, lyricist and poet Charles Anthony Silvestri, composer Eric Whitacre found a poem Silvestri had left for him sitting on his piano.

Silvestri had lost his wife to cancer 12 years previously, losing his soulmate and leaving him to bring up their two young children. He had not been able to write about the experience for a long time. The poem he left for Whitacre was called “The Veil Opens” and Whitacre immediately sat down and began to set it to music. The resulting piece is part of a broader work based on Silvestri’s poetry addressing all stages of life and death called “The Sacred Veil” that will receive its world premiere by the Los Angeles Master Chorale conducted by Whitacre in Walt Disney Concert Hall on Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

The longform work is a key project of Whitacre’s position as the Master Chorale’s Swan Family artist-in-residence and will be performed by 40 Master Chorale singers, soloist Suzanne Waters and a chamber ensemble from the Los Angeles Master Chorale Orchestra.

A co-commission between the Master Chorale and the Monash Performing Arts Center in Australia, “The Sacred Veil” is Whitacre’s most extensive choral work to date and a highly anticipated musical event. Both Whitacre and Silvestri will give a pre-concert talk one hour before the performances and will also introduce the work from the stage at the performances. Previous collaborations between Whitacre and Silvestri include “Sleep” and “Lux Aeterna,” two of the most frequently performed works of choral music in the world.

Upon reading the poem, ‘The Veil Opens,’ I immediately realized that this could be the foundation of a much larger work,” said Whitacre. “Tony and I spent many hours talking through a structure for this new piece we called ‘The Sacred Veil’ and how we could use choral music to explore the journey of a soul across the threshold between finitude and eternity into and, ultimately, out of this life.”

Tickets start at $29. The Walt Disney Concert Hall is located at 111 S. Grand Ave. For information and tickets, visit lamasterchorale.org, or call (213) 972-7282.

Gallery celebrates hope for Black History Month and Presidents Day

The Perfect Exposure Gallery will unveil on Feb. 17 the first of many exhibits nationwide featuring filmmaker and photographer Anna Wilding’s “CELEBRATE HOPE: The Obama White House Collection” in honor of Black History Month and Presidents Day. An invite-only opening reception will be held on Feb. 17 at 6 p.m.

Among the images in the show will be both critically acclaimed images and never-before-seen portraits of the former first family at home in the White House. The exhibit will also feature select pieces from “Chicago 1960s/1970s” by John Simmons.

Those scheduled to attend the opening VIP reception include Oliver Stone, Donna Mills, Dawn Wells, Jeremy Miller, Erin Murphy, California state Sens. Henry Stern and Anthony Portantino, Ro Brooks, and more. At the event, Wilding will discuss her experiences at the White House.

The Perfect Exposure Gallery is located at 2424 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra. For information, visit theperfectexposuregallery.com.
D.A. touts efforts to address immigration fraud

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey recently recognized her office’s Notario Fraud Unit, which is dedicated to prosecute immigration fraud and unlawful law practice.

“Our great diversity attracts more than our share of people seeking to manipulate and cheat some of our newest residents out of their hard-earned money,” Lacey said.

“As a result, many of our neighbors may be more likely to become victims of fraud and other financial crimes due to their cultural backgrounds and economic situations.” Everyone, regardless of their immigration status, deserves to be protected against crime and to receive justice when they have been victimized. I will aggressively prosecute anyone who preys upon another person because of their language, cultural differences or their residency status.

“The Notario Fraud Unit prosecutes cases involving immigration fraud and the unlicensed practice of law by people who often collect high fees from victims without delivering services. The term ‘notary’ is often used interchangeably with ‘attorney’ in Latin American countries. In California, it is illegal for immigration consultants to call themselves ‘notaries’ because it implies that they are licensed attorneys.

The unit addresses issues affecting the Latino population as well as all other communities representing different cultures, languages and backgrounds. The need for a specialized approach is particularly necessary because more than one-third of the county’s 10 million plus residents were born outside the United States, according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data.”

The Notario Fraud Unit is staffed by two deputy district attorneys and an investigator. They conduct public outreach and education, participate in immigration task forces, draft legislation to better protect consumers and conduct training for prosecutors, law enforcement personnel and community advocates.

The district attorney’s office has obtained convictions in numerous major notario fraud and immigration scam cases in recent years. Defendants convicted include Romina Aida Zadaran, 49, who claimed to be an attorney or government worker and charged her victims for immigration services they never received; Gregory Chavez, 55, who posed as a law enforcement officer and promised the families of immigration detainees that he could get their loved ones out of custody for a price; and Augusto “Tito” Gonzalez De La Cruz, 58, who claimed to be an immigration attorney and promised clients that he could expedite the processing of visas, resident alien cards and citizenship petitions.

Next month, Lacey is bringing together prosecutors, law enforcement personnel, elected officials and community-based advocates to discuss ways they can work together to protect consumers from devastating financial losses due to criminal activity. Anyone who believes they may be a victim of immigration fraud are encouraged to call the Notario Fraud Unit at (213)257-2450.

Advocate recognized for program fighting the trafficking of children

Since 2011, when L.A. County was identified as a major hub for the commercial sexual exploitation of children, the Los Angeles County Probation Department has examined innovative and collaborative efforts to support victims.

Since the implementation of the programs from 2014-18, over 361 girls and boys have been rescued from sex trafficking, Oree Freeman, who at the age of 12 was a victim of sex trafficking, knows about the horrors of commercial sexual exploitation. While still under probation supervision, Freeman created and presented “In Her Heels,” an educational presentation about the sex industry and how children become victims. Through the program, Freeman educated foster care staff. She is now an advocate and mentor helping law enforcement leaders change their perceptions of sex crime victims.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recently honored Freeman.

“Thanking back to when I first started at 12 years old and to when I am now a full circle and I couldn’t have done that without the people who are here,” Freeman said, thanking members of the probation department. “We have a lot more work left to do I can’t thank probation and the Department of Children and Family Services enough for giving me hope when I had none, for giving me a new chance on life by being there consistently.”

For information, visit probation.lacounty.gov.

Longtime Project Angel Food employees honored

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell (left), 13th District, recently honored Project Angel Food employees Tom O’Leary and Terry Madden, who are retiring after 20-plus years of service to the community. The councilman presented proclamations to O’Leary and Madden. Based in Hollywood, Project Angel Food delivers daily meals to people with serious illness throughout Los Angeles County. For information, visit angelfood.org.

WHAT IF I DO NOT ESTATE PLANNING?

If you die intestate (without a will), then California’s laws of descent and distribution will determine who receives your property by default. Contrary to popular belief, if you die without a will, everything you own does not automatically pass to the state. Typically, the distribution will be to your spouse and children and then to other family members. The state’s plan reflects the legislature’s guess as to how most people would dispose of their estate and establishes protections for certain beneficiaries, particularly minor children. The rules of “intestate succession” may or may not reflect your actual wishes. Estate planning affords you the opportunity to alter the state’s default plan to suit your personal preferences.

Disposition Outside The Will

It is important to understand that the transfer of your property after your death may be determinable by a person other than the laws of intestacy, even when you die without a will. If you own property with another person as joint tenants with right of survivorship, the property will pass directly to the remaining joint tenant upon your death and will not be part of your probate estate (it will, however, be a part of your taxable estate). Effective planning requires a knowledge of the consequences of each property interest and type of ownership.

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Free macarons at Coral Tree Café
Starting at 11:30 a.m., the first 100 customers who visit Coral Tree Café on Valentine’s Day will receive a free macaron. Additionally, throughout the month of February, every order over $35 made on the café’s website or app will be delivered for free within a 3-mile radius from the Beverly Hills and Brentwood locations. 225 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, (310)553-8733. 11645 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, (310)979-8733.

Romance at Cattle & Claw
Head to Cattle & Claw for a last-minute five-course, prix-fixe Valentine’s Day menu for seafood and meat lovers. The chefs offer a lobster cappuccino amuse-bouche before a choice of either a baby kale salad with apple-smoked bacon lardons and slow-poached egg, or a lobster and avocado salad. Try the braised short rib with polenta and escarole, or the tournedos Rossini with Yukon Gold coins and Bordelaise sauce. Seafood fans can indulge in the creamy lobster risotto or lobster thermidor with gratin potato. Finish with a chocolate and hazelnut Génoise cake, or cherry cheesecake. This special menu is available only on Feb. 14 from 5 to 10:30 p.m., and is $75 per person. 8555 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, (310)770-1654.

Singles night at Brandon’s
Brandon’s, the cocktail bar inside 6th & La Brea Brewery & Restaurant, is throwing a Valentine’s Day singles party tonight. Enjoy an open bar with house-brewed beer, wine, liquor and special themed cocktails, along with bar bites and dancing from 8 to 10 p.m. Black attire is encouraged. Register at bit.ly/2WTtmCZ. 600 S. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, (323)998-8565.

The Henry’s romantic dinner
Enjoy a four-course Valentine’s Day menu that starts off with a glass of Champagne, followed by tuna crudo, asparagus and artichoke toast, braised short rib beef, and a dark chocolate marquise for dessert. This special dinner is $60 per person. 120 N. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, (424)204-1595.

Bacari W. 3rd Mediterranean dinner
Tonight, chef Lior Hillel is preparing a $29 prix-fixe menu full of Mediterranean-inspired small plates. Start with handmade gorgonzola pasta or truffle pasta topped with zucchini, Calabrese pepper and crushed pistachios. Finish with malabi, a traditional rose water custard topped with shaved coconut, hibiscus flower and candied pistachios. 8030 3/4 W. Third St., Los Angeles, (323)452-9149.

Nerano’s Italian Valentine’s Day
Celebrate Valentine’s Day with a taste of the Amalfi Coast. Nerano’s executive chef Michele Lisi offers a special Italian tasting menu:

- Escargot
- Scallopine di Motorino
- Pappardelle with ragu
- Veal Saltimbocca
- Napoleon cake

This special menu is available only on Feb. 14 from 5 to 10:30 p.m., and is $75 per person. 6333 W. Third St. • Farmers Market 323.938.5131 • www.marcondas.com

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Last Month VALENTINE’S DINING
By Jill Weinlein
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Kass Wine Bar & Restaurant opened two weeks ago, and its newest spot already has quite a following of nomophiles, foodies and Francophiles.

The intimate restaurant is led by Michelin-starred French chef Christophé Émé, who previously attracted fame with his former restaurant Ortolan on West Third and 1st Street. The newest spot in honor of Émé’s home region. The rest of the wines on the list are varietals from other regions in France, Europe and California. For white wines, the categories are energetic, fruity and muscular, and for reds, diners can select between bright, juicy, earthy and plush pairings. Kass’s menu captures Émé’s innovative style – lightening up classic French cuisine, using fewer ingredients, emulsions and natural jus. I began the evening with the chef’s imaginative beet salad featuring microgreens and flowers. It’s a work of art served on a transparent plate filled with decomposed granite inside. Tiny black pearl lentils that look like caviar top the dish, along with colorful beets. For added sweetness, the salad also includes a handful of sliced green grapes and whole blackberries. Thsily sliced Comté cheese medallions are also a pleasant surprise in the dish, balancing the salad’s earthiness with a touch of saltiness.

The restaurant also offers a stylish wine bar with six seats. It’s an ideal spot to share a cheese or charcuterie board, oysters, and a glass or bottle of wine. Wine consultant Taylor Parsons, formerly of Republique, curated a list comprised 70 percent of French wines, with an emphasis on the Loire Valley in honor of Émé’s home region.

I also enjoyed the chilled octopus, which arrived in bite-sized pieces on a Japanese table grill, along with grilled baby fennel and leek, sliced Yukon Gold potatoes, and red bell pepper coulis. Our server advised us to pierce a piece of the grilled octopus, potatoes and leek, and swirl it in the bright orange coulis. It was delicious. Be sure to also order the chicken supreme en croûte d’argile. The dish is cooked using an old technique, with the chicken wrapped in parchment paper and then covered in soft gray clay. It’s put on a rack in the oven and baked for 40 minutes until the clay starts cracking. Once the chicken was ready, Émé had me come up to the kitchen’s counter to hit the baked clay with a wood mallet. Then he peeled back the paper to reveal a succulent chicken cooked in its own jus. The dish is served with green asparagus, blackberries and beautifully flavored mushroom purée. After witnessing my fun experience hitting the chicken with the mallet, several other diners around my table eagerly ordered the dish. We finished with a plate of three cheeses: Fleur du Maquis and Secret de Compostelle from France, and Rogue River Blue from Oregon. The cheese was served with thinly sliced bread and a few raspberries. For something sweet, we also split a tart au pommes that was big enough for two and included scoops of creamy vanilla ice cream. Émé’s return to the neighborhood is delightful. Welcome him back and enjoy his savory and artistic French food.

Reservations are recommended. Dinner is served Tuesday through Saturday from 6 to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 6 to 9:30 p.m. The wine bar opens until 10 p.m. on Sundays, and midnight other evenings. $5-$55 320 S. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, (323)413-2299.

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**Chef Christophé Émé**

by Jill Weinlein

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**Chef Michael Reed offers a four-course, pre-fixe menu for $75 per person on Feb. 14. Start with a trio of oysters, truffle tolletini, king crab leg, milks, and honey duck breast. Viviane also has a cocktail and dessert tasting menu, along with a la carte dining. A cold desserts or cocktail selection are $10 each. Order a dessert or cocktail tasting and receive $10 off your total bill. The full tasting menu of desserts and cocktails is $39 per person.**

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**Picture by Scott Slagerman**

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**Children’s Tea**

Peanut Butter & Jelly Triangles on Wheat Cream Cheese Canapés with a Raspberry Kiss Chicken Salad Stars on Raisin bread, Mini Fruit Jars and Scones Fresh Fruit Skewers Preserves, Crème Fraîche Milk, Hot Chocolate, Apple Cider $19.50 per person

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Please Call for Reservations Saturdays in February 2:00pm to 4:00pm All ages welcome!

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**Cozy date night at Toca Madera**

Eat your Mexican cuisine and creative cocktails this Valentine’s Day. Start off with Toca Madera’s ceviche, made with jumbo shrimp, Pink Lady (an heirloom) chili, wagyu au jus and diablo salsa. Pair this with beverage director Charity Johnston’s classic Toca margarita. 8450 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles, (323)832-9400.

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**Valentine pies at Du-par’s**

Pick up all of your sweet Valentine’s Day needs at Du-Par’s at the Original Farmers Market. The Love’s Perpetual decadent chocolate strawberry pie, is the perfect way to finish off any home-cooked meal. 6333 W. Third St., Los Angeles, (323)933-8446.

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**Heart-shaped lasagna and pizza at Buca di Beppo**

Make this Valentine’s Day extra special with a heart-shaped lasagna for two. The $49.99 dish is only available during your choice of a small mixed green or Caesar salad, garlic bread and two mini cannoli. For those who choose to stay home on Feb. 14, bring home a free heart-shaped margherita pizza with any to-go order on Valentine’s Day. 6333 W. Third St., Los Angeles, (323)370-6560.

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**Dinner and tasting menu at Viviane**

Chef Michael Reed offers a four-course, pre-fixe menu for $75 per person on Feb. 14. Start with a trio of oysters, truffle tolletini, king crab leg, milks and honey duck breast. Viviane also has a cocktail and dessert tasting menu, along with a la carte dining. A cold desserts or cocktail selection are $10 each. Order a dessert or cocktail tasting and receive $10 off your total bill. The full tasting menu of desserts and cocktails is $39 per person.

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**Kass Wine Bar & Restaurant**

15  February 14, 2019

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Park Labrea News/Beverly Press
POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the area controlled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Jan. 18 and Feb. 10. The information was compiled from www.crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department Wilshire Division (310) 473-4444, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310) 855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Jan. 18
At noon, an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Camden Drive.

An identity theft was reported in the 500 block of N. Camden Drive at noon.

Jan. 19
At 2 a.m., an identity theft was reported in the 800 block of Cord Circle.

An unknown female suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Robertson at 1:45 a.m. The suspect was approximately 33 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall and 150 pounds.

Jan. 20
At 10:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9500 block of Wilshire Boulevard.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9300 block of Crenshaw Boulevard.

An identity theft was reported in the 800 block of Cord Circle.

No further description was provided.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S. Beverly Drive.

Jan. 24
At 12:48 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S. Bedford Drive.

An unknown male suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Bedford Drive at 10:15 a.m. The suspect was approximately 27 years old, 6 feet 1 inches tall and 220 pounds.

At 11:47 a.m., an identity theft was reported in the 200 block of S. Hamilton Drive.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of N. Roxbury Drive at 4 p.m.

At 7:43 p.m., an unknown male suspect afirmed a victim near the corner of Charleville and Beverly boulevards. No further information was provided.

Jan. 25
At 8:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of S. Robson Drive.

Two unknown suspects, one male and the other female, committed a grand theft in the 8700 block of Wilshire Boulevard at 11:15 a.m. The female suspect was approximately 28 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall and 132 pounds. The male suspect was approximately 5 feet 6 inches tall and 150 pounds.

At 4 p.m., three unknown suspects, one male and the others female, assaulted a victim in the 7100 block of Wilshire Boulevard. One of the female suspects was approximately 5 feet 4 inches tall while the other was approximately 5 feet tall. No further description was provided of the male suspect.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9900 block of Robins Drive at 6 p.m.

Feb. 1
At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9600 block of Charleville Boulevard.

Feb. 2
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of Reeves Drive at 5:52 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., an unknown male suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of S. Beverly Boulevard.

Feb. 4
An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Robertson at 11:42 a.m.

At 12:56 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Santa Monica.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7600 block of Norton at 5:10 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of Ogden.

Feb. 6
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of Havenhurst at 1:30 p.m.

At 2:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of S. Robson Drive.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Melrose at 3:30 p.m.

At 11:59 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of Orange Grove.

Feb. 7
An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 930 block of Hancock at 6:18 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8800 block of Melrose.

Feb. 8
At 9:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Sunset at 5 p.m.

At 9:40 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of N. Curson.

Feb. 9
At 9:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Norton.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Laurel at 9 p.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8700 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8700 block of Sunset.

Feb. 10
At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of Robertson.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7800 block of Santa Monica at 2:59 a.m.

Feb. 11
An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Santa Monica.

Feb. 12
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of Melrose.

Feb. 14
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of S. Fairfax at 6:35 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of S. Yucca.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Sunset at 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 16
At 9:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a robbery in the 7800 block of Sunset.

Feb. 17
An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Gordon at 11 p.m.

Feb. 18
At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of La Cienega.

Feb. 19
At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Hollywood and Cherokee.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Eleanor and Lillian Way at 5 a.m.

At 7:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1500 block of N. Gordon.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6100 block of Hollywood at 8 a.m.

At 9 a.m., a suspect robbed a victim in the 6500 block of Orange.

A suspect robbed in the 6500 block of Orange at 9 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Poinsettia Place.

Feb. 5
At 12:45 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7400 block of Melrose.

Feb. 6
An attempted burglary was reported in the 400 block of N. Formosa at 3:30 a.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. Highland.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Wilshire and Rimpal at 11:20 p.m.

Feb. 7
At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Mansfield.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Ivar and Fairfax at 6:35 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5600 block of Wilshire.

Feb. 8
An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of S. Yucca.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1200 block of N. Flores.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of Robertson at 2:35 a.m.

At 9:20 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Santa Monica.

Feb. 9
At 9:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Norton.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Havenhurst.

Feb. 10
At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of Robertson.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7800 block of Santa Monica at 2:56 a.m.

Feb. 11
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of S. Fairfax at 6:35 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5900 block of N. Hayworth.

Feb. 12
An unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of Larr and De Longe at 8:10 p.m.

Feb. 13
At 9:50 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Orlando.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5900 block of Colgate at 9 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6500 block of Hollywood.

Feb. 14
An attempted burglary was reported in the 300 block of S. La Peer at 3:15 a.m.

At 4 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1600 block of N. Las Palmas.

Feb. 15
An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Gordon.
Year of the Pig celebrated at the Farmers Market, Grove

Chinese American magician Johnny Wu will serve as master of ceremonies for activities on the plaza and perform a magic show at 4 p.m. Enjoy live musical performances with traditional Chinese instruments, a kung fu demonstration, traditional acrobatics and Beijing Opera’s Monkey King. Move to the sounds of K-pop dance groups and singer Katherine Ho, known for her performance of Coldplay’s “Yellow” in Mandarin in the film “Crazy Rich Asians,” who will perform on the Gilmore Lane stage.

Families can also learn traditional Chinese calligraphy and enjoy face painting and a pig lantern craft activity. At 3 p.m., learn how to make dumplings and enjoy samples from the market’s restaurants China Depot and Peking Kitchen. The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, call (323)933-9211 or visit farmersmarketla.com.

The Lunar New Year celebration will feature a kung fu demonstration, among many other fun activities.

Restaurant relaunches with tribute to famous family

The Milky Way, a restaurant founded and operated by the late Leah Spielberg Adler, center, will feature memorabilia from her children, including producer Steven Spielberg, behind the camera.

The Milky Way restaurant, formerly run by the late Leah Spielberg Adler, will re-open on Monday, Feb. 18, almost two years after its founder died at the age of 97.

Adler opened The Milky Way with her husband Bernie in 1977 and the kosher dairy restaurant quickly became a staple of the Pico- Robertson neighborhood. Adler, who was referred to as LeeLee, was a concert pianist and artist, and mother of Steven, Nancy, Anne and Sue Spielberg. The restaurant featured a memorabilia-filled room with items from her famous family, including producer Steven Spielberg.

Following her passing in February 2017, The Milky Way closed to respect her memory. Now, the Spielberg family said in a joint statement: "Our mom had a gypsy spirit that was larger than life itself, with an unstoppable energy and a fiery confidence that was reflected in the halls of The Milky Way," the Spielberg family said in a joint statement. "LeeLee opened the restaurant with the vision of offering fine kosher food to the Jewish community in Los Angeles at a time when such a thing didn’t exist. Though her passing left a deep void in our hearts, we hope the new Milky Way will not only honor her memory, but also give back to the community she loved so deeply."

Executive chef and restaurant consultant Phil Kastel, of PK&J Hospitality Group, is the creative chef at The Milky Way. He was tasked with redesigning the space, updating the menu and paying homage to Adler’s legacy and tastes.

The 2,600-square foot restaurant seats 50 guests in the main dining room. The renovated bar serves wine and beer. The little touches that honored The Spielberg children still remain. The hallways are lined with movie posters from “Big,” “E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial” and “Above and Beyond,” as well as family photos.

“The Milky Way may be a kosher dairy restaurant, but it is also a New American Kosher restaurant,” Kastel added. “We wanted to create an inclusive and welcoming place for everyone, regardless of their faith or adherence to a specific dietary restriction.”

The Milky Way is located at 9800 Pico Blvd. For information, visit milkywayla.com.

Enjoy tea and macarons at The Peninsula

The Peninsula Beverly Hills has announced a limited-edition partnership with Ladurée Paris to bring a French twist to the hotel’s world-famous afternoon tea in The Living Room, now through March 31. Ladurée Paris has handcrafted a custom raspberry-coconut The Peninsula Page Cap Cake, paying homage to the iconic page that welcomes guests at the 10 Th Street Peninsula Hotels properties around the world. Signature macarons will include strawberry marshmallow pistachio, vanilla and Ladurée’s Mint Antoinette macaron, which features flavors of rose petals, citrus and honey.

Also featured will be The Peninsula Beverly Hills’ Red Velvet Petite Cupcake with cream cheese frosting, cherry marmalade filling and a white chocolate mouse bonbon.

Classic scones and finger sandwiches will include chocolate covered salmon with capers, Camembert and tomato pesto, and egg, Dijon and watercress will accompany a selection of 19 teas from all over the world, including a butter rich Tahitian vanilla and Egyptian chamomile teas with a new cake inspired by the hotel’s pages that welcome guests.

To reserve a spot, call (310)9975-2736. The Peninsula Beverly Hills is located at 9882 S. Santa Monica Blvd. Ladurée Paris has locations at 311 N. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, and 189 The Grove Drive, Los Angeles. For information, visit peninsula.com or laduree.us.

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills names new general manager

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills has announced the promotion of Vanessa Williams to general manager.

With decades of global luxury hotel leadership and a specially in leading marketing campaigns, Williams will oversee operations at the award-winning property. She has served as the director of sales and marketing at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills since prior to the hotel’s opening in June 2017. Williams, the first female general manager at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, is the second woman to be promoted to general manager in one of Oasis West Realty’s luxury hotels, following Sandy Murphy’s appointment to lead the iconic Beverly Hilton hotel.

“Vanessa joins our leadership team at a time of great development for our hotel, and I am confident that she will continue to drive our success,” said Beny Alagem, chair and CEO of Oasis West Realty, LLC, which owns Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills. “Her dedication and passion for this hotel has been unwavering. This is a well-deserved promotion, and I am confident that the hotel experience for guests will only continue to further impress.”

Williams brings a global outlook to the position, following an illustrious hospitality career that has spanned nearly three decades at five-star luxury destinations. She previously played a key role in the renovation, relaunch and repositioning of The Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong, Raffles L’Ermitage Beverly Hills and Sukhothai Bangkok before joining Waldorf Astoria Beijing and Conrad Seoul.

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, located at 9850 Wilshire Blvd., features the signature restaurant Jean-Georges Beverly Hills, The RoofTop by BG bar (and its casual restaurant serving lunch and dinner), and the La Prairie Spa. For information, visit WaldorfAstoriaBeverlyHills.com.
Iconic cars from Hollywood will parade around Los Angeles on Presidents Day

Celebrating Los Angeles’ love of both the automobile and Hollywood, the Petersen Automotive Museum will host a parade on Presidents Day, Feb. 18. Featuring iconic Hollywood cars, the parade will be a thank you to the people of Los Angeles for their unwavering support over the past quarter century.

Beginning at 10 a.m. in Playa Vista, the parade route will pass several of the city’s landmarks including the Santa Monica Pier, Rodeo Drive and the Hollywood Walk of Fame. During the route, there will be one planned 20-minute stop at Abbott Kinney Boulevard in Venice, where viewers can take pictures with the parade cars. After the parade, the cars will return to the Petersen at around 1 p.m. and be displayed on the third floor of the museum parking garage.

Viewers on the designated parade route will see the 1951 Chrysler Camera Car once owned by billionaire movie mogul Howard Hughes; the Volkswagen Type 2 Microbus from the 2006 American comedy-drama “Little Miss Sunshine”; the 1998 Volkswagen New Beetle Convertible from the second installment of the Austin Powers franchise “The Spy Who Shagged Me”; the 2002 Jaguar XK-R Stunt Car that was the anti-hero car in the second installment of the Austin Powers franchise “The Spy Who Shagged Me”; the 2002 James Bond flick “Die Another Day”; the Chrysler Imperial Parade Phaeton, which belonged to President Dwight D. Eisenhower; the Honda S2000 from “2 Fast 2 Furious”; and other iconic Hollywood vehicles.

“The Petersen would not be what it is today without the steadfast support of Los Angeles community,” said Petersen Automotive Museum Executive Director Terry L. Karges. “For 25 years, we have strived as an organization to captivate the hearts of Angelenos, igniting within them a passion for the automobile. Because Hollywood is such an important aspect of our community, the parade will serve as a fun tribute to the industry on which Los Angeles was built upon.”

The Petersen is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd. For information, Petersen.org.

Frieze L.A. breezes into Paramount Lot this weekend

Fair celebrates city as a global art center

Frieze will present a new contemporary art fair running today, Feb. 14, through Sunday, Feb. 17 at Paramount Pictures Studios. The inaugural edition of “Frieze Los Angeles” will bring together 70 contemporary galleries from throughout the city and around the world, and will feature a curated program of artist talks, projects and films. The fair celebrates Los Angeles’ position as a global arts center and destination.

“So many great artists and writers have lived and worked in Los Angeles, a city with an incredibly rich landscape of museums, galleries and art schools which play a pivotal role in the international art world.”

Victoria Siddall, director of Frieze Fairs

Additionally, Frieze has appointed Bettina Korek as the fair’s executive director. She is working with Victoria Siddall, director of Frieze Fairs, to launch the inaugural event.

“So many great artists and writers have lived and worked in Los Angeles, a city with an incredibly rich landscape of museums, galleries and art schools which play a pivotal role in the international art world. Frieze L.A. will add an exciting new dimension to this thriving cultural scene,” Siddall said. “As with all our fairs, Frieze L.A. will be at the heart of a dynamic week during which international collectors, curators and artists will come together to engage with and appreciate the city and everything that makes it great.”

Korek has more than 15 years of experience as an arts advocate, writer and founder of ForYourArt. A Los Angeles native, she has organized the Participating Programs program for the Getty’s Pacific Standard Time initiatives and is a member of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Tickets for individual Frieze Los Angeles programs start at $10. Paramount Pictures Studios is located at 5515 Melrose Ave. For information, visit frieze.com.
The Los Angeles County Museum of Art presents the West Coast premiere of “Charles White: A Retrospective,” the first major exhibition of the artist in over 30 years, on view from Feb. 17 to June 9.

White created powerful interpretations from African-American history and culture throughout his 40-year career. A gifted draftsman and printmaker as well as a talented mural and easel painter, White almost exclusively portrayed black subjects. A lifelong social activist, he championed racial pride and condemned the institutionalized racism faced by African Americans in all areas of life by using his art as a form of protest, affirmation and celebration.

Co-organized by the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museum of Modern Art New York, the exhibition showcases approximately 100 paintings, drawings, prints and photographs that reflect White’s life as he moved from Chicago to New York to Los Angeles. White’s time in Los Angeles was an important phase of his career; he created some of his most famous works in the city. The presentation at LACMA is curated by Ilene Susan Fort, curator emerita of American art. The Los Angeles presentation will add to the touring display approximately 13 works from LACMA’s permanent collection, further showcasing the range of media White worked in. Also unique to the LACMA presentation are audio recordings of White who occasionally gave lectures at LACMA. During the LACMA presentation, two concurrent and complementary exhibitions will be on view in Los Angeles, including “Life Model: Charles White and His Students” on view at LACMA’s satellite gallery at Charles White Elementary School, and “Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary,” which will be presented at the California African American Museum, whose mission to showcase African-American history, art and culture was shared by White throughout his career.

“Charles White is one of the most significant artists of mid-century America. Driven by an enduring hope that change is possible, White consistently strove to unite ideas and aesthetics, creating a powerful body of work whose message remains relevant today,” said Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg director. “Los Angeles was the third and last city in which the artist lived and worked. His extraordinary legacy of art, activism and teaching are seen in his work and in the work of his students. We are privileged to share his life and legacy through this exhibition.”

LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit lacma.org.

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Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg director

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**Photo courtesy of LACMA**

Artist Charles White championed racial pride and condemned the institutionalized racism faced by African Americans.
Bill aims to make LGBT students safer in school

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and Equality California have introduced AB 493, which will provide California schools with resources to support LGBTQ students and create safer school environments.

Similar legislation (AB 2153) introduced by Thurmond and Equality California was approved by the California Legislature in 2018, with bipartisan support in the Assembly and Senate, but the bill was vetoed by then-Gov. Jerry Brown. AB 493 will create more safe and supportive learning environments for LGBTQ students by requiring that schools provide teachers and staff with professional development and information. The bill will enable educators to better support students facing bullying or harassment at school, a lack of acceptance at home or discrimination in the community.

According to the 2017 National School Climate Survey, 82 percent of LGBTQ students reported hearing anti-LGBTQ remarks in their school. Approximately seven in 10 reported being called names or threatened because of their sexual orientation, and more than a third of students who identify as LGBTQ reported missing at least one day of school because of feeling unsafe.

For information, visit cde.ca.gov.

New exhibition explores illusion and reality in photography

Luis De Jesus Los Angeles presents “Chris Engman: Refraction,” the artist’s fourth solo exhibition with the gallery, on view from Feb. 16 through March 23. An artist’s reception will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The exhibition features “Containment,” a new site-specific work originally commissioned for the FotoFocus Biennial 2018 in Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as new photographs from the “Prospect and Refuge” and “Ink on Paper” series. These various photographic projects range from architectural to 2D, each acknowledging strategies of seeing. “Refraction,” as a result, explores the relationship between illusion and reality by exposing the deceit inherent in photographic image-making while engaging in philosophical and material play around our northern neighbors are still feeling the effects of the Woolsey and Camp fires, there is no question that we are in a time of profound environmental crisis,” Nazarian said.

Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian (D-Van Nuys) introduced legislation on Feb. 13 incentivizing K-12 public schools to offer healthier, climate-friendly lunch options. Under AB 479, the Healthy Climate-Friendly School Lunch Act, schools would receive additional state funding for serving a plant-based entrée and plant-based milk. AB 479 also includes critical state support for staff training, student engagement, recipe development and other technical assistance needed to help public schools host participation rates and assist students needed to help public schools cut back on unhealthier foods.

“AB 479 will increase access to healthy food options for low-income communities and reduce our carbon footprint at the same time,” Nazarian said.

Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, supports the legislation.

“Given the effects that we and our northern neighbors are still feeling from the climate-exacerbated Woolsey and Camp fires, there is no question that we are in a time of profound environmental crisis,” Koretz said. “The Healthy Climate-Friendly School Lunch Act makes the best use of our institutional purchasing power to provide both healthy food and a gateway to a safe climate for the very children whose future and whose palates it will be serving.”

Legislation would create more plant-based options in school meals

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Under AB 479, eligible entrées must be free of animal products or byproducts, including meat, poultry, fish, dairy or eggs to qualify for point, when looking into the room, the photo will appear as it was originally captured. Inside, or from an alternative angle, the viewer will see how the photos have been digitally stretched to provide the perspective illusion. Luis De Jesus Los Angeles is located at 2685 S. La Cienega Blvd. For information, visit hudsonjesus.com.

“Containment” is an ambitious, immersive installation that permits viewers to experience Engman’s manufactured “architectural landscape” process, which has been used to create the photographs in the “Prospect and Refuge” series. This constructed environment becomes a means to present a photo that the viewer can physically enter from a single vantage point, when looking into the room, the photo will appear as it was originally captured. Inside, or from an alternative angle, the viewer will see how the photos have been digitally stretched to provide the perspective illusion. Luis De Jesus Los Angeles is located at 2685 S. La Cienega Blvd. For information, visit hudsonjesus.com.

Members of the BLAST Sharks swim team learn techniques and compete in swimming competitions. Many swimmers have gone on to competitive programs at colleges and universities.

BLAST Sharks make a splash in Culver City

BLAST Sharks, a local swim team offering professional coaching and technique instruction for swimmers of all ages, has announced an expansion to the Culver City Plunge, augmenting programs already offered at the West Hollywood Pool.

The expansion to Culver City will improve team stability and increase coaching and training opportunities. BLAST Sharks has also welcomed Olympian Mara Womack as a coach at the Culver City Plunge.

The BLAST Sharks swim team is doing exceptionally well this year, with a third-place finish at the 2018 Summer Junior Olympic Championships and the Winter Age Group Championships. BLAST Sharks distance swimmer Dominic Margarino was recently accepted to the University of Southern California swimming and diving program. BLAST Sharks has also had swimmers recruited by Princeton, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth, Brown University, Arizona State University and the University of California, San Diego.

Anyone interested in the BLAST Sharks swimming programs should email Peter Lambert at peter@blastswimming.org, or visit blastswimming.org.
The cover of the Feb. 12, 1953, issue of the Park LaBrea News celebrated two holidays in February, Valentine’s Day and Presidents Day. This year, the holidays fall within four days of each other, with couples celebrating their valentines today, Feb. 14, and George Washington and Abraham Lincoln’s birthdays being observed on Presidents Day, Monday, Feb. 18.

**GBT Center to celebrate Black History Month**

In celebration of Black History Month, the Los Angeles LGBT Center will host “The Future is Black: Be The Revolution” on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 2 to 6 p.m. at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza.

The free event will include award-winning authors, resource fair, dinner performances by Rayvon Owen, Tish Hyman, Mike Xavier, Malachi Maisha, Brian Hackett and Ebonee Bryant, with special guest DJ Benjamin Walker. An art exhibit titled “Unbound” will feature works by Dalton Ellis, Christen Ashton, Taisia Mercado and Marie Jose.

Center youth member Florence Franklin will be honored with the Marsha P. Johnson Award, given to burgeoning community activists, and actress and singer Alexandra Grey will be recognized with the Bday Rustin Award for advancing black and LGBT rights. Additionally, Ebony Sage Circle, one of the center’s senior services social groups, will host “The Future is Black: Be The Revolution” on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 2 to 6 p.m. at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza.

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**Celebrate Valentine’s Day at Grand Park**

Grand Park presents “Lovers Rock, a fun and affordable way to celebrate Valentine’s Day” this evening, Feb. 14, from 6 to 11 p.m.

With various Dub Club DJs spinning laid-back reggae tracks, the free event will feature a romantic ambiance, and tables for two around the fountain and throughout Olive Court illuminated with the glow of string lights. Visitors can dine amid iconic views of Los Angeles City Hall and Grand Park’s own Arthur J. Will Memorial fountain.

To help sweeten the mood, desserts and treats will be available for purchase from various food trucks. Couples can capture romantic moments with a complimentary photo booth, and a family-friendly Valentine’s craft activity will be available for a small fee.

Grand Park is located at 200 N. Grand Ave. For information, visit parkla.org.

Photo credit: Adrienne Fox, courtesy of Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

**Hammer opens exhibition showcasing conceptual artist Allen Ruppersberg**

The Hammer Museum presents “Allen Ruppersberg: Intellectual Property 1968–2018,” the artist’s first comprehensive U.S. survey in over 30 years, on view through May 12. Many of the works included, from private and public collections in Europe and elsewhere, have never before been exhibited in U.S. museums.

“Allen Ruppersberg has been a force in Los Angeles for many decades,” said Ann Phillips, Hammer director. “He was a key figure in establishing a city as a center for Conceptual art with innovative projects like Al’s Café (1969), which functioned at once as sculpture, environment and performance. This seminal work is part of the Hammer’s collection, and we’re thrilled to share 50 years of this artist’s impressive career.”

Ruppersberg moved to Los Angeles in the mid-1960s with the goal of becoming an illustrator, but soon became active in an emerging scene alongside artists such as John Baldessari, Ed Ruscha, William Leavitt and others exploring the interface of language and image filtered through the lens of mass culture. His early projects — including environments made with found objects, wry, narrative photo works and redrawn book covers — began a career-long practice of creating works that prompt both reading and looking, and that intertwine fact with fiction.

By the mid-1970s, he was actively working between Los Angeles, New York and Europe. Perhaps more than any other artist of his generation, he has mined the nuances of culture through its visual details, using conventions and modes of the everyday, often welcoming the involvement of the viewer as social participant, an aspect of his work that has had particular resonance with a younger generation of artists.

Featuring more than 120 works over the past 50 years, the exhibition includes Ruppersberg’s photo works combining text and image, early assemblage sculptures, and his groundbreaking environments “Al’s Café” (1969) and “Al’s Grand Hotel” (1971), participatory projects that helped put Los Angeles on the map as a center for Conceptual art.

“Allen Ruppersberg: Intellectual Property 1968–2018” was organized by the Walker Art Center, and curated by senior curator Siri D’Amico, with contributions from curatorial fellows Jordan Carter and Fabián Leyva-Barragán. The Hammer’s presentation is organized by curator Aram Moshayedi, with curatorial assistance from Aram Chohreian and Moe Saber.

The Hammer Museum is located at 10899 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit hammer.ucla.edu.

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affectingly quaint, in England</td>
<td>2. 2nd hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Musical staff symbol</td>
<td>1. Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Houston player</td>
<td>2. Affectedly quaint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Pancake</td>
<td>3. Arouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Muffin</td>
<td>4. Affectedly quaint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Scarecrow stuffing</td>
<td>5. Arouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Actor Estrada</td>
<td>6. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Very slim margin</td>
<td>7. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. Bite at</td>
<td>8. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. MIT, for cash</td>
<td>11. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>34. Opposite of aprés</td>
<td>12. Maze</td>
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<td>35. Apodes members</td>
<td>13. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Laser-pointer battery</td>
<td>14. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Hit song for the Black Eyed Peas lead girl singer</td>
<td>15. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Person with outstanding performance</td>
<td>16. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Diving birds</td>
<td>17. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Combos</td>
<td>18. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>43. Brit’s thank you’s</td>
<td>19. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>44. Competently</td>
<td>20. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>45. Texas fair events</td>
<td>21. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>46. Police alert</td>
<td>22. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>47. Soup container</td>
<td>23. Maze</td>
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<td>48. Usher hit</td>
<td>24. Maze</td>
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<td>49. Jewish festival</td>
<td>25. Maze</td>
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<td>50. Congress testimony type</td>
<td>26. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>51. Amber drink</td>
<td>27. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>52. Hamms’ neighbors</td>
<td>28. Maze</td>
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<tr>
<td>55. Morning chat personality</td>
<td>29. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56. Celtic singer</td>
<td>30. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57. Senate in space</td>
<td>31. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. America’s _ Wanted, “TV hit</td>
<td>32. Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. Pink table wine</td>
<td>33. Maze</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers**

1. Night
2. Affectedly quaint
3. Arouse
4. Affectedly quaint
5. Arouse
6. Maze
7. Maze
8. Maze
9. Maze
10. Maze
11. Maze
12. Maze
13. Maze
14. Maze
15. Maze
16. Maze
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19. Maze
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25. Maze
26. Maze
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31. Maze
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35. Apodes members
36. Laser-pointer battery
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38. Person with outstanding performance
41. Diving birds
42. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Combos
43. Brit’s thank you’s
44. Competently
45. Texas fair events
46. Police alert
47. Soup container
48. Usher hit
49. Jewish festival
50. Congress testimony type
51. Amber drink
52. Hamms’ neighbors
53. Morning chat personality
54. Celtic singer
55. Senate in space
56. America’s _ Wanted, “TV hit
57. Pink table wine

**Hammer Museum**

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57. Pink table wine
The Getty displays traveling exhibit of Florentine art

An international traveling exhibition will bring works by the 16th-century Florentine artist Jacopo da Pontormo to Los Angeles for the first time. "Miraculous Encounters," on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum through April 28, features the artist’s recently restored altarpiece, "Visitazione."

"It is a privilege to bring the "Visitazione," one of Pontormo’s supreme masterpieces and one of the most enigmatically beautiful paintings of 16th-century Italy, to Los Angeles. This is the first time this painting has traveled to the United States. It is one of those exceptional paintings that, once seen, will never be forgotten, and I have no doubt it will be a revelation to our visitors both for its striking beauty and for its moving depiction of a key episode in recognition of Christ’s coming," said Timothy Potts, director of the Getty Museum.

Organized by the Getty Museum in conjunction with the Gallerie degli Uffizi in Florence and the Morgan Library & Museum in New York, the exhibition looks into Pontormo’s innovative oeuvre as a painter both of devotional subjects and of portraits.

Over 6 feet tall, "Visitazione" depicts Mary’s meeting with her cousin, Saint Elizabeth, when both were expecting their sons, Jesus Christ and John the Baptist. The painting is recorded in 1567 by historian Giovanni Colombi, the painting remained virtually unknown until its rediscovery in 1904 in the small parish church of Carmignano, a hill town west of Florence.

The recent restoration of the panel brought to light important information about the artist’s technique that illuminates the artist’s creative process. "Visitazione" is shown alongside the only known preparatory drawing for it, on loan from the Uffizi, as well as two painted portraits and their related drawings.

"By presenting the "Visitazione" and two portraits produced in the same years alongside their preparatory drawings, this exhibition gives us a rare opportunity to reconsider Pontormo’s artistic evolution at a crucial stage in his career," said Davide Gasparotto, senior curator of paintings at the Getty Museum. "It is especially moving to think of a great master like Pontormo working at the height of his skill during such a tumultuous period, when his city was under siege. His elegant and accomplished work from this era is imbued with a compelling vulnerability and sentiment."

The Getty Museum is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive. For information, visit getty.edu.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and the Center for PostNatural History in Pittsburgh, presents the temporary exhibition "That was then. This is now.," a history of post-natural selection not open through Sunday, April 28.

For thousands of years, humans have intentionally altered animals, affecting their evolution and survival. Artist Richard Pell has made it his project to collect, record and study examples of these post-natural organisms through his organization, the Center for PostNatural History.

"That was then. This is now. " features post-natural specimens from both the center’s collection and the museum’s collection, highlighting humanity’s long history of influencing natural processes. Specimens include a 3D photo of goats that produce spider’silk in their milk, a photograph print of the "Belly Tank Races" biofilm of bacteria and a 1,500-year-old corn cob.

The Natural History Museum is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information and tickets, visit nhm.org.

Gallery delves into Hollywood history

TAG Gallery presents “Hooray for Hollywood,” a new exhibition featuring artist Brian Reed as he pays homage to classic Hollywood films, on view from Feb. 19 to March 16. An opening reception will be held on Feb. 23 from 6-9 p.m.

Reed’s canvases evoke some of the great and not-so-great Hollywood films, from light musicals such as “Les Girls” and “South Pacific” to noir classics “Sorry, Wrong Number” and “Strangers on a Train.”

Brian, who hails from Canada, has made Los Angeles his home for the past 24 years. The cinema has inspired him to create an array of paintings that showcase his love of film.

TAG Gallery is located at 5458 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit taggallery.net.

Petersen exhibit showcases historic race cars

The Petersen Automotive Museum will open “Winning numbers: The First, The Fastest, The Winningest” on March 20 to May 31. A new exhibition featuring 10 groundbreaking race cars from the collection of Petersen Automotive Museum Executive Director Terry L. Karges. "Eponymizes true automotive passion, sharing his knowledge, fervor and immense love for the motorsport hobby with the next generation of enthusiasts. "Winning Numbers" reflects his discerning tastes as a collector, gathering only the most compelling examples of race cars from each genre of the sport.

The Petersen Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit petersen.org.
Buddhist imagery and figures on view at Japan Foundation


When Kamine first encountered the images of Buddhist guardian deities as a child, he was filled with awe and fear. As a working artist now, Kamine has crystallized those initial emotions into figures which borrow elements from Japanese animation and comics. They are not devotional pieces, nor are they facsimiles of extant Buddhist iconography; rather, Kamine’s exhaustive studies of Buddhist scriptures and fascination with robotic protectors, such as gundams, informed these deeply personal iterations.

The exhibition will feature a selection of Kamine’s sculptures, including representations of the Five Great Wisdom Kings. The Japan Foundation is located at 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 100. For information, visit jflalc.org.

WeHo exhibit recounts history of Beverly Park

West Hollywood’s Arts Division unveiled its newest art exhibit, “Remembering Beverly Park,” on Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. in the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room.

The exhibit features 20 images of the amusement park, which operated from 1943 through 1974 at the corner of Beverly and La Cienega boulevards, where the Beverly Center is currently located. The photographs are from the new book, “Beverly Park: The Kiddieland that Inspired Walt Disney,” by author and historian Jay Jennings.

Information for the book was sourced from the personal archives of Beverly Park owner Dave Bradle.

Beverly Park was a fun family destination known as a gathering place for birthday parties. It was also popular for celebrity sightings and attractions including a Ferris wheel, merry-go-round, roller coaster and boat rides. The exhibit will be on view on the first floor of the West Hollywood Library, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. For information, visit weho.org/arts.

‘Alita’ champions the uncanny valley, the writing goes robotic

I’m tired. So very tired. And films like “Alita: Battle Angel” do little to quell the rage that brews in my soul at 3 a.m. when Baby B decides my chest is the only suitable bed he needs. So when I see a trailer with an array of red flags – comy visual effects, weak one-liners, crepy CGI eyes that dip too far into the uncanny valley – I still hold onto a modest hope of a brief escape into a creative sci-fi setting.

And with director Robert Rodriguez (“Sin City,” “Desperado”) and writer-producer James Cameron, watchability is hardly an impossible goal. My optimism, once again, fails me.

To start, why does every futuristic dystopia – I still hold onto a modest hope of a brief escape into a creative sci-fi setting. And with director Robert Rodriguez (“Sin City,” “Desperado”) and writer-producer James Cameron, watchability is hardly an impossible goal. My optimism, once again, fails me.

To start, why does every futuristic dystopia, including representations of the enemy but a “slave” to the real enemy, Nova, whose presence remains a mystery. Following this moment of clarity, Alita kills the slave in a dramatic single blow. She kills a slave. Apparently, identifying the oppression of others doesn’t come with empathy or at least an alternative to violence.

Now, let’s discuss that CGI. From trailer No. 1, Alita’s big eyes are the star. A Disney character birthed from a graphics team’s collective nightmare, those eyes will dominate the film’s chances of reaching a wider audience. As for other digital characters, the visual design works much better in manga pages or 2D animation. Here, attempts to blend sci-fi with live action, subbing out haptic touch for digital components, are a special kind of tiresome standard.

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Alita (Rosa Salazar) uses robotic limbs in her fight for good in the futuristic film “Alita: Battle Angel.”

Rosa Salazar star as the title character in “Alita: Battle Angel,” a new film from director Robert Rodriguez and writer-producer James Cameron.
Didi Hirsch unveils new Suicide Prevention Center

Didi Hirsch, with the help of Melissa Rivers, Ronda Rousey and 60 survivors of suicide loss or attempts, unveiled its new state-of-the-art suicide prevention center on Feb. 7.

The 14,156-square-foot center expands the organization’s national reach by nearly doubling the number of people answering its 24/7 English/Spanish crisis line, a key member of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The center will now also add in-person therapy for individuals and families, support groups for teens bereaved by a loss and certified training for mental health professionals to the array of services it already provides, such as support groups throughout Southern California for people who have attempted or lost someone to suicide.

The signage of the building, naming it the “Suicide Prevention Center,” was also unveiled. The sign tells the community the center is a resource of healing and hope. As of now, we know of no other standalone facility that bears Suicide Prevention Center on the exterior of the building.

Pamela Kluft, Beverly Hills resident and vice chair of the board of directors at Didi Hirsch, was in attendance and helped unveil a painting designed by Ed Massey and painted by over 60 survivors of suicide loss or attempts, that will be on the side of the building’s exterior. The painting was made possible by the generous support of Pamela Kluft. She dedicates the project to her sister, Beth Hess, who died by suicide in 2012.

For information, visit didihirsch.org.

Beverly Hills’ Music in the Mansion welcomes ‘Guitarist and the Soprano’

Music in the Mansion Concert Series features “Romantic Pairings – the Guitarist and the Soprano” with Anastasia Milliaras and Aaron Hass, and Laurel Irene and Jaxon Williams on Sunday, Feb. 17, at 2 p.m. at Greystone Mansion & Gardens: The Doheny Estate.

Music in the Mansion Concert Series brings the finest in solo and chamber music entertainment since 1994. Performances are held the third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. at Greystone Mansion & Gardens with the exception of the iPalpiti Festival, which will take place on Wednesday, July 17, in the evening. For more information on Music in the Mansion, view beverlyhills.org/musicinmansion.

Advance ticket purchase is recommended. Greystone Mansion is located at 905 Loma Vista Drive. For information and tickets, visit beverlyhills.org/musicinmansion, or call (310)285-6850.

Bruno Mars to perform at annual Dodgers Foundation Gala

The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation announced its fifth anniversary Blue Diamond Gala will take place on Wednesday, June 12, at Dodger Stadium and will feature a concert by world-renowned musician Bruno Mars.

The evening will kick off with a star-studded blue carpet and pre-show dinner party, followed by two hours of entertainment and post-show food trucks, all to celebrate the impactful work being done year-round by the foundation.

Since inception, the Dodgers Foundation has invested over $25 million into the Los Angeles community in the form of direct programs and grant making to local organizations, impacting millions of children. Proceeds from the Blue Diamond Gala will directly impact the foundation’s Dodgers RBI and Dodgers Dreamfields programs. Past Blue Diamond galas have contributed to strengthened infrastructure, growth in programs and increased fundraising.

The Dodgers Foundation now serves more than 10,000 youth through Dodgers RBI, and impacts over 300,000 youth through Dodgers Dreamfields – with 24 of 50 fields completed in the last five years alone. The foundation has pledged to build an additional 25 fields in the next 15 years.

“We are so proud to be marking the fifth anniversary of our Blue Diamond Gala, an event that has continued to flourish each year, and raise funds for the instrumental work that the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation is doing in our communities,” said Mark Walter, Dodger owner and chairman of the foundation’s board.

For information, visit dodgers.com/gala.

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Didi Hirsch unveils new Suicide Prevention Center

Park sculpture to be temporarily removed

The Carol Bove, “IO” sculpture in Beverly Gardens Park on the block between Rodeo and North Beverly drives will be removed temporarily while the city constructs a new concrete base and landscaping to enhance public safety and to protect the artwork.

The construction area will be restricted with a fence, however, the park will be accessible to the public at all times. Construction begins Feb. 19 and is anticipated to conclude on or before April 1. “IO” will also undergo minor refurbishment at this time.

To allow for hauling of the sculpture, on Feb. 19, the day of the sculpture removal, and on the day of sculpture re-installation (exact date to be determined), Parkway sidewalk will be closed to pedestrian traffic between Rodeo and North Beverly drive. Parkway street traffic will be partially closed, reduced to a single lane. Directional signs will be posted. Closures will last no more than eight hours on these two days.

As with all construction projects, completion date is subject to change and updates will be posted to the city’s website at beverlyhills.org.

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Didi Hirsch unveils new Suicide Prevention Center
Duran faces calls to step down as WeHo mayor

From page 1

Jonathan Weedman said he was only aware of Tong’s complaint. “I was not conscious about this organization and its work,” Weedman said of Duran. “He has been accused of something that, as far as I know, was not found to be credible.”

Weedman has faced an accusation of unwanted sexual activity by a chorus member who is not part of the group, with the unexpected departure of the chorus artistic director and there being no expenses of the Facebook announce. She added that her campaign is working to get the public to vote for her in the coming election.

The Beverly Hills Bar Association is pleased to recognize Justice Collins and Kelli Fountain, chair of the Gay Men’s Chorus later this year, which he said he had already decided before the events, that decided that at least 100,000 people are in the chorus artistic director and there is no expenditure of the Facebook announce.

Duran is stepping down as board chair of the Gay Men’s Chorus later this year, which he said he had already decided before the events. The lawyer, who has been a lead counsel of the chorus, was among those who participated in the Facebook post.”

The Facebook fundraiser set a goal of $2,687 to name the pudu, which was reached within 24 hours of the Facebook announcement. The goal was increased to $2,000 to name the pudu, with the unexpected departure of the Facebook announce. The Facebook fundraiser set a goal of $2,687 to name the pudu, which was reached within 24 hours of the Facebook announcement. The goal was increased to $2,000 to name the pudu, with the unexpected departure of the Facebook announce.

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L.A. Zoo introduces its newborn pudu to media

The Los Angeles Zoo announces “Haechan” as the name of its new born, a southern pudu born at the L.A. Zoo on Dec 19, 2018, to first-time parents Steph and Mario.

Haechan will make his media debut on Jan. 24, from 9-10 a.m., with an animal keeper available for interviews.

The L.A. Zoo launched a Facebook fundraiser with a goal of $2,687 to name the pudu, with the unexpected departure of the Facebook announce. The fundraiser set a goal of $2,687 to name the pudu, which was reached within 24 hours of the Facebook announcement. The goal was increased to $2,000 to name the pudu, with the unexpected departure of the Facebook announce.

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Beverly Hills Bar Association honors Collins and Sager

The Beverly Hills Bar Association, heralded for championing the rights and interests of its members and the legal profession, has announced that Judge George C. Ramos, professor at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, and Cantor Spevak, a partner at the law firm of Brodsky, Spevak & Nesky, a partner at the law firm of Brodsky, Spevak & Nesky, will receive the 2019 J. Paul DiCaprio Pro Bono Award for their dedication to legal work and their commitment to the advancement of civil rights and social justice.

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Candidates gather for forum

From page 1

The annual homeless count last month underscored the countywide issue of affordability in West Hollywood, where the homeles- s population has hovered around 100,000 people since 2011. According to the Department of Public Health, the issue has large- ly been concentrated near Pantages Park and along Sunset Boulevard near La Brea Avenue and other areas on the east side of the city.

When you are an elected official, you have to hold yourself to a higher standard,” he said.

She added that the county needs to use its resources, including recently passed bond measures dedicated to addressing homelessness, to bolster the efforts of cities. She has made a candidate and member of the city’s Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, said that while the board has had the opportunity to connect the city’s homeless population with resources.

“I would like our homeless to have a haven where they know where to go for services, and a place where they can see other people because it takes a lot of time to build trust,” she said.

According to Lawson, who has a background in housing, there are several issues that need to be addressed.

Several candidates mentioned the cost of living and the need for more affordable housing in the city, as well as the need for more affordable housing in the city, as well as the need for more affordable housing in the city, as well as the need for more affordable housing in the city,

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NRA ties with L.A. coming into further scrutiny

From page 1

One hundred pairs of shoes representing the number of victims who die each day in the United States because of gun violence were placed on the steps at City Hall during a rally prior to the City Council approving an ordinance requiring contractors to disclose ties to the NRA.

Volkah said in a statement posted on his website, “The ordinance violates the First Amendment just because of its disclosure requirement alone. And I also visit First Amendment discrimination lawsuits by individual contractors who are denied contracts after they disclose that they deal with the NRA, just as an employer asking applicants to disclose their religious views would constitute religious discrimination lawsuits by applicants who aren’t.”

O’Farrell defended the ordinance and said he is aware of the NRA’s contention that the new law violates its right to free speech.

“The Supreme Court has made clear [in O’Hare Truck Service, Inc. v. United States] that the First Amendment doesn’t apply to corporations, and the court set a clear precedent that the First Amendment doesn’t apply to corporations. The public has a right to know, and of course the NRA is suing because that’s what they do. Before this even moved forward, I received the information that the NRA ‘s attorney was going to file a motion to strike the provisions of the law that would bear her name. The money was generated through an artist’s “Blackboard” series. The production features Zachery Ford ("Camillo" at Pasadena Playhouse) as Stevie Dyer ("My Fair Lady" at Musical Theater West) as Evelyn Nesbit. The artwork was sold at auction in 2015 for $50.5 million, and $30 million was donated to Wilshire Boulevard Temple. The temple is named for an old building that was once a part of the campus that is now torn down.

On free or discounted tickets will be available at many top museums and attractions in L.A.

Pasadena Playhouse, the state theater of California, will transform into a new world with an all new version of “Ragtime: The Musical” as it returns to Los Angeles after more than two decades after its premiere at the Shubert Theatre.

With 21 actors and a 16-piece orchestra, this is one of the most ambitious productions in the playhouse’s recent history.

“We’re thrilled to be producing one of the largest-scale projects in the organization’s history,” said Senior Rabbi Steven Leder.

With 21 actors and a 16-piece orchestra, this is one of the most ambitious productions in the playhouse’s recent history.

“The musical is directed by Stephen Flaherty with lyrics by Lynn Ahrens. This production will feature a dynamic cast including the roles of Mother, Auntie, wide range of characters, and is one of the largest-scale projects in the organization’s history.”

A landmark theatrical event for Los Angeles once again.

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