



Sunny, with
highs in the
70s

BEVERLY PRESS

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Council candidates get down to business

■ Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce hosts forum

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Jan. 21, business was the focus of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce's forum for City Council candidates.

Four of the five contenders – Planning Commissioner Lori Greene Gordon, incumbent City Council members Dr. Julian Gold and Lili Bosse, and member of the city's Technology Committee Robin Rowe – participated. The other candidate, Rabbi Sidney

"Simcha" Green, was absent due to the recent death of his daughter, said moderator Mark Egerman, who serves on the chamber's board of directors.

For two hours, the candidates took questions from Egerman and the audience, presenting their pro-business qualifications to the chamber members. The majority of the conversation focused on how to help Beverly Hills thrive economi-

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photo by Cameron Kiszla

Lori Greene Gordon, Dr. Julian Gold, Lili Bosse and Robin Rowe attended the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce's City Council Candidate Forum.

Service day honors legacy of MLK

■ Big Sunday clothing drive brings people together to help

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A small army of people sorted clothing for donation to numerous community organizations on Jan. 20 during Big Sunday's eighth annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Clothing Drive.

The event was one of many days of service Big Sunday holds throughout the year to help those in need. The clothing was donated to Big Sunday over the past months, and volunteers sorted the apparel and placed it in bags to be picked up by community service organizations. Breakfast was served and a band played as volunteers sorted a large pile of clothing laid out on a tarp along Seward Street, adjacent to Big Sunday's headquarters at 6111 Melrose Ave.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year," said Big Sunday founder and executive director David Levinson. "It's a wonderful way to honor Dr. King's legacy. It's all new and



photo by Edwin Folven

Volunteers sorted clothing that was donated to people in need during Big Sunday's annual MLK Day of Service event in Hollywood.

gently used clothing. People have been coming by for weeks with the clothing, and we have people from all walks of life here donating their time."

Big Sunday specializes in connecting volunteers and service organizations with those in need. Founded by Levinson in 1999 as a single day of service at Temple

Israel of Hollywood, the organization has grown exponentially and currently holds hundreds of projects and offers many other ways to help throughout the year.

"We are in very fraught times, but at Big Sunday, we keep finding that most people of all ages,

See **Clothing** page 26

Officials root, root, root for the home team

■ Los Angeles, Beverly Hills pursue remedies for cheating scandals

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Earlier this month, Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred released the results of an investigation that confirmed reports that the Houston Astros cheated during their 2017 World Series-winning season. Manfred found the Astros used electronic equipment to steal opponents' signs and tipped off their teammates as to what the pitcher planned to throw.

Manfred fined the Astros organization, took away draft picks and suspended the team's manager and two executives, and the Boston Red Sox and New York Mets have parted ways with their managers, who were identified as participants in the alleged scheme.

On Jan. 22, Manfred said in a Fox Business interview that the investigation of the Red Sox is ongoing, though he pointed out there is a "long tradition in baseball of not trying to change what happened" and "it's absolutely unclear if the Dodgers would've been the World Series champions," whether



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Los Angeles City Councilmen Gilbert Cedillo and Paul Koretz held a press conference in support of their resolution before the full council vote on Jan. 21.

or not signs were stolen.

However, some Dodger fans want more done, and elected officials in Los Angeles and Beverly Hills are working to make it happen.

In a 10-0 vote on Jan. 21, the Los Angeles City Council approved a resolution calling for the 2017 and 2018 World Series titles to be retroactively awarded to the Los Angeles Dodgers, who lost to the

Astros and Red Sox, respectively. Council members Mike Bonin, Joe Buscaino, Jose Huizar, Monica Rodriguez and Herb Wesson were absent.

The city's resolution was jointly proposed by City Councilmen Gilbert Cedillo, 1st District, and Paul Koretz, 5th District, who described themselves as two of the

See **Dodgers** page 26

Revised SB 50 could alter existing historic districts

■ Miracle Mile residents concerned protections are at risk

BY MORGAN KEITH

The More HOMES (Housing, Opportunity, Mobility, Equity and Stability) has residents of some historic districts in Los Angeles worried about their preservation as the bill's Jan. 31 deadline to be passed by the California State

Senate approaches.

Better known as Senate Bill 50, the legislation serves as a response to California's housing crisis and was written by California Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco). SB 50 would allow qualifying residential projects that meet minimum affordability requirements to benefit from statewide development standards in lieu of local planning

See **Eight** page 25



Park Labrea News/Beverly Press file photo

The Miracle Mile Historic Preservation Overlay Zone was created in 2017, so it is not exempt from the provisions of SB 50.

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It's Personal storytelling

It's Personal presents the first of its season of storytelling with "Crush" on Thursday, Jan. 23, and Sunday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the Complex Hollywood. Performance will feature local performers including It's Personal co-founder and artistic director Liz Kummer, as well as Julia Stier, Leah Austin, Meg Worthy, Emily Bice, Bob Guck, Kate Orlando, Lupe Cambiasso, Andy Quintana and Sam Ciavarella. The program focuses on the storytellers' "crushes" in life. Tickets are \$15. 6476 Santa Monica Blvd. eventbrite.com/e/its-personal-crush-tickets-82885230957.

'Comedy and Cocktails'

Comedian Bill Devlin brings his "Comedy and Cocktails" show to the Ice House in Pasadena on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Devlin's show mixes some of the hottest stand-up comedians with surprise celebrity guests. 24 N. Mentor Ave. (626)577-1894, icehousecomedy.com.

‘What the Constitution Means to Me’

Center Theatre Group is holding “What the Constitution Means to Me,” running from Thursday, Jan. 23, through Friday, Feb. 28, at the Mark Taper Forum. The play stars Maria Dizzia, Rosdely Ciprian, Mike Iveson and Jocelyn Shek. Playwright Heidi Schreck’s boundary-breaking play aims to breathe new life into the Constitution and imagines how it will shape the next generation of Americans. Fifteen-year-old Schreck earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the United States. In the new play, she resurrects her teenage self to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their



photo by Johanna Austin

Thaddeus Phillips stars in "17 Border Crossings," a production running on Friday, Jan. 24, and Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Eli and Edythe Broad Stage. Phillips, an award winning theater director, designer and performer, created the comical, visually surreal and sometimes harrowing examination of the imaginary lines that divide up the world and the real barriers they create. He tells the stories through numerous characters involved in situations in locales around the world. Tickets start at \$39. 1310 11th St., Santa Monica. (310)434-3200, thebroadstage.org.

lives. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; 2:30 and 8 p.m., Saturday; 1 and 6:30 p.m., Sunday. Tickets start at \$59. 135 N. Grand Ave. (213)628-2772, centertheatregroup.org.

‘Vietgone’

East West Players producing artistic director emeritus Tim Dang directs Will Dao, Desirée Mee Jung, Greg Watanabe, Paul Yen and Jeena Yi in staged readings of "Vietgone" running from Friday, Jan. 24, through Sunday, Jan. 26, in UCLA's James Bridges Theater. Qui Nguyen's hilarious production is based on the story of how his parents met and built a life for themselves in a new land. Set in 1975 just after the fall of Saigon, the follows two Vietnamese refugees who meet in an Arkansas relocation camp before setting out on a road trip across America. The Los Angeles Theatre Works production will be recorded for a future

radio broadcasts. Showtimes are 8 p.m. on Jan. 24; 3 and 8 p.m. on Jan. 23; and 4 p.m. on Jan. 26. Tickets start at \$15. 235 Charles E. Young Drive. latw.org.

'Dance at the Odyssey'

Odyssey Theatre is holding the world premieres of the dance programs “Wrenz Kaloogy” by JA Collective, and “Principium” by Slauson Rec. on Friday, Jan. 24, and Saturday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 26, at 5 p.m. “Wrenz Kaloogy” uniquely traverses movement styles from contemporary dance and ballet, hip-hop and popping to fight crime and the forces of evil, while “Principium” tells its story through movement and light. The programs are part of “Dance at the Odyssey 2020,” which continues over the next two weekends through Feb. 9. Tickets start at \$15. 2055 S. Sepulveda

Blvd. (310)477-2055 ext. 2,
odysseytheatre.com.

WeHo 'Pop-Up' Community forum

The city of West Hollywood is bringing an abbreviated City Hall to West Hollywood Park during a pop-up community breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 10 a.m. The event is the first in a series of pop-ups throughout the city at which residents and visitors can obtain information about services. City Hall staff and deputies from the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station will answer questions, and coffee and a light breakfast will be served. 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. (323)848-6559, or email jduckworth@weho.org.

Foster care and adoption

Learn about foster parenting and adoption during a meeting on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to noon at Children's Bureau's Magnolia Place. There are over 21,000 children in foster care in Los Angeles County. Children's Bureau offers a comprehensive foster care and adoption program and is in need of resource families for children in foster care, as well as parents interested in adoption. 1910 Magnolia Ave. RSVP by calling (213)342-0162, or visiting all4kids.org.

Senior dance

Seniors are invited to a Winter Moonlight Dance on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Plummer Park's Fiesta Hall in West Hollywood. The free event is for seniors and community members ages 55 and older. Appetizers and refreshments will be served. 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. (323)848-6530, weho.org.

'Mistakes Were Made'

Santa Monica Playhouse presents the return of the hit comedy "Mistakes Were Made: Coulda-Woulda-Shoulda," running from Saturday, Jan. 25, through Sunday, April 5. The production reunites playwright Jerry Mayer with veteran director Chris DeCarlo for a

show about other people's mistakes and how they can be fixed. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m., Saturday; 3:30 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$35. 1211 Fourth St., Santa Monica (310)394-9779 ext. 1, santamonicaplayhouse.com.

Chamber music concert

Chamber music fans are invited to a Colburn Chamber Music Society performance on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m. in the Colburn School's Zipper Hall. The performance features pianist Orli Shaham and students in her master class in a program of works by Janáček, Reich and Faure. Admission is free. 200 S. Grand Ave. (213)621-1050, colburnschool.edu/calendar.



Buika in concert

Latin Grammy Award-winning vocalist Buika will perform on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m. in The Theatre at the Ace Hotel. Buika, from Spain, is considered a jazz, soul, R&B and funk artist. She will perform with her all-female band in a show sponsored by UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance. Tickets start at \$28. 929 S. Broadway. (310)825-2101, cap.ucla.edu.



'Sweet Land' opera discussion

Visit the Autry Museum of the American West for “Sweet Land: Creating a Contemporary Opera” on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. The Industry, an award-winning opera company, is currently developing “Sweet Land,” a new production that reimagines narratives surrounding the founding of America and westward expansion. Learn about the creative process and larger themes of the opera. 4700 Western Heritage Way. (323)667-2000, theatry.org.

**Park Labrea News
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The Park Labrea News has been publishing for 74 years, however, the Beverly Press was started in 1990.

A special issue commemorating the past 30 years will publish on January 30, 2020. A few guest columnists will be contributing to this issue and letters to the editor are highly encouraged!

For more information email karen@beverlypress.com or call (323)933-5518

**PARK LABREA NEWS
BEVERLY PRESS**

WeHo approves new fault map before a 3.6 rocks the area

■ D’Amico, Meister push unsuccessfully for changes

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Jan. 21, the West Hollywood City Council voted to adopt a new earthquake fault map to match changes made to the California State Geologist’s map, mere hours before a 3.6-magnitude temblor struck the area. The Los Angeles Fire Department said there were no reports of significant damage or injury.

The state’s Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones Map, named after the 1972 state law that required that the California Geological Survey create a map of all known active faults, is the basis for West Hollywood’s seismic zones, which classify properties near active faults at two levels.

Properties in Zone 1, also known as FP1, require a fault rupture investigation – a more thorough process than the soils report that’s required of other properties – to determine the exact location of active faults. If any active faults are found, buildings must be set back at least 50 feet from the faults. If no active faults are found, a reinforced foundation is not required.

In Zone 2, or FP2, faults are less likely to be found, so investigations aren’t required if reinforced foundations are used.

The state’s changes, which were

approved last year, moved the fault zone in West Hollywood north, mandating the inclusion of some Sunset Boulevard properties that were not previously in a fault zone.

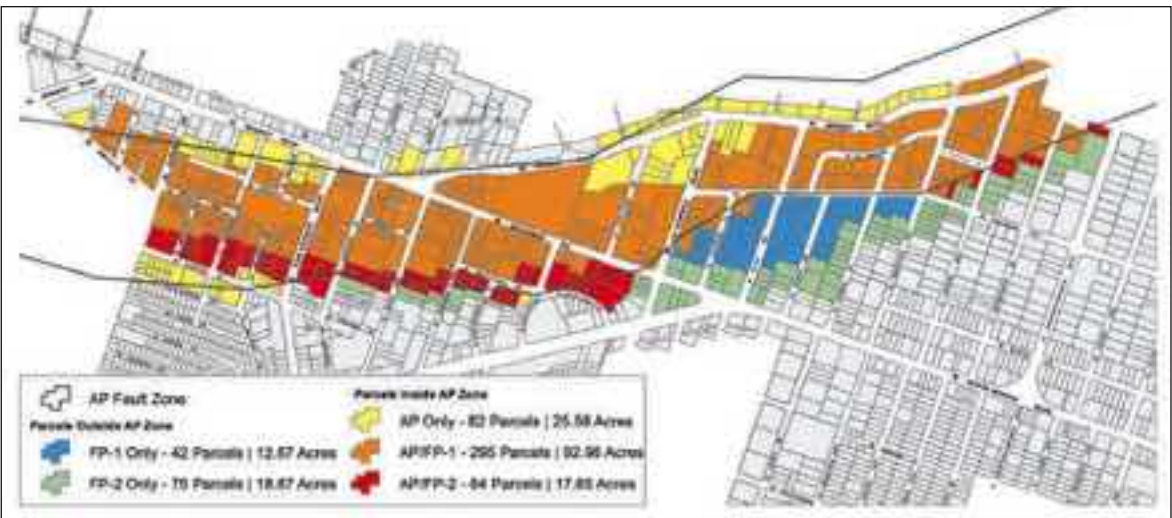
As a result, some properties on the south side of the city’s fault zones were no longer included on a state map, but West Hollywood city staff recommended that those properties remain listed at FP2.

“We maintain that this provides an extensive safety map for the city and for our development in the city,” said Rachel Dimond, a senior planner with the city.

Though the City Council confirmed changes to the city’s fault zones that were approved by the Planning Commission in November, the vote was 3-2, with Mayor John D’Amico and Councilwoman Lauren Meister opposing the changes.

D’Amico argued that the process could be too cumbersome on those who wish to build a single-family home, which are “built ... to move in” earthquakes, in the city’s fault zones. With the new regulations, the property owner might have to conduct the same costly investigations that are required of larger developments. Though the owner could seek an exemption or variance from the city, that might require a delay of several months, D’Amico argued.

Meister wanted a larger FP2 zone that could serve as a buffer zone around the state-mandated fault area, echoing the Planning



map courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

More West Hollywood properties are included in the city’s earthquake fault zones after the state’s fault zone moved north.

Commission’s request.

“Why wouldn’t we want to err on the side of caution?” Meister asked.

Meister also argued that the FP2 zone is unevenly distributed and is concentrated on the east side of the

city, which could potentially be considered discriminatory, though West Hollywood’s geologic consultant advised the council that the location of FP2 properties is more eastward due to soil, topography

and other technical factors.

“If the geologist thought there were other areas that needed to be amended, I’m presuming they would have told us that,” Councilman John Hielman said.

Ryu calls for support for Jewish community

On Jan. 22, Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, released a letter signed by 20 Asian-American and Pacific Islander organizations calling for resources and support to protect Jewish Angelenos following a spate of anti-Semitic attacks across the United States.

The solidarity letter accompanies a resolution introduced by Ryu on Jan. 22 urging the FBI to create a special task force to investigate the rising tide of anti-Semitic hate crimes.

The letter calls for increased

resources to protect vulnerable organizations and houses of worship, increased information sharing regarding security threats to Los Angeles’ Jewish community and other minoritized groups, an FBI task force to investigate anti-Semitism and for all Angelenos to join the signatories in solidarity with the Jewish community during an increase of overt anti-Semitism.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, there were 1,879 attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions in the United

States in 2018, the third-highest year on record since it began tracking such data in the 1970s.

“The AAPI community is no stranger to hate and discrimination. I think we feel a shared call to root out hate in all its forms, to protect our diverse cultural fabric and to stand in solidarity with our Jewish neighbors facing unprecedented attacks. An attack against one of us is an attack against us all,” said Ryu, who recently became the first Asian-American to serve on City Council leadership.

Local Merchants are Open and Easy to Access

Easy routes to Crescent Drive

FROM NORTH:

- ➡ South on Cañon, left on Dayton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive
- ➡ South on Rexford, right on Clifton, right on Crescent Drive

FROM SOUTH:

- ➡ East/West on Wilshire, left/right (NORTH) on Crescent OR directly north on Crescent

Parking Available	
Self Park (1-hour free)	Self Park (2-hours free)
10 – 333 N. Crescent Drive	1 – 345 N. Beverly Drive
11 – 221 N. Crescent Drive	5 – 450 N. Rexford Drive
12 – 9361 Dayton Way	6 – 438 N. Beverly Drive & 439 N. Cañon Drive
Pay as You Go Parking	7 – 241 N. Cañon Drive & 242 N. Beverly Drive
18 – 450 N. Crescent Drive	

400 block of N. Crescent Dr. Closed Between N. & S. Santa Monica from January 29 - February 13, 2020



photo courtesy of javiers-cantina.com

An argument between patrons at Javier’s restaurant at the Westfield Century City mall escalated into a fight and shooting outside the mall that left one man dead.

Suspect sought for shooting at Westfield Century City mall

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A fight that began in a restaurant in the Westfield Century City mall on Jan. 20 resulted in a shooting that left a 28-year-old man dead, and police are searching for a male suspect.

Authorities from the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Los Angeles Division received a call at approximately 10:15 p.m. about a fight in Javier’s restaurant and were responding when a second call came in about shots being fired. They located the male victim outside the mall in the 10200 block of Santa Monica Boulevard suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The unidentified victim was taken by paramedics to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The fight allegedly initially involved two groups of women, and the situation escalated when they left the restaurant. The men who were with the women became involved in an argument with each other, said Det. Herman Frettlrohr, with the LAPD’s West Bureau Homicide Unit.

The two groups separated and

came together again near a valet parking station outside the mall on Santa Monica Boulevard. One of the men pulled out a gun and the victim ran away, Frettlrohr said.

The suspect allegedly chased the victim and shot him multiple times. The suspect fled on foot on Santa Monica Boulevard and was not apprehended. Police are investigating the shooting as a possibly gang-related homicide.

Detectives from the LAPD’s West Bureau Homicide Unit were assigned the case and searched for evidence outside the mall throughout the night and early morning. The other people involved in the altercation were questioned and the investigation is ongoing. Santa Monica Boulevard remain closed until the following morning.

The suspect was described as black, 5 feet 7 inches tall and 160 pounds. He was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans.

Anyone with information is urged to call investigators with the West Bureau Homicide Unit at (213)382-9470. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

LAPD seeks input on new BolaWrap restraint device

The Los Angeles Police Department is asking for public input about its new BolaWrap Remote Restraint Device Pilot Program Guidelines.

Information about the BolaWrap Remote Restraint Device was presented to the Board of Police Commission on Jan. 14. The BolaWrap is a hand-held remote restraint device that discharges an 8-foot tether at 513 feet per second and can entangle an individual at a range of 10-25 feet.

Upon review of public comments, the Board of Police Commission will consider the LAPD entering a pilot program to

deploy the device in the field. If the pilot program is approved, it will be implemented for 180 days. Upon completion of the pilot program, available data will be presented for consideration to determine if the device should be approved for permanent use by the department.

The pilot program guidelines can be viewed by visiting lapdonline.org. Public comment may also be emailed to bolawrap-device@lapd.online, or mailed to LAPD Personnel and Training Bureau, 100 W. First St., Ste. 647, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Comments will be accepted through Jan. 30. For information, visit lapdonline.org.

WeHo Sheriff’s Station to hold benefit for fallen detective

The West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station will hold a fundraiser on Tuesday, Jan. 28, from noon to 5 p.m. for Det. Amber Leist, who was killed off duty on Jan. 12 while helping a pedestrian in Valley Village.

The benefit will include In-N-Out

Burger serving a burger, chips and a drink for \$10. All proceeds will be donated to the Leist family.

The West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station is located at 780 N. San Vicente Blvd. For information, call (310)855-8850.

Three men sought for shooting in Hollywood

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Hollywood Division detectives are investigating a shooting in a La Brea Avenue apartment building on Jan. 11 that injured two men in their 20s.

Police received calls about shots being fired at approximately 12:30 p.m. in the building at 1616 N. La Brea Ave., at the corner of Hawthorn Avenue, one block south of Hollywood Boulevard. They arrived to find one man suffering from a gunshot wound to his arm and another who had been shot in the leg. The victims were taken to a hospital and are recovering.

Det. Paul Hendry said a motive for the shooting has not been established and added that it does not appear to be gang related. The shooting occurred in a hallway and the victims were visiting someone in the building, he added.

“[The investigation] is ongoing. We are working it and have some good leads,” Hendry said. “There



photo by Edwin Folven

Two men were shot and injured after an altercation in a hallway at an apartment building at the corner of La Brea and Hawthorn avenues.

were multiple shooters. Basically, the two victims and the suspects were in a hallway, and they had an altercation that led to a shooting.”

Authorities are searching for three men described as black and in their early to mid-20s. The suspects fled in a four-door sedan.

Hendry said detectives have locat-

ed security camera footage that is being used to identify the gunmen. The shooting is not believed to be linked to any other crimes in the area.

“If anybody knows anything, have them call me,” Hendry added.

Anyone with information is urged to call (213)972-2943.

Shooting near Melrose and Fairfax leaves one dead

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A man died after being shot during the early morning hours of Jan. 20 near the corner of Melrose and Fairfax avenues in what police said was a botched robbery.

Officers from the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division responded to the scene after receiving multiple 911 calls about gunshots at approximately 2:13 a.m. They found a trail of blood leading north on Fairfax Avenue to an alley but were unable to locate a victim. The area was cordoned off and an investigation was launched into the shooting.

Witnesses told police that a black

man wearing a red hooded sweat-shirt, who was the gunshot victim, was seen running north on Fairfax Avenue and was picked up by a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction. Detectives contacted nearby hospitals and learned of a male victim who had been brought to a hospital for treatment and died, police said.

Detectives from the LAPD’s West Bureau Homicide Unit investigated and determined that the suspect who died had allegedly attempted to rob a man shortly before the shooting. Det. Herman Frettlrohr said the gunshot victim approached four men who were loading property into a car near the intersection and pointed a

gun. One of the men was also armed and pulled out a gun. The suspect and man who was allegedly being robbed both fired, and only the suspect was struck, Frettlrohr said.

The unidentified robbery victims, one of who owns a business near the scene, stayed at and cooperated with police. The gun belonging to the robbery victim was taken into evidence by police and the incident is considered self-defense, Frettlrohr added.

The man who allegedly picked up the suspect who died was arrested, and charged with attempted robbery and grand theft auto on Jan. 22. He was identified as Deon Antoine Carter, 27, of Los Angeles.

Next stop: more subway.

PURPLE LINE EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT

Section 2 – Beverly Hills Update

Construction Returns to Wilshire Bl

Wilshire Bl will be reconfigured to support piling operations on the north side of Wilshire Bl from Beverly Dr to Crescent Dr. Activities include installing temporary lights and signals, K-rail work zone and sidewalk barriers. Piling will follow once safety barriers are in place.

TRAFFIC ALERT

Two lanes will be open in each direction on Wilshire Bl during construction.

WORK HOURS

Work will occur seven days a week. Please visit metro.net/purple for detailed work hours.

Construction is dynamic and is subject to change.

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Campaign’s vote-by-mail push hits hiccup

■ Gold’s prepopulated forms contain some wrong addresses

BY CAMERON KISZLA

An attempt by the reelection campaign of Dr. Julian Gold to make it easier for Beverly Hills residents to vote by mail hit a speed bump.

Earlier this month, Gold’s campaign sent out a mailer that included a vote-by-mail application that was prepopulated with the name and address of each recipient. However, on some applications, the address was incorrect, meaning people who submitted that form may not receive their vote by mail ballot. Gold, who was first elected to the City Council in 2011, said the number of improperly filled out ballots was “more than a handful, but I don’t know the exact number.”

“The printer has taken responsibility for it. They’re in the process of mailing out the correct ones, and people should have the correct ballot [form] by the end of the week or early next week,” Gold said.

Gold denied that his campaigns’ push to register Beverly Hills residents to vote by mail was associated with the county’s new Voting Solutions for All People system, which randomly chose Gold to be the fifth candidate listed, meaning only he will appear on the second page of candidates on the iPad-like devices. Those who wish to vote for Gold will have to hit the “more” button to select him, and if they

press “skip,” voters will not see Gold’s name at all.

“A lot of people want to vote by mail, so we just thought we would facilitate it. We would have done it regardless of the craziness with the voting machine,” Gold said.

Other candidates Lori Greene Gordon, Robin Rowe and Lili Bosse said they do not plan to send out campaign literature to encourage people to vote by mail. Rabbi Sidney “Simcha” Green did not return a request for comment.

Bosse said in her experience, voting by mail is very popular in the city.

“Beverly Hills has a very large vote-by-mail population already ... I’m appealing to people who are voting by mail and people who are voting at the polls,” Bosse said.

Rowe said since he’s limited his campaign to \$2,000 in total expenditures, he can’t afford to send out mailers.

“There are 20,000 voters in Beverly Hills, so if you do the math, mailers don’t work,” Rowe said.

Gordon said it would be a “serious problem” if even a single voter is disenfranchised as a result of the mailer issue.

“I hope [Gold’s campaign] can address it in a serious and meaningful way. I certainly have every confidence they can, but they have to jump on it now,” Gordon said.

Leslie Juarez, a clerk with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder, said if anyone submits a vote-by-mail ballot request form with an incorrect address, they can



photo courtesy of Dr. Julian Gold
Dr. Julian Gold

submit a correct form by Feb. 18 in order to receive their ballot. The vote-by-mail ballots will start going out to voters between Feb. 3 and Feb. 25, she said.

“Every category is different, and not everybody is going to get them at the same time,” Juarez said.

Juarez encouraged everyone who has requested a vote-by-mail ballot to call (800)815-2666 to make sure their address is correct, and they will receive a ballot in time to vote in the March 3 election. If a voter does not receive a vote-by-mail ballot they requested, they will only be able to vote provisionally at the polling place, as in-person voting requires the vote-by-mail ballot to be surrendered.

For information, visit lavote.net.



photo by Luke Harold
The 2019 Women’s March drew hundreds of thousands to downtown L.A.

Women’s March draws 300,000 in downtown L.A.

On Jan. 18, more than 300,000 women and allies marched and gathered in downtown Los Angeles at Women’s March L.A. 2020.

“The voices of hundreds of thousands of women and their allies rang loud and clear across Los Angeles in support of women’s rights,” said Emiliana Guereca, president of Women’s March Foundation. “Supporters of the Women’s March Foundation have made it clear that the next president of the United States must have an agenda to advance women’s rights.”

The fourth-annual Women’s March L.A. began with a rally and march from Pershing Square to Los Angeles City Hall. Following the march, California’s First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom opened a program at City Hall featuring speeches and performances.

In the 2018 midterm election, a record-breaking 103 women were elected to Congress. Women’s March L.A. 2020 celebrated these accomplishments and raised awareness of the work done by community organizations throughout the year registering and educating voters, mobilizing communities, equipping youth for civic engagement and empowering women to run for office.

On Jan. 21, 2017, the Women’s March was the largest single-day protest in U.S. history with more than 7 million women and allies marching throughout the world.

For information, visit womensmarchfoundation.org.

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Councilman seeks to repurpose hospital to help people experiencing homelessness

■ O’Farrell said facility can provide wraparound services

BY MORGAN KEITH

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, introduced a motion on Jan. 17 to explore the feasibility of purchasing and repurposing St. Vincent Medical Center into temporary housing for people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.

“My philosophy is that anyone that’s in-the-know about the [housing and homelessness] crises and public resources knows that this is a real opportunity site, and if there’s a time to make a move, it’s now,” O’Farrell said.

State Senate bill aims to end HIV, STDs

On Jan. 16, State Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) introduced Senate Bill 859, which would require state agencies to establish and implement a master plan to end new infections of human immunodeficiency virus, hepatitis C virus and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The diseases disproportionately impact gay and bisexual men, African-American men and young people ages 15-24. Though many effective preventative and treatment tools exist today, these epidemics still persist.

In a society that has the ability to treat and prevent against new infections, it is unacceptable that the rates of infection have barely slowed and have increased in communities of color, said Wiener, the bill’s author and longtime LGBTQ rights activist who was the first elected official in the United States to openly discuss his use of PrEP, a preventative HIV treatment.

From 2013-17, new HIV diagnoses decreased 2% in the African-American community and increased by 4% in the Latinx community, while declining nearly 13% among white people. And, comparatively, in New York, since the implementation of a master plan to end new HIV infections in 2014, diagnoses are down 40%. California’s preventative work is falling dramatically behind other states, and it is time to take a more thorough approach to ending these epidemics, Wiener said.

SB 859 would require the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, in coordination with the Chief of the Office of AIDS, to create a comprehensive master plan to end new infections of HIV, HCV and other STDs. This bill mandates that the secretary and chief institute a Stakeholder Advisory Committee and work with relevant state agencies to set targets to end new infections and identify recommended programs, policies, strategies and funding for achieving these targets.

For information, visit sd11.senate.ca.gov.

St. Vincent facilities include 366 hospital rooms, adjoining medical facilities, a parking garage and other structures that the motion suggests could serve as temporary lodging and provide wraparound services.

“So far, when we’ve opened bridge housing or winter shelters, we’re usually talking in dozens,” O’Farrell said. “This is hundreds of beds for people to get shelter and the medical assistance that they need in one spot.”

Rather than searching for property to acquire elsewhere in the city and build temporary housing from scratch, O’Farrell said that the existing facility could be adapted.

“Repurposing the facilities could greatly reduce the cost per unit and take advantage of existing infrastructure that is time-consuming and costly to build,” the motion reads.

O’Farrell said that he anticipates opposition to the idea of purchasing and repurposing the hospital, but

that it could become the largest facility in the city to provide this type of care.

“If we could get help for 500 people at a time, that is a larger drop in the proverbial bucket than a few dozen,” O’Farrell said.

Verity Healthcare, which acquired St. Vincent in 2015, decided to close the hospital after it declared bankruptcy, and KPC Group, the parent company of a for-profit hospital system, defaulted on a purchase agreement for the hospital. A “lack of alternatives” forced the closure, said Richard Adcock, CEO of Verity Healthcare.

“This decision is not taken lightly and comes only after exhausting every option to keep the hospital open,” Adcock said. “Following its closure, Verity will pursue an alternative sale path for St. Vincent Medical Center – it is our hope that a future buyer will be able to identify a use that honors the facility’s decades-long legacy of service to the community.”



photo by Morgan Keith

St. Vincent Medical Center, 2131 W. Third St., was opened in 1856 as the first hospital in Los Angeles.

The hospital and most of its facilities will be put up for auction. On Feb. 5, the City Council’s Homelessness and Poverty Committee will consider the motion to purchase and repurpose the hospital.

With its closure set for Jan. 27, St. Vincent has arranged a transfer

agreement with Good Samaritan Hospital and additional facilities within a 3-mile radius for the transfer of patients and special services, including its transplant program. St. Vincent Meals on Wheels will continue its operations and will not be included in the auctioned property, according to O’Farrell.



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‘Cagney & Lacey’ actor, attorney running for Los Angeles County Superior Court seat

■ Troy Slaten transitions from showbusiness start to legal career

BY MORGAN KEITH

Former child actor and Los Angeles attorney Troy Slaten announced his candidacy for the Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Seat #145 on Jan. 10.

Born and raised in the Woodland Hills and Calabasas area, Slaten scored an audition for a commercial after his grandmother met a talent agent while playing cards. He booked the job and shortly after landed a role on “Cagney & Lacey,” in which he remained a cast member for seven seasons.

Slaten continued acting throughout his childhood, appearing on shows like “The Wonder Years,” “Murphy Brown,” “Roseanne,” “Different Strokes” and “Parker Lewis Can’t Lose” before attending the University of California, Los Angeles.

Outside of acting, Slaten said staying involved with philanthropy was integral to his upbringing.

“My father was a veteran, and my parents instilled in me the idea from a very early age: ‘To whom much is given, much is expected,’” Slaten said.

One charitable organization Slaten and other young actors partnered with was Famous Fone Friends, which connected them

with terminally ill or bed-ridden kids over the phone.

“It was so good to talk to these kids who wouldn’t have any other ability to do that,” Slaten said. “It was because of my acting that I was given those opportunities, and I took every chance I could get.”

After graduating with his bachelor’s in English literature, Slaten eventually decided to go to law school at Pepperdine University, citing some influence from his love for “Law and Order.”

Slaten clerked for the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s office during his studies and was allowed to litigate lower priority cases like misdemeanor trials and felony preliminary hearings.

Through a 15-year career and as a partner with the Law Offices of Floyd Skeren Manukian Langevin, Slaten has legal experience in both criminal and civil litigation and has served as a temporary judge for the Los Angeles Superior Court, which solidified his desire to run for a seat.

Temporary judgeships are voluntary, pro-bono positions that serve at the pleasure of the presiding judge and at the agreement of all the parties. In this position, Slaten said he handled traffic calendars, small claims, restraining orders and other matters.

“So many people are thinking about the presidential primary in the upcoming election,” Slaten said. “It’s the judges that affect the everyday lives of people in our communities.”



photo by Jamie Brennan
Troy Slaten

Slaten is running against Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Adan Montalban for the seat. County elections will be held on March 3, with absentee ballots available starting Feb. 3, and early voting beginning on Feb. 22.

Prang reminds L.A. County homeowners of easy save

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang reminds homeowners that a savings awaits them only for the asking, which can result in a \$7,000 drop in a home’s taxable value.

The homeowners’ exemption reduces a property’s taxable assessed value by \$7,000, provided that the property is the owner’s principal place of residence as of Jan. 1. The result is a savings of \$70 on the annual tax bill. Homeowners need only apply once in order to receive these savings each year. Savings continue until a change – such as a sale – is recorded.

Many homeowners are unaware of the tax savings program or have not taken advantage of it. The homeowner has to file by Feb. 15 to receive the full year-long savings. If a homeowner files after the deadline, they will receive a prorated reduction this year and receive the full amount in subsequent years.

“Nearly one in three homeowners in Los Angeles County do not take advantage of this tax savings program, leaving \$30 million unclaimed each year. Across the county, an additional 435,000 families can be saving on their tax bills,” Prang said.

Cities with the highest rate of unclaimed exemptions are Palmdale (48.6%), Lancaster (47.3%), Lynwood (43.7%), Pomona (43.1%) and South Gate (41.6%).

This tax savings program is just one exemption, and Prang is working to raise awareness about ways in which Los Angeles County property owners can save on annual tax bills.

Other programs include misfortune or calamity, parent-child, veterans’ exemption, disabled veterans’ exemption and a senior exemption.

For information, visit assessor.lacounty.gov, or call (213)974-3211.

Notable quotes

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day:

“Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time; the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to oppressions and violence.

Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such method is love.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

(source: Speech accepting the Nobel Peace Prize, Dec. 11, 1964)

CDC conducting screenings for coronavirus at LAX

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is cooperating with the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to respond to recent reports of a new coronavirus.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing respiratory illness in people and others that circulate mostly among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Common symptoms in an infected person include a fever, cough, and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

Since December, Chinese authorities preliminarily identified more than 450 human infections, including 17 deaths, associated with this coronavirus in an outbreak of pneumonia in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. In addition, coronavirus infections have been confirmed in travelers who traveled to

or came from Wuhan City. One case has been identified in the United States.

Because this is a novel virus, CDC, acting with an abundance of caution, will initiate screening of travelers from Wuhan City at JFK airport in NYC, SFO airport in San Francisco and LAX airport in Los Angeles. These three airports have been selected because they are the initial U.S. destinations for the vast majority of travelers from Wuhan City.

Public Health will be assisting the CDC to ensure that travelers from Wuhan City that have a fever or respiratory illness symptoms upon arrival to LAX are appropriately screened, tested and receive care.

For information, visit cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/novel-coronavirus-china or publichealth.lacounty.gov.

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LGBT center opens South Los Angeles facility

On Jan. 11, the Los Angeles LGBT Center opened the doors of Center South, a 5,500-square-foot community space located at 2313 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. near Leimert Park, which signifies the first-ever expansion of the world’s largest LGBT organization into South Los Angeles and champions its long-term commitment to care for LGBT people living throughout the city.

The grand opening celebration included remarks by Center CEO Lorri L. Jean, Los Angeles County

Department of Public Health – Division of HIV and STD Programs Director Mario J. Pérez, and Los Angeles Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, 8th District.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, guests toured the facility and enjoyed the daylong festivity which included food, refreshments, giveaways, a resource fair and entertainment.

“We’re thrilled to be opening Center South, and we’re proud to be doing so with wonderful partners: Bienestar Human Services, Black

AIDS Institute, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Wall Las Memorias Project. Together, we will serve a wider array of folks here than we are now doing separately,” Jean said. “Most importantly, among our areas of focus will be the people who are most vulnerable for new HIV infections: young gay and bisexual black and Latino men and transgender women of color. We intend for Center South to be an especially welcoming place for them.”

All of Center South’s programs and services will be provided to everyone for free or at low cost with a focus on serving the needs of young gay and bisexual men of color ages 12 to 29. According to the 2017 Los Angeles County Annual HIV Surveillance Report, South Los Angeles had the second highest rate of HIV diagnoses in the county. The rate continues to rise among young black and Latino gay and bisexual men, and the rate among black cisgender women are slowly increasing.

Funded in part by the County



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles LGBT Center

The 5,500-square-foot Center South will provide HIV testing, access to PrEP and PEP services, housing case management, mental health services and a computer lab.

Department of Public Health, Center South addresses the societal and health needs of LGBT people of color living in South Los Angeles by providing comprehensive programs and services, such as HIV testing, access to PrEP and PEP services, housing case management, mental health services

and a drop-in safe space which can also be used to host community events. A CyberCenter computer lab comprised of a new printer and eight new Lenovo desktop computers was funded by the David Bohnett Foundation.

For information, visit lalgbtcenter.org.

Influenza activity increases in Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reminds residents it is not too late to receive influenza immunization to prevent getting the flu. Flu activity is currently elevated and is increasing throughout Los Angeles County.

“Getting immunized against flu protects both the person who receives the immunization and also reduces the chance they will become ill and spread the flu to family and friends,” said Dr. Muntu Davis, Los Angeles County health officer. “People at higher risk for complications from the flu should seek medical care as soon as they begin to feel ill for an evaluation and potential antiviral treatment, whether or not they have been immunized.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that influenza activity remains elevated and widespread. Similar to other regions of the United States, L.A. County is experiencing high levels of influenza activity with influenza B virus as the dominate strain at the moment. However, influenza A virus appears to be increasing.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should be immunized against the flu every year. This is the best way to prevent influenza spreading among family, friends and co-workers who may be at high risk of flu complications. Groups of people that are at high risk include children younger

than 5 years, adults 65 years and older, and pregnant women. Medical conditions such as asthma, chronic lung or heart disease, diabetes and being overweight can also increase the risk for flu complications. Prompt antiviral treatment can be given that can reduce the risk of experiencing complications and decrease the severity and duration of illness. Antiviral therapy is most effective when given early in the course of illness.

In addition to getting a flu immunization, practicing good hygiene can help prevent getting and spreading the flu. This includes washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, not touching one’s eyes, nose or mouth, and staying home if one is sick.

Symptoms of the flu include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches and fatigue. Pneumonia is the most common complication of the flu. Flu can also aggravate underlying health conditions like heart disease or asthma. Annually, thousands of people nationwide are hospitalized or die from influenza-associated illness.

Flu immunizations are available at regular health care providers and local pharmacies. Immunization is also provided at no-cost or low-cost at various locations throughout the county.

For information, visit bit.ly/lacflu, or call 211.

Controller seeks better low-income DWP programs

On Jan. 16, Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin released a report evaluating the reach, effectiveness and oversight of the city’s two utility discount programs for low-income, senior and disabled Los Angeles Department of Water and Power customers.

The report, “Powering Up the City’s Utility Discount Programs,” calls on the city to improve outreach, boost enrollment efforts and establish greater oversight for the Low-Income Discount Program and Lifeline Program – initiatives primarily administered by the DWP with assistance from the Office of Finance, Bureau of Sanitation and private utilities.

In each of the last three fiscal years, the city issued an average of \$72 million in financial aid to nearly 279,000 households through these two programs. LIDP provides discounted power, water and other

utility services to residents of all ages with annual gross incomes of \$33,820 or less. Lifeline offers discounted fees on utility services and full exemption from utility user taxes to residents with household incomes of less than \$41,800 who are at least 62 years old or permanently disabled. LIDP customers receive an average 18% discount on each bill, compared to a 31% discount with Lifeline.

“The city’s utility discount programs help low-income residents keep the lights on and water running ... The goal of these programs is to provide financial aid to the residents in our communities who need it most,” Galperin said.

The DWP currently markets the programs with brochures, mailers and online, but does not use available customer billing information to identify potential participants – an approach that can leave house-

holds with persistent trouble paying the bills in the dark. On the flipside, the city hasn’t checked the eligibility of Lifeline participants for more than seven years, making it unclear as to how many still qualify for the discounts and opening the door to potential program abuses.

Galperin recommended L.A.’s utility discount programs use DWP billing data to better identify which customers may qualify for discounts, conduct proactive outreach to non-English-speaking residents, and get other city departments to help market the programs; focus on tracking data and metrics that will evaluate how well the programs are performing and require the DWP to report annually to city leaders on their progress; and recertify Lifeline customers regularly to ensure they still qualify for the discounts.

For information, visit lacontroller.org/utilitydiscounts.

Update on vaping illnesses in Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health continues to warn residents about the use of vaping and e-cigarette devices as potentially harmful to proper lung function and urges residents to stop vaping now. Nationally, there continue to be reports of people showing up in emergency departments with similar symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, fever, vomiting and diarrhea. While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identified Vitamin E acetate as a potential chemical of concern, the cause for this threat remains unknown.

As of Jan. 2, there is one new reported case in Los Angeles County, bringing the total to 36 cases of serious vaping-associated pulmonary injury and one death associated with e-cigarettes in the county.

Approximately two out of three

cases reported are in individuals age 25 and younger. Both male and female cases have been reported.

All but one case reported using both e-cigarette and cannabis-type products, not necessarily at the same time. One reported using flavored liquids only (no nicotine, THC or CBD). Various devices and products were reported and remain under investigation. No specific vendor, product or substance has been identified as the cause.

Public Health continues to urge healthcare providers to be on the alert for signs of severe respiratory illness among patients who recently used vaping products – including e-cigarettes – and report cases by phone to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health at (626)299-3504.

For information, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/public/vaping-faq.htm.

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WeHo mobilizes community for day of service

BY MORGAN KEITH

On Jan. 20, nearly 60 volunteers gathered at West Hollywood Elementary School to participate in the city’s annual day of service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Participants included members of Fairfax High School’s Kiwanis Club, Americorps, Friends of West Hollywood Elementary, city staff, students and parents. Donning green shirts with King’s face, volunteers were spread throughout the yard working on different projects.

In one corner, Amanda Benites and other members of the Kiwanis Club were raking and collecting leaves.

“I think by doing this, we’re just improving our community and making it a better place for our next generation,” Benites said.

Other volunteers worked on updating faded murals, cleaning the auditorium, planting drought-resistant gardens and power-washing playground equipment, with many parents and students working together.

“I think because [students] participate and see their parents participating, they see an example of service and community that establishes philanthropy of their own,” said Annabeth Gish, whose son attends the elementary school. “As a mother, it’s important that we impart that this isn’t just their school, this is a

Workshop offers updates on WeHo green building rules

The city of West Hollywood has updated its Green Building Program and will host an orientation meeting for the community on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

Join city staff members for a presentation about the recent changes and latest updates in the West Hollywood Green Building Program, which went into effect on Jan. 1.

The West Hollywood Green Building Program – the first green building code in California – was adopted in 2007 and demonstrated the city’s commitment to improving the environment.

The program required new buildings and remodels to include energy efficient amenities with the goal of creating a sustainable future.

The West Hollywood Green Building Program was updated in 2019 to keep pace with progressive national sustainable building design standards, the state’s Green Building Standards Code and evolving local and regional industry trends.

The West Hollywood Green Building Program includes flexible development standards, opportunities to innovate, high-achieving measures and a clear path towards continuing the city’s tradition of leadership on climate action.

For information, visit weho.org/greenbuilding.

part of their community.”

Members of the West Hollywood City Council used the event as an opportunity to speak with the students who came to volunteer.

“Every year has been an opportunity to make a difference, not only to beautify the school but to be invested in it,” Mayor Pro Tempore Lindsey Horvath said. “It’s an important day for everyone to be together.”

Principal Elizabeth Lehmann said the day of service facilitated by city staff leaves a positive impact on her students.

“My hope is when the kids come

and see how much has changed at their campus, that they will feel invested in by the city,” Lehmann said. “That goes a long way because if you feel that way, you want to do that much better in your studies.”

In addition to the improvements made during the day of service, the yard was prepared for two new murals featuring children and science-related elements. The murals, designed in partnership with the West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, will be installed in the yard in the coming weeks.



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

West Hollywood has held an annual day of service on MLK Day for nearly a decade. This year, volunteers beautified West Hollywood Elementary School.



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photo courtesy of the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office
Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang has appointed Aldo Macias Arellano to oversee community relations in underserved communities.

Assessor Prang welcomes new member to public affairs team

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang has named Aldo Macias Arellano as the newest member of his public affairs team.

Macias Arellano brings extensive experience as a community organizer to his new role as a special assistant field deputy in public affairs. He has been involved in civic engagement with an emphasis on nonprofit programs.

Macias Arellano's focus in the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office will be on underserved communities, such as cities with large Latino populations. He will also focus on building relationships with homeowners, real estate professionals, business leaders and local media outlets.

"Aldo brings a multicultural, bilingual background that will benefit the public affairs team greatly," Prang said. "I selected him over other qualified candidates because of his proven track record to build strong relationships with diverse communities. He brings people into the mainstream usually left on the sidelines for no other reason than a benign neglect.

I look forward to him expanding the reach of the assessor's office."

Macias Arellano was formerly co-chair of Building Healthy Communities-Boyle Heights, which educated community members about the Affordable Care Act. The group partnered with local businesses and clinics, which resulted in more than 200 individuals being enrolled in the ACA and My Health LA plans.

"I am humbled by the fact that Assessor Prang has shown the confidence in me to perform these tasks throughout Los Angeles County," Macias Arellano said. "I've always believed that diversity is our greatest strength and we should open our doors to people, not shut them out. Assessor Prang shares that view, and I am excited to be a member of his public affairs team."

The Los Angeles County Assessor's Office is the largest of its kind in the nation, employing 1,400 people with an annual budget of nearly \$190 million. For information, visit assessor.lacounty.gov.

Symposium focuses on injuries caused by falling



photo by Jaren Pursell/First-In Fire Foundation
The First-In Fire Foundation and the Los Angeles Fire Department recently held a symposium at Olympia Medical Center on injuries caused by falling. Participants in the symposium included John Darnell (left), chief resilience officer for the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment; Gretchen Swanson, of the L.A. Falls Prevention Coalition; Steven Rosenthal, of Olympia Medical Center; Matt Williams, CEO of Olympia Medical Center; LAFD Assistant Deputy Chief Jaime Moore, South Bureau; Lyn MacEwen Cohen, president of the First-In Fire Foundation; and Meg McComb, executive director of the Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce. Someone dies from a fall every 19 minutes in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The LAFD partnered with the First-In Fire Foundation, L.A. Falls Prevention Coalition and EmpowerLA to raise awareness about the potential for injuries and deaths caused by falling. For information, visit firstinfirefoundation.org.

Beverly Hills law firm has big plans for new home

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Dordick Law Corporation has purchased a building at 470 S. Beverly Drive in Beverly Hills and is planning an extensive renovation project before it becomes the law office's new headquarters.

Located across the street from Dordick Law Corporation's current offices, the new 10,000-square-foot building was purchased for approximately \$11.1 million. Dordick has hired Beverly Hills architect Hamid Gabbay to redesign the space. Plans call for the project to be complete and the firm to move in by the end of the year.

"It's a great location, a great piece of property," attorney Gary Dordick said. "It's about double the size [of the current office]. We want to make it look very beautiful and modern. It will have a completely different look utilizing a lot of glass."

Dordick said the goal is to make the building stand out on Beverly Drive, where he has owned the firm's current property since 1996. He said the location is perfectly situated near the southern border of Beverly Hills.

"It's the first building people see when they enter Beverly Hills, and we want to make it a beautiful entrance to Beverly Hills," Dordick added. "Beverly Drive is always going to be a valuable area, and when this property came up for sale, with 140 feet of frontage, I felt it was a good opportunity."

Dordick has a long history in



photo courtesy of Dordick Law Corporation
A building at 470 S. Beverly Drive is being remodeled and will serve as the new offices of the Dordick Law Corporation.

Beverly Hills, having grown up in the city. He attended Horace Mann Elementary School and graduated from Beverly Hills High School. He opened his first firm on Beverly Drive 32 years ago.

"We live in the neighborhood, all five of our kids attended school here. We are part of the community," Dordick said. "We love the community here, and that is why we invest and live in it."

Dordick Law Corporation specializes in civil litigation, primarily personal injury and death cases, Dordick said.

"We emphasize litigation and going to trial," Dordick added. "We take a small number of cases and fight very hard."



photo courtesy of Dordick Law Corporation
Attorney Gary Dordick said he is proud to have his firm based in the city of Beverly Hills.

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Piling work to resume in Beverly Hills on Jan. 29

Metro is planning to resume piling in Beverly Hills on Jan. 29 on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard near Beverly Drive. Pile installation will require partial lane and cross-walk closures. Work will occur in two stages, with one stage occurring at a time to allow for two-way traffic flow on Beverly Drive.

During work hours, Beverly Drive will be reduced to one lane northbound and southbound from Dayton Way to Charleville Boulevard. Throughout the pile installation, which is anticipated to continue through April on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard, left turns will not be permitted onto Beverly or Crescent drives. Work at the intersection will occur on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and weekends from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The north and west crosswalks at Wilshire Boulevard and Beverly Drive will be closed during work hours, and a pedestrian detour will be provided.

Once piling is complete on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard, the work is anticipated to move to the south side of the street. In total, approximately 260 steel piles will be inserted into the ground to create a perimeter around a future subway station. Piling work is anticipated to last through July.

For updates on subway construction in Beverly Hills, Metro is holding an upcoming webinar and public meeting. A lunchtime webinar will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 5, from noon to 1 p.m. To participate, call (650)479-3207 and use the access code 809 386 471, and the password Purple. A monthly construction meeting will also be held on Feb. 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Second Floor Municipal Gallery at Beverly Hills City Hall, 445 N. Rexford Drive. A project overview and information on the Wilshire/Rodeo and Wilshire/La Cienega stations will be provided. For information, call (213)922-6934, or email purplelineext@metro.net.

Work is also ongoing at Wilshire/La Cienega, where station construction, material deliveries, instrumentation and concrete pouring is ongoing. Station construction continues 24-hours in the staging yards at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale. Gale Drive will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard to support construction in the staging yard. Access to North Gale Drive will be maintained from San Vicente Boulevard. Work hours outside the staging yards are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Intermittent lane reductions, turn restrictions and sidewalk closures may be in place to support instrumentation work, road and util-

ity maintenance at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Stanley.

Metro has also announced work that will be occurring through Feb. 7 along Wilshire near McCarthy Vista/Crescent Heights Boulevard. Subsurface gas monitoring wells are being installed and lane closers are required. Eastbound and westbound Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane from 5 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays, and 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekends between La Jolla and Fairfax avenues. Access to driveways in the closure areas will be maintained.

Utility and tunnel investigation is also occurring near La Jolla Avenue and Crescent Heights Boulevard during non-peak hours from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. on weekdays, and 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekends. Lane closures along Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently necessary between San Diego Way and San Vicente Boulevard.

Station construction, hauling and concrete pouring are ongoing near Wilshire/Fairfax near the site of a future subway station. Ogden Drive will be closed 24-hours at Wilshire Boulevard. Intermittent lane closures may also be in place to support deck panel maintenance and soil investigation in the Wilshire/Fairfax station area. Anticipated work hours are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday. Orange Grove Avenue will also remain closed south of Wilshire Boulevard through June.

Work is also ongoing at the staging yards at Wilshire/La Brea, as well as at a work zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard just east of Sycamore Avenue. Hauling and deliveries to and from the La Brea staging yards will continue as tunneling progresses underneath Wilshire Boulevard. Work hours are 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., Monday through Saturday. Intermittent lane closures may be necessary between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street for instrumentation, environmental testing and street maintenance on Wilshire Boulevard and side streets. Underground support from the center opening work zone at Wilshire/Sycamore also continues to support station construction under Wilshire Boulevard.

Material deliveries and underground construction support also continues at a work zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard near Rimpau Boulevard. Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction between June Street and Muirfield Road.

Near Wilshire/Western, tunneling support and street maintenance is ongoing at a staging yard just west

of the intersection. Northbound Manhattan Place will be closed intermittently just north of Wilshire Boulevard, Monday to Friday, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Intermittent single lane closures may also be in place on Wilshire Boulevard between Western Avenue and Manhattan Place, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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



photo courtesy of Metro

Barriers are being installed along Wilshire Boulevard near Wilshire/Rodeo in anticipation of piling beginning soon in Beverly Hills.

Federal grant to ensure hospital can operate during disasters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has awarded \$1.7 million to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the city of Los Angeles to ensure Good Samaritan Hospital's emergency department can provide life-saving services after a major earthquake.

As a first-tier hospital in the National Disaster Medical System, Good Samaritan's emergency staff is trained to receive and treat victims of mass casualty events, including large-scale disasters.

Shaking from an earthquake can damage essential medical equipment and critical support systems needed to treat survivors, and the funds will be used for non-structural bracing and anchoring of medical equipment, communications hardware and support for infrastructure.

Specifically, the funds will be used for the installation of bolts, straps, anchors, hangers and other reinforcements at Good Samaritan Hospital. The \$1.7 million award came from FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

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FEB 7

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7: ALAN PARSONS LIVE PROJECT

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14: MORRIS DAY & THE TIME

15: OTTMAR LIEBERT & LUNA NEGRA

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28: COLIN HAY

29: E-40, TOO SHORT, MACK 10

MAR 6: MICHAEL BOLTON

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Developer donates space on La Brea Ave. to house LAHSA

The Los Angeles-based real estate investment and strategy firm CGI Strategies has donated a 17,500-square-foot office building at 639 S. La Brea Ave. to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority as a temporary base of operations for its homeless engagement team.

Engagement team members work with homeless residents by directing them to resources including shelters, transportation, counseling and health care. The space will provide a central gathering place for other similar community outreach teams that provide direct assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness, allowing more opportunity to coordinate efforts. Having a centralized location where team members in the area can meet to coordinate their daily efforts will be helpful, said Thomas Wong, coordinator of housing location for LAHSA.

“This donation from CGI Strategies is a perfect example of how the public and private sectors can partner to help our residents experiencing homelessness,” added Heidi Marston, chief program officer at LAHSA. “This space will provide our hard-working teams and community-based partners with a dignified shared work space where they can meet with clients and collaborate with their colleagues. We thank CGI Strategies for their generosity and look forward to working together again on future projects.”

CGI allowed LAHSA to begin using the property in December and the organization will remain there until June 30. LAHSA will use the property while plans are being formulated for a mixed-use development at the site with 14 units set aside for extremely low-income households and one unit set aside for a moderate-income household.

For information, visit lahsa.org and cgistrategies.com.

Homeless Count underway throughout L.A. County

The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is being held this week through today, Jan. 23, throughout Los Angeles County.

Local government officials who planned to participate in counts in their areas include Los Angeles City Councilmen Paul Koretz, 5th District; Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, and David Ryu, 4th District. The count occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys on Jan. 21, in the West Los Angeles, Southeast Los Angeles and South Bay areas on Jan. 22, and in the Antelope Valley, Metro

Los Angeles and South Los Angeles areas on Jan. 23. The cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach conduct their own counts. The totals will be released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority in May or early June.

Last year’s count found that homelessness drastically increased in both the city and county of Los Angeles. The totals of homeless individuals increased by 16% in the city of Los Angeles and 12% in Los Angeles County.

For information, visit theycountwillyou.org.

Jobs program for the formerly incarcerated expands

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti has announced that Los Angeles has received a three-year, \$10 million grant from the California Department of Transportation to extend New Roads to Second Chances, a program that gives formerly incarcerated Angelenos training, support and jobs maintaining and cleaning roads.

“Los Angeles is a place where everybody belongs, and we’ll keep working to create opportunities for anyone ready to give back to our communities,” Garcetti said. “No one needs a second chance more urgently than our formerly incarcerated sisters and brothers, and New Roads to Second Chances gives people a chance to rebuild their lives through the dignity of work.”

The New Roads program was launched in 2016 with an initial \$8.9 million state grant through a partnership between the mayor’s office, Caltrans and Chrysalis. To date, New Roads has served more than 1,200 individuals on probation or parole with job training, workforce development, wraparound services and transitional employment. The goal is to support their reentry into society following incarceration.

Each New Roads participant is eligible for up to 90 paid working days on a Caltrans crew. Since the program’s inception, New Roads teams have collected 606,811 bags of trash from roads and highways in L.A. County.

“We know that African Americans and other people of color are disproportionately represented in our criminal justice system,” said Los Angeles City Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson, 8th District. “It’s important that these people have the support services and opportunities to thrive following incarceration. New Roads provides thousands of opportunities to men and women looking to establish themselves in the city and rejoin their communities.”

Beyond joining cleanup crews, participants work with case managers at Chrysalis to help them develop resumes, participate in job-readiness classes, complete practice interviews and access computers, professional attire and scholarship funds. While working for New Roads, participants develop skills that enable them to transition to full-time employment and long-term self-sufficiency.

“For individuals trying to navigate challenges to securing employment, such as experience with the criminal justice system, a transitional job presents the opportunity to get back to work quickly, earn a wage and develop or build on their skills,” said Mark Loranger, president and CEO of Chrysalis. “The job outcomes for this program are impressive. But one of the most amazing things that I’ve seen happen over the first several years of this program is how crew members work and grow together. The experience of working on a team and with supervisors who are invested in their success is clearly a part of why this program has had such great outcomes.”




photo courtesy of Mayor Eric Garcetti’s office

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti touted the New Roads to Second Chances program, which helps people who were formerly incarcerated find jobs and careers.

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NINE-5

Board calls for swift action in addressing homelessness

Acting on a motion by Los Angeles County Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, and Janice Hahn, 4th District, the board of supervisors on Jan. 21 ordered the development of a plan for implementing a Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy that will rapidly provide housing or shelter for people currently living on the streets who are willing to come indoors.

Ridley-Thomas immediately followed up with a separate motion, also approved by the board, identifying specific locations for 30 trailers that Gov. Gavin Newsom has committed to deploying in Los Angeles County as part of an executive order issued on Jan. 8. The motion calls for deploying the trailers in public- and privately-owned parking lots in south Los Angeles to serve as interim housing for families.

“The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority tells us that, right now, there are 30,000 people across Los Angeles County who have been assessed and are ready and willing to be housed,” Ridley-Thomas said. “We need a framework that makes sure each of them has a safe place to go, and soon. This means getting rid of any red tape and other unnecessary impediments so that we can expedite housing and services.”

The Comprehensive Crisis Response motion complements Newsom’s proposal to invest \$1.4 billion next year to address homelessness, and the recommendations of the Governor’s Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, co-chaired by Ridley-Thomas and Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg. Elements of the governor’s plan were inspired by programs in Los Angeles County.

“We have to treat the homeless crisis with the urgency that it demands,” Hahn said. “I don’t want to continue to rely on the same old policies and practices that are working too slowly. We need our own Marshall Plan here in L.A. County so that we can provide shelter and housing to anyone and everyone who is willing to come inside, and we need the flexibility to do it as quickly and as efficiently as possible.”

The motion instructs county departments, led by the County CEO’s Homeless Initiative and Office of Emergency Management, to create a framework for prioritizing and implementing strategies that would build greater capacity and accountability to ensure housing and services for members of the homeless population.

The board called for a report in 60 days on potential programs.

Proposed state legislation will make it easier to build housing

On the heels of the Gov. Gavin Newsom’s more than \$1 billion dollar budget announcement on homelessness, Assemblyman Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles) introduced AB 1907, which would remove barriers and help accelerate the construction of housing for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

“Despite California being the fifth largest economy in the world, many people are living in tents and dying on the streets as if we were living in the second Great Depression,” Santiago said. “We must focus on

“We must focus on policies that keep people off of the streets and build homeless housing faster ...”

-Assemblyman Miguel Santiago

policies that keep people off of the streets and build homeless housing faster by doing everything humanly possible to remove existing barriers.”

“There are no boundaries to the moral crisis of homelessness,” added Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District. “An expanded AB 1197 will streamline essential shelter, affordable and supportive housing projects across Los Angeles County and California, and expedite the urgent work of bringing everyone home.”

AB 1197, also authored by Santiago, was signed last year to speed up the environmental review process for emergency and supportive housing projects in the city of Los Angeles. AB 1907 further builds upon this success and expands AB 1197 statewide for homeless emergency shelters, supportive housing and affordable housing.

The new bill will most likely be heard in the Assembly Natural Resources committee in March or April. For information, visit a53.asmdc.org.



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Archdiocese to honor CHLA leader with award

Paul S. Viviano, president and CEO of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, will be honored in February with the 2020 Cardinal’s Award by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Viviano will be recognized for his leadership in the healthcare industry, his advocacy on behalf of children’s healthcare issues and for embodying Catholic values in his contributions to the community. The honors will be presented at the annual Cardinal’s Awards Dinner on Feb. 29 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

“This recognition is considered one of the highest honors for a Catholic living in Los Angeles, given to those who are truly making a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable in Los Angeles,” said Rev. Dagmar Grefe, manager of spiritual care and clinical pastoral education at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. “Paul’s spirit of service and compassion truly shows in the way he leads Children’s Hospital in its mission to better the lives of children



photo courtesy of CHLA

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles President and CEO Paul S. Viviano.

in Southern California and beyond.”

Viviano, a lifelong Catholic and member of St. Bonaventure Parish in Huntington Beach, joined Children’s Hospital Los Angeles in late 2015 as president and CEO, as

well as a member of the board of directors. Viviano has three decades of success leading academic medical centers, for-profit health care organizations and nonprofit community hospitals. For information, visit chla.org and cardinalsawardsdinner.org.

O’Farrell hosts celebration for new pedestrian bridge

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, is inviting the public to a celebration of the opening of the new Red Car Pedestrian Bridge spanning the Los Angeles River from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25.

The event will be held at Red Car Park on Glendale Boulevard at Ferncroft Road, and will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a performance by the John Marshall High School Jazz Band. Refreshments will also be served.

The Red Car Bridge, which will connect Silver Lake and Atwater

Village, is one of four bridge projects taking shape along the Los Angeles River in the 13th District. The bridge will provide greater accessibility for pedestrians and other non-motorized uses, which is especially important as the city embarks on a three-year seismic retrofit and restoration of the Glendale-Hyperion complex of bridges, O’Farrell said. The North Atwater Bridge will open in the coming weeks and the Taylor Yard Bridge is expected to be completed in 2021.

For information, visit cd13.lacity.org.

Letters to the Editor

WeHo sheriff’s detective is sorely missed

Re “This world has a little less luster: Fallen West Hollywood sheriff’s detective remembered for helping others,” Jan. 16 issue

I wanted to thank you for that heartfelt obituary you wrote on [Det. Amber Leist], it was much more personal and touching than any of the other pieces I read in any of the other publications. I’m sure that story meant a lot to her family and those who knew her.

I didn’t know her well, but remember her fondly as a great, hard-working detective who was always a pleasure to collaborate with. Thanks for taking the time to tell her story so vividly. It was a good reminder to me of how important local news is and what a great voice you are for our community.

*Det. Brent Hopkins
Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division*

Beverly Press is eagerly awaited

Another year of neighborhood

news, music, food, events and memories, making the Beverly Press the most awaited, interesting and fun Thursday morning read.

Best wishes [for] the new year.

*Nedra Zachary
Loren L. Zachary Society for the Performing Arts
Beverly Hills*

Homeless issue seems to be worsening

The homeless population has increased. You can’t leave your home without having to negotiate with them on a daily basis. [It’s] very hard on everybody.

There seems to be more aggressive homeless, too. I’ve never had one chase me across the street before, nor yell at me when I try to walk by.

I’ve watched them die on the street, scream outside the [Beverly Hills] library, overdose in a gas station, beg me for money. Why is the public put in these traumatic situations just walking out their front doors?

It’s just time to speak out.

*Kim Desautel
Los Angeles*

ESTATE PLANNING

An Introduction

Many people think that estate planning is simply the writing of a will. But a good estate plan will also protect you in the event of your incapacity. It will let you - not the courts - make decisions about your medical care and keep control of your assets. The best time to plan your estate is now - while you can and before you need it. None of us likes to think about our own frailties, but that is exactly why so many families are caught off guard and unprepared when incapacity or death strikes.

Who Needs Estate Planning?

EVERYONE over the age of 18 should consider the benefits associated with designating a person who, in the event of your incapacity, will have the responsibility for the management of your health care, including the authority to make health care decisions on your behalf.

Whatever the size of your estate, even a small one, someone should be in charge of its management and distribution. If your estate is larger, you will also want to consider various ways to preserve your assets for your beneficiaries and to reduce or postpone the amount of estate tax which otherwise might be payable at your death.

What Is My Estate?

Your estate consists, simply, of everything you own - your home, other real estate, bank accounts, investments, retirement benefits, insurance policies, death benefits, collectibles, and personal belongings. When you start adding it up you may find, like many people do, that you actually own a lot more than you think. Now, perhaps, you understand why people do estate planning.

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RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

Chinese New Year
at the Waldorf
Astoria Beverly Hills

A festive tea ceremony will be held in the lobby lounge from 1 to 5 p.m. on Jan. 25 and 26. Executive chef Steve Benjamin and pastry chef Deden Putra have created one-of-a-kind sweet and savory dishes paired with the highest quality Tealeaves tea selection. Guests will enjoy traditional live music during this celebratory event.

Prices start at \$76 per person. 9850 Wilshire Blvd., (310)860-6700.

Found Oyster one-
night collaboration

Chef Ari Kolender welcomes Chef Mailea Weger back to Los Angeles with a one-night-only kitchen collaboration on Saturday, Jan. 25, from noon to 11 p.m. Weger opened L.A.'s cult-favorite restaurant Gjusta as sous chef and was later promoted to its sister restaurant, Gjelina, before leaving for

Nashville. Weger prepares healthy, flavor-driven and vegetable-forward cuisine. The California fare and Old-World, European-style dishes on Found Oyster's menu will be offered with Weger's additions. Items include a raw bar; albacore crudo; barbecue blue prawns with dashi potato salad; crab Louie; oysters from general manager Joe Laraja's family oyster farm in Orleans, Massachusetts; and bonito Meyer lemon and raspberry chiffon pie. No tickets or reservations required. 4880 Fountain Ave., (323)486-7920.

Lucques honors
poet Robert Burns

Suzanne Goin's prepares Scottish Classics on Jan. 26 while whisky

flights are served and live bagpip-ing is played by the Lady Bagpiper Megan Kenney. Wear a kilt and come dressed for a complimentary pint or measure of Scotch. Dishes include skink with smoked had-dock, sunchoke, carrots and crème fraîche, Scottish salmon or duck "haggis" with neeps and tatties. Finish with dundee cake with sul-tanas, almonds and Drambuie ice cream. The Robert Burns Sunday Supper is priced at \$52 per person, with an additional cost for whisky flights. 8474 Melrose Ave., (323)655-6277.

Grammys watch
party in Hollywood

On Sunday, Jan. 26, Grammy Award-viewing fans can watch

and give a toast to the winners at the W Hollywood. Sip creative beverages while capturing the scene at the awards show on Station Hollywood's 30-foot screen. The mixologists are making themed cocktails named Lillet Nas X and Lizz-Old Fashioned. Station Hollywood is also creating limited-time "Irishman" and "Jojo Rabbit" cocktails through the Academy Awards. Tickets are available at eventbrite.com/e/scene-at-station-tickets-8741095552. 6250 Hollywood Blvd., (323)798-1355.

E.P. & L.P. hosts
Australia Day

Come to a fundraising event at E.P. & L.P. on Sunday, Jan. 26, with 100% of proceeds benefiting



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Australia’s bushfire relief efforts. The Aussie barbecue will last from noon to 8 p.m. The staff will also be taking voluntary donations upon entry to the event, and raffle prizes will be rewarded throughout the venue. 603 N. La Cienega Blvd., (310)855-9955.

Honey Butter Fried Chicken in L.A.

Chicago’s cult-favorite fried chicken hot spot makes its way to Los Angeles for a pop-up on Jan. 27. Co-owners and chefs Josh Kulp and Christine Cikowski are partnering with the team at Brentwood’s Pizzana, offering a selection of their signature sandwiches. Guests will have the option to order Honey Butter Fried Chicken’s namesake sandwich with fried chicken strips and honey butter or the Chicago fan-favorite, The OG, a sandwich with fried chicken strips, candied jalapeno mayo and crunchy slaw. Pizzana chicken parmesan sandwiches made with crispy Jidori chicken will also be available. Each sandwich is available during lunch and dinner (or until sold out) from

11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. The sandwiches are available for dine-in only, but customers can also place a takeout order in the restaurant. 11712 San Vicente Blvd., (310)481-7108.

Curtis Stone’s Maude helps Australia

Michelin-starred restaurant Maude is offering a South Australia-inspired regional tasting menu now through spring. In solidarity with his home country, Stone will be donating 100% of the profits to his 2020 #Commit2One charity, Drought Angels. This female-founded Australian nonprofit provides assistance to farmers across Australia impacted by natural disasters including the recent fires. Stone, along with executive chef Chris Flint and wine director Andrey Tolmachyov, journeyed across this diverse region of Australia recently for inspiration for this winter’s culinary experience. Distinct ingredients such as wattleseed, mountain pepper, lemon myrtle and strawberry gum will be included in the courses. The menu features milk curd with black

truffle, green garlic and grilled lettuces; spiny lobster with turnip, citrus and vanilla; a vegetarian Aussie hand pie; and pheasant with smoked sausage and mushroom panzanella. To complement the dishes, Tolmachyov offers classic and reserve wine pairings from the South Australia region. The nine-course menu is offered for \$150 per person, with the wine pairing available for \$125 and reserve wine pairing for \$250. All profits from the menu’s run will benefit Stone’s 2020 #Commit2One charity partner, Drought Angels. Reservations are available now through March 28 via Resy. 212 S. Beverly Drive, (310)859-3418.

Oscar-inspired cocktails

Here and Now in the Arts District in downtown L.A. has created a cocktail named “I’d Like to Thank the Academy,” made with popcorn-washed cognac, burnt lemon cordial and champagne. It’s garnished with edible glitter stars. Order one now to toast the stars during the award season. 300 S. Santa Fe Ave., (213)262-9291.



photo courtesy of Musso & Frank

Signature wines at Musso & Frank Grill

The legendary 100-year-old Hollywood restaurant known for their steaks, chops, seafood, salads and legendary martinis has expanded its Award of Excellence-winning wine program. The new signature red wine label “2018 Peake Ranch Syrah” is an organic wine blended specially by general manager and wine director Andrea Scuto. The deep core of black fruit and spice accents pair well with the restaurant’s famous steaks. The new 2018 Musso & Frank Syrah “Peake Ranch” is available by the glass for \$15 and \$70 per bottle exclusively to Musso & Frank diners. Peake Ranch organic vineyards is located in the Santa Ynez Valley, and vinified by local star winemaker Kevin Law out of Challen Vineyard in Santa Maria. 6667 Hollywood Blvd., (323)467-7788.



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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Jan. 12 and Jan. 18. The information was compiled from www.crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Jan. 12

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire at 3:31 p.m.

At 5:08 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of N. Crescent.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft from a vehicle parked in the 9200 block of Beverly at 7 p.m.

At 9:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the

1000 block of Summit.

A suspect was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Charleville and Reeves at 10:48 p.m.

Jan. 13

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of Moreno at 1:40 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire.

Jan. 14

At 9:15 a.m., an unknown suspect

committed a petty theft in the 8300 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 12:22 p.m.

At 1:52 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Canon.

Jan. 16

At 9:19 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Canon.

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 100 block of N. Swall at 2 p.m.

At 6:18 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9800 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of N. Beverly at 6:31 p.m.

Jan. 17

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Oakhurst.

A suspect was arrested on suspi-

cion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 200 block of S. Beverly at 10:56 a.m.

At 12:57 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9200 block of Burton Way at 4 p.m.

Jan. 18

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 200 block of Reeves at 3:58 a.m.

At 3:59 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Clifton and Elm.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

Jan. 9

At 4:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of

La Cienega at 5:30 p.m.

At 5:45 p.m., a strong-arm robbery was reported in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

Jan. 10

At 3:36 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Almont.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Robertson and Rangeley at 4:35 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 8200 block of Santa Monica.

Jan. 12

At 5:46 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

- Information about crimes occurring in the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions was unavailable this week due to technical problems with the crimemapping.com website.

Female suspect in custody for stabbing at nightclub

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A woman who allegedly stabbed a female victim on Jan. 19 at a nightclub on Pico Boulevard is in custody and has been charged with murder, police said.

The stabbing occurred at approximately 12:30 a.m. at the Catch One nightclub at 4067 W. Pico Blvd. The victim, Iman Wright, of Lakewood, was attending a special event at the nightclub when she was stabbed, said Det. Herman Frettlahr, of the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Bureau Homicide Unit.

“There was an ongoing dispute between the victim and her ex-girlfriend, and the ex-girlfriend’s friend stabbed the vic-

tim,” Frettlahr added. “We found [the suspect] through video, witnesses and detectives’ investigation.”

The suspect, Elaine DeLeon Gutierrez, who Frettlahr said is in her 30s, fled after the stabbing and was located later the same day at a motel in Ventura. The detective added that the ex-girlfriend, who was not identified, remained at the scene and cooperated with police.

“She tried to intercede between the two,” Frettlahr said. “The people just got heated and it escalated.”

Anyone with further information is asked to call investigators at (213)382-9470. During week-ends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Police seek juvenile suspect for cell phone store robberies

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department’s Commercial Crimes Division are seeking information about a group of suspects who were arrested for allegedly robbing multiple cell phone stores in the second half of 2019.

Four of the five suspects believed to have committed the robberies are in custody and a fifth is still being sought by authorities. The suspect still being sought was described as a juvenile, and police are hoping a tip will lead to his whereabouts.

The suspects allegedly robbed the stores from Aug. 1 through Dec. 23. The robberies occurred between 2 and 7 p.m. in at least six stores, including a location in the 600 block of Western Avenue. The other robberies occurred at stores in the San Fernando Valley, East Los Angeles and South Los Angeles. Additional hold-ups

allegedly attributed to the crews have occurred in Orange and San Bernardino counties.

The suspects walked into the stores and took items from display tables, police said. The suspects then either cut or pulled the security cables from the electronic devices and ran out of the stores with multiple phones.

The suspects were responsible for thousands of dollars in property loss. The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office has filed multiple counts against one of the suspects Damon Levi Williams, as well as charges against the three other suspects, all of whom were not named because they are juveniles ages 14 to 17.

Video of the suspect who is still wanted can be viewed by visiting lapdonline.org. Anyone with information is urged to call Dets. Matthew Gares or James Verner at (213)486-6940.

Woman dies after being run over by her own vehicle

■ Passenger is arrested for allegedly causing accident and fleeing

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 27-year-old woman was killed after she was run over by her own vehicle on Jan. 20 following an alleged road rage incident in Hollywood, police said.

Authorities arrested another 27-year-old woman who was a passenger in the victim’s car and booked her for felony hit-and-run for her alleged involvement that led to the driver’s death.

Det. Olin Osborne, of the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Traffic Division, described the case as “unusual” and the death as an “accident.” The incident began at approximately 11:54 p.m. when the two women were in a grey Mercedes traveling south on Martel Avenue near Sunset Boulevard and

struck the rear tire of a motorcycle being driven by an unidentified man. The driver of the Mercedes fled and the motorcyclist followed until the car suddenly turned into a driveway and the two women inside the vehicle got out, Osborne said.

The motorcyclist also stopped, and the two women became involved in a confrontation with him, Osborne added. The Mercedes rolled forward and struck a curb and tree. The passenger got back into the front passenger seat of the Mercedes and allegedly shifted the vehicle, and it rolled backwards. As the driver attempted to get back into the driver’s side of the vehicle, she was knocked down and became trapped under the vehicle, Osborne said. The vehicle rolled over the driver and killed her.

The passenger fled the scene on foot and was taken into custody a short time later. She has been identified as Samantha Cunha, who Osborne said is from Florida but

had been recently living in the Hollywood area. The deceased victim, also a resident of the Hollywood area, was not identified pending notification of next of kin. The motorcyclist remained at the scene and is also considered a victim, Osborne said.

Cunha was arrested and booked for felony hit and run because authorities believe her actions led to the victim’s death, and she fled the scene. Cunha posted \$50,000 bail and was released from custody. Osborne said the case will be forwarded to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office, which will review the investigation and determine if charges will be filed.

Osborn said the incident serves as a reminder that anyone involved in a collision is required by law to stay at the scene and render aid if possible. Anyone with information is urged to call West Traffic Division detectives at (213)473-0234.

LAPD tests electric motorcycles in pilot program

The Los Angeles Police Department has purchased three electric off-road motorcycles using a Clean Transportation Funding Grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee.

The motorcycles were manufactured by Zero, a company based near Santa Cruz, California. They are being tested by the LAPD in a pilot project to determine the effectiveness of zero emissions motorcycles in off-road patrols in parks, on hiking trails, equestrian habitats and unpaved driving surfaces.

The motorcycles can be used on sand and gravel, as well as water, mud and snow. Because electric motorcycles do not emit sound, they are an ideal choice in habitats where noise and emissions can cause harm, police said. The motorcycles will also be used for patrols at special events.

Since 1990, the MSRC has invested more than \$400 million in hundreds of clean transportation initiatives that reduce air pollution from motor vehicles. The LAPD sought MSRC’s assistance to launch its Zero All Electric Off-Road Motorcycles Pilot Program. The amount of the

grant was not provided, but Zero motorcycles start at approximately

\$8,500 For information, visit cleantransportationfunding.org.

Man who allegedly committed sex act with a dog pleads no contest

A 37-year-old West Hollywood man entered a no contest plea on Jan. 17 to a charge stemming from allegations that he sexually assaulted a dog.

The defendant, who has legally changed his name to Sexy Vegan but was previously known as Hansel DeBartolo, entered the plea to one misdemeanor count of disturbing the peace, according to Deputy District Attorney Bradley Lieberman, of the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office. The defendant was sentenced to two years of probation, 100 hours of community service and 52 weeks of attending a sexual offender program.

Sexy Vegan was arrested on Sept. 24 after a civilian notified

authorities about a social media post of a video depicting animal abuse. Authorities identified that the video was posted by the defendant earlier that month and he was taken into custody at a home in Newhall where he had been staying. He had originally been charged with one misdemeanor count each of sexual assault on an animal and posting obscene matter.

The social media post was taken down shortly after the arrest. The defendant’s dogs were seized by Los Angeles County Animal Control officers after the defendant’s arrest and will not be returned. As part of the plea agreement, the defendant is prohibited from owning any animals while on probation.

71Above

Where the term
'elevated dining'
really means something



By Jill Weinlein

71Above, located on the 71st floor of the US Bank Tower, offers panoramic views of downtown Los Angeles and beyond. The OUE Skyspace, a 45-foot slide cantilevering outside of the high-rise building, while separate from 71Above, provides a thrilling start to an evening out. Executive chef Javier Lopez prepares an elevated seasonal menu and adds a personal flair to many of his dishes. The restaurant is built around a unique 360-degree compass next to the floor-to-ceiling windows, which change in opacity as the sun moves across the sky, with an individual compass at each table. Sitting at a table overlooking Malibu to Palos Verdes, the uninter-

rupted panorama of greater Los Angeles is breathtaking during the day and very romantic in the evening. Guests can choose from three different dining experiences: a reservation deposit for a prime window table, an edge table right at the window or one of the two chef's tables that offer a direct view into the kitchen. Both the lunch and dinner menus are prix-fixe, with a two-course lunch menu for \$35. Guests can also select an optional wine pairing for an additional \$24 during lunch. Our server went over the menu and shared the staff favorite: a creamy and rich black squid ink pasta layered with shredded crab and slightly spicy Calabrian chili

peppers. First course items on the menu include a parsnip soup with pickled apple mostarda made from mustard seeds, shaved walnuts and pretty nasturtium flowers. Other selections include a burrata with sliced persimmon, and fried Brussels sprouts glazed with a Mandarin green apple curry sauce. We chose a yellow tail hamachi, a market salad and a roasted beet salad as our starters. The market salad was a colorful bowl displaying green and purple endive and Bibb lettuce. Thinly sliced Asian pears, parmesan cheese, chopped almonds and a light olive oil dressing delivered an earthy profile. Artistically arranged with two rows of Japanese yellow tail, half of the hamachi was wrapped with thinly sliced cucumber and topped with sliced grapes, while the other half was topped with red beet medallions and sprigs of micro-greens. Roasted beets were placed on a bed of ancient farro with a sprinkling of buckwheat grains on the top. This dish was dressed lightly and the texture of the grains balanced the smoothness of the beets. For the second course, we select-



photo courtesy of 71Above

The hamachi is one of the stunning first course dishes offered on 71Above's lunch menu.

ed the New Zealand salmon filet. Cooked in a miso brown butter with coconut, the filet was served with three types of squash including a maple glazed squash and a puree. Two large pan-seared diver scallops were served on a bed of farro risotto. Crunchy julienne leeks and a creamy leek foam dazzled the top of this dish. The third entrée was the staff's favorite squid ink pasta. See 71Above page 19



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photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

Family fun at the Farmers Market Lunar New Year celebration

Join the Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax, for its annual Lunar New Year celebration on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 2 to 5 p.m. Visitors can celebrate the beginning of the Year of the Rat with festivities including a chalk art presentation, balloon twister, dragon puppet craft station, Chinese calligraphy, lion dances, kung fu demonstration and a performance by local illusionist Joseph Tran. The family-oriented afternoon will be held on the Market Plaza and there will be “Lucky 8” specials on food and merchandise.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit farmersmarketla.com.

Bill would create free tuition in CSU system for transfers

Assemblyman Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles) recently joined Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez and others to celebrate the introduction of Assembly Bill 1862, which would provide a pathway to a free bachelor’s degree in the California State University System.

“The cost of a bachelor’s degree is just too damn high. Our students deserve the chance to earn a degree without being burdened by overwhelming debt,” Santiago said. “Providing two years of tuition-free CSU means students will save tens of thousands of dollars while earning their bachelor’s degree. AB 1862 puts that dream within reach for California students and their families.”

Currently, full-time students can attend a community college free for their first two years. At a time when most students are taking on insurmountable debt to earn their degrees, the bill will expand upon the California College Promise program by providing two years of tuition-free CSU to community college transfer students.

Plans call for AB 1862 to be considered in the Assembly Higher Education Committee in March or April.

It’s a ‘Free-for-All’ at L.A. museums on Saturday

Museums throughout Los Angeles will offer free admission on Saturday, Jan. 25, as part of the 15th annual “Museums Free-for-All” program. Over 40 museums presenting art, cultural heritage, natural history and science will open their doors to visitors.

“We’re proud to celebrate 15 years of ‘Free-for-All,’ welcoming visitors across Southern California to enjoy a wide variety of museums. It’s a great chance to revisit old favorites or discover something new,” said Jennifer Caballero, president of SoCal Museums and marketing director for the Skirball Cultural Center. “I’m always impressed by the range of cultural offerings. From cars to Cold War artifacts to modern art, there’s something for everyone.”

The offer is for general museum admission only and does not apply to specially ticketed exhibitions. Regular parking fees apply at each museum.

Participating museums include the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Autry Museum of the American West, The Broad, California African American Museum, California Science Center, Cayton Children’s Museum, Craft Contemporary, Forest Lawn Museum, Getty Center Museum, Getty Villa Museum, Hammer Museum, La Brea Tar Pits and Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, MOCA, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles



photo by Joshua White, JWPictures/©Academy Museum Foundation

The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures will host a makeup and prosthetics popup on Jan. 25.

County and Skirball Cultural Center. The Museum of Tolerance will hold a day of free admission on Sunday, Jan. 26.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25, the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures will host an outdoor pop-up experience, which will take place along the outside of the construction fencing at the end of LACMA’s Kendall Concourse, the covered walkway connecting the east and west ends of LACMA’s campus.

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences members Leonard Engelman and Howard Berger will be the museum’s guests for the

day. The Academy Award-winning makeup and special effects artists will be transforming four Academy Museum staff members using makeup and prosthetics. Visitors will get a chance to watch the transformations take place, ask questions about the makeup artists’ process and learn some techniques.

In the afternoon, Berger will show the public some small makeup techniques to turn oneself into truly terrifying creatures and characters.

The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit socialmuseums.org/free.



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LAUSD approves recognition of Filipino Heritage and History Month

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education has approved a resolution recognizing Filipino Heritage and History Month starting next October. The sponsor, Student Board Member Frances Suavillo, was born in the Philippines and moved to Los Angeles at age 9. She is a senior at Carson Senior High School.

“Los Angeles Unified is so diverse and rich in culture,” Suavillo said. “This resolution

directs all schools to accurately represent and celebrate Filipino history and heritage and also provide ample opportunities for students to explore the historical and cultural aspects of the Filipino-American community, and of the Philippines.”

LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner will explore establishing dual language instruction in Tagalog and major dialects spoken in the Philippines. Currently, dual

language instruction is offered in English and Spanish, Korean, Mandarin, Arabic, Armenian or French in the LAUSD.

“Los Angeles Unified is the most diverse big city in the country, where America comes to see its future, a future where all students have an understanding of the world around them and are prepared for all of the opportunities in an increasingly global economy,” Beutner said. “We are pleased to

celebrate our Filipino students, educators, employees and families.”

All members of the LAUSD board co-sponsored the resolution, including Nick Melvoin, who represents the local area on the board.

“Our diversity makes us stronger, as a district, a city and a country, no matter what we hear from the White House,” Melvoin said. “I’m proud to support this celebration of our Filipino community and look forward to October 2020 when we

“This resolution ... provides ample opportunities for students to explore the historical and cultural aspects of the Filipino-American community.”

*Frances Suavillo
LAUSD Student Board Member*

will kick off this celebration of Filipino Heritage Month.”

For information, visit lausd.net.

Stars turn out for Oscar Viewing Party at the Hollywood Museum

The fifth annual Roger Neal and Maryanne Lai Oscar Viewing Dinner and After Party will be held on Sunday, Feb 9, at the Hollywood Museum.

The event will honor stars with Icon Awards during the pre-show ceremonies for the Academy Awards, which will also be held on Feb. 9 at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood.

The honorees at the viewing party include Nancy O’Dell, Mamie Van Doren, Obba Babatundé, Andy Madadian, Joel Diamond, Lee Meriwether and Terry Moore. Donelle Dadigan, owner of the Hollywood Museum, will receive a Woman in Philanthropy Award.

The Academy Awards viewing dinner will be a black tie affair and many stars are expected to attend. During the dinner party, the Jose Iturbi Foundation will receive a donation from Roger and Lynn Neal and partners Maryanne and Thomas Lai.

“Our fifth annual Oscar Viewing Dinner, Suite and After Party will be our best yet and we are looking forward to a spectacular night,” said Roger Neal, chairman of the dinner.

The Hollywood Museum is located at 1660 N. Highland Ave. The Oscar Viewing Dinner and After Party is by invitation only and requires tickets. For information, call (323)366-2796, or email prstarus2000@yahoo.com.



photo courtesy of Edward Lozzi

The Hollywood Museum will host a viewing dinner and after party on Oscar Sunday.

71Above

From page 17

We finished with a bowl of coconut custard hidden under a bright green basil gelée. Dollops of Key lime curd, a scoop of strawberry sorbet, freshly cut strawberries and crunchy, flavorful sesame brittle decorated the top. The complexity and textures of this dessert offered an array of bright and clean flavors.

The second dessert was a round, crisp ginger snap tuile wafer on top of dark chocolate cremeux, smoked banana ice cream and a salted peanut crumble. Both desserts were pleasing in presentation and flavor.

Pastry chef Vanesa Beltran oversees the program and will introduce a wide range of new artistic desserts including vegan and gluten-free sweets for the lunch and dinner menus.

Spur-of-the-moment guests can come in for dinner and sit in the bar or lounge without a deposit reservation. On a first-come, first-served basis, diners can order from the a la carte Bar Bites menu prepared by the same fine dining kitchen.

Items on the menu include oysters, a potato and two-cheese fritter with truffles, a falafel with za’atar and pickled onion, and dates wrapped in bacon and blue cheese. Shareable plates include roasted

beets, charcuterie with selected cured meats and marinated olives, and a chef’s selection cheese plate. Heartier fare includes steak tartare, octopus and Nduja Bolognese pasta.

The bar makes cocktails inspired by neighborhoods in Los Angeles, including the Hollywood, which offers a spicy grapefruit essence made from jalapeño Grey Goose vodka and grapefruit cordial. The West Hollywood is made with apple-enhanced Hangar 1 Vodka, apple brandy, and apple and cinnamon cordial. Beers include a Lagunitas Czech Pilsner, Saint Archer white ale, North Coast Old Rasputin Russian Imperial, and Almanac Sunshine and Opportunity sour beers.

71Above will be offering a special four-course Valentine’s Day dinner menu on Feb. 14 for \$150 per person. Lead sommelier Catherine Morel will introduce some of her favorite wines with a supplemental \$75 wine pairing.

Reservations for lunch during the week are recommended, but not required for the main dining room starting at 11:30 a.m. The restaurant is open nightly for dinner starting at 5 p.m. Reservations can be made on the restaurant’s website, and payment in full gives you a “ticket” with the number of guests and time of the reservation. Pricing varies and depends on the menu. \$\$\$ 633 W. 5th St., (213)712-2683.

L.A.Zoo announces new addition to gorilla family

The Los Angeles Zoo has welcomed a new addition to its Campo Gorilla Reserve.

The zoo’s 25-year-old female western lowland gorilla N’djia (en-JEE-uh) recently gave birth to her first baby on Jan. 18, marking the first gorilla birth at the L.A. Zoo in over 20 years. N’djia and her baby, for which the sex has yet to be determined, spent their first day together bonding behind-the-scenes at the zoo.

“This historic birth is a step forward for western lowland gorilla conservation,” said Denise M. Verret, CEO and director of the zoo. “For the first time in over two decades, Angelenos will now have a unique opportunity to watch this gorilla baby grow up at the L.A. Zoo. I want to thank our dedicated animal care and animal health teams who have worked tirelessly monitoring N’djia and her baby’s progress.”

Over the first weeks of the young gorilla’s life, animal care staff will allow N’djia and her newborn to choose whether to join father, 32-year-old male silverback gorilla Kelly, and the rest of the troop or remain behind-the-scenes. While N’djia may choose to remain resting with her baby away from public viewing, guests may get a glimpse of them as N’djia and her baby begin to explore and move around Campo Gorilla Reserve over the coming weeks. Animal care and animal health staff will continue to closely monitor N’djia and her baby’s health and development.

The Los Angeles Zoo is located at 5333 Zoo Drive. For information, call (323)644-4200, or visit lazoo.org.



photo courtesy of the L.A. Zoo

The L.A. Zoo’s western lowland gorilla N’djia welcomed a new offspring on Jan. 18.

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Valentine's Day Playdate

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Open House

Saturday, February 22 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

West Los Angeles

Valentine's Day Playdate

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For your consideration: ‘The Two Popes,’ ‘Jojo Rabbit’

“The Two Popes”

When Pope Benedict XVI resigned, something done by only one pope 600 years prior, Pope Francis breathed new life into Catholicism. That’s the position of Netflix’s “The Two Popes,” which depicts conversations between the two men, leading to Benedict’s shocking exeunt. Certainly, this is expertly crafted cinema by director Fernando Meirelles (“City of God,” “Blindness”), but it could have ascended even higher with a more involved screenplay willing to truly get dirty with more facts along with its bromance optimism.

The story is simple enough: Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio

(Jonathan Pryce) wishes to resign, frustrated that the Catholic Church isn’t progressing. But Benedict (Anthony Hopkins) refuses his request, instead forcing the man who would become Pope Francis to engage in several days of debate about theology, church politics and an assortment of other topics. Amidst this, we also drift into Bergoglio’s tumultuous history, especially during the Dirty War in Argentina.

In an odd choice, however, no such background occurs for Benedict, who remains largely stoic, occasionally the champion of wisdom Hopkins employs in many a film. To be clear, the guy forced to participate in the Hitler Youth at 14, the law of the land for



those his age, doesn’t get any backstory. Again, odd choice.

As for its historical accuracy, well that’s a non-starter. The film is adapted from a play, which idealizes and sometimes caricatures the pairs’ jagged parts. If the result speaks truth, then such choices justifiably work. But in at least one instance, Francis appears the hero against a serial pedophile when that modest victory belongs to Benedict. This is perhaps the great sin of screenwriter Anthony McCarten’s (“The Theory of Everything,” “The Darkest Hour”). His brand of historic melodrama so beloved by awards voters permits delightful, satisfying cinema, but little more.

In “Theory,” he avoided discussing actual physics, “Darkest” features no political jargon at all, and “Popes” condenses each individual into clear, mundane categories: traditional and progressive. Benedict’s concern for climate change, ignored. Same for Francis’ spotty record on reporting pedophile priests. “Popes” sands too far, providing fun material for discussion about basic theological topics when it could be a master class in ecclesiology.

Perhaps this is overly harsh. “The Two Popes” is actually better than several contenders for best pic. If only it cared more about depth than sentimentality.



photo courtesy of Netflix

Pope Benedict (Anthony Hopkins) and Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio (Jonathan Pryce), who becomes Pope Francis.



photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight

In “Jojo Rabbit,” Taika Waititi plays an imaginary, idiot Hitler and Roman Griffin Davis stars as Jojo.

“Jojo Rabbit”

Taika Waititi (“Thor: Ragnarok,” “What We Do in the Shadows”) is an incredible director, writer and actor. His episode of “The Mandalorian” sends season one out on an amazing high. His mo-cap performance of Korg (the rock guy) in a couple Marvel flicks is hilarious. And all his future projects, another “Thor” film and perhaps a “Star Wars” one too, are insanely exciting.

As for his World War II satire up for best pic and an AFI top 10 film of 2019 – featuring Waititi as an imaginary friend Hitler – it’s OK. Some parts work well, but the satire lacks bite, and any actual laughs are almost entirely absent. It might just be Waititi’s weakest film to date.

Despite these shortcomings, every performance succeeds, from first-time actor Roman Griffin Davis as Jojo – a Hitler Youth

member whose faith in the Third Reich wavers – to Thomasin McKenzie (“Leave No Trace”) as Else – a Jewish girl hiding in Jojo’s attic and reason for the boy’s change of heart. The cast also proves memorable: Sam Rockwell as an indifferent Nazi general, Rebel Wilson rocking her usual brand of humor and Scarlett Johansson as Jojo’s mother, perhaps the most complex character in the entire film.

Disappointingly, Waititi’s take on idiot Hitler, an oaf in Jojo’s head, amounts to a minor role. His juvenile antics work double time as equal parts the product of a naive imagination and a cathartic dig at one of history’s most monstrous figures. Such a premise works great on paper, but it never delivers the one-two punches “Jojo Rabbit” needs, especially as things transition from comedy to sincerity, rather than combine both.

Temple shows Auschwitz film on Holocaust Remembrance Day

Hollywood Temple Beth El is holding a screening of the historic Polish film “The Last Stage” at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 27.

The screening commemorates the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and is being held on United Nations Holocaust Remembrance Day. Hollywood Temple Beth El presents the film in conjunction with the Consulate General of Poland-Los Angeles, the Polish Film Festival of Los Angeles and Jewish Renewal in Poland.

The 1948 film was directed by Wanda Jakubowska, a former

inmate at Auschwitz, and includes former prisoners as actors. The film was based on the account of Mala Zimetbaum, who was executed at Auschwitz.

Rabbi Norbert Weinberg, of Hollywood Temple Beth El, said the film was a cinematic first in many ways, including the director’s struggle with Communist Party supervisors to emphasize Jewish victims. Many Holocaust films, such as Steven Spielberg’s “Schindler’s List,” were influenced by Jakubowska’s pioneering work. The director has been called “the grandmother of

Polish cinema.”

A panel discussion follows the film with Jaroslaw Łasiński, consul general of the Republic of Poland; Rabbi Haim Dov Beliak, who is involved with the organization Jewish Renewal in Poland; and Elizabeth Kanski, president of the Polish Film Festival of Los Angeles. Weinberg will moderate the discussion.

Admission is \$12. Hollywood Temple Beth El is located at 1317 N. Crescent Heights Blvd. For tickets and information, call (323)656-3150, or visit last-stage.brownpapertickets.com.

Aerial photography discussion at Forest Lawn Museum

Join Forest Lawn Museum for a discussion on aerial photography, presented in conjunction with current exhibition “The Elevated Eye: Aerial Photography Past and Present,” at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25.

During the 30-minute talks, photographer David Maisel, a 2018 Guggenheim Fellow in the Creative Arts whose work is featured in the exhibition, will discuss aerial photography and destruction of the environment, and Dr. Laura Danly, curator at the Griffith Observatory, will speak about astronomy and ecology.

A Q&A with James Fishburne, director of the Forest Lawn Museum and curator of the exhibition, will follow. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the event. Free exhibition tours will be available from 3-3:30 p.m. Admission and parking are free.



photo courtesy of NASA

A photographic print of the first servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope in 1993 will be on view at the exhibition.

Guests can RSVP for the event by sending an email to museum@forestlawn.com, or calling (323)340-4782.

The Forest Lawn Museum is located at 1712 S. Glendale Ave. For information, visit forestlawn.com.

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Metallica frontman shares car collection

The Petersen Automotive Museum will debut a new exhibit featuring 10 custom vehicles donated from Metallica guitarist James Hetfield’s personal collection. Opening Saturday, Feb. 1, in the Bruce Meyer Family Gallery, “Reclaimed Rust: The James Hetfield Collection” will celebrate Hetfield’s creativity as a world-renowned artist through his built-from-scratch custom car collection, guitars, photos and memorabilia.

Key vehicles on display will include the 1948 Jaguar “Black Pearl,” the 1934 Packard “Aquarius,” the 1953 Buick Skylark “Skyscraper,” the 1937 Lincoln Zephyr “VooDoo Priest,” the 1936 Auburn “Slow Burn,” the 1936 Ford “Iron Fist,” the 1937 Ford Coupe “Crimson Ghost” and the 1932 Ford Roadster “Black Jack.”

Along with the custom vehicles, memorabilia on display will include an ESP Hollow Body guitar and a Mesa amplifier that are painted to match the Buick Skylark “Skyscraper,” images displaying the build process of each car and a video of Hetfield talking about the cars.

““Reclaimed Rust’ brings together two industries that go hand in hand with artist expression,” said Terry Karges, executive director of the Petersen Automotive Museum. “This is the first time the Hetfield collection will be showcased to the public, and we can’t wait to share the inspiration behind these extraordinary vehicles with the world.”

Hetfield is a lifelong car enthusiast and views his collection as a form of expression to convey his creativity. Hetfield’s vehicles assert both a reverence for history and a disregard for convention, standing collectively as a testament to the musician’s distinctive personality and artistic energy.



photo courtesy of the Petersen Automotive Exhibit

The 1937 Lincoln Zephyr “VooDoo Priest” is one of the cars in James Hetfield’s collection that will be on display at the exhibit.

Wallis continues local dance season

The Los Angeles-based Lula Washington Dance Theatre will return to the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts to celebrate its 40th anniversary with a dynamic, powerful program exploring social and humanitarian issues.

The company will perform at 7:30 p.m. from Thursday, Jan. 30, through Saturday, Feb. 1, in The Wallis’ Bram Goldsmith Theater.

“Lula Washington Dance Theatre is among our country’s most important and influential dance companies,” said Paul Crewes, artistic director at The Wallis. “The Wallis is honored to celebrate its 40th Anniversary, a landmark occasion for dance locally and internationally.”

For the event, the dance troupe presents the world premieres of “To Lula with Love” and “Hands Up: A Testimony” by company alumnus Tommie Waheed Evans.

Additionally, the program features two works by company founder and artistic director Lula Washington, including the world premiere of excerpts from “Fragments,” a work-in-progress she describes as “a reaction to the chaotic times we live in,” and “King,” which she created in about the struggles of Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement.

“At the same time the company is pushing forward with new groundbreaking work, it is also holding true to its original mission of doing work that is ‘reaching for your soul,’” Washington said. “Our dancing and programming is designed to touch the soul and spirit of people, aiming to move them to a place of humanism and fairness for all.”

Other repertoire includes the West Coast premiere of “Zayo,” a bold, Afro-fusion, dance-theatre work by Esie Mensah, and “Reign,” a joyous, gospel-fueled work by hip-hop concert pioneer Rennie Harris.

Tickets are \$29-79 and are on sale now.

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills. To purchase tickets or for information, call (310)746-4000, or visit thewallis.org/lula.



photo courtesy of the Ford Theatres

The Lula Washington Dance Theatre was founded in 1980 by Lula and Erwin Washington in south Los Angeles and focuses on using dance to explore African American history and culture.

opening reception on Thursday, Jan. 30. The reception will be highlighted by a ribbon-cutting, a fire-side chat with James Hetfield and an auction featuring two limited-edition ESP guitars. Refreshments will be served.

“Reclaimed Rust” will run through October 2020. Gallery hours are daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To purchase tickets to the exhibit opening event, visit petersen.org/hetfield.

The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (323)930-2277, or visit petersen.org.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

LOCATIONS:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will consider a request for a zone text amendment to add a new Subsection (D) to Section §19.36.331 (Short-Term Rentals) to prohibit the solicitation of City of West Hollywood residents to host short-term rentals.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Sections §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption) and §15378 (Project)

The staff report will be available on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, the W.H. Library, 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard, and on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

Special meeting related accommodations (e.g., transportation) may be provided upon written request to the Office of the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. For information on public transportation, call 1-323-GO-METRO (323/466-3876) or go to www.metro.net

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

For further information contact Daniel Rivas, Code Compliance Manager, in the Code Compliance Division at (323) 848-6375; or via email at: drivas@weho.org

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk

Мы сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. Для дополнительной информации на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.

Galerie XII showcases work of Milan-based photographer



photo courtesy of Paolo Ventura
Some of Paolo Ventura’s works are caricatured self-portraits in which he works with his wife and son.

Galerie XII Los Angeles is celebrating its first anniversary with the solo exhibition of Milan-based photographer Paolo Ventura. On view through Saturday, March 14, “An Invented World” is an exhibition spanning six of Ventura’s photographic series over the last decade, including the debut of new works.

“I’m happy to show some of my works spanning the last decade for the first time in Los Angeles,” Ventura said. “Cinema is a recurring theme in my work, and it resonates with the City of Angels.”

Widely known for his elaborate narrative series acted out by the artist and his family, the whimsical stories touch upon many facets of the human condition within life-size dioramic cityscapes reminiscent of war-time Italy, which are constructed entirely by the artist.

Galerie XII Los Angeles’ curatorial goal is to showcase the pioneering works of photographic artists from Europe and Asia to the Los Angeles community.

“Curatorially, Ventura’s work was a natural choice as it’s so visual and cinematographic,” said Valerie-Anne Giscard d’Estaing, founder of the gallery. “I still remember the impact of seeing his work for the first time in Paris in 2009 and am excited to share his work with a West Coast audience.”

The exhibition begins with Ventura’s third body of work “Behind the Walls” (2011), the first in which he began inserting himself into his images. The works on view then progress through his caricatured self-portraits in “Short Stories” (2012-2015) to more recent large-scale pieces from “Collages” (2017-2019), which make up a predominant portion of the exhibition.

Regular gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, and by appointment.

Galerie XII is located at 6150 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (323)917-5106, or visit galerie-photo12.com.

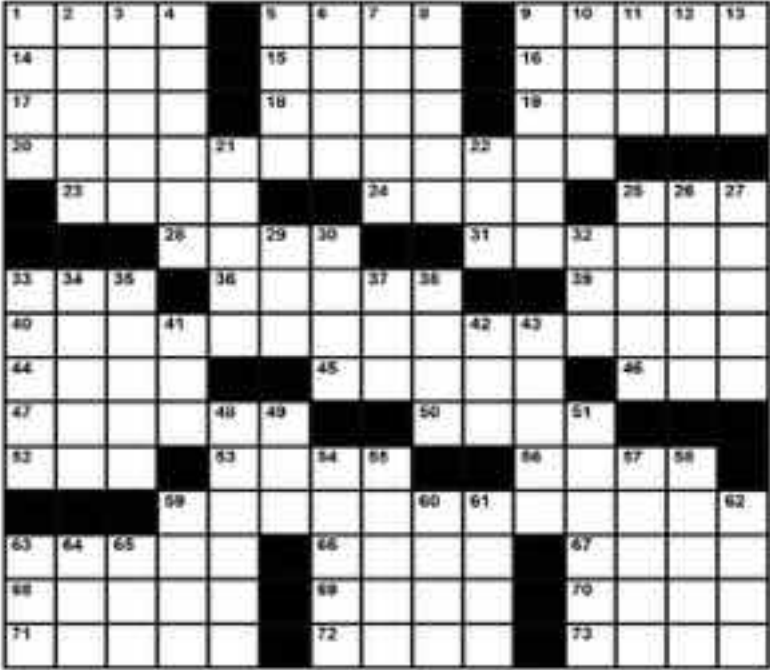


Preserving historic homes is a longstanding local tradition



A photograph in the Jan. 24, 1980, issue of the Park Labrea News showed members of the Hancock Park-Windsor Square Historical Society preparing for a series of tours highlighting historic homes in the local community. Stacey Fletcher (left), Max Bogen and Margo Leonetti O’Connell came together in front of a home on Lorraine Boulevard that was to be featured on the tour. The series focused on unique residences in the Rancho La Brea area, which includes Hancock Park and Windsor Square, as well as the Miracle Mile. Forty years later, the preservation of historic homes remains a hotly contested issue, as many people in the community oppose a new state law, Senate Bill 50, that would allow for the construction of more multi-family housing near transit corridors and potentially alter historic districts such as the Miracle Mile Historic Preservation Overlay Zone, which was created to protect unique historic structures in the community.

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor



Across

- Pet protector, for short
- Loses color
- Haunted house sound
- Frigid
- Trainee
- Mary-Kate or Ashley
- Spectrum maker
- Positive principle
- Mystery writer John Dickson
- Inspired poet
- Stray animal
- Frequently
- Mimic
- Knighted Guinness
- Cause a civil commotion
- Acad.
- Wedding agreement
- 1976 best-seller that spanned three centuries
- Put in rollers
- Ellie Goulding song
- With everything counted
- One hole in a golf contest
- Plugs
- ___ China
- Outspoken
- Biological duct
- Church vestment
- City of northern France
- Hindu holy man
- Matrix of a cell
- Manning from NY
- Part of a geisha’s attire
- Zola novel
- Andean quadruped
- Sheep like memory?
- Battery fluid
- Arches
- Hunger sign
- Grooms partner
- “___ kleine Nachtmusik”
- Greek architectural style
- Cockeyed
- Some sports cars
- Romanian currency
- Solicits
- Blue penciled
- Damp
- Not tacit
- Afternoon fare
- Blink of an eye
- Because of, with “to”
- Starting ___ the bottom
- Astronaut Collins
- At no time (poetic)
- Paternity identifier
- Sign of anger
- Bridgewater of jazz
- Danger signal
- Daisy-like flower
- Cosmonaut, Dennis
- Biblically yours
- Oscar ___ Renta
- Observers
- “Chicago” star
- Started a fire again
- Marky who played Tarzan’s Jane
- At no cost, in Germany
- Name for an Irish lass
- Pack ___ (give up)
- 1993 Janet Jackson song
- Terminal
- Belgian 20th century painter, Margritte
- Hourglass fill
- Cornerstone abbr.
- Brother of a sort
- Trouser part
- Santa ___, Calif.

Down

- Strike-breaker
- Loses color

See answers page 26

L.A. Master Chorale, composer reimagine silent film’s score

The Los Angeles Master Chorale, led by Grant Gershon, will present the world premiere of Emmy Award-winning composer Jeff Beal’s new score for F.W. Murnau’s silent film “Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans,” at 7 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

“Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans,” starring George O’Brien, Janet Gaynor and Margaret Livingstone, won the Unique and Artistic Picture award at the first Academy Awards ceremony in 1929, along with Best Cinematography and Best Actress in a Leading Role.

For many of the film’s admirers, the only flaw has been its soundtrack. Although one of the first-ever films with a synchronized musical score and sound effects,

the music was drawn from various sources and not created for the picture.

For this presentation, Beal has created a new score for choir and chamber orchestra, bringing a human touch to the monochrome melodrama.

“The opportunity to work with the superb Los Angeles Master Chorale to reimagine ‘Sunrise’ with a new score is a particularly special experience,” Beal said. “The human voice is an extremely powerful and nimble instrument that brings an evocative sense of depth to the drama that unfolds in this timeless film.”

Soprano Holly Sedillos and tenor Dermot Kiernan will join the Master Chorale for the performance. Prior to the performance, there will be a Listen Up! pre-con-

cert conversation with Beal, Gershon and Classical KUSC Radio Host Alan Chapman at 6 p.m.

“Composer Jeff Beal breathes new life into Sunrise, and illuminates its timeless story of temptation, forgiveness and redemption with his powerful new score that masterfully unites the worlds of choral music and film scoring,” said Jean Davidson, president and CEO of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. “The beauty of this project is that it appeals to all. First-timers and aficionados alike are in for a unique experience.”

Tickets are \$29.

The Walt Disney Concert Hall is located at 111 S. Grand Ave. For information or tickets, call (213)972-7282, or visit lamaster-chorale.org.

Founder, CEO of Skirball Cultural Center retires, welcomes successor

On Jan. 15, the Skirball Cultural Center announced the retirement of its founding president and CEO Uri Herscher, effective June 30. Herscher will be succeeded by Los Angeles attorney Jessie Kornberg, who currently leads Bet Tzedek (“House of Justice”), a nonprofit public-interest law firm.

“Every day at the Skirball has been a rewarding experience, and it has been a privilege to be part of

this extraordinary cultural village,” Herscher said. “As I prepare to step down this summer, I am heartened to know that our visitors will always be welcomed by a staff and volunteer corps of remarkable talent and spirit. With Jessie Kornberg at the helm and a vibrant community to support her, the future of the Skirball is all the brighter.”

Kornberg joined Bet Tzedek as

president and CEO in 2014. During her tenure, the agency has grown to address legal issues facing low-income families.

“It is an honor to become the president and CEO of an institution I have long admired and whose mission aligns with my own life’s work,” Kornberg said.

The Skirball Cultural Center is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. For information, visit skirball.org.

Natural History Museum brings back ‘Night of Ideas’

The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County will present “Night of Ideas,” from 5:30 to 11 p.m. on Friday Jan. 31, at the Natural History Museum in Exposition Park. In partnership with the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States, the 2020 global event will simultaneously take place in 150 cities and 65 countries across the world.

The free event features talks, pop-up performances, music and film screenings celebrating this year’s theme, “Being Alive.” NHM’s iteration of “Night of Ideas” will kick off its season of First Friday nighttime events.

“We are delighted to host ‘Night of Ideas’ for a second time and bring together this fascinating and eclectic group of thought leaders and artists who will teach us about what it means to be alive and well,” said Lori Bettison-Varga, president and director of NHM-LAC. “This exciting collaboration with the French Embassy will encourage people to think about our well-being and inspire change, not only for ourselves, but for our community, our city and our larger ecosystem.”

Featured guests include award-winning photographer Ian McCallister; founder of Wild Immersion, the world’s first virtual nature reserve, Adrien Moisson; oceanographer Bethanie Edwards; the first man to swim the Atlantic Ocean, Benoît Lecomte; the executive director of planet and environment at XPRIZE Foundation,

Jyotika Virmani; and cross-country cyclist and racing driver Evens Stievenart.

“As new generations wish to give more meaning to life and positively impact the environment that surrounds them, the ‘Night of Ideas’ 2020 theme, ‘Being Alive,’ will embrace the work of inspiring people who are focused on improving our conditions and pushing the boundaries of what is possible,” said Nathalie Soirat, deputy consul general at the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles.

“Night of Ideas” will take over the entire museum, activating the halls, labs and rotunda, where each space will host a range of different activities. The Los Angeles lineup also features a Moonlight Meditation with Alain Lancelot in the Nature Gardens; panel discus-

sions about ocean health and sustainability, rainforest biodiversity and the importance of being outside moderated by Pulitzer Prize and Emmy winner Patt Morrison; and performances by the Jessica Fichot Quartet, Heidi Duckler Dance Company, Gavin Turek, DJ Novena Carmel and DJ Bobby French.

Additionally, the event will hold two rounds of speed dating where guests will have the opportunity to sit around a table while community organizations lead discussions on their topics of choice before rotating to the next.

Night of Ideas is free to the public; RSVP required.

The National History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 W. Exposition Blvd. For information and tickets, visit nhm.org/nightofideas.



photo courtesy of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

The 2020 iteration of “Night of Ideas” (La Nuit des Idées) will feature a moonlight meditation, dance performances, panel discussions and more.

Producers Guild Awards announces winners, honorees

The Producers Guild of America hosted the 31st annual Producers Guild Awards on Jan. 18 at the Hollywood Palladium.

Producers were recognized in 14 categories. Winners included “1917” for Theatrical Motion Pictures, “Succession” (Season 2) for Episodic Television – Drama, “Fleabag” (Season 2) for Episodic Television – Comedy, “Leaving Neverland” for Nonfiction

Television and “Chernobyl” for Limited Series Television.

The Producers Guild Awards are often a bellwether for the Oscars. Since its inception, the PGA has predicted 21 of the 30 winners of the Academy Award for Best Picture.

2020 Producers Guild Awards honorees included Ted Sarandos (Milestone Award); Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner and Jeremy Kleiner

of Plan B (David O. Selznick Achievement Award in Theatrical Motion Pictures); Marta Kauffman (Norman Lear Achievement in Television); Octavia Spencer (Visionary Award); and the Lionsgate film “Bombshell” (Stanley Kramer Award).

For a full list of winners or information, visit producers-guild.org.

Coldwell Banker’s L.A. offices hold shoe drive with Soles4Souls

Through Jan. 31, the greater Los Angeles offices of Coldwell Banker Realty are hosting a shoe drive for Soles4Souls, a nonprofit that creates sustainable jobs and provides relief through the distribution of shoes and clothing internationally.

“The Soles4Souls micro-enterprise program helps people all over the world to create small

businesses selling shoes and clothing, which is a way for them to lift themselves and their families out of poverty,” said Jamie Duran, president of Coldwell Banker Realty Southern California. “Help us make a difference by donating new or gently used shoes.”

Shoes can be dropped off at any of the participating Coldwell Banker Realty offices from 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Participating locations include 9229 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite 320, West Hollywood; 301 N. Canon Drive, Suite E, Beverly Hills; and 251 N. Larchmont Blvd., Hancock Park.

For information or to find a participating location, visit cb.today/losangeles/2020/soles4souls.

SkyPilot Theatre seeks playwright submissions for program

SkyPilot Theatre Company, a well-established greenhouse for the development of new works, is still looking for submissions for the third season of its development track, SkyPilot Runway. Submissions for the 2020 season will be accepted until Feb. 1.

SkyPilot Runway will include six to eight readings, with one each month. The process will include a rehearsed, staged, script-in-hand reading directed by a prominent Los Angeles theater director in partnership with the playwright, followed by a feed-

back session after the reading with a moderator. While submissions will be accepted from anywhere, playwrights must be in the Los Angeles area for at least one rehearsal and the reading. If not, scripts will still be considered for a SkyPilot main stage production.

By Feb. 1, playwrights interested in having their work developed via the SkyPilot Runway track should submit a copy of a full length, never produced play (no one-acts or musicals) including a synopsis and any previous development of the work, a biography,

a statement of any length explaining their goals for the script and a \$20 submission fee.

Playwrights unable to be present for the SkyPilot Runway that wish to be considered for a main stage production should submit scripts with no fewer than four characters.

Submit materials, send questions or pay the submission fee (PayPal, Venmo) to skypilotsubmissions@gmail.com

SkyPilot Theatre is located at 6468 Santa Monica Blvd. For information, call (818)600-1759, or visit skypilottheatre.com.

TAG Gallery rolls out new exhibitions

On Jan. 21, TAG Gallery opened two new exhibitions, “Blackstract” and “Heritage,” which will be on view through Saturday, Feb. 15.

“Blackstract,” an exhibition curated by gallery manager Rakeem Cunningham, features work by Deitra Charles, Patrice Fisher, Andrew Gray, Hasef, David Leggett, Haliagh Nickerson and Brittney Leeanne Williams.

The exhibition aims to celebrate the accomplishments of black abstract artists and combat the false equivalency that work by African Americans must be politically charged.

“Heritage” is an all-member showcase reflecting TAG artists’ personal, cultural, historic and artistic beginnings.

“‘Heritage’ is an opportunity for our TAG artists to share who they are with the community,” gallery president K Ryan Henisey said.

Subjects within the show reflect on Jewish and Persian history, LGBTQ mythology, California place-making and more, resulting in a creatively quilted exhibition that echoes the multiplicity of Los Angeles.

An opening reception will be held for the exhibitions from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25. Admission to the gallery is free. Regular gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

TAG Gallery is located at 5458 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (310)829-9556, or visit tag-gallery.net.



photo courtesy of TAG Gallery

Susan C. Price is one of the artists whose work is featured in “Heritage,” a new TAG Gallery exhibition.

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Photos of objects tell stories of Holocaust victims

■ LAMOTH also hosts International Holocaust Remembrance Day event

Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust presents “Objects From the Concentration Camps,” an exhibition of photographs chronicling personal artifacts from the closed archives of Ravensbrück and Sachsenhausen Concentration Camps opening on Sunday, Jan. 26. A reception with photographer Richard Wiesel will be held at 4 p.m. on Jan. 26.

A relative of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel, Richard Wiesel was granted exclusive access to the closed archives of the memorials

Sachsenhausen and Ravensbrück to photograph artifacts that had never been seen publicly. Through extensive research, he discovered heart-breaking individual stories behind the stolen objects and their owners’ tragic fates.

The photographed objects include a harmonica, playing cards, a doctor’s tool kit, a child’s teddy bear and a miniature Hebrew Bible.

An emotional guided tour of the Holocaust memorials in Berlin in 2018 inspired Wiesel to capture images of personal items that once belonged to concentration camp inmates. Working with renowned German historian Robert Sommer, he combed through artifacts found at the camps after liberation or subsequently donated by the survivor or their families, and then

researched their stories.

Wiesel previously spent 26 years as a marketing director for Universal Pictures and Paramount Pictures home entertainment. He currently works from a photography studio in Sydney, Australia.

The Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust is located at 100 S. The Grove Drive.

Admission to the exhibition and the museum is free, but an RSVP to the opening event is required by visiting lamoth.org.

Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust is also holding a commemoration ceremony and concert on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Monday, Jan. 27, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The suggested donation is \$10. To RSVP, visit lamoth.org.



photos courtesy of LAMOTH

The exhibit at LAMOTH includes photographs of victims’ belongings, including a teddy bear and playing cards.

Janie’s Fund holds Grammy party

Crumble Catering chef Wayne Elias, right, and business partner Chris Diamond are in high gear for the Janie’s Fund Grammy Viewing Party, pictured with Aerosmith’s Steven Tyler and Aimee Preston. The duo will create a four-course dining experience for the fundraiser on Jan. 26, at Raleigh Studios in Hollywood. Since 2018, the annual viewing party has raised \$5.2 million for Janie’s Fund, a philanthropic initiative created by Tyler in partnership with nonprofit Youth Villages, which serves and advocates for girls who have survived abuse and neglect.

Hosted by sitcom star Terry Crews, the gala and afterparty will celebrate music and entertainment legends while raising money with a live auction for Janie’s Fund. Tyler also announced that Pitbull will perform at the third annual Janie’s

Fund viewing party.

“Along with my partnering organization, Youth Villages, we’re committed to ensuring every girl and young woman who ages out of foster care at 18 years old has access to the therapeutic support and resources they need to thrive,” Tyler said. “We all have a role to play in helping them find their voices again, and providing effective after-care through our LifeSet program is my top priority.”

Tyler first gave voice to this cause with his hit “Janie’s Got a Gun.” Since the November 2015 launch of Janie’s Fund, the organization has provided over 167,000 days of counseling and trauma-informed care for more than 1,200 girls, including supporting 30 girls that receive daily therapeutic services at the Janie’s Houses in Memphis and Douglasville, Georgia.



photo by Brian To

The Getty acquires architect’s dystopian drawings

The Getty Research Institute has acquired a two-part collection of drawings and sketches by renowned architect Lebbeus Woods (1940-2012).

“The Getty Research Institute’s architectural holdings are especially strong in 20th-century, avant-garde architects such as Lebbeus Woods. These distinctive examples of Woods’ unique vision will no doubt be inspiring to researchers working in our collections,” said Mary Miller, director of the Getty Research Institute.

This two-part collection of drawings and sketches represents a powerful postwar critique of architecture and a radical reimagining of the urban environment. The materials will provide scholars and researchers valuable insight on a theoretical architect known for detailed renderings that serve as striking statements of his philosophy.

Acquired with partial support of the Getty Research Institute Council, the 46 drawings for Lebbeus Woods’s “A-City” and “4 Cities and Beyond” projects (ca. 1982–1997) establish a dystopian vision for an alternate world. Though fragmentary, each drawing puts on display the totality of Woods’s urbanistic fantasies, constituting a conceptual masterplan for the projects’ development.

In addition, the Getty Research Institution has recently received a donation of six more drawings belonging to the series “A-City,” making the series

complete.

A 30-page sketchbook that Woods kept during one of his many visits to Los Angeles illustrates both the architect’s working process and, through handwritten notes, his various lines of thinking on the city and production of cinema-stage representations.

“As a teacher who linked drawing to theory, Lebbeus Woods’ influence on generations of architects is difficult to overstate,” said Maristella Casciato, senior curator of architecture at the Getty Research Institute. “With these acquisitions, the

Getty Research Institute is the largest repository for Lebbeus Woods’ theoretical thinking on the city.”

Both the collections of drawings and the sketchbook are complemented by two significant holdings already in the institute’s special collections: Lebbeus Woods Drawings for the Berlin Free Zone Project (1990) and Lebbeus Woods Journals, 1988–1997.

The Getty Research Institute is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive #1100. For information, call (310)440-7300, or visit getty.edu.

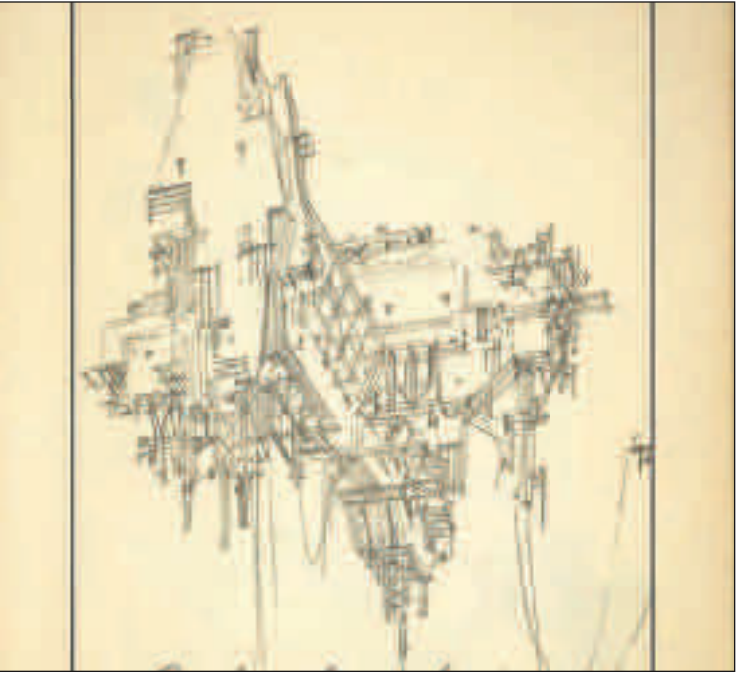


photo courtesy of the J. Paul Getty Trust

Architect Lebbeus Woods’ sketches depict his dystopian vision for an alternate world.

Special 30th Anniversary Issue of the Beverly Press!

The Park Labrea News has been publishing for 74 years, however, the Beverly Press was started in 1990.

A special issue commemorating the past 30 years will publish on January 30, 2020. A few guest columnists will be contributing to this issue and letters to the editor are highly encouraged!

For more information email karen@beverly.press.com or call (323)933-5518



Tourism, park draw candidates’ attention

From page 1

cally, including topics like tourism and building a strong business community, but ongoing council projects like La Cienega Park and the Complete Streets Plan were also discussed.

On tourism, Gordon said she’d like to see a better marketing plan to bring visitors to Beverly Hills as a whole, not just Rodeo Drive. She added that merchants might provide valuable feedback in helping the city craft its message.

“I really think the goal is to determine what communities should be like in each different area and market those communities,” Gordon said.

Gold, who was first elected to the council in 2011, said he’d like the city to continue to build on its well-known reputation as a center of luxury.

“We have to create new opportunities ... They have to be something that maybe [visitors] can’t find anywhere else in the world, whether that’s retailers who don’t exist elsewhere in the world or experiences that don’t exist anywhere else in the world,” Gold said.

Bosse, who also has served since 2011, agreed with Gordon that the city is more than just Rodeo Drive, but stressed that Beverly Hills needs to be more welcoming to different people and offer different experiences at different hours of the day.

“We are really an amazing city that has a lot to offer to many people of different ages and different socioeconomic abilities,” Bosse said.

Rowe, a technologist and innovator, said instead of going head-to-head directly with surrounding tourist attractions, Beverly Hills should become more like Universal CityWalk, using a skyway to connect Beverly Hills to the Westfield Century City mall, the Beverly Hilton and the Beverly Center mall.

“We can make shopping be big-

ger and be a destination for this entire community ... instead of having to compete with our neighbors on either side,” Rowe said.

As for what types of businesses Beverly Hills should recruit, Gold said it must be taken into account that each area of the city is different, but as a general rule, he would like to see more businesses and institutions that bring visitors to the city.

“We need to be looking for things ... which draw people to us, and in the residential areas, you need things that support residents,” Gold said.

Bosse said the city needs to search for businesses that can’t be found anywhere else, especially restaurants, which can serve as neighborhood anchors and keep the city “alive” during the day and night.

“We can go out and recruit them and tell them we want them, but we have to make it so it’s easy for them to open up,” Bosse said.

Rowe said Beverly Hills is already working to bring businesses to the city, but it could do a better job of incubating new companies. Rowe also suggested the city could host events like car and fashion shows to further aid local businesses.

“We’ve been looking outside. We need to look more inside,” Rowe said. “How can we encourage residents to create businesses here?”

Gordon suggested using the recent struggles of the retail industry to bring in new types of companies, such as experiential businesses, to make the city more attractive, especially to young people. She also pushed for free nighttime parking for residents.

“I think the businesses we need to identify are the kinds of businesses that will bring in a broad swath of people and will stay open perhaps at night,” she said.

While the candidates found much common ground on many topics,

the divide between the challengers, Rowe and Gordon, and the incumbents, Bosse and Gold, became most pronounced when an audience member asked about the Complete Streets Plan and the La Cienega Park renovation project.

Rowe said he was “nervous about these projects,” but is still neutral and has not yet come to a final decision on whether he would support them. However, he did raise concerns about the city’s penchant for going over budget on large projects. The La Cienega Park renovation project’s budget could be more than \$100 million.

Gordon was more forceful in her criticism, saying the Complete Streets Plan, while important to secure grant funding from the state, won’t fix the immediate congestion issues in the city. She also chastised the council for envisioning the park before establishing a budget.

“The way I operate businesses is I have a budget, I learn what I can work with and then I make the decisions as to what the project entails,” Gordon said.

Gold said Complete Streets is intended to help get people out of their cars, which will ease traffic issues. He also defended the public outreach process and projected cost of the park.

“The park as we build it next will last 50 years, 100 years,” Gold said. “So it’s going to be expensive, but I think it would be short-sighted and foolish to skimp on it, because it will support this community for a long time.”

Bosse took a stand against removing residential parking, a complaint of some Complete Streets opponents. Bosse added that for the park, once the city has a budget, the public can help decide what should and should not be included.

“We want the sky’s the limit, but it might not be something that we can afford to put our money toward,” Bosse said.

Eight of 35 historic preservation zones in L.A. could be affected

From page 1

and zoning rules, according to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning.

Under SB 50, new housing could be developed in areas located within a half-mile of major transit stops, a quarter-mile from high-quality bus corridors and within “job-rich areas.” With only historic preservation overlay zones designated prior to 2010 exempt from SB 50, eight of the 35 HPOZs in Los Angeles – including the Miracle Mile HPOZ – could see future developments in their historic district that do not have to adhere the HPOZ requirements.

“It’s a top-down approach that’s just insane,” said Jim O’Sullivan, president of the Miracle Mile Residential Association. “You can’t keep forcing cities to be more dense without supplementing infrastructure.”

While SB 50 states that developments would have to abide by “all other relevant standards, requirements and prohibitions imposed by the local government regarding architectural design,” demolitions and inappropriate construction remain concerns for historic areas.

“Developers want to build what they want to build, and they want to pick the communities that are the most expensive or the ones they can gentrify,” O’Sullivan said. “All of the structures we fought so hard to preserve will be gone.”

All additions and remodels are currently evaluated against design guidelines in each HPOZ’s preservation plan. Adherence to design criteria not considered objective may not be

permitted in SB 50 areas, according to the Department of City Planning, allowing for “incompatible additions and out-of-scale new construction on vacant single-family lots in historic districts.”

Wiener said that the bill was amended after stakeholder outreach to allow for more “local flexibility,” providing local governments two years to create their own plan implementing the goals of the bill while also taking into account the unique aspects of their communities.

“When it comes to housing in California, crisis is not even the word for it anymore. It’s an emergency,” Wiener said. “It’s happening because in California, this state has not prioritized enough housing for everyone who needs it.”

Multiple attempts to contact Assemblyman Richard Bloom, 50th District, were not returned. Bloom’s district includes the Miracle Mile, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Hancock Park.

The bill was sent back to the Senate Rules Committee from the Appropriations Committee for further review on Jan. 17, where the bill could be amended further, sent to another committee, sent to the Senate floor or tabled.

Even if SB 50 is not passed by its Jan. 31 deadline, O’Sullivan believes that it will come back in another form. The bill’s predecessor, Senate Bill 827, died in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee in April 2018.

“If Sacramento has an idea, they’ll never let go of it,” O’Sullivan said.

Initiative would decriminalize psilocybin mushrooms

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced that the proponent of a new initiative was cleared to begin collecting petition signatures as of Jan. 8.

If approved, the initiative would decriminalize psilocybin mushrooms and authorize dismissal of prior psilocybin-related convictions. For people age 18 and older and individuals under 18 with a doctor’s prescription, the cultivation, manufacture, processing, production of edible products and extracts, distribution, transportation, possession, storage, consumption and retail sale of psilocybin mushrooms and the hallucinogenic chemical compounds contained in them would be decriminalized under state law.

Also, the initiative would authorize the dismissal, resentencing and

destruction of records for prior psilocybin-related arrests and convictions.

According to the state’s legislative analyst and director of finance, there is expected to be one-time state and local court and law enforcement costs in the tens of millions of dollars, primarily related to the identification and destruction of arrest and conviction records for psilocybin-related crimes.

State and local governments are also likely to see reduced costs, not likely to exceed a few million dollars annually, related to enforcing psilocybin-related offenses, handling the related criminal cases in the court system, and incarcerating and supervising psilocybin offenders.

Annual state costs to regulate psilocybin businesses are expected

to range from minimal to the tens of millions of dollars. Some or all of these costs could eventually be partially or fully offset by fee revenue. There might also be a potential increase in state and local tax revenues, not likely to exceed a couple million dollars annually.

The proponent of the measure, Ryan Munevar, must collect signatures of 623,212 registered voters (5% of the total votes cast for governor in the November 2018 general election) in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponent has 180 days to circulate petitions for the measure, meaning the signatures must be submitted to county elections officials no later than July 7. The proponent can be reached at (949)702-1637, ryan@decrimca.org, or 1850 Whitley Ave., Suite 612, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

Brownley seeks treatment for women veterans

On Jan. 8, U.S. Rep. Julia Brownley (D-Westlake Village), chairwoman of the Women Veterans Task Force, introduced the Women Veterans Therapeutic Transitional Residence in Urban Settings Act.

Also known as the TRUST Act, the bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to

analyze the need for long-term, residential, women-specific drug and alcohol dependency treatment and rehabilitation programs, as well as carry out a related pilot program.

“We need to do more to ensure that women veterans receive the critical and effective care they need,” Brownley said. “That is

why I introduced this bill, which will ensure that women veterans who are suffering from alcohol and drug dependency have access to women-specific drug and alcohol dependency treatment and rehabilitation programs, which they deserve.”

For information, visit juliabrownley.house.gov.

Burt Ward receives Walk of Fame star



photo courtesy of Councilman Mitch O’Farrell’s Twitter account

Burt Ward, best known for playing Robin alongside Adam West’s Batman in the 1960s television series, was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Jan. 9.

Ward’s star, dedicated in the category of television, is located next to West’s at 6764 Hollywood Blvd.

“Burt Ward has been a part of our lives since gracing the small screen as one of the most iconic characters of the 1960s, inspiring kids like me during childhood to do good things,” said Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, on Twitter.

For information, visit walkoffame.com.

Clothing goes to community service organizations in L.A.

From page 1

from all walks of life, and yes, different political bents, want to work together to make our world a nicer place and celebrate what we share,” Levinson added.

That sentiment was echoed by many volunteers who participated in the MLK Day clothing drive.

“I just thought it would be a great thing to get involved with,” said Jason Fowler, a Hollywood resident who volunteered at his first Big Sunday event. “I heard about all the good things they are doing and wanted to help.”

“This is my seventh event with Big Sunday,” added Tom Benko, a Hollywood resident who helped sort clothing. “I think they do good things. This is desperately needed in these times. People need to get involved and we need to show by actions, not words.”

The event also attracted volunteers from areas around Los Angeles. Aloria Magee, of the nonprofit West Hills-based Young Ambassadors Leadership Academy, brought a group of 25 children and their families to the event.

“This is a community service activity and they all brought clothing to help,” Magee said. “Our nonprofit supports African-American boys ages 6 to 16 and provides leadership opportunities. It’s a day of service to help other people in the community, and we came to help.”

Matt Lowerre, a Boston resident who arrived in Los Angeles on Jan. 17 to begin a semester at Emerson College’s Hollywood campus, said he heard about the day of service during a school orientation and wanted to participate.

“I thought it would be a great opportunity to do something good, learn about the community and meet new people,” Lowerre said. “It’s a good opportunity to be more involved and to give back.”

Levinson encouraged people to get involved with upcoming projects and asked them to visit bigsunday.org for opportunities. Every Monday at 2 p.m. and every Thursday at 10 a.m., Big Sunday holds a hands-on service project at its headquarters benefiting different nonprofits. Projects include assembling meals packages for low-income families and putting together hygiene kits for homeless service providers. There are also larger monthly events serving people in need throughout Los Angeles County. One of the largest event each year is a Thanksgiving food drive in which volunteers sort canned and boxed foods that are donated to people for holiday dinners.

“There are so many ways to help,” Levinson added. “We all have something to give, and we are all in it together.”

Dodgers players split on make-up title

From page 1

biggest Dodger fans on the council.

“This country needs to receive a message,” Koretz said at a press conference before the Jan. 21 council meeting. “Cheating is not OK. We need that message now more than ever. If we don’t stand up for the ethics of baseball, then indeed the entire system of the American pastime is flawed.”

Cedillo, whose district includes Dodger Stadium, added that the World Series losses had an adverse impact on much of the city, from Angelenos who work in the service industry to fans who thought their team was competing in a fair competition.

“People were robbed, and we want it to be clear that this city spoke up for its team,” Cedillo said.

Another Dodgers-related motion will likely be voted on by the Beverly Hills City Council on Jan. 28, Mayor John Mirisch said in an op-ed published on the Sports Column website, though his request is more limited in scope than the Los Angeles resolution.

Mirisch wants only the Astros’ title vacated, as Manfred has not yet released a report that confirms the Red Sox cheated on their way to the 2018 championship, and the players involved suspended. Mirisch is also not looking for a title to be retroactively awarded to the Dodgers.

“That would be extremely self-serving ... Having the World Series title for that year or those years be vacant serves as a reminder on the importance of fair play and what happens when we fail to respect the game,” Mirisch said.



photo by Tim Mossholder/courtesy of Unsplash

Elected officials in Los Angeles and Beverly Hills think pitcher Clayton Kershaw and the other Dodgers players were cheated out of a World Series title by the Houston Astros.

Koretz said Los Angeles included the Red Sox because it “seems pretty clearly and highly likely” that the Red Sox also stole signs, as their manager in 2018, Alex Cora, was heavily implicated in the MLB report.

“I don’t have much doubt [that the Red Sox also cheated],” Koretz said.

In a statement, the Dodgers said all MLB teams have been asked not to comment on the scandal and had no further comment, though players – on the Dodgers and across the league – have been making their displeasure known on social media.

“I would rather face a player that was taking steroids than face a player that knew every pitch that was coming,” tweeted Dodgers pitcher Alex Wood, who played on both the 2017 and 2018 teams.

Koretz said he was aware the players were “wounded” by the scandal, and added that he too was shocked by the “high-tech precision” of the alleged cheating.

“Knowing what pitches a pitcher will throw all but guarantees a victory,” Koretz said. “As a Dodger fan since age 3, I am outraged. As a lifelong baseball fan, I feel the national pastime itself is mortally wounded.”

“This is a crisis that goes beyond the mere sport of the game. It goes to the very core of what it is to be an American,” Cedillo added.

Mirisch said further disciplinary action by the MLB would set a positive example for Little League participants in Beverly Hills and beyond. The city participates in the Play Ball initiative, which is

cosponsored by the MLB and the United States Conference of Mayors.

“[The] MLB must set an example for all who play ball, especially children,” Mirisch said in his op-ed. “The concept of playing by the rules – of fair play – is an undervalued commodity these days. Life may not be fair, but we can try to make it so. Life may not be fair, but baseball can and should be.”

Baseball fans around the world continue to debate whether the proposals by Mirisch or Koretz and Cedillo are the best way forward, or if Manfred should decline to further punish those involved. A survey of more than 1,000 MLB fans conducted on behalf of ESPN found that 58% of respondents thought the Astros players involved should have been punished. Additionally, 56% of respondents said the Astros should give up their championship, and 53% believe the Red Sox should surrender their trophy.

The players seem similarly split.

Pitcher Yu Darvish, who played on the 2017 Dodgers team, joked on Twitter that “If the Dodgers are planning a 2017 World Series parade, I would love to join! So if that is in the works, can someone make a Yu Garbage Jersey for me?”

Infielder David Freese, who was a member of the 2018 Dodgers team, seemed less interested.

“Take the ring away? Maybe that’s the right thing to do. Maybe not. Who knows,” Freese tweeted. “Giving the title to the runner-up [though] ... that definitely ain’t it. Who would want it that way anyways.”

Study shows county potential for jail diversion

On any given day, more than 3,300 people struggling with mental health disorders in Los Angeles County jails are legally suitable and clinically eligible for diversion to community-based treatment programs, according to a new study by the nonprofit RAND Corp.

A significant proportion of this population is likely to be homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Conducted in response to a motion by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, and Kathryn Barger, 5th District, the independent research noted about 5,400 of the county’s average daily inmate population – nearly one-third – are in mental health housing units and/or have been prescribed psychotropic medications.

Of the jail’s mental health population, RAND concluded 61% meet the criteria currently used by the county’s Office of Diversion and Reentry to determine whether an individual may be put forward to

the courts as a candidate for diversion.

An additional 7% are also potentially eligible for diversion, while 32% are not, according to the study.

RAND said 74% of women and 59% of men with a mental health disorder in county jail are appropriate candidates for diversion.

RAND recommended expanding diversion programs and better tracking their outcomes. It also urged the county to improve its early diversion efforts, which may be able to help people before they enter the criminal justice system. For example, some jurisdictions intervene at the point of law enforcement contact.

“Knowing how many people are appropriate for diversion is a first step toward understanding the types of programs, staff and funding that would be needed to treat those individuals in the community,” said Stephanie Brooks, RAND behavioral scientist and the study’s lead author.

Since its creation in 2016, ODR has diverted more than 4,400 people from county jails to long-term care and supportive housing, with very low rates of reoffending.

Among those placed in the ODR housing program, 90% have remained housed after six months.

Diversion programs cost the county about \$70 daily per person, while incarceration costs about \$600 daily per person with serious clinical needs.

“No one can get well in a cell,” said Ridley-Thomas, who

authored the motion that created ODR. “With diversion, we are creating better outcomes for people and saving county resources – without compromising public safety.”

“Diversion is also breaking the cycle between jail and homelessness, enabling those with mental health disorders to get treatment instead of the costly alternative of serving additional time behind bars and then being released with no support,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas added. “RAND’s research underscores the need to double down on diversion to reach all those who could benefit.”

Proposal would create state regulations to require reduction in single-use plastic waste

Earlier this month, California Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced that the proponents of a new initiative were cleared to begin collecting petition signatures.

The initiative, if approved, would require state regulations to reduce plastic waste, tax producers of single-use plastics, and fund recycling and environmental programs.

Specifically, the initiative would require that CalRecycle adopt regulations reducing plastic waste, including to: (1) require that single-use plastic packaging, containers and utensils be reusable, recyclable or com-

postable, and to reduce such waste by 25% by 2030; (2) prohibit polystyrene container use by food vendors; and (3) tax producers of single-use plastic packaging, containers or utensils by Jan. 1, 2022, and allocate revenues for recycling and environmental programs, including local water supply protection.

According to the state’s legislative analyst and director of finance, the fiscal impacts on state and local governments include new state revenue from new tax on single-use plastic packaging and foodware, which is likely in the range of a few billion dollars annually. The propo-

nents of the measure, Michael J. Sangiacomo, Caryl Hart and Linda Escalante, must collect signatures of 623,212 registered voters (5% of the total votes cast for governor in the November 2018 general election) in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponents have 180 days to circulate petitions for the measure, meaning the signatures must be submitted to county elections officials no later than July 7.

The proponents can be reached c/o Emily A. Andrews of Olson, Hagel & Fishburn, LLP at (916)442-2952, or 555 Capitol Mall, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 27, 2020 at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in Department 17 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court - Stanley Mosk Courthouse, located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, Petitioner Michael Villalpando intends to apply for an order, pursuant to California Government Code §§ 6008 and 6020, declaring Beverly Press to be a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Beverly Hills and County of Los Angeles, State of California.



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