Gay Men’s Chorus celebrates dual anniversaries at L.A. gala

Group will install first female artistic director later this year

BY RYAN MANCINI

The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles’ “GMCLA 40 / Stonewall 50” gala on Aug. 16 at Disney Concert Hall will not only celebrate the 40th anniversary of the nonprofit’s first performance, but also pay tribute to the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

“. . . it’s going to be two great celebrations wrapped into one,” Executive Director Lou Spisto said. The New York City Gay Men’s Chorus and 23 other choirs from across the country will also be performing with the GMCLA, with 500 singers in total. GMCLA’s 300 members and the other choirs will be led by interim artistic director Gavin Thrasher.

The performance will include a variety of songs, ranging from musical theater and film to choral music from the American canon, photo by Cameron Kiszla

BY RYAN MANCINI


Beverly Hills goes for the BOLD

City looking for boosts to social media activity, foot traffic, hotel room occupancy

BY RYAN MANCINI

As the temperature rises, so does anticipation for Summer BOLD in Beverly Hills, the city’s “open later days” programming beginning Aug. 1.

“I think the variety of programming is so dynamic and unique that it creates a must-see experience,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said. “Each season, we work to elevate the campaign and I’m confident we have done it again this summer.”

BOLD’s goal is to provide guests late-night entertainment, as well as encourage businesses to remain open past their normal closing times.

Once the four-week Summer BOLD ends, data will be tallied to help gauge the success. Since 2015, data based on several key points such as foot traffic, social media posts and hashtags, and hotel room occupancy have been gathered following both Summer BOLD and BOLD Holidays campaigns.

After 2019’s BOLD Holidays season comes to a close, all data will be added to information that the city gathered in 2017. From there, the focus will be to determine how the program will further help businesses, attract future revenue for the city, and provide experimental programming and help assist local businesses with supportive marketing, according to the staff report on BOLD’s metrics delivered to the Beverly Hills City Council on March 5.

The report also noted how the Metro’s Purple Line Extension subway project is expected to impact both foot traffic and business revenue. Phase 2 of the construction, which will be located near Rodeo Drive, is scheduled to open later this year.

Fireworks go off over Summer BOLD, one of two programs held to extend shopping hours for businesses along Rodeo Drive and provide entertainment for shoppers.

BY RYAN MANCINI

First cannabis café opening is weeks away for WeHo

Two consumption lounges awarded business licenses

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Nearly three years after California voters passed Proposition 64 to legalize recreational cannabis in the state, the first cannabis consumption lounges have received the go-ahead to open their doors.

The GMCLA’s upcoming gala will feature over 500 performers, including members of the New York City Gay Men’s Chorus

BY RYAN MANCINI

Smato said:

Among those participating are the “First Nighters,” four of the original 99 chorus members from the very first GMCLA gathering on July 12, 1979, and civil rights activist David Mixner. Mixner will receive a lifetime legend award.

The show will also commemorate the anniversary of Stonewall with a performance of “Quiet No More: A Choral Celebration of Stonewall” recently at the Carnegie Music Hall in New York.

On July 16, the West Hollywood Business License Commission approved two marijuana businesses that will allow customers to smoke, vape and consume edible cannabis products on site: PleasureMed, which will be located at 7715 Santa Monica Blvd., and Lowell Cafe, located at 1201 N. La Brea Ave.

West Hollywood’s Community

By Cameron Kiszla

When it opens next year, the consumption lounge at PleasureMed will be located on the second floor, above a first-floor dispensary.

First cannabis café opening is weeks away for WeHo

As the temperature rises, so does anticipation for Summer BOLD in Beverly Hills, the city’s “open later days” programming beginning Aug. 1.

“I think the variety of programming is so dynamic and unique that it creates a must-see experience,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said. “Each season, we work to elevate the campaign and I’m confident we have done it again this summer.”

BOLD’s goal is to provide guests late-night entertainment, as well as encourage businesses to remain open past their normal closing times.

Once the four-week Summer BOLD ends, data will be tallied to help gauge the success. Since 2015, data based on several key points such as foot traffic, social media posts and hashtags, and hotel room occupancy have been gathered following both Summer BOLD and BOLD Holidays campaigns.

After 2019’s BOLD Holidays season comes to a close, all data will be added to information that the city gathered in 2017. From there, the focus will be to determine how the program will further help businesses, attract future revenue for the city, and provide experimental programming and help assist local businesses with supportive marketing, according to the staff report on BOLD’s metrics delivered to the Beverly Hills City Council on March 5.

The report also noted how the Metro’s Purple Line Extension subway project is expected to impact both foot traffic and business revenue. Phase 2 of the construction, which will be located near Rodeo Drive, is scheduled to open later this year.

First cannabis café opening is weeks away for WeHo

As the temperature rises, so does anticipation for Summer BOLD in Beverly Hills, the city’s “open later days” programming beginning Aug. 1.

“I think the variety of programming is so dynamic and unique that it creates a must-see experience,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said. “Each season, we work to elevate the campaign and I’m confident we have done it again this summer.”

BOLD’s goal is to provide guests late-night entertainment, as well as encourage businesses to remain open past their normal closing times.

Once the four-week Summer BOLD ends, data will be tallied to help gauge the success. Since 2015, data based on several key points such as foot traffic, social media posts and hashtags, and hotel room occupancy have been gathered following both Summer BOLD and BOLD Holidays campaigns.

After 2019’s BOLD Holidays season comes to a close, all data will be added to information that the city gathered in 2017. From there, the focus will be to determine how the program will further help businesses, attract future revenue for the city, and provide experimental programming and help assist local businesses with supportive marketing, according to the staff report on BOLD’s metrics delivered to the Beverly Hills City Council on March 5.

The report also noted how the Metro’s Purple Line Extension subway project is expected to impact both foot traffic and business revenue. Phase 2 of the construction, which will be located near Rodeo Drive, is scheduled to open later this year.

First cannabis café opening is weeks away for WeHo

As the temperature rises, so does anticipation for Summer BOLD in Beverly Hills, the city’s “open later days” programming beginning Aug. 1.

“I think the variety of programming is so dynamic and unique that it creates a must-see experience,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said. “Each season, we work to elevate the campaign and I’m confident we have done it again this summer.”

BOLD’s goal is to provide guests late-night entertainment, as well as encourage businesses to remain open past their normal closing times.

Once the four-week Summer BOLD ends, data will be tallied to help gauge the success. Since 2015, data based on several key points such as foot traffic, social media posts and hashtags, and hotel room occupancy have been gathered following both Summer BOLD and BOLD Holidays campaigns.

After 2019’s BOLD Holidays season comes to a close, all data will be added to information that the city gathered in 2017. From there, the focus will be to determine how the program will further help businesses, attract future revenue for the city, and provide experimental programming and help assist local businesses with supportive marketing, according to the staff report on BOLD’s metrics delivered to the Beverly Hills City Council on March 5.

The report also noted how the Metro’s Purple Line Extension subway project is expected to impact both foot traffic and business revenue. Phase 2 of the construction, which will be located near Rodeo Drive, is scheduled to open later this year.
Central Garden. Admission is free: 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.

**The Art of Storytelling**

Theatre West is inaugurating a new series, The Art of Storytelling, on Saturday, July 27, at 8 p.m. Each event in the series will be comprised of storytelling around a central theme, and the theme for the first evening is “It Happened in L.A.” Performers include Kathie Barnes, Susanne Collins, Anne Leyden, Bruce Liberty, Connie Mellors, Dina Morrone, Clara Rojas-Butler and Ben Russell. Admission is $10. 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. West. (323)935-7777, theatrewest.org.

**Flamenco meditation**

Fans of flamenco are invited to “Meditacion Flamenca” on Sunday, July 28, at 8 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre. The event is a journey through the practice of flamenco caste (song), baile (dancing), toque (which can mean more general touch) and arte (art) as a form of meditation. Wendy Castellanos directs the event with dancers Vane Lopez, Albañez, Wendy Castellanos and Misaela Ahumada, and vocalista Antonio de Jesus, among others. Visual artistry will be presented by Edgardo Monzani. Tickets are $54. 3333 W. Sunset Blvd. Fountain Ave. (323)963-1525, fountaintheatre.com.

**Children’s lit panel**

Award-winning writers are invited to an Independent Writers of Southern California panel discussion titled “The Power of Story” on Monday, July 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building in Culver City. Public radio veteran Kelly Field will moderate a discussion with experts on children’s literature work, such as being an agent, self-publishing, illustration, marketing and more. Admission is free for IOSWC members, $15 for nonmembers. 4117 Overland Ave. (310)773-8075, ioswc.org.

**Learn to speak Japanese**

Learn to speak Japanese in an informal setting with native speakers during “Japanese Cafe Time” on Tuesday, July 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf on Olympic Blvd. All levels welcome; Japanese language experience is not necessary. Admission is free. 3790 Wilshire Blvd. (323)761-7150, jilac.org.

**Performance art**

California artist Postcommodity (Kade L. Twist and Cristóbal Martínez) and Guillermo Galindo will perform a new installation at the 18th Street Arts Center on Tuesday, July 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The performance features sound art that includes local history, traditions and original compositions. Tickets are $5.50 in advance. 3434 W. prejudice.imation. 3300 S. Santa Monica Blvd., Second Floor. Admission is free; RSVP requested. 9400 S. Santa Monica Blvd., Second Floor. (310)248-1000, members.beverlyhillschamber.com.

**Cherie Currie and Brie Darling**

The Grammy Museum welcomes Los Angeles-based female rock icons Cherie Currie and Brie Darling for a discussion and performance on Thursday, Aug. 1. The event coincides with the release of “The Motels” CD, Currie and Darling’s debut album. The duo will perform a set of songs together and discuss the making of the new recording with moderator Scott Goldman. Doors open at 7, show starts at 7:30. Tickets are $32. 800 W. Olympic Blvd. grammymuseum.org.

**Rooftop Rauch**

Wilshire Boulevard Temple is holding a “Rooftop Rauch” event on Friday, July 26, at 7 p.m. The evening begins with a family-friendly service led by Rabbi Jonathan and Cantor Lissette Piscopo, followed by a taco fiesta and entertainment. Shabbat services are free and open to the public, however there is a $15 charge for the taco fiesta dinner. Guests can also bring picnics. 3663 Wilshire Blvd. wbtla.org/events.

**The Randy Gardner Story**

Join the city of West Hollywood for a special showcase screening of “Go Figure: The Randy Gardner Story,” a documentary film based on the man behind the show running from Friday, July 26, to Sunday, Sept. 29, at Will Geer’s Theatricum Botanicum. Willard’s Pulitzer Prize-winning production tells the story of humankind through the lives of the Antrobos family. Set in 20th century New York and during the ice age, the play is a whirlwind of modernity and antiquity using humor, history and mythology to highlight humanity’s drive to showtimes. Generally are 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, with 4 p.m. matinees on July 28 and Sept. 14. Tickets are $42. 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd. (310)456-3723, theatricum.com.

**Groundlings Treasure Hunters**

Audiences don’t need a map to find Groundlings Treasure Hunters’ new show running from Friday, July 26, through Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Groundlings Theatre. Ted Michaels directs the new improv comedy show that stars Lauren Burns, Tony Cavalry, Chris Eckert, Julian Gant, Patty Guggenhem, Lyric Lewis, Emily Porcaro, Carolee Smith and Alex Soules. The production’s opening night will be held on July 26, with a general admission ticket. General admission is $20. 7307 Melrose Ave. (323)934-4774, groundlings.com.

**Foster care and adoption**

Learn about fostering and adopt-
Market opens in area with few grocery options

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Construction crews continue to ready a new development on La Brea Avenue at San Vicente Boulevard where a Target store is expected to open soon, and a Sprouts Farmers Market opened on July 10.

The development at the southeast corner of the intersection will also include space for retail shops. The two-story building will have 300 parking spaces in a subterranean structure, as well as on a portion of the second level and the roof. Target has not announced an opening date.

“I can confirm Target has plans to open our Mid City store later this year,” Target spokeswoman Liz Hancock said. “We’re excited to bring an easy, convenient shopping experience to additional guests in the Los Angeles community with this new Target store. Located at 1302 S. La Brea, the store will be approximately 23,000 square feet. As we get closer to opening the store, we’ll have more specific details to share, including how the shopping experience will be tailored to serve local guests and the grand opening date.”

The project is located in Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson’s 10th District.

“The new retail center will not only create a swell of jobs in the area, but will also provide our surrounding communities with additional access to fresh and affordable groceries and diverse retail options,” Wesson said in a statement.

Sprouts market, the first company to open in the complex, will help meet a demand in the neighborhood for fresh, natural and organic foods, added spokesman Diego Romero.

Few grocery stores serve the area. The closest stores are Ralphs supermarkets at Pico and Venice boulevards, Wilshire and Houser boulevards, and La Brea Avenue and Third Street.

Sprouts Farmers Market will also open a new store at 8550 Santa Monica Blvd in West Hollywood on July 31. The market is opening in a new complex built at the site of the long-closed Athletic Club West Hollywood.

The three-story project will include 25,000 square feet of space for the Sprouts Market and 1,500 square feet for a café with outdoor dining.

Also included is a 16,000-square-foot space for the Wing, a New York-based co-working firm for women. The Wing will offer conference space, booties, showers and areas for networking. The nearly completed project will also include rooftop parking and spaces in an adjacent, pre-existing garage.

West Hollywood Mayor John D’Amico said the new market and other spaces will be beneficial to the city.

“It’s right behind my house, so I am personally excited to have another option for purchasing fresh food,” D’Amico added. “[For the city, I think it will be a welcome addition to our community.]”

Fire department suspends burn permits countywide

In an ongoing effort to prevent wildfires, all burn permits in Los Angeles County will be suspended. As of July 2, the Los Angeles County Fire Department stopped issuing burn permits due to increased fire activity throughout Southern California. This burn suspension will remain in effect until further notice.

During this critical time, the Fire Department urges all residents to do their part to be safe by having an emergency plan in place in case a fire threatens their home or family.

The fire department may issue restricted temporary burn permits if there is an essential reason due to public health and safety. Agriculture, land management, fire training and other industrial type burning may proceed if a fire department official inspects the burn site and issues a special permit.

Nearly 95% of all wildland fires within the LACFD’s jurisdiction are human-caused. To prevent fires, Angeleños can take basic safety steps. For instance, lawn mowing should occur only before 10 a.m. and never on a hot and windy day. In addition, people should never toss cigarettes out of their car windows or pull their vehicle’s off the road into grass or brush, where hot exhaust pipes and mufflers can ignite fires that cannot be seen easily by the driver.

In wildland areas, spark arrestors are required on all portable gasoline-powered equipment, like tractors, chainsaws, weed-whackers, mowers, motors, motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles.

Campfires within organized campground or on private property are allowed as long as they are in a designated campfire site that prevents fire from spreading. All suspicious activity should be reported to the fire department.

P. For more information, visit FireLACounty.gov/rsg or ready-forwildfire.org.

Euro Upholstery & Design

Our Services

- Custom Upholstery & Design
- 10,000 fabrics to choose from including leather and velvet
- Furniture refinishing and wood work
- Classic, Rustic, Chic, Exotic, Modern
- Handmade Upholstery available
- Kitchens, Bedrooms, Living Rooms

Our Showroom

Visit our showroom to see the endless possibilities! With thousands of fabrics, color and textures to choose from, we can please the most discerning customer!

Call Today!
1-800-604-1079 • Free Estimates!
www.eurodesignandupholstery.com
Open Monday - Friday 9am-6pm • Saturday 10am-2 pm

A mural with a message

On July 22, Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, helped celebrate the restoration of the “Blue Moon Trilogy” mural, which is located on Odun Street underneath the Hollywood (101) Freeway near North Highland Avenue and the Hollywood Bowl.

The mural, completed in 1987 by Russell Carlton, was painted to honor all those affected by the AIDS crisis. Carlton died of an AIDS-related illness in the 1990s.

The mural had been defaced with graffiti, and the restoration work was made possible by Ryu, Patty Dryden and Orrin Feldmen of the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and conservator Scott Haskins.

Sprouts Farmers Market has already opened in a new development at San Vicente Boulevard and La Brea Avenue, where a Target store is also expected to open soon.
Armed suspect wanted for robbery spree

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police are searching for a male suspect wanted for a robbery spree that includes multiple hold-ups in the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division.

The spree began on Jan. 9 at an undisclosed location and the latest hold-up occurred on July 15 at a Jack in the Box in the 400 block of South Fairfax Avenue. The suspect is considered armed and dangerous, said Det. Gerry Chamberlain, with the LAPD Robbery-Homicide Division.

“The investigation is ongoing and we are still trying to generate leads,” Chamberlain added. “There have been several robberies attributed to this same person that have occurred in the Southwest Division and also the Wilshire Division.”

The suspect is described as black, 30 to 40 years old, approximately 6 feet tall and 150 pounds. The robberies generally have occurred during the early morning hours. Ten of the holdups have occurred in Los Angeles and one in Inglewood. Some of the locations have been robbed multiple times.

The suspect targets fast food restaurants and gas stations. He enters the businesses, pulls out a handgun and points it at employees.

He usually jumps over counters and forces employees to give him cash from registers. In some instances, he forces them to open safes. No injuries have been reported.

The Los Angeles City Council has offered a $25,000 reward for information leading to the suspect’s arrest and conviction. Anyone who sees the suspect is asked to call 911. Anyone with information is urged to call detectives at (213)486-6840. During weekends and off-hours, call (877) LAPD247.

Tips sought in mystery involving missing woman

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Authorities are seeking help in finding a woman who disappeared on July 8 after leaving her east Hollywood apartment.

The missing woman, Sheryl Watson, 48, was last seen by her two adult daughters at approximately 6 a.m. when she left an apartment they shared in the 100 block of South Virgil Avenue, near Beverly Boulevard. She has never left for an extended period of time previously and does not suffer from medical issues or mental illness, said Det. Kristin Merrill, with the Los Angeles Police Department’s Missing Persons Unit.

“They have not seen her,” Merrill said. “We don’t know what happened to her, and her daughters are extremely worried.” Merrill added. “She rarely left the house and she left with no shoes on, no phone, no ID. She just walked out of the house.”

Merrill said detectives checked security cameras in the area and interviewed people in the neighborhood, but found no clues as to Watson’s whereabouts. Watson was unemployed. Merrill said the missing woman’s daughters told investigators that Watson had attended the Universal Church in Compton, but inquiries with church staff did not lead to any new clues. "They have not seen her," Merrill said. “They didn’t know anything about it.”

The detective said police also checked hospitals, mortuaries, shelters and other locations in their search for Watson. A police bulletin was distributed to patrol officers and officials have turned to the public seeking tips.

“It’s a real mystery,” Merrill said. “We usually find them in a hospital or something, but that hasn’t been the case. We know her daughters have been out there every day looking for her. We don’t know what happened.”

Anyone with information is urged to call the LAPD’s Missing Persons Unit at (213)996-1800. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877) LAPD247.

Collision snarls traffic in Hancock Park

A sedan collided with a Metro bus at approximately 7:50 a.m. on Wednesday, July 24, at Highland Avenue and Third Street, causing traffic delays during the morning rush hour.

Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics took the unidentified driver of the sedan to a hospital, said LAPD spokesman Jeremy Carter. None of the approximately 15 people on the bus were injured.

Fire department personnel checked the passengers as they exited the bus. Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Traffic Division are investigating the collision, and the outcome of the investigation will likely not be available for days.

Traffic Division are investigating the collision and the outcome of the investigation will likely not be available for days. The bus was traveling west on Third Street. A passenger on the bus who declined to provide her name said the sedan was traveling east and attempted to turn north on Highland Avenue before it struck the bus.

No further details were available.

Suspects are caught on security camera during Hollywood burglary

The Los Angeles Police Department has obtained security camera images of two male suspects who burglarized a residence in the Hollywood on July 19.

At approximately 5-40 p.m., two suspects approached a residence near Highland Avenue and North Ogden Drive. The suspects repeatedly rang the doorbell and after a few minutes, shattered a glass door.

The suspects ransacked the home and stole expensive watches and a Mac computer.

The suspects are described as black, 18 and 25 years old with thin builds. One suspect was wearing a black, dark hooded sweatshirt. The other suspect has short hair and tattoos on both arms. Anyone with information is asked to contact Hollywood Division detectives at (213)972-2929 or (213)972-2931.

Photo courtesy of the LAPD

A security camera image shows the suspects committing the burglary at the Hollywood home.

Photo courtesy of the LAPD

Police released a security camera image of the suspect taken during one of the robberies.
BH City Council maps out steps to address affordable housing before recess ends

BY RYAN MANCINI

With legislation on state housing tabled until next year and a recent report from Sacramento suggesting home sales are on a downward trend, the city of Beverly Hills plans to move forward to develop affordable housing and work with nonprofits to make it happen.

Beverly Hills Mayor John Mirisch said he and the city council will also pass a Rent Stabilization Ordinance to keep residents in the area.

“We’re looking within the city at locations [to work] with nonprofits to create affordable housing,” he said. “We’re pretty much a built-out city without a lot of new development. That leaves us constrained with doing what we can.”

One nonprofit organization Mirisch named was the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation. Since 1986, it has focused on “building homes and providing services that move community members from insecurity to stability,” according to its mission statement.

“I would love to work with them,” Mirisch said. “They’re purely a nonprofit and they’re in a neighboring city.”

The Beverly Hills City Council approved on May 3 the establishment of a Rent Stabilization Commission composed of two landlord representatives, two tenant representatives, two residents who are neither a landlord nor a tenant and three alternate candidates from the other three categories, according to updated summary issued in July.

Mirisch also responded to a report issued Monday by the state Legislative Analyst’s Office on home sales trends. The report suggested that overall statewide sales had dropped. Mirisch said he does not reduce the need for affordable housing.

“Let’s say the prices go down slightly – they’re not at the affordable levels we need,” he said. “We need to look at ways to create permanent affordable housing with nonprofit developers and make sure they get the funding.”

In the past, Mirisch has been critical of affordable housing legislation, once claiming in a previous interview that Sacramento legislators attempted to use the affordability housing crisis to eliminate single-family zoning with Senate Bill 50.

“To blanket an area up with zoning may be great for Wall Street, but it won’t do much for affordable housing,” Mirisch said. “We need to have policies for developers [as a] leg up. If we want to create affordable housing, we need to create policy rather than smoke-screen some bogus justification that the market is not going to solve the issue. Building Porsches is not going to build Pinyes.”

The Beverly Hills City Council will also pass a Rent Stabilization Ordinance to keep residents in the area.

Mayor wants to work with local nonprofit organizations

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank is among more than 85 food banks across 37 states who were able to restock their shelves to ensure at-risk kids do not go hungry this summer thanks to Caliber Collision’s 2019 Rhythm Restoration Food Drive, which collected more than $900,000 – or 5.4 million meals – in donations in April and May.

According to Feeding America, 22 million children rely on the National School Lunch Program to provide free and reduced meals during the school year. When school lets out, many families and children go hungry, prompting Caliber’s 20,000 teammates to serve their communities by raising cash and food donations through car shows, motorcycle rallies, golf tourna-

Beverly Hills sits close to transit corridors it would become subject to new zoning. The cities of Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Los Angeles each opposed the bill, though it received support from Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and Gov. Gavin Newsom.

SB 50 was tabled by the Senate Appropriations Committee until 2020.

The next city council study session will be held on Aug. 6 at 2:30 p.m. in Beverly Hills City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Dr.
Changing the guard for LAPD in Hollywood

Current commanding officer and patrol supervisor receive promotions

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A change in leadership is coming to the Los Angeles Police Department’s Hollywood Division on Aug. 4, as the current commanding officer, Cory Palka, has been promoted to commander and will serve in the department’s Operations West Bureau, which oversees six police stations in the central and western portion of the city.

Palka will be succeeded by Capt. Steve Lurie, who currently serves as commanding officer of the Hollywood Division’s patrol operations. Palka expects the transition will be smooth, as Lurie has already worked at the station for the past year and has made many connections with the community. He said being commanding officer in Hollywood over the past three and a half years has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

“Hollywood is a relationships division. The amount of relationships I’ve made in Hollywood, I’ve never seen anything like it,” Palka said. “I have never had a job like being the Hollywood police captain. It will go down in my life as the greatest job I’ve ever held, and my gratitude is through the roof to the city. We have a small foot beat on Hollywood Boulevard and I want to greatly expand that. I am from the East Coast where you see cops walking down the street everywhere. I think we need to do more of that,” Palka added. “Number two, I want to place a priority on getting community members involved. We have a good program in Hollywood for volunteers and there are many things they could help with. There is no reason why a trained community volunteer can’t assist at the front desk taking non-emergency crime reports. It frees up resources. There are a lot of things they can do at the station.”

Lurie added that the Hollywood Division has a volunteer patrol that offers extra layer of security in the community, and expanding it will likely be another component of his plan.

“They are another set of eyes out there in the community,” he added. “That is something that could also be very helpful.”

He added that he is excited to get started.

“I am looking forward to my new role and am grateful to have been given the opportunity,” Lurie said.

Bill would help female vets access no-cost contraception

On July 17, U.S. Rep. Julia Brownley (D-Westlake Village), chairwoman of the Women Veterans Task Force, introduced the Equal Access to Contraception for Veterans Act, legislation which would provide female veterans access to the same no-cost contraceptive care as their non-veteran counterparts.

“Women veterans now make up the fastest growing group of veteran patients in VA health care. Yet, many of their health needs go unaddressed in a VA system that has not evolved to equitably serve a changing population,” Brownley said. “This includes accessing basic contraceptive services without a co-pay, which is available to all women using civilian health insurance.”

Brownley said as the task force’s chair, she wants to “identify disparities in health care for women veterans and, where necessary, introduce, advocate for and pass legislation that fixes those inequities.”

“This bill addresses a critical disparity that prevents women veterans from having equal access to health care, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure we fix the existing gaps in care for our women veterans,” Brownley said.

For information, visit juliabrownley.house.gov.

Temple of the Arts presents at its restored art deco home the HABITAT THEATRE HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

Rabbi David Baron

CAANTORS
Ilyssa Pierce and Jordan Bennett, with a superb choir and instrumentalists conducted by Sharon Farber

EXCELLENT TUTORS for In-Home Instruction - Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Judaism through music, dramatic readings, film, provocative discussions and inspiring guest speakers

Watch Video Highlights BHTOTA.org

SHABBAT Dinner Fri, August 23rd • 8pm

SHABBAT Fri, August 23rd • 6:30pm

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL BEVERLY HILLS

323 656.9100 BHTOTA.org

323 655.0111 SabanTheatre.org

9/10 David Crosby & Friends
9/14 Celio Green
9/19 10/12 Gino Vannelli
9/26 Englebert Humperdinck
10/6 Oni Logan
10/13 Oingo Boingo
10/20 Former Members
10/27 Betty Buckley & Tom Scott

Members receive priority seating

6 July 25, 2019 Park Labrea News/Beverly Press
Fourth bus to boost service on Observatory/Los Feliz line

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation has added a fourth bus to DMV service on the Griffith Observatory/Los Feliz line. Every Monday through Friday, weekday morning service on the line will run on a shortened loop from the Vermont/Sunset Red Line Station to Los Feliz/Hillhurst from 6 to 10 a.m. The buses run every 20 minutes and morning service will not serve the Greek Theatre or Griffith Observatory.

Every Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., the buses will run every 15 minutes and service includes the Greek Theatre and Griffith Observatory. The last bus from Vermont/Sunset leaves at 9:45 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and holidays service begins at 10 a.m. and runs every 15 minutes until 10 p.m., covering the entire route. The last bus from Vermont/Sunset leaves at 9:45 p.m.

The Griffith Observatory is open from noon to 10 p.m. on weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekends. For information, visit laportransit.com/dash.

New leadership appointed to improve service at DMV

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced new leadership at the California Department of Motor Vehicles on July 22 and released a report indicating the recommendations to improve the department such as $660 million in new funding for DMV employees. Newsom said, "This is about deep systems change and creating a DMV culture that puts customer experience first." Newsom said.

In January, the governor announced a DMV Reinvention Strike Team had been formed under the leadership of Government Operations Secretary Marybel Batjer. The strike team was charged with comprehensively reviewing the department’s operations and making recommendations for new long-term leadership and reforms at the DMV.

"The damage caused by the dedication and hard work of so many DMV employees," said GovOps Secretary Marybel Batjer, who led the strike team. "While there are still challenges ahead, I believe our efforts and recommendations will continue to move the DMV on a path of success."

Newsom announced that Steven Gordon will serve as director of the DMV. Gordon was a managing partner at Aon from 2017 to 2019, vice president of global service operations at Becton, Dickinson and Company from 2015 to 2017 and principal consultant at SteveOnService from 2012 to 2013. Additional appointees include Chief Deputy Director Kathleen Webb, acting director of Communications Cynthia Moreno, who has served as a communications consultant at the California Department of Public Health since 2016; Assistant Deputy Director of Communications Cynthia Moreno, who has been a creative content producer for the California State Assembly since 2018; and Deputy Director of Legislation C. David Johnson, who has been legislative director at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control since 2016.

The leaders will focus on continuing progress made during the past six months, including reduced wait times at DMV offices and the implementation of amenities such as mobile kiosks where transactions can be made. All DMV employees also underwent new staff training on July 24.

The DMV has an office for driver’s license-only services at 801 Cole Ave., as well as a full-service field office at 936 N. Formosa Ave. For more, call (800)777-0133, or visit dmv.ca.gov.

Metro to host webinar, meeting on subway project

Metro is holding a lunch-hour webinar on Purple Line subway construction in Beverly Hills on Wednesday, Aug. 7, from noon to 1 p.m., and a public meeting on Aug. 7, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Beverly Hills City Hall, Second Floor Municipal Gallery, 445 N. Rexford Drive.

The webinar and meeting will include information on construction of the Wilshire/Ciceros and Wilshire/Rodeo subway stations. To join the webinar, call (605)479-3207 and use the access code 804-613-256, and the password Purple. For information about the public meeting, call (213)922-6934, or visit metrotv.net.

In Beverly Hills, Metro is advising about construction near Wilshire Boulevard and North Canon Drive, where the north-south service will continue to move the DMV on a path of progress. "I am impressed by the dedication and hard work of so many DMV employees," said GovOps Secretary Marybel Batjer. The strike team was charged with comprehensively reviewing the department’s operations and making recommendations for new long-term leadership and reforms at the DMV.

"This is about deep systems change and creating a DMV culture that puts customer experience first," Newsom said.

In January, the governor announced a DMV Reinvention Strike Team had been formed under the leadership of Government Operations Secretary Marybel Batjer. The strike team was charged with comprehensively reviewing the department’s operations and making recommendations for new long-term leadership and reforms at the DMV.

"The damage caused by the dedication and hard work of so many DMV employees," said GovOps Secretary Marybel Batjer, who led the strike team. "While there are still challenges ahead, I believe our efforts and recommendations will continue to move the DMV on a path of success."

Newsom announced that Steven Gordon will serve as director of the DMV. Gordon was a managing partner at Aon from 2017 to 2019, vice president of global service operations at Becton, Dickinson and Company from 2015 to 2017 and principal consultant at SteveOnService from 2012 to 2013. Additional appointees include Chief Deputy Director Kathleen Webb, acting director of Communications Cynthia Moreno, who has served as a communications consultant at the California Department of Public Health since 2016; Assistant Deputy Director of Communications Cynthia Moreno, who has been a creative content producer for the California State Assembly since 2018; and Deputy Director of Legislation C. David Johnson, who has been legislative director at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control since 2016.

The leaders will focus on continuing progress made during the past six months, including reduced wait times at DMV offices and the implementation of amenities such as mobile kiosks where transactions can be made. All DMV employees also underwent new staff training on July 24.

The DMV has an office for driver’s license-only services at 801 Cole Ave., as well as a full-service field office at 936 N. Formosa Ave. For more, call (800)777-0133, or visit dmv.ca.gov.

Assembly bill would eliminate bias in civil damages awards

State Senate Majority Leader Bob Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) has announced that SB 41, which has been unanimously approved by the California State Assembly, would prohibit the practice of granting historically marginalized groups lower damages in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Under current law, forensic economists often predict an individual’s lost earnings and wages using data based on that person’s membership in a protected class when calculating damages for a plaintiff in personal injury and wrongful death cases. Because marginalized groups such as women and people of color have historically earned less than others, the result is often substantially lower damages being awarded, Hertzberg said.

“Californiaians deserve a justice system that doesn’t let courts value people based on their gender or the color of their skin,” Hertzberg added. “This practice perpetuates systemic inequity, and it tells courts that if you do bad things in poor communities with disadvantaged populations, your financial liability will be smaller.”

SB 41, sponsored by the Consumer Attorneys of California, would eliminate this practice by prohibiting the calculation of damages of a plaintiff from being reduced based on race, ethnicity and gender.

The bill will return to the Senate Floor for consideration before going to Gov. Gavin Newsom for consideration. For information, visit sd18.senate.ca.gov.

Metro is planning a two-year closure of Canon Drive north of Wilshire Boulevard in September. The detours shown above are planned for motorists on Wilshire Boulevard.

Work hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Access to Westfield Century City Mall will remain open during the work.

Farther east at Wilshire/La Cienega, excavation, hauling, installation and testing is ongoing. Intermittent lane closures and turn restrictions on Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards may be in place during non-rush hour traffic periods.

Excavation, hauling and subway station construction is also ongoing at Wilshire/Fairfax. Ogden Drive will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard. Extended work hours in the Ogden Staging Yard are anticipated to be in effect to support concrete deliveries into the Wilshire/Fairfax station box. Work hours are midnight to 9 a.m. Hauling, deliveries and work on the tunneling machines is also ongoing near Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue. Intermittent lane closures may occur along Wilshire Boulevard between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street. Work hours in the North La Brea Staging Yard are anticipated to increase in August as tunneling near Westside Station components are transport- ed from Westside/Western.

At the end of the project, excavation, construction and street maintenance work is continuing near Wilshire Boulevard. Single lane closures may occur along Wilshire Boulevard between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street. Work hours in the North La Brea Staging Yard are anticipated to increase in August as tunneling near Westside Station components are transport- ed from Westside/Western.

In an AHC, you designate an individual to whom you direct or carry out your work regarding choice of hospital, your doctor, support staff, treatment and end-of-life issues if you become unable to speak for yourself. Healthcare providers must follow your Agent’s instructions.

The significance of having an AHC cannot be overstated. Privacy laws and liability issues have made it exceedingly difficult for doctors and hospitals to discuss medical matters with family members, even a spouse or parent. Consequently, without an AHC, it may be the courts or hospital administrators determining your care.

Visit mta.net.
New general manager appointed to lead DWP

Appointment comes as investigation unfolds into the utility's handling of billing system issues.

The Los Angeles Board of Water and Power has selected Martin L. Adams as DWP’s general manager on July 23, replacing David H. Wright, who had planned to leave the utility in October.

Wright was told by Mayor Eric Garcetti on July 22 that he no longer needed to ensure that PrEP – a crucial tool in treating HIV, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.

“We have a tool that can prevent the transmission of HIV, yet it’s not reaching, or is too expensive for, the communities who need it most,” said Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)

The advent of PrEP, a drug which dramatically reduces the risk of HIV infection, has made the disease more preventable and manageable than ever before. But this life-saving drug is tragically underutilized by the communities who need it most. Because health insurance plans aren’t required to cover PrEP, or its necessary tests and follow-up visits, Schiff said. “No American should contract and suffer from HIV simply because they take PrEP. We have the tools to end the epidemic – we must use them.”

Approximately 1.1 million people in the United States are currently living with HIV, and in 2018, there were 38,281 new HIV diagnoses. HIV disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender women and people of color. When taken daily, PrEP reduces the risk of HIV infection by up to 92%.
Beverly Hills teens research the future of medicine

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Tuesday afternoon, Joshua Khorsandi was hard at work at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center’s Regenerative Medicine Institute, using a dropper to place clear liquid into containers for the centrifuge, which would then aggregate valuable stem cells.

Pluripotent stem cells can be turned into any type of human cell, making them an invaluable resource for researchers looking to recreate environments found in the human body without putting living people at risk.

With these synthesized fallopian tubes, blood-brain barriers and more, scientists can try to find out how ovarian cancer begins, why certain drugs are ineffective and how ovarian cancer begins, why certain drugs are ineffective and other life-saving discoveries.

At Cedars-Sinai, many researchers are renowned experts in their field, but Khorsandi is not one of them. At least, not yet. For now, he’s a 17-year-old preparing for his senior year at Beverly Hills High School. Khorsandi and classmate Eva Danesh, also 17, are two of the 13 students participating in the High School Research Week at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center’s Regenerative Medicine Institute, which takes place from July 22–26.

“This is the ninth year of the program, and Danesh said she’s been waiting for the past four to reach the minimum age of 17 so she could participate. “I just always loved science, and I always love doing labs in school and researching. And I find that it’s so fascinating and interesting that we have the power to do this,” she said.

Khorsandi said the program gives him a chance to pursue his passion. “How you’re working with living organisms is really cool,” Khorsandi said. “[Stem cells] could change our future.”

Khorsandi and Danesh are both getting a head start on their desired careers. They plan to pursue medicine, research or a combination of the two. As part of the Research Week program, they work with professionals who are doing just that.

One of the mentors, Veronica Garcia, focuses on neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease and ALS, or Lou Gehrig’s disease. Garcia, who is also the director of high school outreach for the institute, said the students are getting hands-on experience that is hard to find at such a young age, and when it comes to careers in medical research, the sooner someone finds their passion, the further they can go.

“I started working in a restaurant in high school, and look where I am now. I imagine most of these kids are going to be like Nobel laureates,” she said.

The students are also meeting people and learning how to network with professionals in a field where such connections can be extremely helpful. For instance, Garcia said it was serendipitous that she met a former Cedars-Sinai employee who knew the institute was looking for someone with a specialty in motor neuron physiology, in which Garcia specializes.

Another mentor, researcher Samuel Sances, was part of the Cedars-Sinai team featured in National Geographic earlier this year for their research using organs-on-chips technology, which recreates the environment cells experience in organs in the human body.

Sances said he’s always impressed with the students’ presentations at the end of the week, as well as the role they play in making scientific discoveries. For instance, one experiment the students are working on is novel enough that the professionals have no idea how it will end, Sances said. “It’s actually pretty amazing that these kids get a chance to put hands on some really cutting-edge technology,” Sances said.

“The students are also meeting people and learning how to network with professionals in a field where such connections can be extremely helpful. For instance, Garcia said it was serendipitous that she met a former Cedars-Sinai employee who knew the institute was looking for someone with a specialty in motor neuron physiology, in which Garcia specializes.”

“Another mentor, researcher Samuel Sances, was part of the Cedars-Sinai team featured in National Geographic earlier this year for their research using organs-on-chips technology, which recreates the environment cells experience in organs in the human body.”

Sances said he’s always impressed with the students’ presentations at the end of the week, as well as the role they play in making scientific discoveries. For instance, one experiment the students are working on is novel enough that the professionals have no idea how it will end, Sances said. “It’s actually pretty amazing that these kids get a chance to put hands on some really cutting-edge technology,” Sances said.

“Another mentor, researcher Samuel Sances, was part of the Cedars-Sinai team featured in National Geographic earlier this year for their research using organs-on-chips technology, which recreates the environment cells experience in organs in the human body.”

Sances said he’s always impressed with the students’ presentations at the end of the week, as well as the role they play in making scientific discoveries. For instance, one experiment the students are working on is novel enough that the professionals have no idea how it will end, Sances said. “It’s actually pretty amazing that these kids get a chance to put hands on some really cutting-edge technology,” Sances said.

course makes green change

Roosevelt Golf Course, a unique executive 9-hole golf course which tours some of the best views of the city of Los Angeles, can also add water efficiency to its brag list.

On July 12, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power celebrated the completion of the Griffith Park Roosevelt Golf Course irrigation retrofit project. The project, which broke ground in September, switched the golf course’s irrigation system from using drinking water to recycled water for its 38 acres of turf. The celebration also commemorated the iconic golf course’s 55th anniversary and the grand opening of the golf course’s new concessionaire, Franklin Café and Market.

Roosevelt Golf Course is the 6th city golf course to make the switch when it comes to watering its course with recycled water as an effort to conserve drinking water. In total, there are now more than 1,000 acres of city golf course facilities using recycled water for turf irrigation, saving an estimated 690 million gallons of drinking water per year – enough to supply more than 5,000 single family homes in L.A.

The irrigation retrofit project was made possible through an ongoing partnership LADWP and Recreation and Parks entered into in 2007 to promote water conservation and sustainable landscaping practices.

“We only meet our goals on climate responsibility and water resiliency when we work together,” said Councilman David Ryu, 4th District. “That’s what happened at Roosevelt Golf Course. The partnership between LADWP and our Recreation and Parks Department is just one example of how the city of Los Angeles is working to save hundreds of millions of gallons of water every year. I’m proud of this project at Roosevelt Golf Course, and all of the work we’re doing in Griffin Park and across Council District Four to conserve water, reduce emissions and build a more sustainable Los Angeles.”

Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Green New Deal has a target to recycle 100% of the city’s wastewater by 2025 andsource 70% of water locally. City departments are committed to enhancing water efficiency at city facilities and have vowed to work together to identify projects to ultimately create more reliable and sustainable sources of water for Los Angeles.
CHLA receives anonymous $25 million gift

An anonymous donor has provided $25 million to Children's Hospital Los Angeles to support the expansion of the CHLA Neurological Institute and the hospital's capacity in interventional radiology.

"This truly transformative gift comes at a time when demand is growing quickly — particularly among patients and their families in Southern California — both for pediatric neurological care as well as interventional radiology's broad range of minimally invasive procedures," said CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano. "I am beyond grateful for the generosity of this gift, one of the largest single donations in the hospital's history, and one that invests in healthier futures for the infants, children and youth we serve."

A portion of the gift will help fund the creation of a new multidisciplinary Neurological Institute Outpatient Center. When open, it will be one of only a handful of clinical hubs nationwide where all team members vital to treating neurological conditions — neurologists, neurosurgeons, developmental pediatricians, geneticists, nurses, psychiatrists, social workers and more — will work in one centralized location. The project includes the remodeling and creation of 35 patient exam rooms, five electroencephalogram rooms, four consultation rooms, two nurses' stations and a dedicated playroom for neurological patients.

By 2022, CHLA's Neurological Institute is projected to care for more than 31,000 patients a year. The new outpatient center aims to guide families as seamlessly as possible from diagnosis to treatment, from surgery to rehabilitation, for neurological conditions including brain tumors, epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders, craniofacial issues, strokes and more.

The other component of the gift will enhance CHLA's interventional radiology capacity through purchase of new technology and an overhaul of existing diagnostic and treatment space. IR, the fastest growing modality within CHLA's Department of Radiology and Imaging, uses advanced imaging equipment to diagnose and treat a range of conditions — including tumors and cardiovascular anomalies — with less invasive, yet more precise procedures. IR patient volume at CHLA has increased more than 30% annually, with the hospital providing more than 3,800 procedures over the past year.

"Expanding IR is critical to allowing CHLA to meet growing patient volume while also facilitating research to improve patient care for future generations," said Alexandra Carter, CHLA senior vice president and chief development officer. "This considerable contribution will significantly advance CHLA's vision of providing each patient and family with care that is timely, personalized, multidisciplinary and family-centered."

CHLA is located at 4650 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit chla.org.

Anon

West Hollywood will host a reading of the Mueller report in August.

West Hollywood City Councilwoman Lindsey Horvath said the July 24 Mueller report for people to think about," she said. "I think it's important for people to think in terms of 'act locally, think globally,' and has been a big part of the resistance. I think there is probably much in that report that people want to think about," she said.

The West Hollywood City Council Chambers are located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. For information, visit eventbrite.com/e/the-mueller-report-a-live-reading-tickets-65631520645, or email woodnowchapter@gmail.com.

WeHo seeks input on plans to enhance four streets

West Hollywood invites community members to take part in a Street Design Project walk and bike workshop on Saturday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Rooms 1 and 2 at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

The project will focus on Willoughby Avenue, Kings Road and Vista and Garden streets, with the goal of enhancing the streets and creating a more comfortable, safe and inviting experience for pedestrians and bicyclists. Attendees can provide input and meet city staff.

The event will include an orientation followed by a walk or bike session. For information, call (323)848-6834, or email tworoden@weho.org.
Members of Team Beverly Hills named

The Team Beverly Hills program – the city’s leadership and educational program – announced the appointment of its 24th class of team members for the 2019-2020 season.

Team Beverly Hills, an interactive and educational program that informs citizens about their local government representatives, departments and programs, community associations, and current issues will kick off its 24th year this fall.

Team Beverly Hills is designed to create a environment that encourages leadership, participation and responsibility by its citizens and to develop and maintain an informed resource for community involvement.

For information, visit laparks.org/reccenter/shatto.

WeHo accepting nominations for disability services awards

The city of West Hollywood is accepting nominations for its 21st annual Disability Service Awards. The awards presentations and reception will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 6 p.m. at West Hollywood’s Council Chambers, located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. as part of the city’s recognition of Disabilities Awareness Month.

Since 1999, the city has presented Disability Service Awards. Members of the West Hollywood community are encouraged to nominate individuals, businesses, the media and non-profit organizations for recognition of their work with people living with disabilities, including accessibility issues, attention to Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, or advocacy.

Nominations will be accepted until Thursday, Aug. 16, at 5 p.m. Self-nominations are welcome. Honorees will be selected by the city of West Hollywood’s Disabilities Advisory Board.

The city of West Hollywood’s Disabilities Advisory Board was created in 1995 and is comprised of nine members. The Disabilities Advisory Board addresses issues affecting people with disabilities including ADA compliance, transportation, housing, access to city government and services and more.

For information, call (323) 848-6510 or visit weho.org. For the hard of hearing, call TTY (323) 848-6496.

Project Angel Food continues legacy with 12-millionth meal

Celebrity restauranteur, philanthropist and television personality Lisa Vanderpump recently joined Project Angel Food Executive Director Richard Ayoub on July 18 to celebrate the nonprofit organization’s serving its 12-millionth meal.

Vanderpump, who is executive producer and star of the reality television series “Vanderpump Rules,” was moved to tears upon witnessing the dedication of supporters, volunteers, staff and others who came together at Project Angel Food’s Hollywood facility prior to the meal being served to an individual in need.

“Project Angel Food is such a wonderful organization which relies on volunteers to prepare and deliver meals to people who are too weak or sick to care for or cook for themselves,” Vanderpump said. “These individuals need these services to stay alive. I first became involved with Project Angel Food in late 1989, so when Richard called and asked me to deliver the 12-millionth meal, I was so honored and humbled.”

Vanderpump returned to Los Angeles from England after attending the funeral of her mother, Jean, to take part in the delivery.

“This is nowhere I would rather be than here,” Vanderpump added. “It is important that we do what we can to give back to the community.”

Vanderpump delivered the meal to the recipient’s apartment in Hollywood. The dedication and delivery to the 82-year-old man living with psoriatic arthritis were filmed for an upcoming episode of “Vanderpump Rules.”

Project Angel Food prepares and delivers medically-tailored free meals to people impacted by serious illness. Established in 1989 in response to the AIDS crisis, the nonprofit delivers daily meals to 1,400 men, women and children with cancer, kidney failure, diabetes, heart disease and other life-threatening illnesses. For information, visit angelfood.org.
How to safely get rid of unused medications

Every year, millions of Americans misuse or abuse prescription medications, sometimes leading to an emergency room visit, addiction or death. The problem has worsened amidst the ongoing opioid crisis.

To prevent drugs from falling into the wrong hands, it’s more important than ever to dispose of unused pills in a safe and smart way, says Cedars-Sinai pharmacist Karen Youmbi.

“Young people don’t realize that simply throwing away leftover medications without flushing them down the toilet is actually very dangerous,” Youmbi said. “People suffer from the drugs when they are disposed of improperly, so drug manufacturers and demand our moral power to take action. It’s time to take on high prescription drug prices. The most common prescription drug is in a can with a lid or a sealable bag to avoid spillage.

People should also remove the prescription label or scratch out personal information to protect their privacy and avoid identity theft. They can also recycle plastic pill bottles.

“By following these simple disposal instructions, we can help keep our community safe,” said Rita Shaine, chief pharmacy officer and professor of medicine at Cedars-Sinai.

Cedars-Sinai is located at 8700 Beverly Blvd. For information, visit cedars-sinai.org/newroom/how-to-safely-get-rid-of-unused-medication.

To keep drugs out of the wrong hands, Cedars-Sinai pharmacists advise disposing of unused pills in a safe and smart way.

DBCA awarded for service

The Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs will be honored with a national award for its program to help consumers resolve their disputes in a convenient, cost-free manner.

DCBA’s Online Dispute Resolution Program will receive a 2019 Achievement Award in Information Technology by the National Association of Counties at the agency’s annual Conference and Exposition, which is taking place this weekend in Clark County, Nevada.

DCBA launched the Online Dispute Resolution Program in 2015 as a new, effective, and transparent space for parties to resolve their disputes. DCBA mediators act as neutral third parties to help parties settle their disputes as an alternative to going to court, and guide the parties to use their own personal electronic devices from a location and time of their choice.

DCBA is the only government agency in Southern California that provides free online dispute resolution.

Our Online Dispute Resolution Program is a perfect example of how good government can adapt its methods to meet the needs of ours online-centric world. We are proud of our mediation team and honored to accept this award,” said Joseph M. Nicchitta, director of DBCA.

For information, visit dca.lacounty.gov.

DHCS pharmacy to be ‘fee-for-service system’

Continuing the implementation of Governor Gavin Newsom’s executive order to take on high prescription drug costs, the California Department of Health Care Services announced that it will soon begin accepting proposals to implement a significant component of the state’s prescription drug purchasing plan. Under the proposal, DHCS will be transitioning Medi-Cal pharmacy services from its contracted managed care plans to its directly negotiated fee-for-service system for purchasing on behalf of 13 million enrollees, as opposed to the current 2 million.

“The Medi-Cal program will use our market power and our moral power to take on drug manufacturers and demand fairer prices for prescription drugs,” said Newsom. “And we will continue to move closer to ensuring health care for every Californian.”

Today’s announcement gets us one step closer to the goal.

After he was sworn in, Newsom launched a series of actions to make health care more affordable California for all Californians and to move the state closer toward the goal of health care for all. Those proposals included an executive order to create the nation’s largest single-payer system for drugs and to, ultimately, allow all Californians and private employers to sit together at the bargaining table across big drug companies when negotiating prescription drug prices.

This executive order directed state agencies to review opportunities to expand existing bulk purchasing efforts for state, local and private sector entities and transition Medi-Cal pharmacy services from managed care into the fee-for-service delivery system to create significant negotiating leverage and substantial savings for the state.

The announcement brings the state closer to making that system a reality by creating the framework for a consolidated state negotiation and purchasing system for Medi-Cal pharmacy and a uniform Medi-Cal pharmacy provider network and pharmacy utilization policy while allowing Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans to retain all care coordination, pharmacy adherence and disease management responsibilities.

Earlier this year, Newsom instructed the counties of Los Angeles, Santa Clara, Alameda and San Francisco will partner with the state to use combined market power to take on drug companies and lower the cost of prescription drugs.

For information, visit govn.ca.gov

Grant applications now being received at LADWP

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is now receiving applications for the seventh round of its Community Partnership Grants for local nonprofit organizations. The objective of the grants is to encourage new community outreach and public education efforts that engage LADWP residential and business customers on improving their energy and water efficiency and reducing their utility bills.

This latest round offers 17 grants totaling $60,000. Sixteen of these grants will be offered at $50,000, totaling $800,000 and one grant at $60,000. The focus of these grants is to reach traditionally under-served, hard-to-reach communities among LADWP residential and commercial customers through workshops, community events, presentations and other engagement opportunities. LADWP will be evaluating applicants based on past performance with behavior modification techniques and how their proposals address local needs, cost effectiveness and tracking methods.

The competitive grants will be awarded to one 501(c)(3) in each of L.A. County’s 15 council districts and one in the Owens Valley, either in Inyo or Mono County. The application for the Owens Valley grant must describe recent work experience in the area and applicants are encouraged to partner with area tribes. The $60,000 grant is designated for a peer facilitator to help coordinate projects to ensure they meet their stated goals.

Past outreach methods have included door-to-door canvassing, attending public events, comedic plays, presentations and conferences and engagement through traditional media and social media. Nonprofit grantees have also done outreach at local schools and helped LADWP distribute LED light bulbs, faucet aerators, showerheads and shower timers to LADWP customers.

Applications will be accepted through Aug. 7. In the eight years since its inception, the LADWP’s community grants have provided almost $5 million in funding for more than 150 education projects, reaching hundreds of thousands of residents and businesses.

For information, email nonprof grants@ladwp.com, or visit ladwp.com.

To keep drugs out of the wrong hands, Cedars-Sinai pharmacists advise disposing of unused pills in a safe and smart way.
Project brings fun amenities to Fern Dell area playground

The city of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks opened a renovated playground in the Fern Dell area of Griffith Park on July 20 at 2333 Fern Dell Drive.

City Councilmember David Ryu, 4th District, joined members of the Moms Club of Los Feliz, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council and the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council at an opening ceremony.

A new tree house is the centerpiece at the new, modern playground designed for youth ages 2 to 12 years old. Equipped with an outdoor slide and multiple decks, the treehouse is designed for children 2 to 12 years old.

Assemblywoman Luz Rivas (D-Arleta) secured approximately $1 million in state funds to renovate the playground in the midst of California’s homelessness crisis. Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the state’s budget, which allocates $981,000 to the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency for six additional staff positions to expand the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to end homelessness in California.

Last fall, Rivas convened a working group of state and local department and advocates to discuss policy issues affecting the state’s growing homeless population.

“California likes to be the nation’s leader, but when it comes to homelessness, I want to thank the Governor for working with my office over the past year to discuss the growing crisis, and for finding value in my legislation by including it in his 2019-20 budget,” Rivas said. “AB 1702, which received bipartisan and unanimous support from my colleagues, helped set the stage for its inclusion in the budget. I am proud that for the first time, the budget will give the Council additional resources to fulfill their aggressive agenda to tackle the growing homeless crisis. As leader of the nation, we are taking responsibility, and this is an incremental step toward solving the state in the right direction.”

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council was created to oversee the implementation of housing first guidelines and to identify and coordinate state resources and strategies to prevent and end homelessness in California. For information, visit a39.asmdc.org.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors endorsed legislation on July 22 to reduce homelessness by expediting review for emergency and supportive housing projects funded by voter-approved measures or the state budget.

AB 1197, authored by Assemblymember Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles), would make it easier to build thousands of permanent supportive housing and emergency shelter and interim housing projects. The support from the Board of Supervisors was led by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, and Kathryn Barger, 5th District.

“Homelessness is the crisis of our generation and must be confronted head-on at full speed,” Assemblymember Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles), said. “It makes no sense to have people experiencing homelessness and others who are vulnerable in Los Angeles County.”

The Institute is contributing $15 million to 108 nonprofit programs and organizations that foster housing stability, provide sustainable programs for homeless residents and build and develop financial capacity at community clinics. The program, which is a three-month pilot, will also support mental health training, services for LGBTQ+ and veterans’ groups, as well as a range of social services provided by several Jewish organizations.

Cedars-Sinai contributed $5.9 million last year to safety-net organizations in the Los Angeles region.

The effort to address homelessness and housing stability comes at a critical time for the region. The 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count found a 12% increase in the number of people counted to nearly 60,578 – along with an increase to nearly 59,000. The count also showed that 600,000 people countywide face critical housing issues because they spend a large percentage of their income on shelter.

“We are facing a housing crisis as a community as we see our neighbors and friends struggling,” said Cedars-Sinai President and CEO Thomas M. Priselac. “We are driven by a vision to address root causes and social determinants of health. Ultimately, we are working to break down barriers that keep millions of people within the safety net.”

Cedars-Sinai is contributing $15 million in grants to community organizations, with more than 20 grants going to groups that work on homelessness and housing stability issues.

Cedars-Sinai is significantly increasing its financial support for safety net organizations that serve people experiencing homelessness and others who are vulnerable in Los Angeles County.

The institution is contributing $15 million to 108 nonprofit programs and organizations that foster housing stability, provide sustainable programs for homeless residents and build and develop financial capacity at community clinics. The program, which is a three-month pilot, will also support mental health training, services for LGBTQ+ and veterans’ groups, as well as a range of social services provided by several Jewish organizations.

Cedars-Sinai is contributing $15 million in grants to community organizations, with more than 20 grants going to groups that work on homelessness and housing stability issues.

BOLD’s return will be a boost for Beverly Hills

Re “Beverly Hills stays open late in August,” July 18 issue

BOLD has been fun and rewarding. A great concept that benefits everyone who enjoys our city.

Oh yes, it’s great for business as well.

George Vreeland Hill

Beverly Hills

Gehry’s 8150 Sunset project is too large for Sunset

Re “Settlement clears way for 8150 Sunset project,” Oct. 18, 2018, issue

Frank Gehry’s 8150 Sunset project is like entering an elephant into a horse show. As much as I may admire his pachydermian sense of proportion, I have never seen a design that is both so big and so box-like to combat homelessness.

If it were me, I would have expanded the design throughout the state. The bill also expands current California Environmental Quality Act exemptions through Jan. 1, 2025, for permanent supportive housing approved for construction by the city of Los Angeles and funded by Proposition HHH and the Homelessness Emergency Aid Program.

Gehry is a master architect and I do not discount his genius, just his sense of proportion. Although the 90-year-old Gehry claims not to favor the term “architect,” by designing a gargantuan, five-building mixed-use complex to take up residence on the corner of Sunset and Ruskin boulevards, he is engaged in a hubristic act, befitting an indubitable star. His plans for 229 housing units and 65,000 square feet of commercial space are aesthetically inconceivable and will create Gehry’s Gridlock,” a traffic quagmire at an already busy intersection.

At present, upon the site, stands the quirky Lytton Savings Bank building, now a Chase Bank, a prime example of the unique futuristic modernist Googie-style of architecture from the 1950s, designed by a “star architect” of his time, William F. Cody. Three years ago, the Los Angeles County Superior Court blocked its demolition.

More recently, the Supreme Court of California agreed to allow the building to be demolished. Why? Because the judges were wrong.

The judges were wrong.

Letters to the Editor

Elizabeth Sobieski

Los Angeles

BOLD’s return will be a boost for Beverly Hills

Editors' note: Letters must be 150 words or less and include the writer’s name, address, and daytime phone number for verification. Bodily attacks are not tolerated. Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Letters sent by email will be published quicker than those submitted by mail or hand-delivered.
Chef Ludo Lefebvre pop-up

June 27-28 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., for a Chef Ludo knock-out sandwich and libations inspired by the new Amazon Original series "The Boys," which premieres on June 27. Learn what happens when superheroes, who are as popular as celebrities, as influential as politicians, and as revered as gods, abuse their superpowers rather than use them for good. It's the powerlessness against the super powerful. 457 N. Fairfax Ave.

Wings festival at Mel’s Drive-In WeHo

Mel’s first chicken wing festival, WingFest, is on Monday, July 29, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Go to organizer Lawrence Longo’s popular “Off the Menu Club” app to reserve a spot. The iconic West Hollywood Mel’s Drive-In will prepare, serve and host a number of chef-inspired chicken wing options from L.A. Other participants include 40 Love, Banh Oui, Button Mash, Chef Kang Food Rehab, the Greyhound Bar & Grill and Pizzeria Mozza. Vegan options will be provided by Crossroads Kitchen. VIP ticket holders can try Mr. Chow’s one-time-only, limited edition duck confit wings. Special guest Anchor Bar from Buffalo, New York, the famed birthplace of the Buffalo chicken wing, will serve up their East Coast classic. Tickets are $45 to $135 for this one-of-a-kind evening. 8585 Sunset Blvd., (310)854-7201.

Pikoh Boo Mystery Dinner

Executive Chef Ricardo Zarate and Chef de Cuisine Chris Ono are taking diners on a culinary journey Wednesday, July 31, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This new dinner series at Pikoh presents a mysterious four-course menu, where diners have the chance guess the ingredients. This is not for picky eaters, but adventurous foodies who can put their full trust and taste buds with these talented chefs. Guests start the evening with a mystery dinner, where the new Executive Chef Kang Food Rehab, the Greyhound Bar & Grill and Pizzeria Mozza. Vegan options will be provided by Crossroads Kitchen. VIP ticket holders can try Mr. Chow’s one-time-only, limited edition duck confit wings. Special guest Anchor Bar from Buffalo, New York, the famed birthplace of the Buffalo chicken wing, will serve up their East Coast classic. Tickets are $45 to $135 for this one-of-a-kind evening. 8585 Sunset Blvd., (310)854-7201.

Chef Rick Sipovic is making a one-of-a-kind evening. 8585 Sunset Blvd., (310)854-7201.

Jane Q plant-based pop-up

Join others at a special vegetarian pop-up outside on the Everly’s skyline sundeck at 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 27. Executive Chef Bryan Podgorski’s six-course, plant-based menu includes an heirloom tomato gazpacho; baked Hass avocado with spiced cashew cheese; Niman salad; Fogg Hollow peaches with Brentwood corn; and whole roasted ratatouille with green and gold zucchini, eggplant, tomato, sofrito and garden basil. Tickets are $55 a person, $30 for the wine pairing and $15 for the non-alcoholic pairing option. 180 Arygle Ave., (213)279-3532.

Mexican craft beer festival

Come into Mikkeller DTLA on July 27-28 to taste 20 different Mexican craft beers on tap. The festival kicks off at 5 p.m., for a Chef Ludo knock-out sandwich and libations inspired by the new Amazon Original series "The Boys," which premieres on June 27. Learn what happens when superheroes, who are as popular as celebrities, as influential as politicians, and as revered as gods, abuse their superpowers rather than use them for good. It's the powerlessness against the super powerful. 457 N. Fairfax Ave.

RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

T he 80 plus-year-strong restau-
rant is offering a three-course surf and turf dineL.A. menu until July 26. The $59 prix fixe meal begins with an original spinning bowl salad. Entrees include California cut of roasted prime ribs of beef with mashed potatoes. Yorkshire pudding and a broiled Nova Scotia lobster tail. Sides include creamed corn, creamed spinach or seasonal vegetables. Dessert options include a traditional English trifle, flourless choco-
late cake or crème brûlée. 100 N. La Cienega Blvd., (310)652-2827.

Pollo Asado

House-made adobo, marinated chicken thighs or breast, served with plantains and white rice.

Chicken & Waffles

12-piece chicken and waffles served with choice of syrup.

Mystic Smoke Chicken

Slow cooked, smoked chicken with a dry rub and cornbread.

Kung Pao Beef

Beef tossed in a Sichuan pepper and garlic sauce.

Roast Pork Shoulder

Perfectly roasted pork shoulder served with chips and guacamole.

Pork Chops

Center cut, bone-in.

SIZZLE n’ GRILL

USDA Prime Ribeye Steak

Bone-In $16.98/lb.

Antibiotic free. Humanely raised.

Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops

$3.98/lb.

Pollo Asado

Marinated Chicken

$4.49/lb. Boneless, Skinless

With this ad through 8/1/19

6333 W. Third St.
323.938.5131
www.marcodas.com

Family Owned in the Original Farmers Market for 78 Years

Pikoh Boo Mystery Dinner

Executive Chef Ricardo Zarate and Chef de Cuisine Chris Ono are taking diners on a culinary journey Wednesday, July 31, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This new dinner series at Pikoh presents a mysterious four-course menu, where diners have the chance guess the ingredients. This is not for picky eaters, but adventurous foodies who can put their full trust and taste buds with these talented chefs. Guests start the evening with a mystery dinner, where the new Executive Chef Kang Food Rehab, the Greyhound Bar & Grill and Pizzeria Mozza. Vegan options will be provided by Crossroads Kitchen. VIP ticket holders can try Mr. Chow’s one-time-only, limited edition duck confit wings. Special guest Anchor Bar from Buffalo, New York, the famed birthplace of the Buffalo chicken wing, will serve up their East Coast classic. Tickets are $45 to $135 for this one-of-a-kind evening. 8585 Sunset Blvd., (310)854-7201.

Chef Ludo Lefebvre pop-up

June 27-28 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., for a Chef Ludo knock-out sandwich and libations inspired by the new Amazon Original series "The Boys," which premieres on June 27. Learn what happens when superheroes, who are as popular as celebrities, as influential as politicians, and as revered as gods, abuse their superpowers rather than use them for good. It’s the powerlessness against the super powerful. 457 N. Fairfax Ave.

Wings festival at Mel’s Drive-In WeHo

Mel’s first chicken wing festival, WingFest, is on Monday, July 29, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Go to organizer Lawrence Longo’s popular “Off the Menu Club” app to reserve a spot. The iconic West Hollywood Mel’s Drive-In will prepare, serve and host a number of chef-inspired chicken wing options from L.A. Other participants include 40 Love, Banh Oui, Button Mash, Chef Kang Food Rehab, the Greyhound Bar & Grill and Pizzeria Mozza. Vegan options will be provided by Crossroads Kitchen. VIP ticket holders can try Mr. Chow’s one-time-only, limited edition duck confit wings. Special guest Anchor Bar from Buffalo, New York, the famed birthplace of the Buffalo chicken wing, will serve up their East Coast classic. Tickets are $45 to $135 for this one-of-a-kind evening. 8585 Sunset Blvd., (310)854-7201.
they will be rewarded with a $50 Pikoh gift card to use in the future. Tickets are $35 per person for this one-night-only tasting. Seating is limited. Reservations can be made at resy.com. 1940 W. Pico Blvd., (310)928-9344.

Sonoran-style dining at Salazar

Sit outside during a warm summer night at Salazar in Frogtown and start with a crafted tequila or mezcal cocktail by beverage coordinator Adan Maldonado. His tequila cocktails range from margaritas via their nitro tap to a fresh watermelon agua fresca with the option to spike with tequila. Order a bottle of Ranch Water, made with a shot of tequila, Toppers Chico and lime, which goes well with pomegranate-dotted guacamole, mesquite-grilled meats, seafood and seasonal produce in tacos and quesadillas, creamy elote, salads, and smoky beans. 2490 Fletcher Drive, salazarla.com.

Annie’s Soul Delicious

Analisa Johnson’s family-owned and operated restaurant offers entrées with three sides. Menu items include oxtails and gravy, shrimp and grits, habanero honey fried chicken, and short rib French fries. Each meal comes with complimentary cornbread and whipped butter. Sides include mac and cheese, candied yams, cornbread dressing, greens with smoked turkey, black eyed peas, or red beans with smoked meat. Finish with banana pudding or peach cobbler. Refreshing beverages include strawberry lemonade and purple rain punch. The restaurant is open Tuesday through Sunday, starting at 11:30 a.m. 1066 S. Fairfax Ave., (323)424-7402.

Oyster Wednesdays at Ocean Prime

Enjoy half-priced oysters and frozen granita with glasses of Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs or rosé from 4 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays this summer as part of the special Schramsberg & Oyster promotion at Ocean Prime Beverly Hills. Happy hour is weekdays from 4 to 8 p.m., offering $5 off small plates, sushi and raw bar offerings in the lounge. Handcrafted cocktails and house spirits are $8. Featured beer is $5 and wine is $8 a glass. 9595 Wilshire Blvd., (310)859-4818.

For Your Convenience

NEW CONTRACT POSTAL UNIT
AT THE ORIGINAL FARMERS MARKET
at 3rd & Fairfax

Located adjacent to the Farmers Market Newsstand near the Clock Tower.

Hours Monday - Friday, 9am - 9pm
Saturday, 9am - 8pm; Sunday, 10am - 7pm
Phone (323) 933-2322
90 minute parking validation provided with purchase.

OPEN 7 DAYS!
EVEN ON SUNDAYS!

6333 W. 3RD ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

EB’s AUGUST MUSIC

THURSDAY NIGHTS
1. STINGRAYS
5. MARK ZUBRA
9. LOS GUYS
13. CHRIS LARDINET
BB & THE AGGRESSORS

HAPPY SUMMER

SATURDAY NIGHTS
3. ELIJAH OCEAN
7. CHRISTOPHER LOCKET
11. THE NEW MEXICAN
15. BRUCE RAY WHITE
22. PULP 90’S
26. PLASTIC SOUL

Thursday Night Line-Up

@Farmersmarketla.com
Farmers Market
3rd & Fairfax

$4 Hamm’s

Tuesday Trivia With Simon
FRIDAY NIGHT LINE-UP

@Farmersmarketla.com
Farmers Market
3rd & Fairfax

7 PM
No Cover
Limited Police Blotter this week

Crime listings for the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department were unavailable this week because of technical difficulties between the departments and the crime mapping.com website. The law enforcement agencies are working to rectify the situation, and the listings will return as soon as possible.

Beverly Hills Police Department

July 12
An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of Alptrae at 8 a.m.

July 13
At 3:07 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of Rodeo.

July 14
At 12:08 a.m., an unknown suspect was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Santa Monica and Doheny.

An arson fire was reported in the 9900 block of S. Santa Monica at 10:45 a.m.

July 15
At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Foothill.

An unknown suspect burglarized a commercial building in the 400 block of N. Roxbury at 6 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Elm.

July 16
At 2:45 a.m., an unknown suspect was arrested for possession of a firearm, influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Sunset and Foothill.

An unknown suspect was arrested in the 8800 block of Olympic at 12:07 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of Trenton.

July 17
An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 4:57 p.m.

July 18
At 3:07 p.m., an unknown suspect was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Canon and Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8800 block of Olympic at 7:15 a.m.

General Max Huntsman requested expanded authority to better investigate and understand the full extent of secret societies, as well as the ability to issue subpoenas.

Bel-Air man faces firearms charges

A 58-year-old man accused of possessing a cache of assault weapons at his Bel-Air home has been charged with 64 felony counts, including seven by Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

Gerald Daimian Saenz is charged with possessing a cache of assault weapons, 15 counts of transfer of handguns with no licensed firearms dealer, 15 counts of unlawful assault weapon possession, seven counts of possession of a short-barreled rifle or shotgun, and two counts of possession of a short-barreled rifle or shotgun.

Saenz pleaded not guilty on July 15.

The alleged offenses occurred between January 2016 and May 2019, according to the criminal complaint. Bail was set at $100,000. If convicted, Saenz faces a maximum sentence of 48 years, eight months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

Los Angeles County’s first Reentry Opportunity Center opened in Los Angeles Mission Park, providing a place for thousands of probationers and their families to access services that can facilitate a successful transition back into society.

“This groundbreaking center reflects a new but proven approach to making justice more restorative and more reflective of our communities safe,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who championed the project. “This is an innovative one-stop shop where people can get help to fix their lives before they get back on the street. This is a healing environment.”

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously on July 21 to expand the Office of the Inspector General’s investigative authority, according to a government motion. During the course of the alleged scheme, Blieden used money he stole from his employer to hire poker players. Approximately $1.1 million was used to pay off credit cards and $8.4 million was transferred to Blieden’s crypto-currency accounts, according to court documents.

Shortly before his dismissal from StyleHaul, on Feb. 21 and 22, Blieden entered several professional poker tournaments, where the buy-in amounts were $52,000 and $103,000, respectively, court papers state.

If convicted, Blieden faces a statutory maximum sentence of more than 200 years in federal prison.

Felony charges filed in embezzlement scheme

A former executive at StyleHaul Inc. that develops marketing company that represents influencers on YouTube and Instagram, has been arrested on grand jury indictment charging him with embezzling $2 million from his employer and using the stolen money for buy-ins at professional poker tournaments, crypto-currency investing and other personal expenses.

Dennis Blieden, 29, was taken into federal custody on July 11 in Las Vegas. The indictment charges him with embezzling one count of agranulocyte deficiency in two theft and two fraud counts. Blieden served as controller and vice president of operations for StyleHaul, a digital company once based in Hollywood that relocated to London in April Blieden had control over the company’s bank accounts and allegedly abused this authority to wire the company’s money to his personal bank accounts.

Blieden is charged with disguising his fraudulent behavior in various ways, including creating a fictitious lease in May 2018 for the rental of a condominium in Rosarito Beach, Mexico, which included a forged signature of a StyleHaul executive. The indictment further alleges that Blieden illicitly transferred $230,000 of StyleHaul’s funds for his own personal use by falsely representing that the condominium was being rented for business purposes for StyleHaul’s clients and employees.

Blieden also allegedly created fictitious wire transfer letters, purportedly from Western Union, to make it falsely appear that he had sent wire transfers from StyleHaul to a client to pay money that was due, the indictment alleges.

Blieden, who has entered and won professional poker tournaments, also frequently engaged in online gambling with crypto-currency he purchased with embezzled money, according to a government motion. During the course of the alleged scheme, Blieden used money he stole from his employer to hire poker players. Approximately $1.1 million was used to pay off credit cards and $8.4 million was transferred to Blieden’s crypto-currency accounts, according to court documents.

Board seeks more authority in addressing cliques

General Max Huntsman requested expanded authority to better investigate and understand the full extent of secret societies, as well as the ability to issue subpoenas.

The most direct county counsel, in consultation with the inspector general, to develop recommendations to expand investigations in investigating deputy secret societies within the sheriff’s department, and report back in 90 days.

For information, visit losbaccourts.org.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn (center) is leading an effort to investigate deputy cliques in the sheriff’s department.

Crime listings for the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department were unavailable this week because of technical difficulties between the departments and the crime mapping.com website. The law enforcement agencies are working to rectify the situation, and the listings will return as soon as possible.

An arrest warrant was issued for possession of an assault weapon, 15 counts of transfer of handguns with no licensed firearms dealer, 15 counts of unlawful assault weapon possession, seven counts of possession of a short-barreled rifle or shotgun, and two counts of possession of a short-barreled rifle or shotgun.

Saenz pleaded not guilty on July 15.

The alleged offenses occurred between January 2016 and May 2019, according to the criminal complaint. Bail was set at $100,000. If convicted, Saenz faces a maximum sentence of 48 years, eight months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

Los Angeles County’s first Reentry Opportunity Center opened in Los Angeles Mission Park, providing a place for thousands of probationers and their families to access services that can facilitate a successful transition back into society.

“This groundbreaking center reflects a new but proven approach to making justice more restorative and more reflective of our communities safe,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who championed the project. “This is an innovative one-stop shop where people can get help to fix their lives before they get back on the street. This is a healing environment.”

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously on July 21 to expand the Office of the Inspector General’s investigative authority, according to a government motion. During the course of the alleged scheme, Blieden used money he stole from his employer to hire poker players. Approximately $1.1 million was used to pay off credit cards and $8.4 million was transferred to Blieden’s crypto-currency accounts, according to court documents.

Shortly before his dismissal from StyleHaul, on Feb. 21 and 22, Blieden entered several professional poker tournaments, where the buy-in amounts were $52,000 and $103,000, respectively, court papers state.

If convicted, Blieden faces a statutory maximum sentence of more than 200 years in federal prison.

Felony charges filed in embezzlement scheme

A former executive at StyleHaul Inc. that develops marketing company that represents influencers on YouTube and Instagram, has been arrested on grand jury indictment charging him with embezzling $2 million from his employer and using the stolen money for buy-ins at professional poker tournaments, crypto-currency investing and other personal expenses.

Dennis Blieden, 29, was taken into federal custody on July 11 in Las Vegas. The indictment charges him with embezzling one count of agranulocyte deficiency in two theft and two fraud counts. Blieden served as controller and vice president of operations for StyleHaul, a digital company once based in Hollywood that relocated to London in April Blieden had control over the company’s bank accounts and allegedly abused this authority to wire the company’s money to his personal bank accounts.

Blieden is charged with disguising his fraudulent behavior in various ways, including creating a fictitious lease in May 2018 for the rental of a condominium in Rosarito Beach, Mexico, which included a forged signature of a StyleHaul executive. The indictment further alleges that Blieden illicitly transferred $230,000 of StyleHaul’s funds for his own personal use by falsely representing that the condominium was being rented for business purposes for StyleHaul’s clients and employees.

Blieden also allegedly created fictitious wire transfer letters, purportedly from Western Union, to make it falsely appear that he had sent wire transfers from StyleHaul to a client to pay money that was due, the indictment alleges.

Blieden, who has entered and won professional poker tournaments, also frequently engaged in online gambling with crypto-currency he purchased with embezzled money, according to a government motion. During the course of the alleged scheme, Blieden used money he stole from his employer to hire poker players. Approximately $1.1 million was used to pay off credit cards and $8.4 million was transferred to Blieden’s crypto-currency accounts, according to court documents.

Shortly before his dismissal from StyleHaul, on Feb. 21 and 22, Blieden entered several professional poker tournaments, where the buy-in amounts were $52,000 and $103,000, respectively, court papers state.

If convicted, Blieden faces a statutory maximum sentence of more than 200 years in federal prison.

Board seeks more authority in addressing cliques

General Max Huntsman requested expanded authority to better investigate and understand the full extent of secret societies, as well as the ability to issue subpoenas.

The most direct county counsel, in consultation with the inspector general, to develop recommendations to expand investigations in investigating deputy secret societies within the sheriff’s department, and report back in 90 days.

For information, visit losbaccourts.org.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn (center) is leading an effort to investigate deputy cliques in the sheriff’s department.
Artful and flavorful fare at LN2

Artful and flavorful fare at LN2

A
t LN2 on Melrose, Executive Chef Chris Robbins creates a menu that truly depicts the flavors he loves. His state-of-the-art, wood-burning pizza oven enhances fresh California ingredients and artistic creative dishes. Robbins and his wife, Mica Ray, proudly showed my husband and I their famed pizza oven.

“This is the Ferrari of pizzas,” Robbins said.

Robbins started as a dishwasher and grew into a chef at Patina Restaurant Group and Parkway Grill in Pasadena. Now, not only does he craft some of the best pizzas in Los Angeles, but he and his staff also experiment with liquid nitrogen to create Instagram-worthy cocktails and desserts. The restaurant’s name, LN2, refers to nitrogen in a liquid state caused by extremely low temperatures.

The main dining room is formal in decor with comfortable velvet chairs. The marble bar top projects a soothing kaleidoscope of colors. Near the back, a casual open-air patio allows guests to enjoy warm summer nights and al fresco weekend brunches.

On the a la carte menu, we noticed creative drinks with names like “Dream State,” “Summer Fling” and “Aloe Bar.” The “LN2 Cosmo” is a magical elixir made with vodka, lime, cranberry and hibiscus that emits liquid nitrogen vapors. The full bar also offers a nice selection of beers and ciders, as well as Californian, French, Italian, Spanish and Australian wines.

LN2, however, is much more than artisan pizza. Chef Robbins offers an array of small plates that includes hamachi, popcorn Brussels sprouts and pork belly – cooked sous-vide for 36 hours, so tender that it melts in your mouth, and served with mint leaves and orange sections on top. Accompanying the pork belly is a perfect sphere of fried rice with chopped mint, peas, carrots and a gently cooked egg. Chef Robbins’ side dishes are also worth noting. The restaurant directly delivers the cornucopia of ingredients, which are expertly crafted dishes. Robbins and his team at LN2 offer an innovative, playful approach to fine dining and comfort food. If you haven’t been yet, come in and meet one of the nicest couples in town. S& S Dinner service is Tuesday through Sunday starting at 5 p.m. Weekend brunch is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 7212 Melrose Ave. (323)917-5177.

By Jill Weinlein

The elegant and artistically prepared dishes at LN2, such as the tender pork belly served with fried rice and topped with an egg, depict the chef’s favorite flavors.

Fruity Pebbles, chopped farmers market strawberries, Onions, spinach and aged balsamic peas. They also serve brunch with items like avocado toast and a breakfast pizza, topped with house-made bacon, free-range eggs, fontina cheese, potatoes and chives. Other savory fare includes short rib chilaquiles, smoked salmon Benedict and a breakfast broche sandwich layered with tomato jam, a fried egg, pork sausage and Gruyere cheese. Chef Robbins and his team at LN2 offer an innovative, playful approach to fine dining and comfort food. If you haven’t been yet, come in and meet one of the nicest couples in town. S& S Dinner service is Tuesday through Sunday starting at 5 p.m. Weekend brunch is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 7212 Melrose Ave. (323)917-5177.
Kim takes you back to Saigon in Pantages production

“Miss Saigon,” opened at the Pantages Theatre on July 18, revisiting their production of the classic Broadway musical that first captured theater-goers’ hearts more than 25 years ago. Set in 1970s Vietnam, “Miss Saigon” follows the lives of Kim, a young Vietnamese beggar, and Chris, a disillusioned American Marine, as the Fall of Saigon looms ahead. In the days before the last Americans are extracted from Vietnam as the People’s Army captures the capital, a group of American soldiers find solace at Dreamland, a bar and brothel run by “The Engineer,” a sleazy and opportunistic pimp. On the night Kim and Chris first meet at Dreamland, sparks fly, but soon their love story turns into a fight for survival. The show tells a timeless story of star-crossed lovers while also revealing the lasting repercussions and sorrow of the Vietnam War with pointed political commentary. This production of “Miss Saigon” features highly impressive set design and two leads with excellent operatic vocals and powerful house acting chops. The company is visceral, deeply emotional, and at times overwhelming. As I exited the theatre, I quipped, “I could use a little 42nd Street right about now.” However, after the initial emotional gut-punch wore off, I found myself earnestly reflecting on the implications and heartache of the Vietnam War for several days.

The show tells a timeless story of star-crossed lovers while also revealing the lasting repercussions and sorrow of the Vietnam War.

After the initial emotional gut-punch wore off, I found myself earnestly reflecting on the implications and heartache of the Vietnam War for several days.

Red Concepción stars as “The Engineer” in the Hollywood Pantages production to Miss Saigon, now playing through August 11.

Grant helps community college expand internship, training programs

West Los Angeles College has been awarded a $12 million federal grant, the single largest in the college’s history, to develop and oversee apprenticeship programs in numerous vocations for as many as 5,000 students over the next four years.

WLAC, located at 9000 Overland Ave. in Culver City, is the lead college on the U.S. Department of Labor grant. Administrators will work with five other colleges in the U.S., as well as the South Bay Workforce Investment Board and numerous private-sector employers and professional organizations, on its implementation.

“The Los Angeles Community College District, which includes WLAC, has a strong commitment to educating the workforce of tomorrow and to providing equal opportunities for all who want to pursue their dreams of higher education and well-paying jobs,” Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez said. “This grant positions our community colleges to continue to be responsive to employer needs and help build strong regional economies.”

The grant is part of a larger, $5183 million effort by the U.S. Department of Labor to work with more than 20 academic institutions and other public-private partners throughout the country to create as many as 85,000 internships and on-the-job training opportunities. WLAC will work on the grant’s implementation with College of the Canyons and El Camino College in California; Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, Nevada; Columbia College of South Carolina; and Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, New York. In addition to the Hawthorne, -based South Bay Workforce Investment Board, WLAC will partner with the Aerospace Industries Association, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Institute for American Apprenticeships and 17 private sector employers on creating programs and internships.

“Community colleges help ensure that quality education is accessible to everyone, and they work hard to meet their students’ needs wherever they are in their career and education,” said U.S. Rep Karen Bass, (D-Los Angeles), whose district include WLAC. “I am delighted that West Los Angeles College has won this significant grant to increase access to local job and internship opportunities. In order to invest in our future, we must invest in our students.”

The program is expected to launch this fall.

For information, visit laccd.edu.

Immaculate Heart Takes You Places!

“Educating the Hearts & Minds of Young Women Since 1906”

Back to School

Get Ready for the Fall Semester!

Summer just started, but the new school year is just around the corner! Be prepared with our Back to School section, publishing August 8 - Sept. 26.

Email your school news to

Park Labrea News/Beverly Press
Hoffman elected as president of LACCD Board of Trustees

Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees member Andrea Hoffman was recently elected to serve as the board’s president for a one-year term.

With a call to “put students first,” Hoffman said she intends to emphasize “a year of transparency and accountability,” as well as zero tolerance for any disrespectful behavior at board meetings.

Hoffman was first elected to the LACCD board in 2015. She has 22 years of service as a community college professor and administrator, and currently works at Glendale Community College. She noted her priorities for next year, including expanding family resource centers, offering them a 10-year lease with a fixed rent for the location.

For information, visit laccd.edu.

A literary treasure trove on the Sunset Strip

BY REBECCA MORETTI

Tucked away in a narrow alley, only steps from famed rock ‘n roll landmarks like the Viper Room and the Whisky a Go Go, behind the smoky, fluorescent-lighted flurry of the Sunset Strip, lies a little green cottage. If this sounds like the beginning of some Tinseltown fairy tale, you’re not far off.

This fantastical cottage is Mystery Pier Books, founded in 1998 by father and son, Harvey and Louis Jason. The renowned bookshop is famous for its collection of first editions, some of the finest in the world.

To get there, one must walk down a narrow black-and-white tiled hall, sandwiched between a bakery and another bookshop, Turn right and you’ll emerge into an even narrower alleyway, at the end of which one will find the quaint wooden cottage. The painted porch teems with plants and vines, as alive and thriving as the literary masterpieces inside.

Turn the doorknob and step across the threshold. For one moment, one will have the wild impression of being alone in some charming alcove, surrounded by colorful books in glass cases. From a back room emerges Harvey Jason, whose kind and old-worldly presence immediately makes one feel at ease.

“IT was always a pipe dream of mine to have a really first-class, strictly first edition bookshop,” Jason said. Prior to opening the shop, the London native was an actor who starred in films such as “The Gunfightball Rally” and “The London World: Jurassic Park.”

Jason’s youngest son, Louis, was the inspiration for opening the store. Before opening Mystery Pier, he was selling books online and at book fairs, specializing in first edition mysteries – hence, Mystery Pier Books. Jason decided to open the shop with his son while shoot- ing on the set of “Jurassic Park.” After a lifetime of acting, he was ready to turn his pipe dream into a reality.

“A year after the film wrapped, we started looking for a place. Louis and I saw this for-sale sign on the Sunset Strip. It was very unusual,” Jason said. At first, Jason was skeptical that the inconspicuous location could attract many — if any — customers.

“The realtor brought us back down this little passage. Besides an old fireplace, there was really nothing there. It was completely empty,” Jason said. The realtor offered them a 10-year lease with a fixed rent for the location.

“But we thought we could go broke in six months, so we turned it down,” Jason said. The rent has now skyrocketed, and Mystery Pier Books has been in business for over 20 years, catering to some of the finest in Hollywood, including regulars such as Johnny Depp and Flea of the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Tourists, passersby and stars alike have flocked to the store for years, often returning whenever they get a chance.

“Wedding March.” He takes pride in having a book that was, say, in the personal library of Oscar Wilde.

“First editions in particular charm, but also for the quality and breadth of its first editions, which are meticulously preserved and beautifully displayed. From the first separate printings of Shakespeare’s plays to classic novels with personal notes from authors like J.D. Salinger and Ernest Hemingway, Mystery Pier Books has it all.

Prices for its first editions range from $100 to a steep $500,000.

A signed copy of Einstein’s “Relativity” will run you $250. A first printing of Hemingway’s “Death in the Afternoon” is a relative steal at $500.

“With first editions in particular, the value is in the history,” Jason said. “You ask yourself, who touched this book? Whose book was this? It’s incredible to be able to own a book that was, say, in the personal library of Oscar Wilde.”

The shop also boasts an impressive collection of signed scripts, which are sold in beautiful leather cases especially made for Mystery Pier. These are often bought as gifts during awards season, along with pieces from the store’s popular “Books into Film” collection, which includes signed first editions of novels such as “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” and “2001: A Space Odyssey.”

In addition to historical and sentimental value, first editions also bring tremendous investment value, according to Jason.

“This is a city of investors. Books escalate in value more rapidly than art. It’s remarkable how books have risen in price over the years,” Jason said.

When asked how the literary culture in L.A. compares with more historic literary hotspots such as London and New York, Jason said the culture in L.A. is alive and thriving.

“People underestimate the intellectual pursuits of people in this city,” Jason said. “There is a tremendous amount of readers, and in our case, a tremendous amount of serious collectors.”

Although Jason doesn’t bring his own collection into the shop, one of his favorite pieces for sale is the first printing of Mendelsohn’s “Wedding March.” He takes pride in being able to connect customers with unique pieces like this that carry great historical and sentimental value.

“And then occasionally, rarely, but occasionally there will be sell-er’s remorse,” Jason said, referring to a first edition copy of a Dickens novel that survived a prison fire because it was bound in wood from the prison beams. “As soon as the customer walked out with it, we knew we would miss it.”

In terms of the future of print literature, Jason is optimistic, despite new technologies which have become prevalent with modern readers.

“Kindles and audiobooks are convenient, but at the end of the day there is nothing like a real book,” Jason said. “People who love books love books and will always keep buying them.”

Mystery Pier Books is proud to have a first-edition copy of “Leaves of Grass,” signed by Walt Whitman. Find this and other treasures at the West Hollywood gem.

Fillmore & Western offers summer fun aboard vintage trains

The Fillmore & Western Railway offers fun summer adventures for vintage train enthusiasts such as the “Summertime Scenic” and “Hot August Nights: Beer, Wine & Blues” train rides, as well as Labor Day Weekend steam train rides.

The “Summertime Scenic” rides offer tours through the Heritage Valley with two-hour stops in the historic town of Santa Paula. The trains run every Saturday through Aug. 31. In Santa Paula, passengers can visit museums, shops and restaurants.

The “Hot August Nights” train runs every Saturday in August, Aug. 9 and 23. Enjoy wine and beer tasting, live blues music, appetizers and dancing.

The Labor Day Weekend steam trains are pulled by a 100-year-old Baldwin Steam Engine and passen- gers ride in vintage coach and flat cars.

All trains depart from 364 Main St., Fillmore. For information or to book an adventure, call (805)524-2546, or visit fwr.com.
SkyPilot presents new fall plays

SkyPilot Theatre Company, a nonprofit ensemble company of actors, directors and design- ers producing new works for the Los Angeles theater-going audience, will present a selec- tion of original one-act plays this fall. Playwrights are invited to submit works based on the theme, “Future Shock.” A 1970 book written by Alvin and Heidi Toffler, who define the term as a certain psychological state of individuals and entire societies under the pres- sures of “too much change in too short a period of time.” The book predicts that a post-industrial soci- ety will be marked by a culture where everything ranging from goods to human relationships will be temporary and the familiarity that institutions (family, national identity, religion, professions) once provided will be lost.

Playwrights are asked to submit works that deal with any of the following issues: too rapid change, a transient society, the dangers of an overpopulated world, or the sense of the famil- iar or old institutions quickly fading away. These acts can be drama; comedies; satires; be funny or sad; involve any genre, be based in reality, fantasy or science fiction and be for or against any position.

Plays are required to be a maxi- mum of 20 to 30 minutes in length with no more than six to eight characters. All plays must be orig- inal, never produced material and not adaptations or musicals. Historical costumes and elaborate sets will not be allowed. While the subject can be for or against the chosen theme, no dirittus will be accepted.

The deadline for one-acts to be submitted is Sept. 1. A submission fee of $20 is required, and can be submitted from PayPal or Venmo to skyplaysubmis- sions@gmail.com. Please submit plays with “One Act Festival” in the subject line to the same email address above by Sept. 1. For information, visit sky- pilototheatre.com.

The Los Angeles Dodgers have announced plans for the creation of a new Centerfield Plaza and renovations to the Left and Right Field Pavilions as the club continu- es to enhance the league’s third- oldest ballpark with modern and fan-friendly amenities. The pro- jects are expected to be completed in time for the 2020 season, when the Dodgers will host Major League Baseball’s All-Star Game presented by Mastercard.

“Dodger Stadium has always been and remains the most beauti- ful ballpark in baseball and we are thrilled to have the opportunity, in partnership with modern and family-friendly amenities,” said Dodgers President and CEO Stan Kasten.

“This latest project continues to demonstrate ownership’s commit- ment to give a first-class experi- ence to the best fans in baseball.”

The stadium improvements will include a new Centerfield Plaza which will serve as the stadium’s “front door.” It will feature nearly two acres of food offerings, enter- tainment and children’s areas, retail spaces, sponsor activations, more social and standing room and greater access for people with special needs. Fans will be able to enjoy new elevators that allow traditionally new-constructed “batters eye wall.” The new Centerfield Plaza will be homage to Dodger history with statues and serve as a perma- nent home for the Legends of Dodgerama.

Renovations to the Left and Right Field Pavilions will include enclosed bars with views into the bullpen, the creation of standing room areas at the top of each pavilion, new restrooms, enhanced ADA seating and “home run seats” just beyond the outfield wall.

Elevators are currently under construction in the Right and Left Field Pavilions to help move fans more easily to and from the new Centerfield Plaza. Additionally, bridges will be constructed to connect the new pavilion stand- ing room decks to the rest of the stadium, creating a 360-degree connection around the park’s perimeter. The new elevators and bridges will also provide easier access to the Dodger Stadium Express stop in Lot G through the Centerfield Plaza.

The Dodgers are also adding a new sound system that will replace the current speaker tower and provide an enhanced audio experience on all levels of the ballpark. The team will also honor Hall of Fame left-handed pitcher Sandy Koufax with a statue, the second at Dodger Stadium fol- lowing the dedication of the Jackie Robinson statue in 2017. Both statues will be located in the Centerfield Plaza, as the Robinson statue will be re-located from the Left Field Reserve Level.

In 1955, I joined the Brooklyn Dodgers,” said Sandy Koufax. “It was my honor to be with Jackie Robinson in life. Now in Los Angeles, it is again my honor to be with him in bronze and to thank the Los Angeles fans for treating me so well on this jour- ney.”

The Dodgers remain commit- ted to modernizing Dodger Stadium while maintaining the midcentury modern architecture that defines the venue. Under the ownership of Guggenheim Baseball Management since 2013, Dodger Stadium has undergone a series of fan-friend- ly improvements including the creation of two new entrance plazas on the field level, tiered seating and bar areas overlooking both bullpens, two new HD video screens, new team stores, wider concourses, renovated restrooms, enhanced concessions and chil- dren’s play areas. There have also been structural and behind- the-scenes upgrades to Dodger Stadium’s infrastructure as well as the construction of new home and visiting clubhouses, batting cages and weight rooms.

For information, visit mlb.com/dodgers.
Former LA Phil violinist Jerry Epstein mourned

Many people in the Los Angeles classical music community are mourning Jerry Epstein, a former violinist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic who died on July 11 at the age of 72.

Epstein, a native Angeleno, joined the LA Phil orchestra as a violinist in 1968 during his junior year at the University of Southern California, and remained with the LA Phil for 43 seasons.

Epstein came from a long line of talented musicians, including his uncle, father and mother, LA Phil alumnus Lily Matson Mailer Epstein. He was the principal violinist in the Westside Symphony and the YMF Trio. He was also principal violist in the LA Philharmonic for 43 seasons.

Epstein was co-founder of the multi-award winning Los Angeles Piano Quartet and was a founding member of the Midnight Strings.

Over the years, Epstein worked with and recorded with numerous artists, conductors and composers, including Leonard Bernstein, Victor Borge, Pierre Boulez, Aaron Copland, Gustavo Dudamel, Grant Gershon, Henry Mancini, Zubin Mehta, Esa-Pekka Salonen and John Williams. His passions included classical music, movies, comic books and jazz.

Epstein was survived by his wife, daughter Jami and son Blake.

Artist Kumasi J. Barnett’s “The Amazing Black-Man” is currently on view.

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Apr. 15 addresssee
2. French clerics
3. Zelda
4. Tennis equipment
5. Frighten
6. Without means
7. Product during 30s hard times
8. Air transport group (abbe)
9. “Stop right there!”
10. “City of New Orleans” singer
11. More saucy
12. “STOP!”
13. “Marriage of the Virgin” painter
14. “Getts it”
15. “City of New Orleans” singer
16. Keats’ composition
17. Wash off
18. Leaf
19. Certain digital watch face, for short
20. Khalik
21. Irish poet
22. Ms. readers
23. “The Sounds of India” musician
25. “Don’t forget about me”
27. Noisy
28. “Relish”
29. “Measure for Measure” villain
30. Irish poet
31. “Yeah, right!”
32. “Yeah, right!”
33. Calms
34. “Yeah, right!”
35. “Yeah, right!”
36. “Yeah, right!”
37. “Yeah, right!”
38. “Yeah, right!”
39. “Yeah, right!”
40. “Yeah, right!”
41. “Yeah, right!”
42. “Yeah, right!”
43. “Yeah, right!”
44. “Yeah, right!”
45. “Yeah, right!”
46. “Yeah, right!”
47. “Yeah, right!”
48. “Yeah, right!”
49. “Yeah, right!”
50. “Yeah, right!”
51. “Yeah, right!”
52. “Yeah, right!”
53. “Yeah, right!”
54. “Yeah, right!”
55. “Yeah, right!”
56. “Yeah, right!”
57. “Yeah, right!”
58. “Yeah, right!”
59. “Yeah, right!”
60. “Yeah, right!”
61. “Yeah, right!”
62. “Yeah, right!”
63. “Yeah, right!”
64. “Yeah, right!”
65. “Yeah, right!”
66. “Yeah, right!”
67. “Yeah, right!”
68. “Yeah, right!”
69. “Yeah, right!”
70. “Yeah, right!”

Down

1. First name in Indian politics
2. “The Amazing Black-Man” is currently on view.
3. Minnesota twin?
4. Gator or lemon?
The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles presents “Tradition and Now:” a musical performance on Friday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Ari Hall.

The concert will feature fusion Gugak (Korean traditional music) performances by popular artists and consists of two parts. The first starts with a gugak ensemble and continues with traditional Korean dances. It also includes a performance called “Imyeong” choreographed and danced by Hansol Lee. Imyeong in Korean can be interpreted as a beautiful voice.

“If we could retranslate Imyeong into a dance, the sounds can be interpreted as a beautiful sound that moves our body,” Lee said.

The second part of the concert starts with a solo gugak performance by Ji, Yun Ja, and continues with a fusion Gugak by Hymsoo Ji and Ramj Soo. The performance features an unusual but amazing ensemble of key-boards, flamenco guitar, gugakum and saxophone.

“We were delighted to host a fusion Gugak concert with Gugak as the cultural icon that connects the east and the west,” said Wijn Park, director of Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles. “This will be a chance for the audience to enjoy the music as well as learn about the beauty and excellence of Korean music.”

Admission is free. KCCLA is located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (323)936-3015, or visit kcca.org.

The Petersen Automotive Museum presents “Uncompromised Design,” on now, and features a new exhibit featuring a selection of historic mid-engine cars from Porsche on display. The Petersen Automotive Museum offers a unique opportunity for automotive enthusiasts and viewers to experience the mid-engine cars from Porsche on display. The Petersen Automotive Museum also offers a number of interactive exhibits and galleries, including the Automotive Hall of Fame, which highlights the history of the automobile industry.

Vehicles included in the exhibition come from a variety of sources and feature a wide range of disciplines, from racing to the road. The exhibition is open to the public and will run through October 2020. The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 900 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. For more information, visit petersen.org.

KCCLA concert to explore traditional music and dance

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles presents “Tradition and Now:” a musical performance on Friday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Ari Hall.

The concert will feature fusion Gugak (Korean traditional music) performances by popular artists and consists of two parts. The first starts with a gugak ensemble and continues with traditional Korean dances. It also includes a performance called “Imyeong” choreographed and danced by Hansol Lee. Imyeong in Korean can be interpreted as a beautiful voice.

“If we could retranslate Imyeong into a dance, the sounds can be interpreted as a beautiful sound that moves our body,” Lee said.

The second part of the concert starts with a solo gugak performance by Ji, Yun Ja, and continues with a fusion Gugak by Hymsoo Ji and Ramj Soo. The performance features an unusual but amazing ensemble of key-boards, flamenco guitar, gugakum and saxophone.

“We were delighted to host a fusion Gugak concert with Gugak as the cultural icon that connects the east and the west,” said Wijn Park, director of Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles. “This will be a chance for the audience to enjoy the music as well as learn about the beauty and excellence of Korean music.”

Admission is free. KCCLA is located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (323)936-3015, or visit kcca.org.

The Petersen Automotive Museum presents “Uncompromised Design,” on now, and features a new exhibit featuring a selection of historic mid-engine cars from Porsche on display. The Petersen Automotive Museum offers a unique opportunity for automotive enthusiasts and viewers to experience the mid-engine cars from Porsche on display. The Petersen Automotive Museum also offers a number of interactive exhibits and galleries, including the Automotive Hall of Fame, which highlights the history of the automobile industry.

Vehicles included in the exhibition come from a variety of sources and feature a wide range of disciplines, from racing to the road. The exhibition is open to the public and will run through October 2020. The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 900 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. For more information, visit petersen.org.

Female playwrights festival opens at Zephyr Theater

The female playwrights festival opens at Zephyr Theater, running from Tuesday, July 30, through Sunday, August 4, at the Zephyr Theater. The festival features five new full-length shows by female playwrights.

“Into the Woods” is staged on Thursday, August 1, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, August 3, at 5 p.m.; and Sunday, August 4, at 2:30 p.m. “Between the Colored Lines & Other Black Girl Tales,” written by Tiffany Dean and directed by Edgar Lee Feustel, focuses on a first-time couple as they renegotiate their marriage through a silly but serious series of TV-watching sessions. Showtime on Saturday, August 3, is 8 p.m., and Sunday, August 4, is 5:30 p.m. The Zephyr Theater is located at 7456 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit zephyrtheatre.org.

Additional casting has been announced for the Hollywood Bowl’s upcoming production of “Into the Woods” on Friday, July 26, and Saturday, July 27, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, July 28, at 5 p.m. The new cast members are Skylar Astin, of the TV series “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend,” as Rapunzel’s Prince; Anthony Carrigan, from “Grey’s Anatomy,” as Rapunzel’s Prince; Anthony Carrigan, from “Grey’s Anatomy,” as Rapunzel’s Prince; and Lady Gaga, who stars on Broadway as a singing wolf.

The production also stars the previously announced Gaten Matarazzo as Jack, Patina Miller as the Witch, Shance Williams as Little Red Riding Hood, and the voice of Whoopi Goldberg as the Giant.

Tickets start at $14. For information, call (323)850-2000, or visit hollywoodbowl.com.
Beware gator home invasions in ‘Crawl’

When a hurricane rolls in, beware all the uprooted gators ready to make you a “Florida man” headline once the weather settles. In the long tradition of nature-vs.-human stories that ignore how animals (and hurricanes) really behave, ‘Crawl’ outlandishly exploits a subgenre for a few good scares in what feels like quite the abridged summer film.

If you’ve never seen a film directed by Alexandre Aja, you’re probably lucky. “High Tension,” the “Hills Have Eyes” remake, “Mirrors,” “Piranha 3D,” “Horns” – the French auteur enjoys grotesque imagery and cheap psychosexual explorations. Compared to the rest, “Crawl” is Aja’s tour de force of originality, a unicorn hidden in a stable of sedentary mules.

At less than an hour and half, things occur at double time. A little backstory to kick things off, impending hurricane, all necessary exposition provided by weather updates and the occasional local officers. By 20 minutes in, the first mean green arrives, and heroine Hayley (Kaya Scodelario) must drag her injured father Dave (Barry Pepper) across a grimy basement in a house slowly filling with water.

Occasionally, help comes their way, but those hefty lizards aren’t acting normal. Oh wait, according to Dave, a gator encyclopedia, this is all normal and can be combated with the correct tactics. I truly didn’t know four or five alligators normally hunt together and quarter a man. How hard is a throwaway line like “those things ain’t acting normal.” Then, all they have to do is cut to a meth lab and reveal a local dumping problem. Trashy disaster movies have been doing this for years.

Back to the story. Dear daughter and father have some issues to work through: a divorce, estrangement and dad’s aggressive coaching of Hayley’s swimming. Oh yeah, she’s an amateur swimmer. She could be amazing, but the yips overpower her, thanks to years of family drama. Whelp, she might just have to get over that and out swim some amphibious monsters in their home turf. Oops, did I give away the most telegraphed moment?

To be honest, originality and realism play second chain saw to entertainment in a film overflowing with hungry critters and powerless muggles. Aja does that bit wonderfully. He’d had practice. His breakout slasher, “High Tension,” is a grisly affair that rationally makes no sense. A twist reveal undermines the entire film, but it doesn’t eliminate just how demented and scary it is.

Alas for ‘Crawl,’ thrills do occur, but it’s hardly an amazing ride. All those predictable moments and glaring discrepancies become less forgivable without much else to compensate for them. To his credit, this one rates lower than Aja’s flicks on the violence scale, only featuring a couple decapitations, one dismemberment, one lost limb, a couple car crashes and maybe three or four ambiguous pools of blood. That’s nothing compared to a mountain of jarring visuals from a director load ed as a member the Splat Pack, a grouping of gore-loving filmmak ers.

Rather than merely conclude that “Crawl” isn’t worthy, I instead have a few points in support of watching it now. It’s better than many B monster movies, from those that sneak into theaters (hi “The Meg”) and all those painfully outlandish home releases, including “Mega Shark,” “Lake Placid” sequels and each and every “Sharknado.”

‘Crawl’ reads like a first-year horror writer’s tutorial, but the acting, graphics, pacing and, oddly enough, emotional emphasis ain’t bad. And, the final moments work quite well. Some acclaimed horror films can’t even boast that. Might I remind you that more theaters now serve alcohol, which changes the game. Turn it into a drinking game, enjoy some laughs, even intermittently jolt, and beat the summer heat with “Jaws” line.
The Wallis receives grant for creative aging

The National Guild for Community Arts Education and Lifetime Arts has selected the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts as one of 10 nonprofit arts education organizations across the country to receive seed grants of $7,000 each to support the launch of new, innovative arts education programming for older adults in their communities.

The population of older adults in the U.S. is projected to double by 2050, with 90 years the average age of the total population. Research shows that participation in activities that foster creativity, engagement and skills mastery in a social environment has positive psychological, physical and social health benefits for older adults.

“We are excited to see another cohort of creative aging organizations equipped to begin their new programs,” National Guild Executive Director Jonathan Slavkin said. “The recipients will become part of a growing movement that is reimagining what aging looks and feels like in our communities.”

The Wallis was selected for its focus on engaging older adults through a new 11-week course, the Wallis. The Wallis will provide up to 15 older adults an opportunity to gain skills in writing and performing autobiographical stories. Meeting once a week for 90 minutes, participants will learn creative techniques for recalling and portraying life stories in writing and performing them in ways that will connect with an audience. This pilot program will be offered for a low fee, and need-based scholarships will be available. The program will culminate with participants performing their stories onstage at the Lovelace Studio Theater at the Wallis.

Mark Slavkin, director of education at the Wallis, said the support and guidance from the National Guild have been “invaluable to help us expand our programming with older adults.”

“Our new program will provide a platform to write and share their personal stories, something that is central to our mission,” Slavkin said.

The Wallis is located at 9390 N Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills.

For information, visit thewallis.org.

Hollywood Bowl hosts sweet sounds of LA Philharmonic

Composer Charles Fox; singer Roslyn Kind; actor George Chakiris; actress Donna Pescow; Donelle Dadigan, co-founder and president of the José Iturbi Foundation; Lanie Kazan, actress Lee Purcell, Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District; and actress Susan Olsen were on hand to celebrate “A Decade of Dudamel” July 18 at the Hollywood Bowl. The event, sponsored by the José Iturbi Foundation, marked conducting Gustavo Dudamel’s 10 years in Los Angeles with a special anniversary concert conducted by Dudamel, complete with fire-works, and featured members of Youth Orchestra Los Angeles and Runaways, Khalil, Kali Uchis, St. Beauty, PNAU, and more.

“What a fantastic night of music at Hollywood Bowl … The José Iturbi foundation has been for many years a major contributor and grant maker in young music historians helping them achieve their dreams. Bravo for a great night,” Fox said.

For information, visit joseiturbifoundation.org.

Debate watch parties at the Hammer Museum

On July 30-31, 20 candidates for the 2020 presidential nomin- ation will meet in Detroit for the next round of debates, and the Hammer Museum will host watch parties.

The debates will air from 5 to 7 p.m. until 15 minutes before the program. After the debates, a roundtable discussion will have political experts break down the candidates and their positions on the most pressing issues of the 2020 election.

On July 30, the competing candidates are Steve Bullock, Tim Ryan, Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and Marianne Williamson.

On July 31, the candidates are Michael Bennet, Joseph R. Biden Jr., Bill de Blasio, Cory Booker, Julian Castro, Tulsi Gabbard, Kirsten Gillibrand, Kamala Harris, Jay Inslee and Andrew Yang.

Free tickets are required and available at the Hammer box office one hour before the program. Tickets are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, one ticket per person. Members receive priority ticketing 15 minutes before the program.

Food and drinks will be available before and after the program at the Hammer’s restaurant and bar, where members and UCLA stu- dents receive a 10% discount. The restaurant’s bar also offers a late-night happy hour discount of 10% from 9 to 11 p.m.

Cash-only parking is available under the museum. Rates are $7 for the first hour and $5 for additional hours, with a $20 daily maximum. Maximum parking time is 6 p.m. after 6 p.m. on weekdays.

The Hammer Museum is located at 10890 Wilshire Blvd. For infor- mation, visit hammer.ucla.edu.

Stacy Keach to receive Walk of Fame star

On July 31, actor Stacy Keach will be honored with the 2,668th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Keach is considered a leading American interpreter of Shakespeare, with his Shakespearean roles including King Lear. He also led the national touring company cast of “Man and Superman,” playing Scott Bakula’s father, and in “Blue Bloods” as the Archbishop of New York, along-with side Tom Selleck.

Keach started his career at the age of 4, playing Old King Cole in a school pageant in Tall, Texas. He later graduated from Van Nuys High School in June 1959, where he was class president. Keach then earned two bachelor’s degrees at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1963, one in English, the other in dramatic art. He attended the Yale School of Drama in 1966 and was a Fulbright Scholar to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

While studying in London, Keach met Laurence Olivier, his acting hero, which kicked off a long and successful career for Keach.

Throughout his extensive career, Keach has performed in on stage, television, and actor Matt Ga- ndon; actor James Tupper; and actor and director Jon-athan Slavkin said.

“We are excited to see another cohort of creative aging organizations equipped to begin their new programs,” National Guild Executive Director Jonathan Slavkin said. “The recipients will become part of a growing movement that is reimagining what aging looks and feels like in our communities.”

The Wallis was selected for its focus on engaging older adults through a new 11-week course, the Wallis. The Wallis will provide up to 15 older adults an opportunity to gain skills in writing and performing autobiographical stories. Meeting once a week for 90 minutes, participants will learn creative techniques for recalling and portraying life stories in writing and performing them in ways that will connect with an audience. This pilot program will be offered for a low fee, and need-based scholarships will be available. The program will culminate with participants performing their stories onstage at the Lovelace Studio Theater at the Wallis.

Mark Slavkin, director of education at the Wallis, said the support and guidance from the National Guild have been “invaluable to help us expand our programming with older adults.”

“Our new program will provide a platform to write and share their personal stories, something that is central to our mission,” Slavkin said.

The Wallis is located at 9390 N Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills.

For information, visit thewallis.org.

Scripted TV a strong area for Los Angeles production

Scripted television remains the bright spot in the L.A. production picture, according to the latest quarterly data from FilmL.A.

On-location filming for scripted TV increased in the second quarter while feature, commercial and reality TV production lost ground. Across all tracked filming categories, on-location filming in Greater Los Angeles slipped 3.9% to 29,969 shot days during the period.

In FilmL.A’s Television category, TV dramas were up 17.3%, TV comedies were up 5.3% and TV pilots were up 35.5% percent during the second quarter. In addition to their major presence on location, these types of projects also consume a significant share of the region’s total soundstage space. A cyclical drop in TV reality – down 16.2% for the quarter – pulled the television category down 1.2% overall to 2,918 shot days.

Scripted television production in Los Angeles is increasingly driven by the California Film and Television Tax Credit Program. In the second quarter, 51.3% of local TV drama shoot days came from incentivized series – a new milestone. Meanwhile, incentive projects power 20.8% of L.A.’s on-location TV comedy production. A sampling of recent incentivized projects includes “Bailers,” “Snowfall,” “SWAT” and “Westworld.”

Declines in feature and commercial production were also observed from April through June. Feature film production decreased 16.7% for the second quarter. Lack of vacant soundstage space is seen as the main impediment to growth in this category, even though financial incentives exist to bring new productions to L.A.

Film projects brought to Los Angeles generate a $15 million incentive, demonstrating that incentives contribute 9.7% to the feature category in the second quarter. Incentivized features recently filming in L.A. include “Covers,” “Island Plaza” and “The Walk.” During the second quarter, incentivized features were nearly absent from Los Angeles, although such projects were in production elsewhere in California.

On-location commercial production dropped 19.8% in the second quarter. Commercial production, which receives no state-level incentive support, has been trending downward as producers pursue alternatives to Los Angeles for filming. A tightening market due to consumers’ turn towards streaming services and away from ad-supported entertainment products are also thought to play roles in the sec- tor’s downturn.

Although our latest report reveals a decline in filming on location, local production facili- ties tell us that they are operating at capacity,” FilmL.A President Paul Audley said. “We’ll be look- ing at soundstage production again this fall to put some of these numbers in context and examine demand and opportunities for new local infrastructure investment.”

For information, visit filmla.com.

On July 31, actor Stacy Keach will be honored with the 2,668th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Keach is considered a leading American interpreter of Shakespeare, with his Shakespearean roles including King Lear. He also led the national touring company cast of “Man and Superman,” playing Scott Bakula’s father, and in “Blue Bloods” as the Archbishop of New York, along-with side Tom Selleck.

Keach started his career at the age of 4, playing Old King Cole in a school pageant in Tall, Texas. He later graduated from Van Nuys High School in June 1959, where he was class president. Keach then earned two bachelor’s degrees at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1963, one in English, the other in dramatic art. He attended the Yale School of Drama in 1966 and was a Fulbright Scholar to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

While studying in London, Keach met Laurence Olivier, his acting hero, which kicked off a long and successful career for Keach.

Throughout his extensive career, Keach has performed in on stage, television, and actor Matt Ga- ndon; actor James Tupper; and actor and director Jon-athan Slavkin said.

“We are excited to see another cohort of creative aging organizations equipped to begin their new programs,” National Guild Executive Director Jonathan Slavkin said. “The recipients will become part of a growing movement that is reimagining what aging looks and feels like in our communities.”

The Wallis was selected for its focus on engaging older adults through a new 11-week course, the Wallis. The Wallis will provide up to 15 older adults an opportunity to gain skills in writing and performing autobiographical stories. Meeting once a week for 90 minutes, participants will learn creative techniques for recalling and portraying life stories in writing and performing them in ways that will connect with an audience. This pilot program will be offered for a low fee, and need-based scholarships will be available. The program will culminate with participants performing their stories onstage at the Lovelace Studio Theater at the Wallis.

Mark Slavkin, director of education at the Wallis, said the support and guidance from the National Guild have been “invaluable to help us expand our programming with older adults.”

“Our new program will provide a platform to write and share their personal stories, something that is central to our mission,” Slavkin said.

The Wallis is located at 9390 N Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills.

For information, visit thewallis.org.
Loans use filtration to contain smoke

Locals are using filtration systems to contain smoke from cannabis businesses, including the Lowell Café, which is expected to open in September. The Café will feature smoking and non-smoking areas, with ventilation systems to prevent smoke and odors from being detected outside of the business. The other license winner, PleasureMed, is not likely to be an issue "using all the senses," especially for guests who haven't had experience with cannabis use in public before. PleasureMed will feature bands, movie nights and comedy shows for visitors to experience, all of which build on the comedy, yoga and other programing already offered at the Pleasure Chest, Robinson said. "There will be plenty to enjoy while exploring a very lively atmosphere and consuming cannabis," Robinson said. With two businesses on their way to opening their doors, Leonard said the other license awardees will likely be close behind. Two others, CALMA and the Artist Tree, will be considered by the Business License Commission on Aug. 13, and it's likely that two or three cannabis businesses will be consid- ered by the commission each month, Leonard said.

Design standards don’t kick in until property owners take on big project

Registration has opened for the 22nd annual L.A. Cancer Challenge 5K Walk/run charity race, which begins at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20. Sponsored and produced by the Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research for more than two decades, the LACC will be held on the UCLA campus, where key research is performed at the foundation’s laboratory.

More than 2,000 runners and walkers are expected to kick-off Halloween weekend by dressing in fun, festive costumes. Participants will walk or run the 5K course to show unity for a disease that has the highest mortality rate of all major cancers and is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S., surpassing breast cancer. Registration is also open for virtual runners and walkers, allowing those who are unable to attend to participate in their neighborhood or at any location. Virtual runners and walkers can go at their own pace with friends, family or solo.

Individuals, teams and kids are invited to sign-ups for the 5K fitness fundraiser. Adult registration includes chip-timed event, T-shirt, bib and finisher’s medal, and youth 11 and under will receive an event T-shirt, bib and finisher’s medal. Proceeds from the LACC will benefi t the Hirshberg Foundation’s philanthropic efforts to advancing pancreatic cancer research and providing information, resources and support to pancreatic cancer patients and their families. To date, the LACC has raised more than $8.3 million for pancreatic cancer research.

The LACC includes the Fit Family Expo, featuring a wide vari- ety of Los Angeles’ top vendors, Halloween festivities, celebrities, live course entertainment, raffle prizes, silent auction and more. The Program will be starting soon, and it will serve as a good initial test of the guidelines.

Designers are currently developing the LACC course. "We feel that Lowell is a great brand and a great product," Brady said.

The event will be held at Wilson Plaza on the UCLA campus, 245 Westwood Plaza, Westwood. For information and to register, visit LACCchallenge.com, or call (310) 473-5121.

Lowell Café is one of the businesses on its way to opening. The Café, which is expected to open in September, will use plants and a ventilation system to prevent smoke and odors from being detected outside of the business.
The Screen Actors Guild American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and Netflix have agreed to a new joint contract covering dramatic live-action productions, the first agreement as such with a global streaming service.

The deal between the union and the global streaming service recognizes performance capture as cover work and includes coverage of dubbing, which applies to all of Netflix’s foreign-language live-action and animated motion pictures

To date, Netflix has produced under the standard SAG-AFTRA agreement for commercials contracts with advertising agency Bartle Bogle Hegarty U.S. Inc.

Subject to final approval by the National Labor Relations Board, the agreement will bring an end to a 10-month-long strike and media campaigns by SAG-AFTRA.

BBH will continue all its commercial deals under these contracts, providing union wages and health contributions to performers. As such, SAG-AFTRA members will be able to accept work on its productions.

In November 2017, BBH served SAG-AFTRA with notice of its intention to withdraw as a signatory to the contracts. In response, SAG-AFTRA filed an unfair labor practice charge with the NLRB and called a strike against the agency in May 2019, an administrative law judge ruled against BBH and instructed SAG-AFTRA to recognize BBH as the bargaining agent for commercial performers and to negotiate with the union.

“We're pleased that BBH has returned to their long standing status as a SAG-AFTRA signatory,” Carteris said. “Since the inception of our relationship nearly 20 years ago, we have partnered effectively to provide the best talent in the world to BBH clients while ensuring fair compensation and safe working conditions. SAG-AFTRA members has been and will continue to be an extraordinarily productive relationship delivering value to the entire industry.”

For information, visit sagaftra.org.

South American group makes California debut

The 2019 Sunset Concerts at the Skirball continue with Afro-Latin ensemble Río Mira, making their California debut tonight, July 25, at 8 p.m. REYES of Trópico de Nopal will start the evening with a DJ set at 6:30 p.m.

Río Mira, from the traditions of escaped South American refugees for streaming programs, commercials

Actors union reaches deals on contracts for streaming programs, commercials

City looking for viral hit with extended hours

From page 1

City, Spisto said the NYCGMC recognizes this moment as historic.

“It's an amazing testament to perform in the world we live in that's resolved over 40 years,” Spisto said.

The strength and commitment by the men who founded it and stayed with it and raised their voices – our voices – in song and at times to speak up for others and to be part of the fabric of social activism.”

Spisto said the GMCLA’s efforts have focused on marriage equality. The group has provided free programs for low-income youth and performed “wherever there's a need,” according to Spisto.

“We will stand for a cause that relates to our community," Spisto said. “The other part is we perform in schools throughout Los Angeles County for high-school-aged young people where we sing and talk about who we are and lead by example.

“10 years from now, there will be a GMCLA,” he said. “Even in five to 10 years, there will still be a GMCLA. The organization has to change with the times. The relationship with the community will always change. We will always sing songs from the American canon, but we will always change our repertoire. It will always morph and grow and be part of the conversation.”

For information about the “GMCLA 40 / Stonewall 50” gala, visit gmcla.org.

The incredible energy that BOLD brings to Beverly Hills is exhilarating.

By Beverly Hills Councilwoman Lil Bosse

Beverly Hills

South American group makes California debut

The 2019 Sunset Concerts at the Skirball continue with Afro-Latin ensemble Río Mira, making their California debut tonight, July 25, at 8 p.m. REYES of Trópico de Nopal will start the evening with a DJ set at 6:30 p.m.

Río Mira, from the traditions of escaped South American refugees for streaming programs, commercials

Actors union reaches deals on contracts for streaming programs, commercials

City looking for viral hit with extended hours

From page 1

City, Spisto said the NYCGMC recognizes this moment as historic.

“It's an amazing testament to perform in the world we live in that's resolved over 40 years,” Spisto said.

The strength and commitment by the men who founded it and stayed with it and raised their voices – our voices – in song and at times to speak up for others and to be part of the fabric of social activism.”

Spisto said the GMCLA’s efforts have focused on marriage equality. The group has provided free programs for low-income youth and performed “wherever there's a need,” according to Spisto.

“We will stand for a cause that relates to our community," Spisto said. “The other part is we perform in schools throughout Los Angeles County for high-school-aged young people where we sing and talk about who we are and lead by example.

“10 years from now, there will be a GMCLA,” he said. “Even in five to 10 years, there will still be a GMCLA. The organization has to change with the times. The relationship with the community will always change. We will always sing songs from the American canon, but we will always change our repertoire. It will always morph and grow and be part of the conversation.”

For information about the “GMCLA 40 / Stonewall 50” gala, visit gmcla.org.

The incredible energy that BOLD brings to Beverly Hills is exhilarating.

By Beverly Hills Councilwoman Lil Bosse

Beverly Hills

City looking for viral hit with extended hours

From page 1

City, Spisto said the NYCGMC recognizes this moment as historic.

“It's an amazing testament to perform in the world we live in that's resolved over 40 years,” Spisto said.

The strength and commitment by the men who founded it and stayed with it and raised their voices – our voices – in song and at times to speak up for others and to be part of the fabric of social activism.”

Spisto said the GMCLA’s efforts have focused on marriage equality. The group has provided free programs for low-income youth and performed “wherever there's a need,” according to Spisto.

“We will stand for a cause that relates to our community," Spisto said. “The other part is we perform in schools throughout Los Angeles County for high-school-aged young people where we sing and talk about who we are and lead by example.

“10 years from now, there will be a GMCLA,” he said. “Even in five to 10 years, there will still be a GMCLA. The organization has to change with the times. The relationship with the community will always change. We will always sing songs from the American canon, but we will always change our repertoire. It will always morph and grow and be part of the conversation.”

For information about the “GMCLA 40 / Stonewall 50” gala, visit gmcla.org.

The incredible energy that BOLD brings to Beverly Hills is exhilarating.

By Beverly Hills Councilwoman Lil Bosse

Beverly Hills
## BOLD Summer Kickoff on Rodeo Drive!

### AUGUST 1

**BOLD KICKOFF**

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Rodeo Drive will be pedestrian only for a BOLD Summer celebration with live music, featuring world famous rock opera singer, Cristina Ramos, M.I.S.S DJ BLISS, dueling pianos, the unveiling of an original sculpture from incredible artist, Mr. Brainwash with an accompanying meet & greet experience, fireworks, social art installations, food trucks, champagne garden and more!

### FLOATING AERIAL SCULPTURE BY JANET ECHELMAN

**DAILY**  
Experience a colorful and breathtaking installation above North Santa Monica Boulevard by artist Janet Echelman. The sculpture, suspended between The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and Beverly Gardens Park, is BOLDLY clad in oranges, pinks, purples and reds. Echelman’s piece hovers gently over Beverly Hills and electrifies the streetscape below. On view August 1 through September 2.

### LOUIS VUITTON X EXHIBITION

**DAILY**  
Louis Vuitton has created an immersive, Instagram-ready exhibition exploring the luxury brand’s 160-year history of bringing goods and style collaborations to the world’s most exclusive clientele.

### JANET ECHELMAN TALK

**AUGUST 2 | 7:00 PM**  
Artist Janet Echelman presents ways to harness the creative power of the flexible, soft and the transparent in cities around the world. She will speak about her experiential sculptures and creating vibrant focal points for civic life at The Paley Center for Media.

### SUMMER LOUNGE ON RODEO

**AUGUST 2 & 3**  
Relax on Rodeo Drive as you enjoy sweet summer treats and take in the sights, sounds and people of Beverly Hills.

### ARCHITECTURAL TOURS

**AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23 | 6:00 PM & 7:00 PM**  
Rodeo Drive has an extravagant and unique history! Join our public tours by local history enthusiast and President of the Beverly Hills Historical Society, Phil Sevencick, highlighting the beautiful architecture of the past and present on Rodeo Drive.

### BEVERLY HILLS PROMS

**AUGUST 3, 10, 17 | 6:00 PM & 7:15 PM**  
Enjoy music from around the world every Saturday at beautiful Beverly Cañon Gardens.

### ART WALKS

**AUGUST 3 & 17 | 5:00 PM**  
Enjoy a guided tour with an art curator on the Beverly Hills Trolley and visit some of the City’s art installations and renowned galleries.

### LUXURY ON RODEO

**AUGUST 8, 9, 10**  
Highly curated, luxury clothing from talented FIDM designers will be featured within gorgeous cases along Rodeo Drive.

### CONCERTS ON CAÑON

**AUGUST 8, 15, 22 | 6:00 PM & 7:15 PM**  
Enjoy live music and sing-along every Thursday at Beverly Cañon Gardens.

### HASHTAG MOSAIC ON RODEO

**AUGUST 15, 16, 17**  
Become a part of beautiful mosaic art on Rodeo Drive! Take a photo on your phone, print it out on one of the lightning fast printers and then match it up to your spot on the BOLD Summer mosaic wall. A surprise BOLD image will be revealed!

### SURPRISE PERFORMANCE

**AUGUST 17 | 6:30 PM**  
Join us at the Beverly Hills Sign & Lily Pond for a brief, surprise performance that will sweep you off your feet! (Hint: Be on time so you don’t miss a beat!)

### LIVE MANNEQUINS ON RODEO

**AUGUST 22, 23, & 24**  
Luxuriously dressed live actors will captivate and interact with guests on Rodeo Drive through theatrical and voyeuristic sets.

### NEXT NIGHT 2019 – THE BOLD FINALE

**AUGUST 24 | 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM**  
BOLD Summer festivities will come to a grand finale on South Beverly Drive with “Next Night – The BOLD Finale,” presented by Next Beverly Hills. Enjoy live entertainment, dancing, food, and more!

---

For a full calendar of events, visit LOVEBEVERLYHILLS.COM/BOLDBH  
#BOLDBH