BHUSD annual Measure E audit shows improvement

BY LUKE HAROLD

An annual audit report showed that the Beverly Hills Unified School District has made progress on some of the persisting issues it has faced while managing construction funded by Measure E. Issues with properly documenting payments and showing that contracts were competitively bid had appeared on the annual independent audits, which are required by state law.

“I’m quite gratified frankly that of 20 recommendations from last year’s report, eight were resolved and 11 are apparently in progress of being resolved,” school board member Mel Spitz said during an April 23 Board of Education meeting, attributing the progress in part to new leadership overseeing the construction. “I think there’s hope that next year’s audit will show the improvement,” he said.

The district conducts an annual independent audit for its construction program funded by bond measures as required by state law.

L.A. River cleanup marks 30 years

■ More bicyclists, hikers and other visitors have been drawn to the area

BY CAMERON KISZLA

In the not too distant past, anyone who wanted to discuss cleaning up the Los Angeles River would have to begin by explaining to many Angelinos that the river even exists.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, said that was the case sometimes when he first got involved with the Friends of the L.A. River’s Great L.A. River Clean-Up in 2002, but in the years since, that’s changed.

“There’s a lot more awareness now about the environmental issues and the environmental goals that we have for the L.A. River and the cleanup,” O’Farrell said.

The growing awareness was on full display at Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park on April 20, when O’Farrell, Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, Assemblywoman Wendy Carrillo (D-Los Angeles), representatives from FoLAR and others gathered to mark the 30th annual cleanup and get to work on cleaning up the middle section of the river.

District, Assemblywoman Wendy Carrillo (D-Los Angeles), representatives from FoLAR and others gathered to mark the 30th annual cleanup of the L.A. River. O’Farrell, Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, Assemblywoman Wendy Carrillo, representatives from FoLAR and others.

State, county have also cracked down on polluting plastics

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles became the largest city in the country to prohibit restaurateurs from giving plastic straws to customers unless requested when an ordinance spearheaded by City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, went into effect on April 22.

O’Farrell joined environmental advocates, city public works officials and a representative from McDonald’s to announce the new ordinance, which became law on Earth Day. The group gathered in Bond Park in Atwater Village next to the Los Angeles River to emphasize the need to restrict plastic straws because of their impact on the environment.

“Working with us every step of the way again is the environmental community. A recent report revealed that every day, there are 500 million plastic straws used in the United States,” O’Farrell said. “No one knows better about that than Heal the Bay, because for several years now, they found out, through their coastal cleanups, that one out of every five items found on the beach is a plastic straw. Those plastic straws, that end up in our gutters or the river either become embedded in the river or they end up in the ocean … or they are consumed by a marine mammal, and that often leads to a slow, agonizing death.”

“We’re thrilled to support the roll out of a comprehensive solution that not only reduces single-use plastic pollution from winding up in our environment, but also ensures that anyone who needs a straw can still have access to one,” said Shelley Luce, president and CEO of Heal the Bay.

The state of California has adopted an ordinance spearheaded by City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, that became law on April 22.

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Tetzlaff Trio
Chamber music aficionados won’t want to miss a performance by the Tetzlaff Trio on Friday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bram Goldsmith Theater at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. Violinist Christian Tetzlaff, cellist Tanja Tetzlaff and pianist Lars Vogt come together for a perfectly paired evening of music by Schumann and Dvorak. Tickets start at $55. 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd. the-wallis.org.

WeHo Arbor Day
Plant a tree for Arbor Day at a celebration on Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Laurel Park in West Hollywood. The event is the city’s annual observance of the holiday. 1343 N. Laurel Ave. (323)848-3116, weho.org.

Pet vaccinations
Pet owners are invited to a Low-Cost SPCA-LA Pet Vaccination Clinic on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in West Hollywood’s Plummer Park Community Center. Vaccines for dogs and cats will be offered. Participants can learn about preventing canine and feline viruses. All dogs must be on leash or in a carrier, and all cats must be in carriers. 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. (888)SPCALA1, spcala.com.

The Spring Quartet at Ford Theatres
Ford Theatres presents a performance by The Spring Quartet – Jack Delojette, Joe Lovano, Esperanza Spalding and Leo Genovese – on Saturday, April 27, at 8 p.m. The performance brings together legendary saxophonist Lovano, bassist and vocalist and composer DeJohnette, pianist Spalding and pianist Genovese for an unforgettable evening. 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East. Tickets start at $35. (323)467-3733, feethatres.org.

Ray Harryhausen film at The Autry
Movie fans are invited to the Autry Museum of the American West for a screening of “The Valley of Gwangi” (1969) on Sunday, April 28, at 1:30 p.m. The screening is part of the Autry’s West Film Series. Stop-motion-animation pioneer Ray Harryhausen indulged his love of dinosaurs in “The Valley of Gwangi,” an epic tale of Old West meets “Lost World.” Chapman University professor of film production Eric Young, executive producer of “Ray Harryhausen: The Early Years Collection” (2005), will introduce the movie. Event is free with $14 adult admission. 4700 Western Heritage Way. (323)667-2000, the-autry.org.

Red Bridge Arts and Traverse Theatre Company present “Black Beauty,” galloping into the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts from Friday, April 26, through Sunday, May 5, in the venue’s Lovelace Studio Theater. The production is a re-telling of the story of hope, friendship and courage. It blends storytelling, music and puppetry for a tale of fun and adventure. Showtimes are 7 p.m., Friday; 2 and 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $25. 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd. (310)746-4000, the-wallis.org.

Red Hen Press
Join Paul Barnes (pictured) for a performance of “Red Hen Press: The Figure of Orpheus in Poetry and Performance” on Sunday, April 28, at 2 p.m. in The Edge at the Broad Stage. Barnes will captivate audience members with the Orphic Suite for Piano, his transcription of Philip Glass’s symphony Orpheus for Solo Piano. Poetry Society of America Director Alice Quinn will also perform contemporary poems on the Orphic theme, and a film clip will be shown from Marcel Camus’s ‘Black Orpheus.” Tickets start at $35. 110th St. and Santa Monica. (310)634-3200, thebroadstage.org.

‘One Day Plays’
LAMA Theatre Company will create five new plays in a single day at the fifth annual “One Day Plays” festival on Sunday, April 28, at 7 p.m. in the Gowery Court Theatre. Tickets start at $40. 544 N. Fairfax Ave. (323)380-8843, lamatheatre.com.

Los Angeles Doctors Symphony
The Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Maestro Irvin Shulman, presents a piano extravaganza on Sunday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the New Roads School’s Moss Theater in Santa Monica. Piano prodigy Briana Hewes and local pianists Sylvie Olivier, Deborah Hors, Rufus Choi and Robert Thess will perform works by Poulenc, Bach and Mozart. Adult tickets are $20, $5 for students and seniors. 3113 Olympic Blvd. (310)259-9604, ladso.org.

Authors at The Ebell
The Ebell welcomes authors James and Deborah Fallows for a luncheon discussion on their new book, “Our Towns: A 100,100-Mile Journey Into the Heart of America” on Monday, April 29, at 11:30 a.m. The New York Times best-seller about the couple’s five-year, cross-country journey is the basis of an HBO documentary. The cost is $30 for members, $40 for non-members. Reservations are required. 245 S. La Reina (323)931-1277, ext. 131, or email tickets@ebelllosangeles.com.

Comedy show
Enjoy a show by comedian Michael Sherman on Tuesday, April 30, at 1:30 p.m. at the Plummet Park Senior Center. Sherman performs impersonations of Hollywood legends. Admission is free. 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. (323)654-6505.

WHAT IS SB 50? – COMMUNITY TOWN HALL
When: TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019 – 7:30 p.m.
Free & Public
Where: Temple Beth Am (in Ballroom) 1039 S. LA CIENEGA BLVD., Los Angeles, CA 90035
Parking is only on La Cienega Blvd - no restrictions beginning at 7pm; street parking is also available on cross-street, Whitworth Ave.

Come learn about SB-50’s THREAT TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, HISTORIC DISTRICTS (HPDZs), PARKING, ZONING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Speakers:
• JILL STEWART – Executive Director - Coalition to Preserve LA
• CARMEN BORDAS O’CONNOR – LA Tenants Union /Pico-Whilshire
• BRAD KANE – President, P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council & South Carthay Neighborhood Association
• THE HONORABLE JOHN MIRisch – Mayor of Beverly Hills

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (323) 653-6495 (Messages); Email: weavingspthast@yahoo.com
Sponsored by South Carthay Neighborhood Association, Los Angeles

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Sponsored by South Carthay Neighborhood Association, Los Angeles
The Los Angeles City Council’s public works committee approved a report on April 17 that could pave the way for repairs to concrete streets in Hancock Park and other neighborhoods throughout the city.

The report, which must still be approved by the full City Council, is one step toward restoring concrete streets in various states of disrepair. Compiled by the city administrative officer and the chief legislative analyst with the assistance of the bureaus of Engineering, Streets Services and Contract Administration, the report outlines the scope of street repairs and prioritizes repairs to the most damaged sections.

Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, led the effort to study concrete street repair and identify ways to complete the work. The full City Council’s approval will likely come before the summer recess in July, Ryu spokesman Mark Pampanin said. After that, the city will identify individual streets in need of repairs and the costs, which will likely be ready this fall.

Fixing our concrete streets has been a priority of mine since I entered office,” Ryu said. “After decades of neglect, our city’s concrete streets are one step closer to the repair plan they deserve.”

The report includes a preliminary analysis of the 1,184 miles of concrete streets in the city, of which 965 miles, or approximately 82%, are in poor condition. It analyzed streets already paved over with asphalt, streets in need of small repairs that involve replacing sections of concrete up to 12-feet-by-20-feet in size, and streets in need of more extensive repairs.

Approximately 273 miles of concrete streets exist in the 4th District, of which 247 miles were listed in the report as being in poor condition. The 5th District has approximately 76 miles of concrete streets, with 63 miles rated in poor condition, and the 13th District has 108 miles on concrete streets, with 96 miles rated poor.

Approximately 365 miles of concrete streets exist in the 13th District, of which 327 miles, or approximately 90%, are in poor condition. It analyzed streets already paved over with asphalt, streets in need of small repairs that involve replacing sections of concrete up to 12-feet-by-20-feet in size, and streets in need of more extensive repairs.

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Promote cheap cannabis typically using coded language to aid and abet the supposedly illegal activity.

The City Attorney’s Office initiated testing done on cannabis products for sale at Kush Club 20 and found the presence of pachlobutrazol, a plant growth regulator pesticide. The chemical is primarily used for golf turf management to increase density and color in the grass. For information, visit lacryptommary.org.

Illegally-strat targeted after pot with pesticide allegedly found

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer recently announced that his office is seeking an injunction against a South LA commercial cannabis business for allegedly operating illegally and selling products allegedly containing a dangerous pesticide banned for use on cannabis in California.

Feuer’s office is also naming a commercial real estate broker and two salespeople in the lawsuit for allegedly aiding and abetting illegal activity. The civil lawsuit names Kish Club 20, an allegedly illegal commercial cannabis business located at 5527 S. Central Ave., and allegations the business operated without a license and advertised an extensive menu of products using coded language to promote cheap cannabis typically found in unlicensed stores.

The lawsuit also names the property owner, 5527 S. Central LLC, and Michael Lerner, its chief executive officer; D/AQ Corporation, known as Daum Commercial Real Estate; Benjamin R. Spinner, an associate vice president at D/AQ Corporation; and James Vu, a vice president of D/AQ Corporation, for allegedly leasing the property to Amy Sahadi Diaz in a transaction to aid and abet the allegedly illegal commercial cannabis activity. The owners are accused of misrepresenting the actual nature of the business on the lease.

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Driver arrested for fatal hit-and-run on Sunset

BY EDWIN FOLEV

Police have arrested a driver who allegedly struck and killed a 56-year-old man who was crossing Sunset Boulevard on April 18 and fled the scene.

Authorities were summoned to the scene of a collision at Sunset Boulevard and Formosa Avenue at approximately 3:30 a.m. after receiving a call from a passerby.

Paramedics rushed the victim, Andrew Mallard, to a hospital, where he later died.

The driver was allegedly traveling east on Sunset Boulevard when his vehicle struck Mallard, who was crossing southbound at Formosa Avenue, and failed to stop at the crosswalk at the intersection. Police searched the surrounding area but were unable to locate the driver.

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department's West Traffic Division released information about the collision to the media and continued their investigation.

Shortly after noon on April 23, the suspected driver, Kenneth Ryan Smith, of Norwalk, turned himself in at the Hollywood Division. He was accompanied by an attorney.

Smith is facing a charge of vehicular homicide by drinking and four counts of vehicular manslaughter.

No further details were released because of pending court proceedings. Anyone with further information should contact West Traffic Division detectives at (213)473-0234.

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Trump star vandalized again on Hollywood Walk of Fame

BY EDWIN FOLEV


Ana Martinez, vice president of media relations for the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, confirmed the star was vandalized. The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce oversees the Walk of Fame with the Hollywood Historic Trust. Another group, the Hollywood Property Owners Alliance, oversees the business improvement district in which the Walk of Fame is located.

“The Hollywood Property Owners Alliance sent out their crew this morning to clean off the paint off the star at no cost,” Martinez said. “The Hollywood Historic Trust, the group which maintains and repairs the stars on the Walk of Fame, filed a police report.”

The Los Angeles Police Department is investigating the incident and no further details were available. Media reports stated the vandalism occurred at approximately 3:40 a.m.

Trump’s star, which was dedicated in 2007 in the television category, has been vandalized twice before. On Oct. 26, 2016, a vandal smashed the star with a pick-ax, was later arrested and pleaded no contest to felony vandalism. On July 25, 2018, a different individual used a pick-ax to damage the star. He turned himself in at the Hollywood Division later the same day and was charged with felony vandalism.

Many people have called for Trump’s star to be removed but the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has no such plans.

“The Hollywood Walk of Fame is an institution celebrating the positive contributions of the inductees,” read a statement provided by Martinez. “When people are unhappy with one of our honorees, we would hope that they would project their anger in more positive ways than to vandalize a California State landmark. Our democracy is based on respect for the law. People can make a difference by voting and not destroying public property.”

Man pleads no contest to WeHo hatchet attack

A man who attacked a victim at a West Hollywood convenience store in 2017 pleaded no contest to the crime on April 22.

Kisu Brown, 43, entered the plea to one count of attempted voluntary manslaughter. Brown also admitted inflicting great bodily injury on the victim and using an ax as a deadly and dangerous weapon. Sentencing is scheduled on Aug. 29. The defendant faces more than nine years in state prison.

On Sept. 2, 2017, Brown was confronted by a clerk at a 7-Eleven store in the 7900 block of Santa Monica Boulevard for allegedly shoplifting. A man in the store became involved in the dispute and a struggle ensued, according to evidence presented at the preliminary hearing.

Brown exited the store and stopped outside the door. When the man who had been involved in the argument left the store, the defendant attacked him with an ax and struck him repeatedly, the prosecutor said. The victim sustained multiple head wounds and other injuries but survived.

Brown, who authorities described as a transient with an extensive criminal history, was arrested on Sept. 3, 2017. The case was investigated by West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station detectives.

Statues at Wilshire Division honor fallen officers

The First-In Fire Foundation recently celebrated the installation of two lion statues near the entrance of the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division.

The statues will be the signature pieces in a Fallen Officers Memorial & Garden the foundation is creating at the police station. The memorial is inspired by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the lion statues symbolize strength and protection.

The foundation plans to eventually install a marker listing the names of each fallen officer from the division. The acquisition of the lions was assisted by California Auctioneers and the cement pads are inscribed with the messages “United We Stand” and “In God We Trust.”

“We accepted the officer’s request to do this Fallen Officers Memorial & Garden as a symbol of the timely importance and community standing by and with local law enforcement,” said First-In Fire Foundation president Lyn MacEwen Cohen. “We are working together hand-in-hand fostering emergency preparedness and public safety with local police officers and local fire fighters. This memorial symbolizes unity, respect and a promise to never forget.”

“For the last two years, I have been working with Lyn MacEwen Cohen and the First-In Fire Foundation to establish a memorial for the Los Angeles Police Officers who have died in the line of duty while assigned to Wilshire Division,” added Wilshire Division Capt. Anthony Oddo. “Lyn was able to find two lions that will ‘welcome people to our memorial. The lions not only symbolize the strength that officers must have, but they also symbolize our role as protectors. Also, want to thank Park La Brea for donating the concrete foundations both lions rest on.”

Wilshire Division Capt. Anthony Oddo joined First-In Fire Foundation president Lyn MacEwen Cohen after the installation of two statues that will be centerpiece in the police station’s memorial.
Cypress Hill, the Grammy-nominated hip-hop group best known for the 1994 song “Insane in the Brain,” received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on April 18.

The group – comprised of Senen “Sen Dog” Reyes, Louis “B-Real” Freese, Lawrence “DJ Muggs” Muggerud and Eric “Bobo” Correa – emerged out of South Gate in the late 1980s and found mainstream success in the early 1990s with a string of three platinum albums, including the triple platinum “Black Sunday.” Cypress Hill has sold more than 18 million albums, and their influence in hip-hop goes further than the numbers would indicate, said fellow rapper Xzibit, who lauded the group during the ceremony.

“You are our Rolling Stones, our Grateful Dead. You are the West Coast Public Enemy. You’ve stood the test of time,” Xzibit said.

Comedian George Lopez, who was awarded a star on the Walk of Fame in 2006, said of the more than 2,600 stars, none are more important than the one awarded to Cypress Hill, the first Latino hip-hop group to be honored.

“There’s a lot of actors, there’s a lot of comedians, there’s a lot of entertainers who are on [these] stars,” Lopez said. “But there’s only one Cypress Hill.”

When they took the stage, the band members thanked fans, family and friends – including notable musicians like Everlast of House of Pain, Chuck D of Public Enemy, and Tom Morello of Rage Against the Machine – who came out to celebrate.

“We want to thank our friends around the world and most especially right here at home base, Los Angeles, California,” B-Real said.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, was on hand to celebrate the group, which he credited with having a positive impact on the local community through charitable work. O’Farrell said he also enjoys the hip-hop band’s music.

“I may not look like I know who Cypress Hill is, I may not look like I love their music, but let me tell you, I am insane in the membrane just like everyone else,” O’Farrell said.

From South Gate to the Walk of Fame

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New signs point the way for Hollywood visitors

By Cameron Kiszla

One of Los Angeles’ tourism hubs is now a little more visitor-friendly after 79 new signs were installed to help guide pedestrians around Hollywood.

The signs, which have color-coded maps to help pedestrians orient themselves and arrows pointing to nearby landmarks, will help alleviate a longstanding problem in Hollywood, said Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District.

“Most people can find their way to Hollywood, but not everyone can find their way around Hollywood to the destination that they seek,” he said.

O’Farrell was also complimentary of the guides’ Art Deco aesthetic, which the signs’ designer, Wayne Hunt of Pasadena’s Hunt Design, said he modeled on historic movie theaters, making the signs look like they’ve “always been here.”

“It looks like the way people expect things to look when they come to Hollywood,” Hunt said.

The new signs are an investment in Hollywood, O’Farrell said, to make it a place where locals and visitors alike shop at stores and dine at one-of-a-kind eateries, such as the famed Musso & Frank Grill on Hollywood Boulevard.

“The signs are specifically catered to serve people who are walking, and we want to get more people walking and exploring this wonderful neighborhood,” O’Farrell said.

Creating more foot traffic can help the local economy too, which in turn might help raise the quality of the whole area, he said.

“When neighborhoods look better and you elevate the standards of the public, then residents here and businesses will take pride in their community,” O’Farrell said.

The signs are just the first step in O’Farrell’s “HEART of Hollywood” initiative, which also plans to install...
State, local officials begin preparing for 2020 census

“Adding a citizenship question to the 2020 census will create a false count and steer funding away from communities that need it most.”

- Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District

The city of West Hollywood unveiled its census initiative during a recent City Council meeting.

Schiff, Democrats continue inquiry into election interference

BY LUKE HAROLD

A group of House Democrats said the redacted report from special counsel Robert Mueller shows “a damning portrait of lies” that obscures the connection between the Trump campaign and Russia during the 2016 presidential election.

“My constituents are deeply appalled at what they see at the president’s willingness to accept help from a foreign power,” U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) said in a phone interview.

Schiff was in his district this week for Armenian Genocide ceremonies. Locally, he also continues to push for nearly 200,000 acres to be added to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and funding for the continued development of an earthquake early warning system.

Resources to which we’re entitled – political representation and federal populations – depriving us of the communities that need it most. This is why six former directors of the Census Bureau and federal judges in three states rejected this question, and why it should be swiftly rejected by the Supreme Court.”

The presence of renters, who are more likely to move frequently; crowded housing units, which may include multiple occupants who are living there without landlord approval; and households receiving public assistance, which are prone to underreporting the number of occupants, are some of the factors that make the count difficult in Los Angeles and other areas throughout the state, in addition to the presence of undocumented immigrants.

“The Trump administration’s brazen, unconstitutional attempt to suppress the census count in cities and states with large immigrant populations – depriving us of the political representation and federal resources to which we’re entitled – must not stand,” Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer said in a statement.

A citizenship question has not been included on the census since 1960, but it has been included for small sample sizes of the population, as well as in the Census Bureau’s annual American Community Survey.

“California is determined to ensure we achieve a complete census count,” Ditas Kattage, director of the California Complete Count, said in a statement. “We’ve started early and are committing more resources than any other state on a robust outreach and engagement effort to reach all Californians. Our collaborative partnerships throughout the state will make a difference in 2020, which may be the most difficult Census count yet for California.”

MAY AT THE EBELL

Mother’s Day Brunch

Give your mom (or yourself) the gift of our elegant Mother’s Day Brunch. Wonderful food, champagne, and a fabulous time.

Mother’s Day Brunch

Saturday, May 12
two seatings: 10 am and 10:30 am

Tickets go on sale on April 12

LA Opera at the Ebell

The Ebell of Los Angeles and the LA Opera present a recital featuring LA Opera’s young artists. It will feature beautiful arias from all-time favorite operas, along with new works.

Wednesday, May 20
2:30 pm and 7:30 pm
More than 50 theaters, churches, schools and other venues across Los Angeles will host dozens of performances to raise money for homelessness from April 26 through May 5.

The program, called Homeward LA, will put on dozens of performances at more than 50 places between April 26 and May 5.

This is the second year of Homeward LA, which raised about $55,000 last year in ticket sales and donations. Jason Lesner, the event’s founder and project director, said Homeward LA wants to raise $150,000 this year between ticket sales, donations and the kickoff event at the Egyptian Theater on April 23. All of the money raised goes to the nonprofit Midnight Mission on Skid Row, which Lesner said has been respected for outreach to homeless people for more than 100 years.

“When I first met with them and took a tour of the facility, I was very moved by who they’re working with and their work, it’s very effective,” Lesner said.

In an effort to help, Lesner got members of the entertainment industry involved, including some writers who met with people who were helped by the Midnight Mission. The writers turned those meetings into a series of 11 stories, which hundreds of actors across Los Angeles will perform during Homeward LA’s 10-day run.

Not all of the stories directly deal with homelessness. Some are anecdotes from people’s childhoods, and others talk about family and friends more than the struggles of what many imagine homelessness to be.

That’s because the Homeward LA shows want to humanize their subjects, not define homeless people by their homelessness, Lesner said. Instead, the knowledge that these are the stories of people who have been homeless will be the backdrop, not the direct focus.

“We wanted to tell stories that people can see themselves in,” he said.

Many of the shows will likely use minimal set design, as Lesner discouraged the productions from using cliched depictions of homelessness like tents and shopping carts, which could distract from the stories or increase production budgets that would eat into the money raised for the Midnight Mission.

But even without a lot of set decoration or expensive costumes, those involved with the Homeward LA show at Beverly Hills’ Theatre 40 said the show is well worth the $20 price of admission.

David Hunt Stafford, Theatre 40’s artistic director and an actor who will portray the character Dusty during his group’s April 28 show, said this is a great way for people to assist the homeless in an impactful way.

“We’re all very, very aware of the problem. You see a guy under a bridge and ... you don’t know what to do. So, this helps,” Stafford said.

Jules Aaron, who is directing the Theatre 40 show, said not only will the audience get to experience great theater, but they can leave with a sense of satisfaction.

“This gives you a personal feeling that you’re devoting something that’s personal of you into raising money, rather than just writing a check,” Aaron said.

Lesner said the best way to ensure Homeward LA’s continued success is to put on a performance people won’t want to miss.

The goal is for this to be an annual event. We want people to come back and want to hear more stories,” he said.

Theatre 40 is located at 241 S. Moreno Dr., Beverly Hills. For information or tickets, call (310)364-3606, or visit theatre40.org.

Performances will also be held at the West Hollywood City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood; the LA LGBT Center, 1125 N. McCadden Place; the Actors Studio West Theatre, 8341 DeLongpre Ave., West Hollywood; Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, 6522 Hollywood Blvd., and the Marilyn Monroe Theatre at the Lee Strasberg Institute, 7306 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

For information, visit homeward-la.org or midnightmission.org.
The public can get a behind-the-scenes look at law enforcement when the Los Angeles Police Department’s Hollywood Division welcomes the community to an open house on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 3 p.m. at 1358 N. Wilshire Blvd.

The street in front of the police station will be closed to traffic and the event includes special guests, exhibits, demonstrations, entertainment, food and more. The public can tour the station, which opened in 1913, and learn about police programs. The open house is part of the LAPD’s 150th anniversary celebration in 2019, with police stations throughout the city hosting open houses. The Hollywood Division’s open house is scheduled on May 19.

Visitors can meet some of Hollywood Division’s 400 officers in an informal setting that promotes partnerships. Wreaths will be placed next to a memorial for the eight officers from the station killed in the line of duty. Actor Kent McCord, known for his role as Officer Jim Reed on the television series “Adam-12,” will greet fans at open house on April 28.

“From a police officer’s point of view, I don’t think there is anything cooler than posing for a picture with Kent McCord,” Jordan said. “To give it that Hollywood flavor, we have the actual person who makes the stars on the Walk of Fame [Carmine Goglia]. He is going to be here with an exhibit, an 8-by-10 backdrop, and he’ll put whatever name you want on a star and you can pose for a picture with that. It’s really cool. A lot of people want to do that.”

Other special guests include Amy Aquino from the television series “Bosch,” and author Joseph Wambaugh, a former LAPD officer who has written books about the department including “Porch Onions Field” and the “Hollywood Station” series.

Jordan said a highlight will be the food, which is being catered by the Dream Hollywood Hotel. He added that another popular component will be the department’s Force Option Simulator, which is rarely open to the public. The simulator places people in real-life situations requiring split-second decision making, allowing them to experience what officers go through when encountering dangerous situations. All officers train in the simulator twice a year.

“You put a Sam Browne belt on with a rubber gun and it’s almost like a video game. You watch a movie and are told to react to what you see on the screen,” Jordan added. “I can tell you, it changes everyone’s perception of what we do when you stand in front of that simulator.”

The public can also tour the police station and see the booking room, detective unit, weapons storage area, and other facilities. A special dedication ceremony will be held during the open house for the station’s newly remodeled roll call room, a project funded by the Dream Hollywood Hotel. Members of the cadet, junior cadet and police activities league programs for youth will also be present, highlighting opportunities for community involvement.

“We hope everyone comes down and enjoys themselves,” Jordan added. “It will be a fun event that celebrates the department, the Hollywood Division and the community.”

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Hollywood Division welcomes the community at open house on April 28

Anti-hair discrimination bill advances in state Senate

The CROWN Coalition, a national alliance comprised of the National Urban League, Western Center on Law & Poverty, Color of Change and Dove, announced a bill they are sponsoring, SB 188, passed the state Senate floor on April 22 on a bipartisan 37-0 vote.

Introduced by Senate Sen. Holly Mitchell (D-Los Angeles), SB 188, the Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair, or CROWN, Act, aims to clarify that traits historically associated with race, such as hair texture and hairstyle, should be protected from discrimination in the workplace and in K-12 public and charter schools.

“Many black employees, including your staff, members, will tell you if given the chance that the struggle to maintain what society has deemed a ‘professional image’ while protecting the health and integrity of their hair remains a defining and paradoxical struggle in their work experience, not usually shared by their non-black peers,” Mitchell said shortly before the Senate vote. “Any law that sanctions a job description that immediately excludes me from a position, not because of my capabilities or experience but because of my hair, is long overdue for reform.”

SB 188 aims to ensure protection against discrimination in the workplace and schools on hairstyles by prohibiting employers and school districts from enforcing purportedly ‘race neutral’ grooming policies that disproportionately impact persons of color. Additionally, while anti-discrimination laws presently protect the choice to wear an Afro, Afros are not the only natural presentation of black hair. SB 188 will ensure protection against discrimination based on hairstyles by extending statutory protection to hair texture and protective styles in the workplace and schools.

Anti-discrimination policies based on stare at a person’s hair, that this is not the only natural presentation of black hair. SB 188 will ensure protection against discrimination based on hairstyles by extending statutory protection to hair texture and protective styles in the workplace and schools. The bill will help ensure that California’s laws sufficiently protect the natural presentation of black hair and promote an inclusive and respectful workplace and school environment.

SB 188 is supported by the National Urban League, Western Center on Law & Poverty, Color of Change, Dove, the National Partnership for Women & Families and the California Teachers Association. The measure is supported by the California Education Code.
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WeHo celebrates seniors in May

For more than two decades, West Hollywood has organized an annual series of events to engage and celebrate older community members during senior month, celebrating each May.

The programming launches a day early with a workshop titled “Making My Smartphone Work for Me” on Tuesday, April 30, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Plummer Park’s Great Hall, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

The workshop will be followed by a short film series on Wednesday, May 1, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. The short film “Carry Tiger to Mountain” and documentary “Lives Well Lived” by Jeffrey Friedman will be shown.

Wisdom of Age” will be shown. Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Tastes of Aging and a special reception for the seniors will be offered. A complimentary lunch can be reserved in advance by calling (323)848-6820.

On Wednesday, May 22, at 2 p.m., the Senior Advisory Board will hold a televised meeting and reception in the City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. Additional programs for seniors are scheduled in May. For information, call (323)876-1717, or visit weho.org.

Festival to celebrate President Obama Boulevard

The city of Los Angeles is hosting a naming ceremony and street festival for President Barack Obama Boulevard on Saturday, May 4, from noon to 6 p.m. at the intersection of Rodeo Road and Martin Luther King Boulevard, next to the Dorsey High School football stadium.

The event will include musical entertainment by Doug E. Fresh, Yo-Yo, BJ the Chicago Kid, Battlecat, Kurupt, Alex Isley, Gavlyn, T-Lyons, DJ Tee, Verbs and DJ Quesscuent. Kevin Nash and Dominique DiPrima will serve as masters of ceremonies.

Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and U.S. Rep. Karen Bass (D-Los Angeles) are partnering with the L.A. Urban League to hold the ceremony and festival. Numerous food trucks will participate, and the first 1,000 people in attendance will receive commemorative T-shirts.

The Los Angeles City Council approved a proposal by Wesson to name the 3.7-mile stretch of Rodeo Road between Jefferson Boulevard and Arlington Avenue as Obama Boulevard. The location is near Rancho Cienega Park, where then-Sen. Obama appeared at a rally prior to his being elected president.

The festival begins at noon, with the official naming ceremony at 5 p.m. The final musical artist will perform at 5:15 p.m. Admission is free. For information and to register, visit obamafest.eventbrite.com.

Yom Hashoah observance commemorates victims of the Holocaust

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and Mayor Eric Garcetti will hold the annual community Yom Hashoah Commemoration for Holocaust Remembrance Day on Sunday, April 28, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Pan Pacific Park.

Community members of all ages will come together for a special ceremony honoring the memories of victims and survivors of the Holocaust. Attendees will reflect and remember together through music and survivor testimonies.

The event’s organizing committee will be held by the American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, Jewish Family Service, Jewish World Watch, Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, Mt. Sinai Memorial Parks, Museum of Tolerance, Sinai Temple, Stephen Wise Temple, Theatre Dybbuk, Valley Beth Shalom and Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Pan Pacific Park is located at 7600 Beverly Blvd. The event will feature musical entertainment by Doug E. Fresh, Yo-Yo, BJ the Chicago Kid, Battlecat, Kurupt, Alex Isley, Gavlyn, T-Lyons, DJ Tee, Verbs and DJ Quesscuent. Kevin Nash and Dominique DiPrima will serve as masters of ceremonies.

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Mulholland's legacy heralded in his hometown

Former Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge recently visited Northern Ireland and presented Belfast city officials with a street sign commemorating William Mulholland, an Irish-American civil engineer credited with building the infrastructure for Los Angeles' water system.

LaBonge, who also formerly served as communications director for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, participated as a private citizen. He joined U.S. officials and representatives from Northern Ireland for a ceremony in Mulholland's hometown of Belfast.

Mulholland designed and oversaw construction of the Los Angeles Aqueduct, which brings water from the Owens Valley to the San Fernando Valley. His work is credited with a foundation that enabled the city of Los Angeles to expand into a metropolis.

LaBonge also donated a signed copy of a book by Mulholland's late granddaughter Catherine to the Belfast Central Library. A commemorative plaque was placed at the site of Mulholland's former parish on Donegal Street in the capital of Northern Ireland. Mulholland died in 1935.

Metro offers subway project updates in Beverly Hills

Metro is holding a meeting with updates on the Purple Line Extension project on Wednesday, May 1, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Beverly Hills Public Library, Second Floor Auditorium, 444 N. Rexford Drive.

The meeting is part of a monthly series on the subway construction on Beverly Hills. Topics include work at and around the Wilshire/Rodeo and Wilshire/La Cienega stations, construction of a staging yard at Wilshire Boulevard and Reeves Drive, North Canon Drive closings, piling and decking, and utility and sewer relocation. Free parking is available after 5 p.m. at the Civic Center Garage, 930 Civic Center Drive.

Metro is also offering updates about construction at other locations along the Metrorail route. From Thursday, April 25, through Friday, April 26, Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to one lane in each direction to support street work.

Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard between La Jolla Avenue and San Diego Way will be reduced to one lane, and westbound Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in the same location. Work hours are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At times, the lane configurations will be reversed, with one lane open on westbound Wilshire and two lanes open on the eastbound side.

Crews will also be working near McCarthy Vista/Crescent Heights and Wilshire Boulevard on April 25 and 26. Northbound McCarthy Vista/Crescent Heights will be reduced to one lane between Warner Drive and Orange Street from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wilshire Boulevard may also be intermittently reduced to one lane in each direction.

Excavation continues from the construction staging areas at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale. Metro is also starting utility potholing work to identify existing utilities below Wilshire Boulevard between Beverly and Crescent drives.

Further east, excavation and haulout are ongoing near Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue. Ogden Drive will be closed temporarily at Wilshire Boulevard from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Intermittent lane closures may also be necessary to support deck panel maintenance.

Soil haulout and tunneling support continues at staging yards on the north and south sides of Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue, and from a work zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard just east of Sycamore Avenue. East and west Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to one lane between Sycamore and Manfredi avenues. Sycamore Avenue will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard to support delivery to the work zone in the center of the street.

Near Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue, excavation, concrete, and street maintenance are occurring. Northbound Manhattan Boulevard will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard to support deliveries to the work zone in the center of the street.

Metro is also offering construction updates on other sections of the Purple Line. westbound Wilshire Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard are being reduced to one lane in each direction to support street work.

Metro will reconfigure the southbound lane on Wilshire Boulevard between Sycamore Avenue and Aplington Avenue, which may also be necessary to support street work.

The staff report will be available on Wednesday, May 1, 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 liable to raise all 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 City Council, via the Planning and Development Services Department at, or prior 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-CITY-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 Adrian Gallo, Associate Planner, in the Planning and Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475, or via email at: agallo@weho.org.

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk
Taste of the Eastside

Taste of the Eastside is returning to celebrate the ever-evolving and diverse Eastside and surrounding neighborhoods of Los Angeles on Sunday, April 28. VIP admission starts at 3 p.m. and general admission at 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.

More than 30 vendors of savory food and drink will have something for everyone to love. Some of the local establishments include Silverlake’s delectable Chinese Spot, Fat Dragon, the cozy Los Feliz joint Little Dom’s, sweet jeti’s Splendid Ice Creams, Cafe Birdie, Sweetfire, Jewell Brick Shop Tavern, Eagle Rock Public House, Momed, wine merchants Silver Lake Wines, signature cocktails Greenbar Craft Distillery. KCWI DJ favorites Raul Campos and Garth Trinidad will be spinning tunes. All proceeds from Taste of the Eastside will be donated to highly-deserving local organizations, including Rose Scharlin Cooperative Nursery School, the Pahluwe Foundation, and Friends of the LA River. TOTÊ continues to be an environmentally friendly festival by making an effort to compost, recycle and reduce waste wherever possible.

The Los Angeles River Center and Gardens is located at 570 W. Ave. 26 #100. For information and tickets, visit tasteoftheeastside.com/tickets.
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~ENTREES~
All Entrees include choice of freshly baked dinner roll,
Date-nut or banana nut bread

Grilled Shrimp Salad
baby mixed greens, avocado, boiled eggs, tomatoes
with Hawaiian papaya wedges drizzled with a raspberry vinaigrette $18.95

Grilled Vegetable Platter
Grilled eggplant, zucchini, asparagus, beefsteak tomato, roasted peppers $14.95

Chicken or Salmon Alfredo
Pan seared julienne chicken or salmon, green peas, shiitake mushrooms, sundried tomatoes, fettuccine $19.00

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Frances@dupars-psr.com
At 1:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 500 block of Beverly.

At 1:10 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Sunset and Cassil at 9 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood at 6:38 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 550 block of Melrose at 5:55 a.m.

At 7:30 a.m., a suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Sunset and Cassil at 9 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5300 block of Sunset at 10:5 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Hollywood and Vine.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5100 block of Maplewood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Wilshire and Citrus at 10 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of La Brea and Sunset.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of La Brea and Hawthorn.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1400 block of N. Martel at 3 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of S. Hamilton near Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5600 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1400 block of N. Martel at 3 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of S. Hamilton near Sunset.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Cahuenga and Melrose.

At 11 p.m., a petty theft was reported in the 6600 block of Hollywood.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the area patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between April 12 and April 21. The information was compiled from www.crime mapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (310)443-3476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)405-9951.
At Cliff’s Edge, located in Sunset Junction in Silver Lake, new chef Will Kelly has crafted a soulful menu for diners to enjoy, whether they sit inside at the bar and lounge or outdoors on the enchanting patio. A multi-level utopian dining area is filled with brightly colored floral accent pillows and lush greenery, and the patio is bordered with a forest of thick bamboo stalks and lush flowering fauna to provide privacy from nearby Sunset Boulevard. Twinkle lights hang around a towering ancient tree, offering a romantic ambiance for those sitting under its large spreading branches.

There is something for everyone on this California menu, including those with dietary restrictions.

Our group started with fresh briny oysters served with a red wine mignonette, cocktail sauce and squeeze of lemon. Since almost every table had a pan of fresh out-of-the-oven Parker House rolls, we ordered them too. They arrived glazed with a seaweed butter, where Border butter and dusting of parmesan.

We enjoyed the rolls with a white miso amuse of white olives that included Spanish Cornicabra and meaty Californian Mission olives, a few French Picholine cocktail olives and green, crisp Capano olive oil. My favorites were the distinctly deep red Italian Targiaglace, which offer a sweet and spicy flavor with a hint of nutty almond.

Since two of our friends are vegetarians, they ordered the harissa carrots, which were sweeter than a potato, and dollop of creamy lebna yogurt. They also ordered the sprouting multicolored cauliflower, which was dizzled with bagna cauda – “a hot bath” mixture of garlic and anchovies – and fennel, mint and a little bit of Calabrian chili. The Brussels sprouts come with chopped Marcona almonds, lemon and a balsamic drizzle.

At Cliff’s Edge, the chef makes handmade pasta daily, so we ordered a different types: the wild mushroom pappardelle, which included bits of charred kale, parmesan and crème fraîche, and the black squid ink seafood fettuccine. The squid ink pasta comes with clams and mussels, as well as a kick of heat from the small Calabrian chili that is spicy, smoky and even has a fruity taste. The pasta dish is finished with a squeeze of lemon for acid and fennel pollen dusting.

Cliff’s Edge offers a variety of meat options as well. My husband ordered the duck breast, which was served with smoked currents, braised endive, Brussels sprouts and a sweet potato base. Braised spigarello, a cousin to broccoli that features long stems and curled green leaves, accompanied the duck.

Other proteins include bone-in New York steak, which is aged 36 10 to 21 days, rubbed half chicken, and short rib served with celery root, chantarelles, sprouted cauliflower and a lovely jus.

Since we were celebrating a birthday, we splurged and ordered a huscious chocolate pot de creme topped with cardamom whipped cream, tiny cocoa nibs and chopped candied orange.

The restaurant offers more than just dinner. During the weekend, Cliff’s Edge serves a variety of enticing brunch fare, including lemon and ricotta pancakes, eggs Benedict, shrimp and grits, and apple cinnamon French toast. Brunch drinks include IPAs, sour, lambic and cider.

One of beverage director Melissa Kelly’s go-to brewers is MacLeod Ale Brewing Co. in Van Nuys. They supply Bar 326 with a variety of beers including the very popular Van ICI from Amsterdam Lager.

On the first and third Fridays of the month, Bar 326 has Fishkin Fridays where they pour Van ICI from a hand painted cask. Currently on tap is the Cut and Dry Irish stout, akin to Guinness, and Better Days pale ale.

Other brewers that Kelly and general manager Gary Twin have fired up over are Boomtown Brewery, Common, Angel City and recently Russian River Brewing Co. from Santa Rosa. On Tuesday, Kelly and Twin tapped the Blind Pig IPA from Russian River. It’s smooth, loaded with hops but not too bitter at 70 IBU (international bitterness unit). With the ABV hovering around 6%, it’s not too heavy on the alcohol, like some IPAs.

Dinner hours are 6 to 10:30 p.m. from Monday through Thursday. On Fridays and Saturdays, the restaurant stays open until 11 p.m. Bar hours are 6 p.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday, but on Fridays and Saturdays, the bar stays open until 2 a.m. Weekend brunch is served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 3626 W. Sunset Blvd., (323) 666-6116.

They’ve got their craft beer list down cold by Karen Villalpando

Shoppers looking for locally grown produce and fresh meat, poultry and seafood visit the Farmers Market at Third and Fairfax. So why not include locally produced craft beer made from California grown ingredients?

The Farmers Market Bars – Bar 326 and EB’s – have tapped into a curated craft beer list showcasing smaller brewers based in California. The bars keep it fresh by rotating the 24 tap beer styles they offer, like IPAs, sours, lambics and ciders.

One of beverage director Melissa Kelly’s go-to brewers is MacLeod Ale Brewing Co. in Van Nuys. They supply Bar 326 with a variety of beers including the very popular Van ICI from Amsterdam Lager. Since we were celebrating a birthday, we splurged and ordered a huscious chocolate pot de creme.
For the last few years, the Melrose Business Improvement District has been working to create an event for the community; a special place for folks that live in and around Melrose to gather and connect.

The MBID joined forces with the Greenway Arts Alliance to develop a fun, family-friendly event with a distinctly Melrose vibe at the Melrose Trading Post that neighbors can walk to and enjoy every weekend.

The first Melrose Mornings event will be Sunday, April 28, and then will take place every Sunday thereafter at the MTP from 9-11 a.m. Melrose Mornings will appeal to parents and kids from toddlers to tweens. Entertainment includes kid-friendly bands and entertainers, a handmade plant-pot sale that live in and around Melrose to gather and connect.

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District considers special designation for Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education has unanimously approved a plan to accommodate students and families who observe Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day on April 24.

The resolution was introduced by board member Kelly Gonez and co-sponsored by president Mónica García and board member Scott M. Schmerelson. The board called for the district to develop plans for designating Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day as a potential pupil-free day, unassigned day or holiday in future school years. On April 24, all LAUSD schools have double the number of absences than normal days because many students are observing Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day.

The Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day is a significant day for many of our students whose families survived the horror of the Armenian Genocide and for the entire Armenian community, whose suffering at the hands of the Ottoman Empire continues to be denied even today,” Gonez said. “Power is the ability to define our reality,” García added. “We fully recognize the atrocities of 1915, and as a district, we commit to educating our children about the Armenian Genocide.”

Library system offers online courses for adults to complete high school

The Los Angeles Public Library honored its fifth group of graduates from Career Online High School in a ceremony on April 20 at the Central Library. Los Angeles Public Library was the first in the nation to offer career adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certification.

“We are so proud to be entering year five of Career Online High School here at Los Angeles Public Library,” City Librarian John F. Szabo said. “This game-changing program exemplifies our commitment to lifelong learning. Since we began offering COHS, 248 students have graduated from the program, and an additional 343 are currently enrolled.”

The library launched its program in 2014 by enrolling adults in a pilot program that offered grants to Los Angeles residents. Twelve students graduated during the first fiscal year of the program. This fiscal year, 72 have completed their requirements for graduation so far.

The program is free for students looking to advance careers, prepare for workforce entry or continue their education. COHS pairs each student with an academic coach who provides them an individual career path, offers ongoing guidance, evaluates performance and connects them with the resources needed to complete courses. Students have up to 18 months to complete the program.

Los Angeles has among the nation’s highest school dropout rates, with upwards of 25 percent of adult residents lacking a high school diploma, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. Funding for COHS is provided by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and the State Library. For information, visit lapl.org/diploma.

Colburn School to showcase students on stream

The Colburn School and Primephonic, a streaming service dedicated to classical music, have partnered to offer playlists featuring recordings of the school’s alumni, faculty and students.

The initial playlist features 14 works by composers ranging from Schubert to Salonen and is available by visiting primephonic.com/colburn. A free, three-month subscription is offered to first-time users.

Primephonic offers nearly all classical music ever recorded, with over 1 million music tracks. Works are curated from the catalogues of major labels such as Warner Classics, Sony Classical, Universal Music Classics, Decca, Deutsche Grammophon and EMI, as well as over 400 additional labels worldwide.

The Colburn School has been added to Primephonic’s library of specially curated playlists, offering an eclectic array of musical themes, genres, time periods and curiosities. Colburn School and Primephonic will continue to collaborate on additional future playlists.

The Colburn School is comprised of the Conservatory of Music, Music Academy, Trudl Zipper Dance Institute and Community School of Performing Arts.

The school is located at 200 S. Grand Ave. For information, visit colburnschool.edu.

Library system offers online courses for adults to complete high school

The Los Angeles Public Library honored its fifth group of graduates from Career Online High School in a ceremony on April 20 at the Central Library.

Students in the Los Angeles Library’s Career Online High School program recently celebrated at a graduation ceremony.
**Support for suicide prevention**

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education voted unanimously on April 23 to approve Vice President Nick Melvoin’s resolution supporting legislation to benefit the district’s earliest learners.

The board supported three bills in the California legislature that would increase state funding to expand access to early childhood education. It also urges the governor to consider amending his proposed $750 million allocation for the expansion of full-day kindergarten so that districts that already provide full-day kindergarten, including LAUSD, can also benefit from an investment in early education.

Because so much of a child’s brain develops in the early years, access to high-quality early education is important because it closes opportunity gaps, increases student achievement and puts children on a lifelong path toward success. The board supported AB 123, which would expand preschool access for low-income families; SB 443, which would allow districts to receive funding for 4-year-old students in Early Transitional Kindergarten programs; and SB 174, which would establish a more efficient and fair state reimbursement program for districts and agencies providing early care and education services.

“Our children’s education begins when they start to learn and discover the world around them, long before they enroll in kindergarten,” Melvoin said. “We are advocating for these bills and this funding so that we can offer more families the opportunity to help their young learners thrive.”

**LAUSD board supports early education bills**

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**New playground opens in Griffith Park’s Vermont Canyon**

New York Times bestselling authors David Sheff and Nic Sheff, the NFL Players Association, film-maker William “Michael” Barbée, and YouTube music sensation Alex Barbee, the NFL Players Association, film-maker William “Michael” Barbée, and YouTube music sensation Alex Barbee, made "Erasing the Stigma" leadership awards is a fundraiser supporting the organization, which helps thousands of families each year from 10 locations and nearly 100 schools throughout Southern California. Didi Hirsch is also home to the nation’s first Suicide Prevention Center, which recently relocated to Century City. For information and tickets, call (310)659-5517, or visit erasingthestigma.org.

**‘Erasing the Stigma’ benefit raises support for suicide prevention**

**‘Railfest’ brings vintage trains to Fillmore this weekend**

It will be one of many vintage locomotives and trains on view at the family-friendly “Railfest 2019,” hosted by the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society and the Fillmore & Western Railway. Described as a celebration of the “renaissance of railroading,” the festival showcases steam engines, antique tractors, vehicles and engines. It also includes unique performances, demonstrations on early transportation, vintage wares, and oddities and culture mixed with steampunk fun.

Enjoy steam locomotive train rides, performances by the Orchard Bluegrass Band, a Fillmore Citrus Packing House Caboose Ride Adventure, Dr. Solar’s Gypsy Wagon Medicine Man Show, antique carousel rides, unique exhibits, model train displays, movie props, live entertainment, food, wine tasting, vendors and more. The festival will be held at 364 Main St., Fillmore. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, visit steamrafestival.com.

**Camp helps children who have lost loved ones address grief**

Seasons Hospice Foundation is hosting a free sleeper camp for grieving children from Friday, April 26, through Sunday, April 28, at Mile High Pines Camp in Angelus Oaks, California. Children will participate in camp activities such as art projects, games and crafts, and group activities with a counseling-based curriculum will be held in a comfortable space to share grief. Experienced professionals will provide grief education and emotional support.

The camp is free to children ages 5-17 in Southern California who have lost a loved one in the past two years.

Seasons Hospice Foundation also provides numerous programs for families with ailing members and those who have lost loved ones.

For information, visit seasonsfoundation.org.

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**LAUSD board supports early education bills**

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**Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, joined members of the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council and MOMS Club of Los Feliz on April 20 for the opening of a new playground in Griffith Park’s Vermont Canyon. The playground is accessible and equipped with shade canopies and mock roofs that shield youth from the sun.**

**New playground opens in Griffith Park’s Vermont Canyon**

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**‘Erasing the Stigma’ benefit raises support for suicide prevention**

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**LAUSD board supports early education bills**

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**New playground opens in Griffith Park’s Vermont Canyon**
Ranking this summer’s 15 most anticipated films after ‘Avengers: Endgame’

What happens after “Avengers: Endgame,” a film sure to surpass “Infinity War’s” $2 billion box office run? We all might feel stuck in a movie version of a show hole, but some options remain. Perhaps a glimmer of hope surrounds “Child’s Play” (June 21) for one simple reason: Mark Hamill will voice Chucky. Otherwise, the top 15 anticipated films this summer will evoke a unique blend of intrigue and indifference. Let’s begin.

15. “Aladdin” (May 24)

It’s a Guy Ritchie film. Near 20 years ago, “Snatch” became an instant classic. Since then, a couple “Sherlock” films and a dull “King Arthur” provide no hope for this live-action adaptation of the Disney classic, putting aside how creepy Live-action adaptation of the Disney classic, putting aside how creepy

14. “The Dead Don’t Die” (June 14)

The chances of this zombie flick succeeding are rather slim, but the shameless number of familiar faces is worth noting: Bill Murray, Tilda Swinton, Selena Gomez, Adam Driver, Chloë Sevigny, Steve Buscemi and Danny Glover, along with musicians-turned-actors RZA, Tom Waits and Iggy Pop, whose zombie makeup looks spot on.

13. “Hobbs and Shaw” (Aug. 2)

Dwayne Jonson and Jason Statham reprise their “Fast and Furious” roles in the first franchise spinoff, as these tremenakay take down Idris Elba as Brixton, who sports a body-enhancing supersuit. So he’s a super villain. This film sequence promising samurai sword

12. “Scary Stories To Tell in the Dark” (Aug. 9)


11. “Stuber” (July 12)

A detective and his Uber driver embark on some hilarious hijinks. Dave Bautista and Kumail Nanjiani might just be a match made by the gods of comedy.

10. “Dark Phoenix” (June 7)

This guy gets all the best villains, and he deserves more emotion, cohesion and relevance. (Jake Gyllenhaal). This guy pays all the best villains, and he deserves them thanks to Holland’s amazing performance as Spidey.

9. “The Lion King” (July 19)

“Inside Out” more than a merchandising hit, but some options remain. Perhaps a glimmer of hope surrounds “Child’s Play” (June 21) for one simple reason: Mark Hamill will voice Chucky. Otherwise, the top 15 anticipated films this summer will evoke a unique blend of intrigue and indifference. Let’s begin.

8. “Toy Story 4” (June 21)

A certain “Toy Story” is sure to evoke every possible emotional response under the sun with solid animation and clever writing. But another “Toy Story” simply means Pixar delays production on original projects. The world needs another film as refreshing as “Inside Out” more than a merchandising hit.

7. “MIB: International” (June 14)

So “Men in Black” never really became a memorable property. But with Chris Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson joining forces once more, the planet has never been safer. And who didn’t root for them in “Thor: Ragnarok?”

6. “Spider-Man: Far From Home” (July 5)

Wait, didn’t Spider-Man (Tom Holland) disappear when Thanos snapped his fingers? Doesn’t matter. He’s coming back. Maybe. Or he’s in another dimension. We’ll find out tomorrow. Regardless, he ends up on a European high school trip, earns a visit from new mentor Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson) and encounters classic villain Mysterio (Jake Gyllenhaal). This guy pays all the best villains, and he deserves them thanks to Holland’s amazing performance as Spidey.

5. “Avengers: Endgame” (April 26)

The fourth “Toy Story” movie comes out June 21. Certain a new “Toy Story” is sure to evoke every possible emotional response under the sun with solid animation and clever writing. But another “Toy Story” simply means Pixar delays production on original projects. The world needs another film as refreshing as “Inside Out” more than a merchandising hit.

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3. “Godzilla: King of the Monsters” (May 31)

Fun fact: 2014’s “Godzilla” and “Kong: Skull Island” are part of the same shared universe. Before those titans clash in a scheduled 2020 release, Godzilla confronts all the fan favorites: Mothra, Rodan and everyone’s favorite three-headed big bad Ghidorah. This brings us one step closer to Mechagodzilla and then a “Pacific Rim” tie-in (kinda joking, kinda OK with it).

2. “The Dead Don’t Die” (June 14)

The chances of this zombie flick succeeding are rather slim, but the shameless number of familiar faces is worth noting: Bill Murray, Tilda Swinton, Selena Gomez, Adam Driver, Chloë Sevigny, Steve Buscemi and Danny Glover, along with musicians-turned-actors RZA, Tom Waits and Iggy Pop, whose zombie makeup looks spot on.

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Straw law takes effect on Earth Day

From page 1

ed policies restricting single-use plastic straws in full-service restaurants, unless requested. A county ordinance extended the restriction to bars and fast food restaurants in unincorporated county areas.

The Los Angeles ordinance applies to restaurants with 26 employees or more overall. After Oct. 1, all other restaurants will be required to comply. O’Farrell wants to phase out plastic straws completely by 2021, and is working with entities representing disabled individuals to ensure straws are still provided to them. Plastic straws are needed by some disabled individuals because alternative such as paper can be damaged more easily. “My department continues to work with Sanitation to ensure all concerns are addressed for the disabled community,” said Stephen Simon, executive director of the Los Angeles Department on Disability.

O’Farrell added that the city ordinance was necessary because state and county laws do not extend far enough. “The new city law picks up where the state law stops,” O’Farrell added. “As a coastal city and state, we owe it to our environment to do everything in our power to ensure we reduce single-use plastic waste.”

Many restaurants have already begun offering paper straws in lieu of plastic. Ti Chang, who owns 13 McDonald’s restaurants in Southern California, said the restaurant is committed to protecting the environment. McDonald’s is moving toward using 100 percent of packaging from recycled resources by 2025. “As an active business owner and community member, we have been working closely with Councilman O’Farrell and the Bureau of Sanitation to find common ground on legislation that helps protect the environment, while also ensuring a healthy business climate for continued great guest experiences,” Chang said. “This is just one example of how McDonald’s is making changes our customers want that will have a meaningful impact in the community that we operate.”

The city will be conducting random compliance checks at Los Angeles’ approximately 32,000 restaurants. Restaurant owners can face fines from $25 for a first offense up to $300 for subsequent violations. However, city officials do not expect noncompliance to be an issue. “We expect it to happen voluntarily,” said Enrique Zaldivar, general manager of Los Angeles Sanitation. “I believe compliance is going to be fully embraced.”

Construction continues at Beverly Hills Unified

From page 1

be a clean one.” The report, conducted by accounting firm Moss Adams, praised the district for taking steps to update its policy and procedures manual for construction activities, creating an invoice log to monitor payments, implementing project management software, and creating a facilities subcommittee to conduct weekly reviews of the bond program. The report noted that there are still lingering issues with verifying expenditures to make sure they adhere to payment terms, and no board-approved budgets for professional service providers.

Measure E was approved by Beverly Hills voters in 2008 to issue $334 million in general obligation bonds. It has funded structural seismic repairs, classroom repairs and other infrastructure upgrades at multiple school sites. In addition to the independent performance audits, the district established a Citizens Oversight Committee for added accountability.

After a failed $260 million bond measure in 2016, Beverly Hills voters approved another $385 million bond measure in 2018 for projects at Beverly Hills High School including a new gymnasium, athletic fields and security systems. It also includes upgrades for El Roble, which is closing at the end of this school year for two years of construction as the district shifts from its longtime K-8 configuration to a new model of 1-6 middle school and two K-5 schools.

“It means that we’re really on the right path, that we’re taking seriously the recommendations that have been made in the past and attempting to remediate them and really ensure best practices going forward,” said O’Farrell, “including our construction program,” school board member Tristan Walker-Shuman noted.

City of West Hollywood Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the West Hollywood City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following item:

LOCATION(S): SUNSET SPECIFIC PLAN AREA, West Hollywood, California.

REQUEST: An amendment to the Sunset Specific Plan to increase rear setback requirements where commercial zones abut residential zones.

PERMIT(S): Sunset Specific Plan Amendment, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT(S): City of West Hollywood

TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers

625 N. San Vicente Boulevard

West Hollywood, CA 90069

ZONES: SSP (Sunset Specific Plan)

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15305 (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations).

The staff report will be available on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, the W.H. Library, 625 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 City Council, via the Planning and Development Services Department at, or prior 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 Bryan Eck, Senior Planner, in the Planning and Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475, or via email at: beck@weho.org

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk

мы сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. для дополнительной информации на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.
River cleanup’s last day is this Saturday

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti unveiled his $136.6 million spending plan that he says will strengthen the city’s finances and include record spending to end homelessness and improve local infrastructure.

The proposed budget calls for a record $940 million to improve and update the city’s infrastructure – $149 million more than last year. Also included is $348 million for street repairs and maintenance, and $117 million for Vision Zero and traffic and pedestrian safety projects. It allocates funding to advance the mayor’s sustainability goals with $38 million in Measure W funds going toward clean water infrastructure, and $3 million for the city’s innovative Cool Pavement Program and investments in tree planting.

The proposed budget includes the city’s largest-ever investment in the expansion of homeless crisis crisis, with $457 million in permanent housing, temporary shelter and other services to help homeless Angelenos find their way off the streets. The overall budget converts spending $36 million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program funds that Garcetti advocated for, and received, from the state last year. As part of funding from the Proposition HHH initiative, $281 million will go toward 27 new permanent supportive housing and affordable housing projects, providing more than 2,126 units.

Garcetti’s proposed budget also reflects the city’s focus on time by approximately 40% to cover all critical duties, spending $3 million to help improve dispatch reliability and effective communications for public safety officers, and expanding the advanced provider response units and fast response vehicles to more efficiently dispatch fire resources and emergency medical services.

For information, visit lamayor.org.

Dept. of Public Health investigating measles cases in L.A. County

No one said two doses of measles immunization is the best protection

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is investigating a number of measles outbreaks, two of which occur within the same city, officials announced Friday.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is investigating an outbreak of measles in students and teachers at Hoover High School in Woodland Hills, while the current outbreak occurred in a child who attended a private school in Los Angeles County. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is also investigating a second outbreak of measles in a child who attended a private school in Los Angeles County.

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